



The Chewonki Foundation
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www.chewonki.org info@chewonki.org

2009 Wilderness Yurt Leader (counselor/trip leader) Positions

Camp Chewonki for Girls
Wilderness Camp for girls ages 8-16

The Chewonki Foundation is dedicated to helping people grow individually and in community with others by providing educational experiences that foster an understanding, appreciation, and stewardship of the natural world and that emphasize the power of focused, collective effort. The Chewonki Foundation is a year-round environmental education center located on a 400-acre peninsula in mid-coast Maine with out lying facilities at Big Wood Pond in Jackman Maine, Big Eddy Campground on the West Branch of the Penobscot River, Fourth Debsconeag Wilderness Camps, and on several islands along the Maine Coast. Chewonki offers a summer wilderness camp for girls ages 8-16, a summer camp program for boys' ages 8-15, co-ed wilderness expeditions for 13-18 year olds, Family and Adult wilderness trips throughout the year, - an 11th grade program, the Maine Coast Semester, and environmental education programs for school groups. Visit our website at www.chewonki.org.

Camp Chewonki for Girls officially opened its doors at Fourth Debsconeag Lake Wilderness Camps on June 24, 2008, after 93 summers of residential camp for boys. Our new camp offers a suite of wilderness based programs for girls ages 10-16, with an introductory program on Chewonki Neck for girls ages 8-11. Chewonki has served girls for the past four decades with wilderness expeditions and school programs, but we have never operated a summer camp exclusively for girls.

Fourth Debsconeag Lake Wilderness Camps is nestled in a wilderness area of vast proportions, surrounded by 90,000 acres of conservation lands owned by the State of Maine and The Nature Conservancy, just 12 miles south of the West Branch of the Penobscot River and Chewonki's Big Eddy Campground. Another 50,000 acres just south of the site, in the 100-Mile Wilderness, is owned and managed by The Appalachian Mountain Club. More than 500,000 acres of Baxter State Park and adjoining conservation lands lie to the north.

Camp Chewonki for Girls will set itself apart from other girl's camps in Maine first and foremost because of its wilderness setting and program centered on wilderness travel. The summer will be broken into two 3-week sessions, the number of girls in camp never exceeding 40 at one time. Girls ages 10-14 will participate in a combination of in-camp activities and wilderness travel, with a total of 13 days in camp during the 3 weeks. Girls ages 14-16 will be in camp only for the first two days and last two days of their 3 weeks.

Camp Chewonki for Girls seeks enthusiastic, energetic people for Wilderness Yurt Leader positions; those that are excited about creating new traditions in this new era for Chewonki Girls. The Yurt Leader works with groups of 6-8 girls between the ages of 8-16, both in camp and leading extended wilderness trips. Yurt Leaders share overall responsibility with one other co-leader. Possible openings include leading canoeing, hiking and multi-element trips. Documented previous experience is required, as are current certifications as a Wilderness First Responder and Lifeguard. Yurt Leaders are 18 years of age or older.

Applicants should realize that the job of a Yurt Leader is challenging, demanding, and requires a great deal of patience and understanding. Personal lifestyle sacrifices may have to be made. Sensitive and dynamic leadership is necessary to provide teenagers the opportunity to grow, to relate to others, to establish life-long values and to increase their awareness of the natural world and learn wilderness travel skills.

Who May Apply: Applicants 18 years of age or older

Benefits: two week paid staff training and Pro Purchase Program, salary details to follow

Dates: June 7 - Aug. 14, 2009 (minimum), June 7 – Aug. 22 (includes Saltwater Session Program)

Requirements: Completed application & interview. Current certification in Wilderness First Responder. Lifeguard Training & CPR.

Health: Tobacco products are not allowed at Chewonki; a complete physical with current immunizations by a licensed physician is required 24 months prior to start of Camp.

Application: Send cover letter resume and application to:

Genell Vashro, Director
Camp Chewonki for Girls

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