

Caregiver Handbook

Red Wolf Wayfinder 2025



Pine Project



Welcome to the Pine Project!

The Pine Project fosters confidence, competence, resilience and connection to nature through transformative outdoor experiences for people of all ages in Toronto and beyond.

Our work inspires a vital re-connection between people and nature, community and oneself. We work primarily with children and families in the urban context, delivering innovative year-round outdoor programming.



Our goal is to inspire nature connection in childhood, supporting children to grow into healthy, active, and resilient people.



Red Wolf Overnight Camp operates on the land we now call the Haliburton Highlands. It is the traditional homelands of the Michi Saagiig (Mississauga Anishinaabeg) and Chippewa Nations, and is in the territory covered by the Williams Treaties. One of the highest regions in the Canadian Shield, the area has always been known as ‘Gidaaki’ by the Anishinaabe, meaning “upwards earth” (‘gidaa’ meaning “upwards” and ‘ki’ meaning “earth”). The land has supported human activity for thousands of years, as territories for hunting, fishing, gathering and growing food.

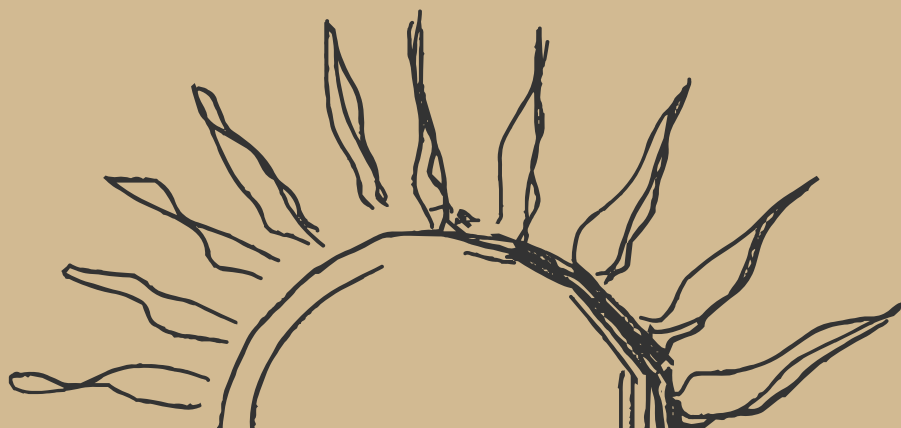
Our camp, located in the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve, is not far from an ancient stone cairn submerged at the bottom of a nearby lake. It is thought that some ten thousand years ago, the stone structure would have been above water, marking the trails and hunting passageways used by a small band of early humans. The discovery of this ancient stone structure deepens the story of human activity and land stewardship in this area. We extend our deep gratitude to the generations of People – past and present – who have tended and stewarded these lands and waters since time immemorial.

Today, the area is home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples from across Turtle Island. We acknowledge the history and ongoing process of colonization, and recognize that in order to realize the promise and challenge of reconciliation, acknowledgement must be coupled with action. At the Pine Project, we are embarking on a journey of understanding and realizing our responsibility to reconciliation, including the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Principles of Reconciliation and Calls to Action. We seek to move forward with humility, respect, gratitude and meaningful relationship building.



A Place to Belong

We are deeply committed to creating a community where everyone belongs. As is true in nature, we believe that diversity is essential for a strong and vibrant community. We aim to include and celebrate the many facets that contribute to our human identity, including gender identity, race, ability, and sexual orientation. Our goal is to craft a culture where people are seen and acknowledged for their shared humanity as well as their unique individuality. Our approach is grounded in acknowledgement of the long-standing and ongoing systems of racism, inequity, and injustice that prevent many from accessing and feeling welcome in the outdoors. We strive to promote inclusive policies and practices, including providing accommodations that promote equity and removing barriers to access wherever possible. Out at programs you will see us living these values by acknowledging the original stewards of this land, inviting participants to share their pronouns and other affirming practices, using child-centred approaches to create space for all voices, and addressing any oppressive behaviours that arise.



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This package contains information on the following topics:

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All communications and information about our organization can be provided in accessible formats or with communication supports upon request.

Program Overview

Red Wolf camp is all about learning to live in the wild. In earlier years, campers might have had the chance to connect with nature and learn basic wilderness skills in a less structured, more exploratory environment. Now, as 15 year-olds, participants have the opportunity to focus on building advanced skills through wilderness travel.

Splitting their time between Red Wolf camp and an extended canoe expedition, Wayfinders develop competencies in canoeing, navigation and map reading, portaging, water safety and rescue, and campsite setup and care. They will also be introduced to or build upon Pine curriculum from prior years, including wildlife tracking, foraging for food, cooking, cleaning, and general outdoor skills.

Wayfinders will also get a chance to do short wilderness survival experiences and teach skills to younger children at camp. Throughout, we maintain strong Pine culture, with an emphasis on learning about the landscapes through which we travel. Developing these competencies and continuing along the Pine path prepares Wayfinders for future leadership opportunities at Pine as 16-17 year olds.

