

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK—2011

We believe young people seek adventure. Merrowvista provides an ideal environment for exploring new activities in a structured manner. However, some of the activities may involve risks young people do not encounter every day. At the American Youth Foundation we make reasonable efforts to conduct safe programs, to inform families of inherent risks, and to provide adequate insurance coverage.

Risk management is an essential element of the activities we offer and we observe reasonable precautions. We conduct our programs according to the practices and procedures recommended by the American Camping Association (ACA), and the Association of Experiential Education (AEE). Our risk management program includes staff selection criteria, training and supervision, written policies and procedures for activities, systematic review of incidents for improvements, and outside reviews of our programs. While we anticipate our careful supervision will protect the well being of each participant, we are also aware it is possible neither to foresee every contingency nor to eliminate all risk.

Examples of activities that may occur in our programs at Merrowvista include traveling in AYF vehicles, swimming, sailing, canoeing, camping, using stoves and open fire, using ropes/obstacle courses that may be 50 feet high or more. Consider the obvious risks of these activities. Inherent risks include collision, capsizing, burns and falling. Environmental risks include inclement and unpredictable weather, deep and/or cold water, rapidly moving water, falling objects, insects, lowered and elevated body temperatures, sunburn, allergic reactions, and other injuries and illnesses. There are, of course, other problems that could impact our activities.

To ensure us that you understand the kinds of activities and risks involved in AYF programs, I ask parents to sign below. Your signature will confirm that both parents and participants have read this letter and that you acknowledge and accept the risks involved in our programs and the responsibility to come prepared for camp. In signing the statement, parents/guardians grant permission to the participants to attend and parents & participants acknowledge having read and understood the above statement.

Anna Kay Vorsteg
Executive Director, American Youth Foundation

PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK, EXPECTATIONS, FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, and INFORMATION RELEASE

In order that Merrowvista may provide each camper maximum opportunity for his/her personal development, I confirm that my child is physically and emotionally prepared to fully participate in the Merrowvista Camp programs. I have read the Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risk above, and I understand there are risks associated with AYF activities. I accept those risks as part of my child's participation. I have read the Payment, Billing and Refund Policies and I understand and agree to my responsibilities to meet these criteria.

I give I do not give permission to the AYF to use photographs, videotapes, or reproductions of my child's likeness or voice for education and promotional purposes. I waive the right for any future claims, including remuneration. (If unchecked, we will assume permission.)

Please provide the following background information about your camper:

Does your child have any known allergies? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please list: _____

Does your child carry an EpiPen for any of these allergies? **Yes** **No**

Does your child carry an Inhaler for Asthma? **Yes** **No**

If Yes, Please explain. _____

Does your child receive any special services at school? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain: _____

Is your child currently under a medical professional's care for any physical or mental health conditions? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain: _____

Has your child been hospitalized within the past 24 months? **Yes** **No**

If yes, please explain: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

Your child's registration will not be processed without your signature above.

How To Register

Complete the on-line registration or the enclosed registration form and return to us with the registration fee of **\$200.00**. The check should be made payable to **AYF Merrowvista**, or you may pay by credit card on the bottom of the registration form. The registration fee is non-refundable and is applied to the camp fee. **Registration fees are non-transferable towards siblings or towards second program tuition. We are unable to process your registration/s without the fee/s.**

We will send you the Parent Camper Handbook containing detailed information about clothing, equipment, camper health form, travel arrangements, luggage, mail, laundry, camp store, etc. in early 2011. **The handbook contains forms that must be filled out each year, and returned to us by April 1st, 2011.**

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION is JUNE 1st, 2011. However, because enrollment in several programs reached capacity last year, we encourage you to register early.

Fee Payment and Billing

The non-refundable **\$200.00** registration fee in U.S. currency is due with the registration form. The registration fee is required for each child and program. When we receive your registration, we will bill you for the balance of the camp fee.

You may pay at a schedule that is convenient for you. However, 50% of the total due after payment of the registration fee is due by **February 1, 2011**. The balance of the fee is due by **April 1, 2011**. Registrations received after **April 15th** must be accompanied by full tuition payment. **Campers showing a balance due will not be allowed to begin camp.**

Payment of tuition represents payment for services received, no portion of which represents a tax-deductible contribution.

*** Please note: We charge a \$35.00 fee for returned checks.*

Credit Card Payment Option

We also offer a credit card payment option for tuition with two installments automatically charged to your credit card account. 50% of tuition (balance after paid registration fee) would be charged on February 1st, 2011, and the remaining balance will be charged April 1st, 2011.

If you would like to take advantage of this payment plan, please check the appropriate box on the registration form, or notify the registrar in writing with card type, card number, expiration date, card holder signature permitting us to make the appropriate charges and the printed name of card holder.

Discounts and Scholarships

To assist families in meeting the cost of camp, the AYF offers discounts and need-based scholarships.

Discounts

- **Early Bird Registration** (by October 31) guarantees 2011 camp at 2010 Tuition prices.
- **Family Discount** - After first full paying child, all summer programs for other family members receive a 5% discount.
- **Multiple Program Discount**—Register one child for two sessions and receive a 5% discount on one program.

Scholarships

If you would like to be considered for a scholarship, please check the appropriate box on the registration form and an application will be sent to you this fall. Scholarship funds are limited, so we encourage you to act quickly as soon as you receive your application. The \$200.00 registration fee must accompany the registration form, even if you are applying for a scholarship. If our award is not sufficient to enable you to attend, we will return the \$200.00.

Scholarships are need-based and available on a first-come first-served basis. We begin processing applications December 10th. The deadline for applications is **March 1st**. After March 1st you may contact the registrar to inquire if there are any funds remaining. Due to limited funds, we highly recommend applying as soon as possible.

Refunds

If cancellation is necessary before **April 15th**, all pre-paid fees, except the registration fee, will be refunded. After **April 15th**, AYF will retain the registration fee and 50% of all prepaid fees. **There is a minimum \$25.00 processing fee for each refund.**

Medical/voluntary or involuntary withdrawal: If, due to illness or injury a camper must withdraw prior to the beginning of camp, upon receipt of a written report from a physician, all payments except the registration fee will be returned. For withdrawals during the camp session due to illness or injury, a refund will be prorated. No refund will be granted in case of dismissal or voluntary withdrawal from camp, and the family will be responsible for transportation costs incurred.

Late Registrations

Registrations after April 15th must be accompanied by **full tuition payment**. We are unable to guarantee a program space without full tuition payment.