



Dear teachers and chaperones,

I am excited that you have decided to join Camp Wawona for your outdoor education experience. The staff and instructors here at Wawona are looking forward to working with the students and sharing our love for nature and our creator.

When you arrive at Camp Wawona, please check in at the main office in “Old Town.” A Camp Wawona employee will meet you there and have a short orientation meeting with all the students and chaperones; it will cover important details concerning the facility and overall safety. Next, the students, teachers and chaperones will move into their place of residence and get ready for worship. During a portion of the evening program, the head instructor from Camp Wawona will go over the week’s schedule and, for the staff and chaperones only, what we expect from the attending adults.

### **Supervision**

It is the chaperones’ general responsibility to establish a calm and respectful camp environment, particularly in the cabins and public restrooms. Although Camp Wawona officially provides supervision during class time, at least one chaperone will accompany every group who will be hiking off of camp property, which will often be the case. If a student cannot participate for any reason, a chaperone will be asked to stay behind with him or her.

### **Housing**

All students and adults will be housed in either the A-Frame cabins or the Lodge. Boys and girls will have separate lodging. There must be at least one chaperone in every cabin or lodge room. Because students will be given cabin time to read, write in their journals, and do other quiet activities, it is important that the chaperones maintain a positive and productive atmosphere in their living quarters. On the last morning of your visit, the cabins will be cleaned by the students and inspected by a chaperone to ensure that they are in the condition they were found in. Any damage to facilities will be charged to the school or party responsible.

### **Teaching support**

The classes here at Wawona Outdoor School will vary in structure and length. Some classes will require from two to four miles of hiking on moderate terrain. We ask that the teacher or chaperone accompanying the group ensures that each student brings appropriate gear in a small day pack (water bottle, pencil, journal, rain gear, warm layers).

The chaperone’s primary responsibilities while on the trail are to support the instructor by assisting in supervision, facilitating student participation in group activities, and providing backup in emergency situations.

## Participation

Because students look to all adults as role models, your positive attitude and active participation will have a great effect on their attitudes and willingness to take part in new challenges. For this reason, it is especially important that chaperones effectively model respectfulness of all students, an appreciation for the natural world, and an enthusiasm for the learning. Please take an appropriate, engaged role in field activities, group challenges, and discussions during the daily hikes.

## Safety

Included among your chaperone responsibilities is helping maintain a safe environment during all aspects of the program. While acting in your role as chaperone, always err on the side of safety.

- Each Camp Wawona instructor is certified in first and CPR.
- Instructors will also have a radio and phone with them in case of emergency.
- The safety of everyone in the group is our instructor's primary concern.

## Insurance and Health information

If you are a school in the Central California Conference, then you are not required to show us a proof of liability insurance. However, if you are not a part of the Central California Conference, we will require a proof of liability insurance for at least \$1,000,000 from your school. Each student will need to have a Health History and Liability form filled out and signed by their parent or guardian. It is essential that the forms are filled out completely, including immunization records and personal insurance information.

## What students need to bring

- Warm jacket, hat, gloves,
- Rain gear
- Leak-proof water bottle
- Notebook and pencil
- A small daypack that can hold all the above items
- Waterproof hiking boots or shoes (they must be closed toed, no sandals or crocs)
- Synthetic thermals for top and bottom **no cotton** (it could be in the 30's during your stay here at Wawona)
- Wool socks
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Flashlight
- Toiletries (i.e. toothbrush/toothpaste, soap etc.)



- Towel
- Bible
- Sunscreen
- Hat or visor to protect you from the sun
- Tennis shoes to wear in the evening
- Sunglasses

### **Optional items**

- Camera
- Field guides
- Binoculars