Upon arriving at Red Wolf, Wayfinders learn new wilderness skills and prepare for expeditions at our base camp. This will include introductions to maps and navigation, paddling instruction, and meal planning and packing. They then apply these skills on a multi-day canoe trip. Over these first two weeks, Wayfinders will also have a chance to embark on shorter survival and/or hiking trips.

In the final few days at Red Wolf camp, Wayfinders will be integrated into camp groups, where they will work and learn from group counsellors to mentor younger campers.

Drop-off and Pick-up

On Sunday, we'll meet in the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve parking lot (outlined in the map at the end of this handbook).

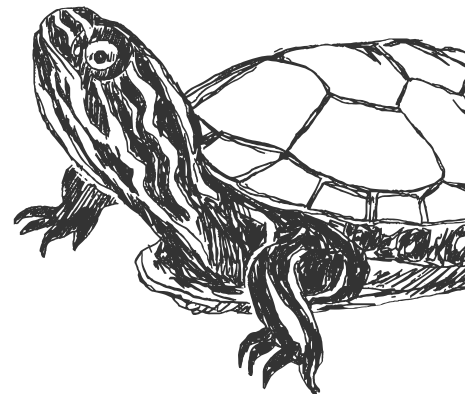
During Registration, please be ready to provide:

- Any medications that you have sent with your camper
- Any outstanding or additional information or paperwork for your camper

Arrival is at 11:00am on Sunday, July 27th (Health Check & Registration).

Pickup is at 11:30am on Saturday, August 16th.

****Please note that Drop-off and Pick-up times may change closer to camp. We will give families as much advanced notice as we can.**





Location

Wayfinders will spend a few days at the beginning and the end of their trip at our Red Wolf Overnight Camp.

Red Wolf takes place in the forest on the Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve, where we swim, canoe, catch frogs and watch the sun set. Campers should be prepared to carry their gear (our staff team is there to help when needed).

Haliburton Forest & Wildlife reserve is located about 30 minutes north of Haliburton and has operated in the area since the 1960s. Currently the land is managed as a sustainable forestry operation and they work with many local recreation and business groups in the area.

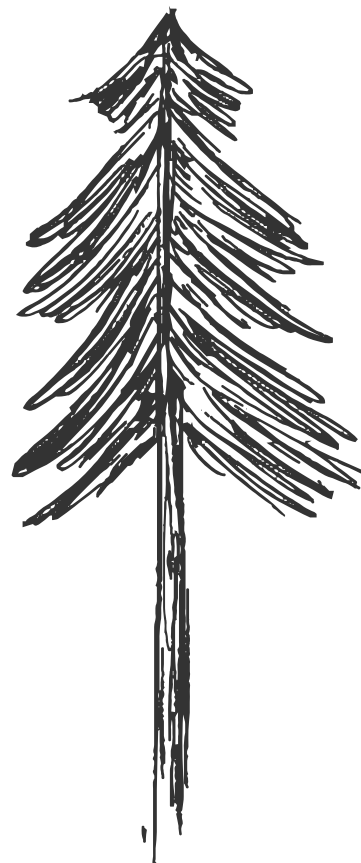
Wayfinders will be dropped off at the parking lot located at 1095 Redkenn Rd, Dysart et al. (Also known as 'Base Camp'). Please see the directions at the end of this Handbook.

After campers have been signed-in, Pine will provide transportation from the 'Base Camp' location to the campsites (~15 minute drive).

After spending a few days preparing for their trip at Red Wolf, the Wayfinders will embark on their 14 day canoe trip through Temagami.

The Temagami Region is rich in natural wonders and has a long history of human settlement. Temagami is known for its old growth pine forests and abundance of lakes, rivers and waterways.

Wayfinders will get a chance to explore the old growth stands of Red and White Pine trees in the White Bear Forest, which is one of the few sites in Ontario that you can see the near-boreal forest in its almost untouched state. Wayfinders will also climb Maple Mountain, also known as Chee-bay-jing by the people of Temagami First Nation, meaning "Place where the spirits go". From this vantage point, the beauty and expanse of the Temagami region can be fully appreciated. With more than 4.5 million acres of lakes and thousands of kilometers of portage and hiking trails, the view from the top doesn't disappoint.





Accommodation

In the true spirit of nature connection and resilience building, Red Wolf takes place entirely in the forest. We have no electricity, running water or permanent structures. By combining minimal modern equipment with ancient technology, we can live comfortably in balance with the land. – we have tents for sleeping, tarps for additional shelter, fires for cooking, and more. In the same way we connect with nature, we find connection with all members of our community essential. It is a core belief at Red Wolf that every camper - regardless of gender identity - has an opportunity to safely and joyfully experience the outdoors.

Generally, campers sleep in tents of three campers or more, organized by gender - based on a camper's identity, and not necessarily their sex assigned at birth. Non-Binary campers choose tenting where they feel the safest. All-gender tents may also be available at the request of caregivers - please contact our office if applicable. Camper tents are located in close proximity to one another and staff tents. All campsites also have single-occupancy private changing areas, providing opportunity to change privately when staying in tents.

We provide campers with many different options for sleeping - including large and small tents. We work alongside campers to ensure that everyone has a place to sleep that feels safe to them. This will be done, based on camper needs and inputs at the time of their arrival. If any campers or families have specific accommodation needs, please reach out to our team to discuss prior to camp or on arrival day.

