GUIDELINES FOR QUIEN SABE FAMILY CAMP 2013

Welcome to Camp Quien Sabe's Family Weekend! We hope you enjoy your weekend. In order to ensure your safety and the safety of others and the environment, we ask that you follow these guidelines:

- 1. Please drive no more than 5 M.P.H. in the camp area.
- 2. Vehicles may be taken into the camp area to unload and should be immediately removed and parked in the lower parking lot. After parking your car, you can walk back up the hill or be shuttled up by one of our staff members. Please try to get everything out of your car that you will need for the weekend to avoid unnecessary trips up and down the hill.
- 3. Please, no fires or smoking in the bed areas. Smoking only on the cement slab in the kitchen area. Ashtrays are available at kitchen.
- 4. Wear shoes at all times (children and adults) except in the sandy volleyball or pool areas.
- 5. Boats/pool/lake areas:
 - a. Boats and the pool may be used during designated hours. See your program for specific times. The pool will have supervision when it's open.
 - b. Life jackets must be worn by everyone including adults and should be secured for younger children by an adult.
 - c. Please do not swim in the lake. Playing at the edge of the lake is allowed.
 - d. Please stay out of the bushy area between the lake and the road due to risk of rattlesnakes and to protect that environment.
- 6. At night, please use a flashlight and travel through camp via the road or dam only, <u>not</u> the beachfront due to risk of rattlesnakes.
- 7. First Aid supplies are available. Please see a staff member for assistance.
- 8. Please keep the noise level down before 7:00 a.m. and after 10:00 p.m. Lights out and a quiet camp at 10:30 p.m.
- 9. For safety reasons, the back room/office and kitchen are off limits to campers.
- Organized hikes are provided for adults and children each day. If adults want to hike independently, please notify a Director of your intended destination and expected time of return.
- 11. The Crafts Director will be happy to supply you with needed craft items. Due to the limited space inside the Craft Shack, we ask that all campers please remain outside.
- 12. CQS has a long established KP process, the details of which will be presented to you by your table staff person at dinner Friday night. All people should participate in this community effort. Children are encouraged to participate with their parents.
- 13. Please plan on staying for the entire weekend.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COUGARS

Given that the camp is located in the California foothills where the cougar population has been increasing and cougar sightings have become more common; we recommend the following precautions:

- 1. When you are in charge of your children in the camp premises, especially young children, please stay in close proximity to them.
- 2. Cougars hunt most often between dusk and dawn (but not always).
- 3. When your children are with our staff, please know that our staff is trained in how to handle cougar encounters.
- 4. If you encounter a cougar, please do the following:
 - Face the cougar. Make eye contact and DO NOT BREAK IT.
 - b. Without bending (although it may be awkward), moving quickly, or breaking eye contact, pick up young children and place them on your shoulders to make yourself appear taller. Bending or crouching causes humans to resemble four-legged animals which cougars prey on.
 - c. Bring additional children slowly in toward you so you are standing in a group.
 - ★ d. You and the group extend your arms to make yourselves look bigger. Coats can be spread over your arms to attain the appearance of size.
 - e. Do not approach the cougar. Retreat backwards slowly unless the cougar is obviously in an attack mode (ears back, clear visual contact).
 - f. Throw stones, branches, etc. if you can get them without bending or crouching.
 - g. Speak slowly and loudly.
 - h. Above all, DO NOT RUN OR ALLOW CHILDREN TO RUN FROM THE COUGAR!
 - If the cougar attacks, become physically and verbally aggressive without turning your back. Protect your head and neck. Many attacks have been aborted by fighting back.

Please note that young children, because of their quick movement, high-pitched voices, and small size, are most attractive to cougars. Cougars seem to know that children are vulnerable.

We recommend that you do not hike alone. Know that you are at risk if you are running, and you are further at risk when you bend down to tie your shoes or crouch low for some other reason. Carry a sheath knife while in cougar territory. If you injure the animal, it will usually leave.

This is not meant to alarm you but to increase your awareness of a growing concern. Although we know Toro Park has cougars, we have never had a cougar encounter in camp or on a trail; however there have been cougar sightings.

If you have any questions regarding cougars or the Family Camp Guidelines, please contact a Director. We would be happy to answer your questions.

Amy Reed, Director
Camp Quien Sabe

Susie Klinefelter, Director Camp Quien Sabe