

2010 Junior Counselor & Counselor-in-Training Program Information for Applicants

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Junior Counselor or Counselor-in-Training for the Urbana Park District's Nature Day Camps. I hope the following information will make it easier for you to plan your summer and will answer many of the questions you may have at this point.

NOTE: Because space in the program is limited, all JC and CIT applicants may not be accepted. Notification of acceptance (or not) will be sent by May 1st for JCs and May 24th for CITs. Please call Nadine Schmitz at 384-4062 if you have any questions.

STAFF TRAINING

Thursday	May 27	6:30 pm – 9 pm (JCs only ; if over 15 or school is done for summer)
Friday	June 4	Time TBD (mandatory, JCs only)

Additional training dates and times are tentative, depending on when school dismisses for summer. Most training will take place in the afternoon. If everyone is out of school in time, training will be June 7-11 so you are ready to work when camp starts on June 14. If area schools use snow days, training will take place in the afternoons of the first week of camp. We should know more by the time you are here for your interview.

Staff training is mandatory. If you are unable to attend staff training, you will not be accepted into the program. All CITs and JCs are supervised by Nadine Schmitz, Environmental Education Coordinator and a CIT/JC Site Supervisor.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

Monday	June 14	First day of camp; first official day of work
Monday	July 5	No Camp for 4 th of July weekend
Friday	August 6	Last official day of work
Friday	August 13	Last day of camp (CITs may work until this date if desired)

WORK SCHEDULE

If accepted into the program, you will complete a work availability form. CITs, please plan to be at camp 10-15 hours each week. Your schedule should consist of a set number of hours and days (e.g. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.). If necessary, the schedule can be adjusted as the summer progresses. CITs do not work more than 20 hours per week without permission from the supervisor.

JCs are expected to be available daily and each JC will have hours *assigned*, but generally will work 3 days a week, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (JCs may be required to start at 8:15 on the first day of a session.) Regular Nature Day Camp hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you must arrive before 8:30, there will be pre-determined activities for you to participate in.

CITs and JCs will begin working after training is complete. The program officially ends August 6th. If you wish, you may continue to work through the end of camp on August 13th. (JCs require prior permission from the coordinator.) If schools do not use snow days and end classes as scheduled, JC/CIT training will take place the week before camp starts.

STAFF MEETINGS

Weekly CIT staff meetings are scheduled for *Wednesdays* at 8:30 a.m. JC staff meetings will be held every *Friday* at 12 noon. Staff meetings usually take 30 minutes. There may be occasional changes to this schedule.

TIME OFF

Time off for vacation is not a problem as long as you will not be absent from the program for more than two weeks for CITs and **one week for JCs**. Time off for an appointment is also OK as long as the program supervisors are notified at least one day in advance. If you are sick on a day you are scheduled to work, you must call so we know you will be absent that day. ***If you already know when you will be going on vacation, please bring these dates with you if you are selected for an interview.***

CIT & JC PARTY

During the summer there may be a CIT and JC party. Party plans vary from year to year. There is an additional fee for the JC/CIT staff party.

DAY CAMP SCHEDULES

<u>Camp</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Times</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Location</u>
Kneehigh Nature	3-4	9:00 – noon	T-W-Th	APNC
Kindercamp	5-6	9:00 -noon	M-F	APNC
Crystal Lake	6-8	8:30 am - 3 p.m.	M-F	Crystal Lake Park
Earthscope	8-11	8:30 am - 3 pm	M-F	Crystal Lake Park
Extended (p.m.)	6-12	3-6 pm	M-F	APNC
Summer Arts Camp	6-12	8:30 am – 3 pm	M-F	Phillip’s Center
Summer Sports Camp	6-12	8:30 am – 3 pm	M-F	Brooken’s Gym

All Nature Day Camps begin at Anita Purves Nature Center. CITs will usually be assigned to Kneehigh Nature Camp, Kindercamp, Crystal Lake Explorers, and Crystal Lake Camp, and have the option to help out at Arts Camp. JCs will be assigned to Crystal Lake Camp and Earthscope Camp, and do not go to Arts or Sports camps.

NATURE DAY CAMP THEMES FOR 2010 (*JCs – an interview hint – you will be asked to provide some program and activity ideas for one of these topics.*)

Session 1 –**Nature’s Magic**

Nature has many magicians—plants that deceive and animals that “disappear”. Be amazed by the magic in nature through games, crafts and hikes. Learn amazing animal behaviors and facts to share with your friends and family!

Session 2 – **Flying Frenzy**

Hummingbirds hum, hawks soar, and dragonflies zip through the summer sky. Animals that fly are fun and exciting to investigate. Get the chance to meet and learn about these fantastic flyers. You will use nets, bug boxes, and binoculars to discover what makes these animals so amazing.

Session 3– **Bump in the Night**

As the sun goes down, creatures arise from daytime slumbers to sneak about in the dark. Hoot, howl, and chirp your way through this session as we discover the incredible world of nocturnal animals and how they hunt, hide, and move about in the dark. Learn the secrets of these nocturnal animals and what helps them survive under the stars and then search for many common night critters in your own backyard or neighborhood park where you can be your family’s nature tour guide!

Session 4 – **Water Wonders**

Get ready to explore freshwater critters in puddles, lakes, and streams. Swim, splash, fish, discover aquatic life, and more during this on-the-go session. Games, experiments and activities will help you investigate water as it changes form and shape. Learn about and observe animals and plants that live on, in and near water.

Session 5 – **Into the Wild**

Enjoy the classic adventure experiences of scavenger hunts, nature games, hikes, songs, treasure maps, group games, shelter building, experiments, and more! This week is all about playing outside and definitely getting dirty! Lots of energy and a sense of adventure are a must to endure all these exciting activities.



Urbana Park District

COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING APPLICATION 2010

Date _____

Name _____
Last First Middle

Address _____
Number Street City State/Zip

Phone number _____

Date of Birth _____

Age as of July 5, 2010 _____ Current Year in School _____
(Completion of 7th grade required)

School Currently Attending _____

Have you been a CIT before? Yes No

List academic honors, awards, activities or volunteer experiences (scouts, 4-H, music, honor roll, student council, sports etc.)

Do you have any LICENCES or CERTIFICATIONS

	Yes	No	Yr. Received	Expiration
CPR	_____	_____	_____	_____
First Aid	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____	_____

What are your HOBBIES and INTERESTS? Do you have any SPECIFIC SKILLS? (arts & crafts, camping, baby-sitting, sports, computers, reading etc.)