Caregivers are invited to reach out to us with any questions regarding accommodations and our gender inclusion policies. We welcome and encourage questions regarding our safety protocols that are non-biased in nature. We are happy and excited to share any information you need to help you feel confident in our safety plans. However, we are unable to make changes to our policy based on feedback that is rooted in the assumption that transgender campers automatically make a space less safe.

Please note that we will always defer to the camper if they wish to use names or pronouns that differ from those used in registration and we will honor accommodation requests even if they differ from what is indicated by caregivers.



Program Overview

There are 4 main components to the Wayfinder program:

July 27-29: Arrival, Orientation and Trip Preparation:

Wayfinders will arrive on July 27th at 11am for registration and screening. At this time, we will collect any medication that your teen requires through the duration of camp as well as do a health screening and answer any questions parents may have about the program.

Over the first few days, Wayfinders will be oriented to the gear, menu and itinerary for the trip. They will be active participants in checking gear, packing food and setting personal and group goals. There will also be plenty of time for games, activities and down time so that everyone can get acquainted with one another.

July 30 : Departure Day:

Wayfinders will wake up bright and early to take down their site at Red Wolf and get ready to hop on the bus. The bus will be departing at 9:00 am for the scenic drive to Temagami, where our canoe trip will be taking place.

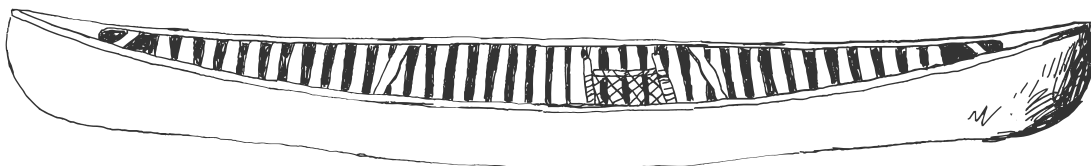
July 31-August 12: Navigation, Travel and Activity Days:

While on trip there will be a combination of navigation, travel and activity days. On navigation days, the group will be travelling through the Temagami region charting their way through the lakes, rivers and hiking trails in the area. On the river they will keep their eyes open for wildlife and the changing landscape, practice their canoeing skills and build their navigation abilities.

On some days, the group will stay at the campsite. Activities on these days include: bushcraft workshops, day hikes through the old growth forest and Maple Mountain, fishing, skill development, down time and other unplanned activities inspired by their curiosity.

August 13-16: Return to Camp:

Wayfinders will return to camp after two weeks in the woods and get to share their experiences and reflect on their journey. Wayfinders will get a chance to participate in all-camp activities and the final celebrations of the summer.





Food and Water

All food – meals and snacks – are included at Red Wolf. Campers will not need to bring any of their own food. We ask that you do not send extra snacks, as food can absolutely not be kept in tents, we carefully manage for anaphylactic allergies, and there is limited room in camp food barrels. (Exceptions may be made for participants with very special dietary needs – please call us at the office so we can plan appropriately.)

Camp is a NUT-FREE environment. Our counsellors are experienced in managing for allergies, and will do their best to accommodate all other dietary restrictions mentioned in campers' medical forms.

Drinking water is filtered onsite and made accessible to campers at all times. Campers are frequently reminded to stay hydrated while at camp, but it's also important that campers communicate their needs surrounding water with counsellors.

Please talk to your camper about the importance of staying hydrated and communicating their needs while at camp.

Homesickness

Homesickness happens, and our counsellors are not only great at recognizing the signs of homesickness, but also at helping campers to overcome it. We help campers by empathizing with them and helping them understand that what they're feeling is normal. We encourage them to participate in camp activities, and come together as a group to help foster new friendships.

If a counsellor suspects that your camper may be feeling homesick, they'll keep a close eye on them to make sure that they're taking care of themselves and staying involved, and of course always lending an open ear.

Additional Support

We do our very best to provide a positive environment for all of our participants. If a teen requires additional support beyond what was described upon registration, please reach out to our team. Elaborating as much as possible allows us to understand how best to support the needs of our campers.

We may not be able to accommodate every participant's requests, but we try our best to provide a wonderful experience for all.

Washrooms

As it is a backcountry program, we do not have access to washroom facilities. At base camp, participants will have access to a wilderness latrine, similar to what you might find in the backcountry in Algonquin. For most sites in Temagami, there will also be outdoor latrines. However, in the event that there is not one present, Wayfinders will learn to use a "leave no trace" method.

Swimming and Canoeing

Swimming and canoeing are big parts of the Wayfinder program. Wayfinders will always be supervised when swimming by staff who hold a Bronze Cross or NLS lifeguarding certification.

All campers are required to do a swim assessment at the beginning of camp to determine their swimming level. If they pass the assessment, they will be allowed to swim without a life jacket in designated swimming areas, unless parents/guardians request otherwise on their application form or at the time of drop off. If they do not pass the assessment, they will be required to wear a life jacket whenever they are in or near the water. All campers must wear a life jacket whenever they are in a canoe.

Health and Safety

We're committed to providing a safe environment for participants, staff and families.

