



CAMP TALL TREES

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McKinleyville, CA 95519
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EXPLORER - CAMPER INFORMATION PACKET

Schedule

Campers arrive at Camp 9:45am to 10:30am Friday August 7

Camper Pick Up 10:30 am – Tuesday August 11

Directions to Camp Tall Trees - EXPLORER

Due to construction this summer at Wolf Creek, Camp Tall Trees (Forest Friends & Explorer sessions) is being held at the Howland Hill Outdoor School, located just outside Crescent City. We do expect to return to our usual home at Wolf Creek Education Center in 2027.

Directions to Howland Hill

Please be aware that Howland Hill Outdoor School is not well marked on most maps. Some software, including Google Maps and most GPS systems will likely give you incorrect directions. We recommend that you use the following directions.

- Travel north on Hwy 101 towards Crescent City.
- The **FIRST** stoplight you come to is **ELK VALLEY RD**. Turn right onto Elk Valley Road
- After 1.1 miles turn right on to **HOWLAND HILL RD**.
- After 2.25 miles, Howland Hill Rd will become a narrow curvy one lane road which climbs steeply.
- After another 0.5 miles the paved road will end.
- You will see three gates. One across Howland Hill Road itself (which should be open), one to your left (likely locked) and one to your right.
- The entrance to Howland hill is through the gate on your **RIGHT**.

If you are travelling south on Hwy 101, Elk Valley Road will be the **LAST** stoplight before leaving town.

What to expect when you arrive. During check-in and check-out times we will meet you at the entrance gate. The last half mile of the road in and out is an unpaved single-track road with only three passing places. To avoid a traffic jam, we will be running the road on a one-way system. Please be patient. Carpooling is encouraged.

When you arrive at the center of the camp, parking is extremely limited so we will again meet you and direct you where to park and where to go. After registration we will ask you to leave as soon as possible so we can allow other cars in.

Pick Up at the end of Camp – Because of the narrow road and limited parking we will, unfortunately, not be holding our traditional closing ceremony this year. Pick up will be very similar to dropping off. We will operate a one-way system on the road and will have your camper and their gear ready for picking up when you arrive.

Medications - If your camper requires prescription or over-the-counter medication, please give the medication to the camp health supervisor at registration. Medications must be in their original container along with signed written instructions regarding timing and dosage. We will return any unused medication when you pick up your camper. If the nature of the medication (for example Inhaler) is such that it needs to be carried by your camper, and they have been trained in its use, please discuss this with the health supervisor.

Emergency Contact Information – Howland Hill Outdoor School has very limited cell phone service. If you need to contact us in an emergency, please contact Cheryl Kingham 707-839-3714 (home) or 707-502-8929 (mobile). Cheryl will relay the messages to us, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Behavior – On the first day of camp, Counselors and campers will discuss behavior standards and agree on some group norms. Please discuss the following issues with your camper prior to camp.

Camp Tall Trees will use a “three strikes and you’re out” policy for campers that refuse to follow behavior standards or repeatedly break the agreed group norms.

1st Incident	Campers are given a verbal warning.
2nd Incident	Campers are given a second verbal warning.
3rd Incident	Campers will be asked to leave the activity and will be escorted by an adult to the camp director or assistant director where the camper(s) will discuss the incident and its consequences.

Grievous or Criminal Behavior: Repeated refusals to follow behavior standards or behavior that endangers the safety of others or involves the malicious destruction of wildlife, camp facilities or property, fellow Girl Scout’s property, and/or bodily injury may result in the immediate dismissal from camp. If your camper is dismissed from camp, you will be expected to pick them up as soon as possible.

Emergencies - In the event of an emergency, serious injury or sicknesses we will make every effort to contact you as soon as possible and seek your advice and consent for the treatment of your camper. If we are unable to reach you, or the situation is urgent or life threatening, we may make necessary decisions and consent to your camper’s treatment as required by the situation, until we can contact you.

Homesickness - If a camper experiences home sickness, calls to home will frequently increase their feeling of separation. Accordingly, a camper who experiences homesickness will not generally be allowed to call home. If the homesickness is a serious problem, the camp director or designee will call you to discuss the situation and solicit your advice.

Money – There will be no opportunities to spend money. Please do not send cash with your camper.

