

CAMP TIMBERLEDGE STAFF GUIDELINES

The information contained in my application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any reference listed in my application to give any information they may have regarding my character and fitness for working around youth.

Should my application be accepted, I agree to be bound by the policies of Camp Timberledge as endorsed by the New York Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North American and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my service on behalf of the camp program.

I understand that failure to adhere to any of the guidelines below may result in my immediate dismissal from service at Camp Timberledge.

1. I have completed an application form which is valid for three years, but should be updated yearly by returning staff.
2. I am at least 18 years of age; 21 years of age if the campers are teenagers. (Grounds and maintenance staff are the exception to this policy.)
3. I am mature, show evidence of a committed, personal relationship with God and support the statement of faith of the Free Methodist Church.
4. I have medical insurance either individually or through my parents, if a dependent. If I do not have medical insurance I will be directly responsible for medical expenses I incur. Camp Timberledge's policy provides secondary coverage in cases of accidents only.
5. I will not leave camp grounds unless I have specific permission from the Camp Director.
6. I will be extremely careful of my interpersonal relationships to set the best possible example for campers. (Displays of affection should be limited, as it is very difficult to permit some activity and prohibit others.) I will not pursue a romantic relationship with a camper.
7. I will not visit the housing of the opposite sex or invite members of the opposite sex into my room or cabin/tent. Married staff members residing in the Camp Center are the exception.
8. Smoking is unhealthy, interrupts camp community by isolating individuals and represents a fire danger to the camp property. Therefore, Camp Timberledge is smoke-free for everyone, regardless of age. I will uphold this policy.
9. I will not bring or use alcohol, fireworks, illegal drugs, pornography, and personal weapons (such as firearms and switchblades) on camp premises.
10. I will monitor the words I say and the tone I use closely. Using curse words is not acceptable.
11. I will dress appropriately and not wear tight or low cut tops, t-shirts with inappropriate wording or images, short or tight shorts/pants.

12. The telephone is to be used for camp business or emergencies only. All other telephone privileges are at the discretion of the Camp Director. I will refrain from using the Camp Timberledge telephone for personal calls, even "after hours," as this ties up the phone for incoming calls. If a personal call must be made, I will request approval from the Camp Director, use a personal phone card or call collect, and limit call to 5 minutes.

The use of cell/mobile phones by staff in camping areas is not permitted. Staff cell/mobile phones should be kept in the Camp Center.

13. I will limit the number of personal guests to Camp Timberledge. Guests will not hinder my ability to participate in the camping program or adhere to my campers/responsibilities. All guests must register with the Camp Director upon arrival and sign-out upon departure. No guests are permitted on the premises once campers are sent to their sleeping areas for the night. Guests who eat at Camp Timberledge will be asked to cover the cost of their meals.

14. As a counselor, I will participate in all scheduled activities with campers and monitor the actions of my assigned campers, enforcing rules consistently. When a camper must be disciplined, appropriate forms of punishment include: removing the camper from the group for a limited time and restriction from privileges. I will take any serious or prolonged discipline problems to the Camp Director. The use of corporal punishment, verbal humiliation or yelling is unacceptable, and will not be tolerated.

15. The camp is responsible for the safety and behavior of its participants. I will live by the rules, schedule and purposes of the camp program, and the health, safety and property care rules of Camp Timberledge and motivate the youth to do the same. Policies governing specific activities such as archery, riflery, boating or swimming must be followed precisely.

Camp is for the campers! Satisfying my own personal goals is secondary to meeting the needs of campers. My response to problems and my general enthusiasm will do much to establish a positive climate for the camp. I will be in prayer before and during camp, seeking wisdom and insight to be an effective leader.

Print Name

Signature of Applicant

Date