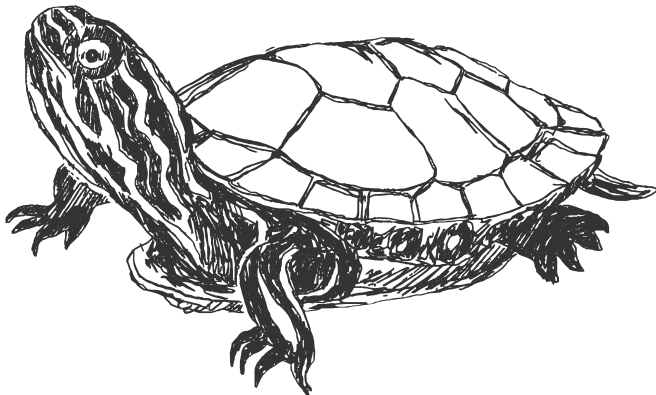
Before Camp Starts

Illness Before Camp:

Please do not bring your camper to camp if they are ill and/or have lice. We are unable to admit any camper who is ill and/or has head lice into our care.

We reserve the right to send a camper home due to suspected communicable disease and/or lice.

Any camper who shows signs and symptoms of Toronto's Common Communicable Diseases, or has been diagnosed with a communicable disease and is still within the infectious period, will not be admitted to camp. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the office.



Arrival at Camp/Transportation

As part of our Health Check* procedure, all campers will be screened upon arrival at the drop-off location.

Pine provided transportation will be staggered according to groups (see drop-off/pick-up information above).

*Health checks are a camp practice to ensure that kids are not arriving at camp with anything that could be spread throughout camp, i.e. contagious illness, lice, etc. In addition to the before camp symptom monitoring, we ask that caregivers check participants for lice before arriving at camp. We are unable to receive any participant with lice into camp. If a participant has lice, they may return to camp once the lice has been treated.

Illness

We will be monitoring participants for signs and symptoms of communicable illness throughout the week.

If a participant falls ill while at camp, they will be isolated from the rest of the group. Caregivers will be contacted to pickup their child. Please ensure that you've provided two emergency contacts who are able to be en route within 1 hour of being contacted, if needed.



Health and Safety

Managing Risk in the Woods

Challenges have always created resilient human beings. We are hardwired to take risks - it's in our genetic blueprint. Taking on small, measured risks allows children to learn boundaries and experience natural consequences.

We won't avoid all risks. We teach campers to manage them and build skills to make good decisions, whether the risk is cooking over a fire or navigating social pressures.

At camp, campers may get wet and covered head to toe in muck and dirt. They may also have the opportunity to practice skills such as starting fires and carving, with support and supervision by our experienced counsellors. All of these activities will be introduced in a progressive manner and counsellors are always operating in the safest way possible to ensure that your camper learns and grows while staying safe.

Medical Care at Camp

Camper health and safety is our top priority. All of our counsellors are Standard First Aid and CPR-C certified, and the Camp Managers have Wilderness First Aid Certifications. Camp is located 30 minutes from the Hospital in Haliburton (Haliburton Highlands Health Services).

Our counsellors are experienced in managing minor injuries such as minor cuts, scrapes, or falls, and in practicing sound judgment concerning when a call home is required. Please don't expect a call home for every stubbed toe, but rest assured that in the event of a medical emergency or major health concern, we will contact you as soon as the situation permits. Please ensure that you have provided us with up-to-date contact information, as well as a minimum of two Emergency Contacts that we can contact in the event that we are unable to get ahold of you.

Campers will also be routinely checked-in on regarding their physical and mental health, with nightly "clinics" run by the counsellors. Camp Managers will help manage any ongoing concerns and will connect with caregivers in the event that they may need to be contacted.

Personal Hygiene

Regular self-cleaning:

There are no showers at camp, but luckily we have nature's bathtub – a beautiful lake! We expect campers to go swimming (or at least go into the lake) to clean off regularly while at camp. If they have a fear of water or can't swim well, counsellors will support them with lifejackets and instructions on how to be safe in shallow water. This is part of a simple culture of clean living in the wilderness. We intentionally won't have hot water, showers, or many of the luxuries of everyday living.

Please have a conversation with your camper about the importance of keeping clean – you can refer to one of our core agreements, to take care of yourself. If your camper tends to resist water, swimming, or washing, please let counsellors know and provide suggested strategies on how to best work with your camper.

Hand washing:

We set up hand washing stations and are sure to remind all campers to practice safe hygiene. Hands are washed using soap and water before each meal and after using the bathroom. At other times, when soap and water are not available hand sanitizer may be used.

Health and Safety

Weather

One of the best parts of Red Wolf is being outside for the entire trip, regardless of the weather. Campers learn to appreciate what different types of weather has to offer and overcome challenges that nature throws their way.

We don't cancel camp due to weather. Camp will run all weeks, in all weather conditions. We employ strategies to stay cool – drinking lots of water, resting in shaded areas, swimming, wearing hats, etc. – and set up tarps for additional shelter when needed. We have comprehensive emergency plans for all types of weather while at camp. Please reach out to our office team if you're concerned and would like to know more.