Electronics – Do not send Cell Phones or other electronics. There is no Wi-Fi or cell reception at camp. Staff will confiscate and hold electronics in the camp office and return them at the end of camp.

Sun Block - Please send your camper with a good sun block. Prior to the trip, please instruct them in the use and application of sun block.

Insect Repellant - We will use insect repellant that contains Deet. If you prefer to use a different type of insect repellant, please let us know and send it with your camper.

Food Allergies - If your camper has any food allergies or special dietary needs, please confirm the details and discuss with the camp health supervisor and cook at the time you check in.

Phone & Mail – Camp Tall Trees has very limited cell phone service and is served by a single phone line. Accordingly, you will not be able to call or text with your camper. See above for how to contact us in an emergency. If you wish your camper to receive mail during camp, you may leave it with us at the time of check in with a note indicating the day you wish it delivered. (We call this Mosquito mail.)

Visits – The camp is not open for parental visits. The main gate will be locked during camp. Visits disrupt scheduled activities. Additionally, not all parents are able to visit, and this can be very hard for those campers who are not visited.

Stinky Stuff - For those of you familiar with Wolf Creek we will **NOT** be storing “stinky stuff” like toothpaste, deodorant, and sunscreen in the bathroom. These items will be kept by campers inside their cabins. We do however request they be kept in a toiletries bag or a Ziplock bag. Please label the bag with your camper’s name.



CAMP TALL TREES 2026 – EXPLORER CAMP PACKING LIST

Your camper will need to be responsible for their own belongings. Do not send valuable items or clothing. Clothing should be suitable for outdoor wear and you should expect it to get dirty and/or damaged. Please mark items with your camper's name.

The campers will live in cabins. The cabins are very basic and are provided with sleeping platforms which DO NOT have sleeping mats. Bathrooms are in separate buildings. Please be sure to read and follow the instructions below for toiletries.

Camp Tall Trees is being held in a wilderness area. To reduce the possibility of problems with animals, NO FOOD is allowed in the cabins. Any food found in cabins will be confiscated, please do not allow your camper to put candy or other food items in their bag. There will be plenty of food and snacks available.

There will be no opportunities to spend money. PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR CAMPER WITH CASH.

- Small backpack (The campers will make several short hikes and need to become accustomed to carrying their own water).
 - Water bottle that can be carried.
 - Sun Block.
 - Hat.
- Bag or knapsack that your camper can carry their belongings in:
 - We will be at camp for three days and two nights.
 - Long Pants (2)
 - Shorts (2)
 - Long Sleeve Shirt (2)
 - Short Sleeve Shirt (2)
 - Underwear and socks (4 pairs)
 - **Windbreaker**/Shower proof jacket
 - Warm sweatshirt or sweater, *(It will be chilly in the morning or evening)*
 - Warm Pajamas or Sweat Pants & Sleep Shirt
 - Small hand towel
 - Wash Cloth
 - Flashlight
 - Warm Sleeping Bag
 - Sleeping Mat
 - An extra blanket.
 - Pillow.
 - Hair Ties.
 - Hairbrush
 - Plastic Bag for dirty laundry.

- Comfortable Closed Toed walking shoes or tennis shoes (**NOT FLIP FLOPS, UGGS or CROCS**) *(When selecting shoes remember they need to be suitable for climbing wall, games and short hikes.)*
- Spare pair of shoes. (Again not Flip Flops, Sandals, Uggs or Crocs)
- The Following Items MUST BE IN A TOILETRY BAG OR A ZIPLOCK BAG CLEARLY MARKED with your Camper's Name:
 - Travel Soap.
 - Tooth Brush & Tooth Paste.
 - Other Toiletries
- Optional Items
 - Small cuddly night companion
 - Camera *(This will be your camper's responsibility so please don't send a valuable camera or consider using a disposable camera)*

DO NOT send **ELECTRONICS**. There will be plenty to do. Camp is intended to be a wilderness experience without the distractions of everyday life. Cell phones and similar items should not be sent. If your camper does bring any electronics (other than a camera) it will be held in the camp office while they are at camp and returned to you when you pick them up.

Please remember **DO NOT** send **candy or snack food**, there will be plenty to eat, and it attracts all sorts of unwelcome animal visitors.