Air Quality

We consistently monitor the air quality and follow public health recommendations from Environment Canada and Public Health to dictate the level of activity for our groups. As our camps operate entirely outdoors, we will adapt and modify our programs when air quality deteriorates to avoid physical activity and strenuous activities, support participants to wear masks if desired, and monitor for symptoms. The health of our community is of primary importance to us, and we understand that some families may decide not to participate in programs on days with poor air quality.

Sun Safety

One of the Core Agreements at Red Wolf is to take care of yourself, and one of the most important ways for campers to take care of themselves while at camp is by practicing good Sun Safety! Campers will be reminded to wear their hats, apply (and reapply) sunscreen, and to seek shade from the sun throughout each week. We encourage you to discuss the importance of sun safety with your camper before they join us at Red Wolf. Please be sure to send your camper with enough sunscreen for the entire trip – we recommend SPF 30 or higher.

Ticks

As with any location in Ontario, ticks may be present at Red Wolf Camp. We do our best to teach tick awareness in a positive and clear way. We will have a private tick-check station with mirrors, and children will be supported to check for ticks every day. It is critical to make sure that children know how important it is to thoroughly check their bodies and to feel comfortable asking for assistance from a staff. Please prepare your child to ask for help if they need it. They must ask for help from staff and have the suspected tick confirmed.

If we find a tick embedded in your child's skin, we will contact you as soon as the situation permits. In remote locations, staff will make the safest decision possible based upon the context.

We suggest that you inform yourself on ticks and how to prevent and check for them by reading the information sheet from the Ontario Government at: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/lyme-disease>.

Tools

Campers are invited to bring tools to Red Wolf. To ensure their safe storage and management at camp, staff collect carving tools at the beginning of the session until the group can review the proper carving techniques and safety rules.

All personal tools brought by campers will be kept in a common area during the day and locked in lockboxes when not in use and at night. Campers will always be supervised when using carving tools.

Carving

At camp, many participants will have the opportunity to practice skills like carving or sawing, with support and supervision by our experienced instructors. With that being said, the responsibility of using carving tools also comes with the possibility of injury. All of these activities will be introduced in a progressive manner to ensure that your participant learns and grows while staying safe.

Health & Safety

Supplemental Forms

In order to ensure a happy, healthy program culture we need to collect some important information from all families. Caregivers, please ensure that you fill out the following supplemental forms as they apply to your child. Please note that there will be no hardcopy forms available for you to complete at camp.

- ☐ Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan (Mandatory for any participant with a known anaphylactic allergy)
- ☐ Permission to Administer Medication Form (Mandatory for any participant taking medication at program)
- ☐ Pick-up Authorization Form (optional)
- ☐ Friend Request Form (optional) Our intention is to honour any friend requests, but we cannot make any guarantees.



All supplemental forms must be submitted at least 2 weeks before the start of program.

Allergies

If the participant has any anaphylactic (life-threatening) allergies, please complete the Anaphylaxis Emergency Plan Form, available in the online registration system.

Please provide two epipens for your child, as well as a pouch/fanny pack so your child can carry one epipen with them at all times.

Please let your instructors know if your child suffers from seasonal allergies.



Medications

If your camper requires medications at camp, you must complete a Permission to Administer Medication Form, available on the online registration system.

Please provide enough medication for the session, and ensure all medication is sent in the original container or pharmacy-issued blister pack. Non-prescription medications must also be in the original container with proper labeling.

All medications must be turned over to the Camp Manager upon arrival. Counsellors and Camp Managers will create a schedule with your camper for any daily medication and ensure safe storage of all medications sent to camp.

What to Bring Checklist

Red Wolf camp is about learning to create more, and work with less. Packing lightly means thinking about what we need versus what we want. Please note that all gear worn or used at camp can be stored safely while campers are on the trip.

Campers should be able to fit ALL items in two bags: one 30-40L dry bag and one small 10L bag for things they want to keep accessible during the trip. In addition to the 30L dry bag, Wayfinders can bring a small duffle bag for clothes that they will wear before and after the trip.

Remember that thick cotton products are difficult to dry and therefore are not recommended. Thin cotton works, thick cotton doesn't.

Fleece, polyester and wool materials dry quickly and keep bodies warmer when wet. Also, trip gear can be expensive and quickly grown out of; so don't forget second hand options like Value Village or Winners. For new products we would recommend looking at MEC, SAIL, or Canadian Tire.

Please keep in mind that clothing is likely to get dirty and occasionally even ripped or lost – so please select accordingly and label everything with your teen's full name!

From our experience, we believe this list works well and is all campers need. Please use your own judgement when packing:

Storage Options

- Small duffle-bag or pack for camp gear and trip gear (this will be left onsite while on the trip)
- Dry-bag: 30L to 40L, without back straps
- Day-bag: 5L to 10L dry-bag for easy access to frequently used items (recommended)
- Compression sack: Really helps with packing your sleeping bag into your dry-bag

Gear & Equipment

- Government approved LifeJacket/P.F.D
- Whistle - e.g. A basic Fox 40
- Paddle - Pine provides paddles, but you may wish to bring your own
- Packable Sleeping Bag - rated 0 to -7. Ideally takes up 1/4 of your dry bag when fully packed.
- Small pillow
- Inflatable sleeping pad
- Fixed blade knife – We use the [MoraKniv carving tool](#), but any fixed blade knife should work! Please have your knife inspected by a staff member
- Headlamp or Flashlight and extra batteries
- Bug jacket or head net for bugs
- Mess Kit - camp cutlery, bowl, plate, mug
- Durable water bottle (at least 1 litre, e.g. Nalgene)

Clothing

- 7 t-shirts
- 2 long-sleeve shirts
- 2 sweatshirts/sweaters (wool is preferred, 1 with a hood)
- 4 pairs of shorts
- 3 pairs of pants
- 2 bathing suits
- 8 pairs underwear
- 2 pairs of pyjamas
- 8 pairs of socks (2 pairs heavy socks)
- 1 sun hat
- 1 toque
- 1 rain suit or raincoat/jacket
- 1 pair of sandals (that can get wet)
- 2 pairs of running shoes (include 1 old pair for wet use)

Please note that all of these clothing items can be distinguished between "Wet Clothes" and "Dry Clothes". See the next page for the breakdown of these items and what to keep in mind when packing.

What to Bring Checklist

Wet Clothes (to be worn on the water)

- Shoes - closed toes & secure heels are required to protect feet and ankles. Old running shoes, Solomon, Merrell, quick-dry or trail running shoes work well. Crocs are not acceptable as they are very slippery.
- Socks - wool, fleece or SmartWool. Cotton socks not recommended. 4 pairs.
- Underwear - quick dry. 4 pairs.
- Sports bras and bathing suit tops without strings are recommended for comfort in portaging
- Shorts - quick dry. Soccer or basketball shorts work well.
- T-shirt - an old one that can get dirty/wet. Preferably quick-dry, thin cotton can work.
- Long sleeve shirt - thin button-down flannel shirts or quick-dry/polyester
- Paddling fleece or quick-dry sweater
- Hat - full brim or baseball to keep the sun off
- Raincoat & pants - please avoid ponchos, as they are not durable.

Dry Clothes (to be worn at campsites)

- Shoes - anything you'd like, but keep in mind flip-flops can't be worn with socks. Crocs or running shoes work well.
- Socks - once again, wool, SmartWool or fleece. Please avoid cotton whenever possible.
- Pants - fleece or hiking pants work best, sweatpants are okay.
- T-shirts
- Long sleeve tops
- Warm top layer - fleece or a warm, packable sweatshirt/sweater
- Underwear
- Sports bras
- Toque and mittens - often helpful for keeping warm at night

Toiletries & Personal Items

- Toothbrush and eco-friendly toothpaste
- Sunscreen - SPF 30 or greater, enough for the 3 weeks
- Mosquito repellent – no aerosol cans, natural option is preferable
- Biodegradable soap and shampoo
- Comb / hairbrush & hair ties
- 2 towels (shammy style camp towels are recommended)
- Menstrual products - Diva Cup, tampons, pads (additional products will be provided in first aid kit)
- Any required prescription medication, along with the Permission to Administer Medication form

Optional Items

- Books
- Camera in waterproof case
- Musical instrument
- Binoculars
- Sunglasses
- Playing cards
- Notebook/journal/writing utensils
- Chapstick



Please DO NOT bring:

Any expensive personal belongings or electronic devices such as cell phones and music-playing devices. Wayfinders gives campers a chance to unplug for an extended wilderness experience. Cell phones and other electronic devices found will be confiscated and returned on departure day.



Caregiver Participation

As caregivers, you play a very important role in your Wayfinder's experience at Red Wolf. You can help to facilitate a smooth transition to camp, as well as integrate a connection to nature in your lives beyond camp, by working with Wayfinders in the following ways:

Before Camp

- Go over the Behaviour and Expectations section with your Wayfinder. Wilderness travel is tons of fun, but also requires that all Wayfinders work together to ensure that the entire group has a safe and enjoyable experience. By agreeing to the Core Agreements, it lets their teammates know that they can rely on each other through successes and challenges.
- Talk to your Wayfinder about the trip – what they're looking forward to, what they're apprehensive about – keeping a positive and supportive attitude throughout.
- Wayfinders will be staying out in the woods, and will be taking a break from phones, clocks, and modern technology. Please help us to set those expectations.
- Relatedly, avoid setting your Wayfinder up to expect access to you throughout the trip. There are no phones available for Wayfinders' use. We will support your Wayfinder to overcome their difficulties and celebrate their successes. Rest assured that if a serious problem arises with your Wayfinder, we will be in touch with you directly.

After Camp

- Support your Wayfinder to continue with some of the routines they've learned at camp.
- Be inquisitive: Ask them questions about their experiences in nature, learn from each other, and challenge them to continue exploring nature and practicing their wilderness skills.
- Encourage your camper to keep a nature journal and to tell you stories about what they've seen in nature that day.
- Help your Wayfinder draw lessons from some of the challenges they faced. If they complain about how challenging or hard something might have been, ask what they learned from it and if it made them stronger and better as a person. Did they learn the value of hard work, compassion, or forgiveness? Did they make a mistake that they won't make again? Maybe they have developed a new appreciation for how easy modern life can be and for all the gifts they have in their life.

Lost & Found

The Pine Project does not take responsibility for any lost or damaged items. We strongly recommend that you label everything that campers bring to camp – clothing, dishware, bedding, everything! After the final week of camp in early September, we will contact anyone with labeled items to arrange a pick-up. If you believe a camper lost an item, please reach out to our office team at info@pineproject.org. We will keep all unlabeled items for two weeks after the final week of camp. After that time, all unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Behaviour & Expectations

Creating a Safe and Welcoming Environment

We're committed to living our values of diversity, equity, inclusion and justice. It's important that all people at programs feel included, safe and free from discrimination. Any language or behaviour intended to make participants or staff feel unwelcome or uncomfortable based on identity or ability will not be tolerated, and may lead to the participant being asked to leave programs.

As always, we are committed to maintaining a safe and positive learning environment for participants and staff. Our programs aim to provide space and freedom to explore and learn, supported by clear agreements and expectations for participant behaviour.

Campers and counsellors share responsibility for maintaining a positive environment. To ensure everyone's health and safety at program, we are asking that participants honour some basic agreements and are outlining stricter consequences for behaviour that threatens the health and safety of others.

These agreements will be discussed with campers on their first day of camp and revisited frequently throughout the trip. We encourage you to review these agreements with your camper.

Our core agreements: Take care of 1) Self, 2) Others, 3) Nature.

Take care of yourself:

- ☐ Letting staff know if you have a physical need (eg. washroom, feeling sick, thirsty)
- ☐ Letting staff know if something is bothering you
- ☐ Listen to and follow the instructions of counsellors - they are there to keep you safe
- ☐ Not sharing items such as food and drinks
- ☐ Practicing healthy personal hygiene, such as sneezing or coughing into their arm
- ☐ Try your best and try new things (challenge by choice)
- ☐ Caring for your own personal needs, such as eating, staying hydrated, changing wet socks (with verbal help and encouragement from staff)

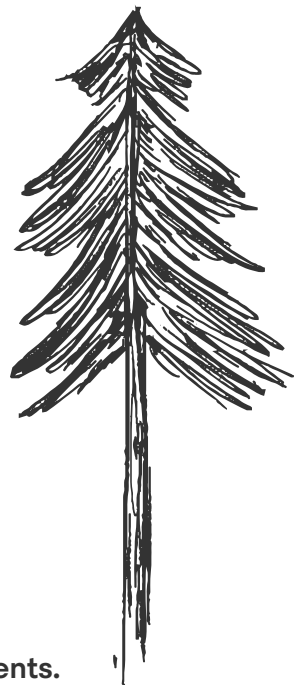
Take care of others:

- ☐ Be helpful!
- ☐ Respect others' emotional and physical boundaries
- ☐ Bullying, discrimination, or engaging in physical conflict will not be tolerated

Take care of nature:

- ☐ Respect our natural surroundings
- ☐ Don't hurt or damage the flora and fauna

See the next page for ways that campers can help meet these agreements.



Behaviour & Expectations

Supporting participants as they learn to adopt our core agreements and expectations is a priority for our counsellors. It is our intention to work with caregivers and participants to address behaviour challenges as they arise. This may involve working with the caregiver and participant to discuss strategies, establish specific behavioural expectations, and set consequences when expectations are broken. In more serious circumstances, the camper may be asked to leave the program if the behaviour is putting themselves or others at risk.

In addition to the Core Agreements, campers will be asked to agree to the following:

Please review the following agreements with your camper.

I promise to:

1. Treat everyone with respect
2. Not make fun of or be rude to other camp members or counsellors
3. Respect nature and not damage it
4. Not harvest more of a natural material than I need for my projects
5. Listen to and respect rules made by the counsellors
6. Help collect and cut firewood every day until we have enough (determined by camp counsellors)
7. Help with camp chores every day, such as cooking, cleaning and making things for camp
8. Brush my teeth every day
9. Keep myself and any cuts I get clean (with help from camp counsellors)
10. Check my body for ticks twice a day
11. Keep my body clean by swimming or wading in the lake at least 3 times during the week
12. Help skin and clean fish if I catch any
13. Do my best to be positive when tired or feeling challenged
14. Let counsellors know if something is bothering me
15. Learn new skills
16. Have fun
17. Do my best

I understand that:

1. Most of the time camping is lots of fun!
2. Sometimes camping is hard work and everyone must pitch in.
3. Camp chores such as cleaning and firewood come before games and activities. If we do chores right away and quickly, we will have lots of time to explore, learn and have fun.
4. We will have time to canoe, swim and fish, but may not have an opportunity to do so every day or exactly when I want to.



Behaviour & Expectations

We recognize that each situation is unique. In the event that your camper breaks one of our Red Wolf Camp Rules, we always aim to come from a place of trust. We prioritize communication with both the camper and the parents/guardian to explore the details of the situation, and follow up appropriately. But in the event that a Camp Rule has been broken, here are some of the possible consequences you can expect:

Camp Rule

Consequences if Broken

Alcohol & Drugs

Campers are not permitted to possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis or any illegal drugs while at Red Wolf Camp.

Any camper found to be in violation of this policy will be immediately dismissed from camp. In the case of dismissal, no refund will be provided.

Bullying

One of the core agreements at Pine is to take care of others, and a large part of taking care of one another is respecting one another. We understand that children can disagree, but we teach and model appropriate ways of resolving misunderstandings or disputes. We distinguish between conflict and bullying, and always strive to fully understand a situation before making a judgment. However, clear bullying, intimidation, discrimination or emotional/physical harm to any camper or counsellor is not tolerated.

In the event that your camper is part of a conflict, counsellors will work with them and the other participant(s) involved to get a clearer idea of the situation. If it's found that your camper was participating in any form of bullying, they will be given a clear warning and asked to review Pine's 3 Core Agreements. If the bullying behavior persists, we will contact caregivers, and it may result in possible dismissal from camp.

Electronics Policy – Screen-free camp

Red Wolf camp offers a unique opportunity for kids to unplug for an entire week and build connections with themselves, fellow campers, and nature. Electronic devices pose a distraction and prevent campers from getting the most out of their time at Red Wolf. Camp is a time to be social and engage with our surroundings. Since Red Wolf is a backcountry camp, there's no electricity to charge these items anyway! Electronic devices such as cell phones, iPods, tablets, game devices or any other items requiring electricity are not allowed at Red Wolf.

If found, these items will be confiscated and returned on departure day. Thanks for supporting your camper's growth!

Communication

Communication at Camp - What Parents/Guardians Can Expect

It doesn't matter whether it's your camper's first time away or they leave every summer, it's normal to feel nervous before coming to camp. Our counsellors are experienced in handling a wide range of situations, whether it's homesickness or a stubbed toe. We ask that you put your trust in us to not only take great care of your camper, but to also practice sound judgment around when it's time to get you involved.

No news is good news!

We generally only call home if a serious issue arises. That being said, if you have a missed call from us please don't be alarmed! Sometimes we reach out if we need clarification on administrative details. Our counsellors will always leave a detailed message about the reason for our call. In the event of an emergency, we will contact you as soon as the situation permits. If we are unable to reach you, we will attempt to contact the Emergency Contacts that you provided.

We ask that parents/guardians only contact us in the event of an emergency. Please contact the Pine office.

If you try to contact us and aren't able to reach us right away, please don't panic! It means that our team is busy making sure your camper is having the best camp experience possible.

Please don't expect to hear from your camper during their time at camp. The independence gained from staying away from home for an entire 3 weeks is one of the greatest experiences that camp offers, and it can be disruptive for a camper to hear a parent's voice when settling into camp.

For all inquiries before and during camp, please contact our administrative team:

Contact us by phone:

(416) 792 2772

Contact us by email:

info@pineproject.org

For any after hours emergencies while your child is at camp, please call (437) 771-2122

Providing Feedback

At the Pine Project, we believe that transparent communication is the best way to work through a problem. We are committed to gathering feedback and hearing all voices. If something comes up that makes you or your teen uncomfortable, please let us know by taking the following steps:

1. Reach out to the team at the Pine office. Let them know you have some feedback you'd like to share, and ask when a good time would be to share it. They will bring the feedback to their team for discussion.
2. Ask lots of questions and be curious about the issue. Find out as much as you can before forming a conclusion or judgment.

Cancellation & Refund Policies

Cancellation policy for Red Wolf Overnight Camp & Wayfinder 2025:

A deposit of \$300 is required for each session registration. This is a non-refundable administration fee.

A full refund, less the \$300 non-refundable administration fee/session/person, will be issued to any cancellation made prior to April 15th, 2025

No refunds will be issued for cancellations made after April 15th, 2025

Behaviour : Campers are expected to honour the Pine Project's Code of Conduct. We reserve the right to dismiss a camper whose behaviour is out of line with this Code of Conduct in a way that puts themselves or others at risk. The camper will need to be picked up and no refund will be issued for dismissals.

Weather: Red Wolf and Wayfinder camps runs fully outside in rain or shine; therefore, we don't provide refunds or credits due to weather. All children should come to camp with weather-appropriate clothing and related gear. In the event that extreme weather jeopardizes the health and safety of participants and staff, the Pine Project may choose to cancel camp or move participants to an emergency indoor location. No refunds will be issued.

Circumstances beyond our control/force majeure: The Pine Project will determine whether a refund is warranted.

The Pine Project reserves the right to cancel or change a camp session due to low enrolment. A full refund will be issued.

All cancellations must be requested in writing by emailing info@pineproject.org.

We recognize that extenuating circumstances exist. For cancellations due to medical illnesses, or for any other compassionate reason, please apply in writing to info@pineproject.org. If the reason is medical- or illness-related please include official documentation.



Directions

Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve

1095 Redkenn Rd, Dysart et al.

45.2227761,-78.5917869

Haliburton Forest & Wildlife Reserve is located about 30 minutes North of the town of Haliburton.

If you are coming East of Haliburton, follow through the town of Haliburton along Highway 118 until you get to Highway 7. Follow Highway 7 North to Redkenn Road. Turn right onto Redkenn Road and the parking lot will be on your left.

If you are coming from the West along Highway 118, take a right on Highway 7 going North. Follow Highway 7 North to Redkenn Road. Turn right onto Redkenn Road and the parking lot will be on your left.

Campers will be dropped off at the parking lot located at 1095 Redkenn Rd, Dysart et al.

