

2017 SERVICE PROJECTS CONSENT FORM EVEREST GROUP

A number of years ago we piloted a new program for our Everest group (12 and 13-year olds; entering 7th and 8th grade) that we plan to continue with this year. Because your child has been placed in this group, it is our hope that you will consent for your child to participate in these Special Projects this summer. It is a wonderful program and has been very well received by campers, parents, as well as the State Park staff. It gives the campers a chance to work in the community as a team and they feel quite accomplished and proud of what they achieve.

This is an exclusive program for our Everest campers only. They will be traveling to the historic Jerusalem Mill in the Gunpowder Falls State Park on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons for one to one and one-half hours, followed by a refreshing dip in our pools. The Park Ranger has many projects planned for them & may include:

- Screening Dirt for Artifacts
- Painting Fences or Staining Tables and Footbridge (This may involve oil-based paint or stain. Gloves are always available.)
- Trail maintenance, including laying wood chips and trimming back vines)
- Planting and/or dead-heading plants and flowers
- Mulching flower beds
- Stacking and moving firewood for the blacksmith shop or for the fireplace used for cooking during reenactments or Colonial Craftsman Days. (Usually done in an assembly line manner.)

Appropriate and old clothing and shoes should be worn or brought on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as sometimes campers get “permanently stained” from the oil-based paints or stains. We recommend sturdy shoes or boots, bug repellent, and a long sleeve shirt.

Campers will be supervised by their camp counselor, as well as an employee from the State Parks and Recreation Department during the program. They will be walking across the neighboring fields to get to the Mill, less than 1/4 of a mile away. Although the campers are versed on appropriate handling techniques and given guidance on how to stay safe on the trails and by the river, you should speak to your child as well. Just to make you aware, there may be risks involved while working on these trails, as well as risks being near the water, risks working with tools and risks working with the artifacts. All work will be done under adult supervision. When the Everest Group returns to camp from their work, they will go to the pool to cool off for their Free Swim time. We will not travel to the Mill on days of extreme heat or a high heat index. Park personnel take heat into consideration when determining appropriate projects and do have indoor (a/c) activities as well.

Children who do not want to participate are encouraged to bring a book, crossword puzzles or another non-electronic, quiet, individual activity to keep them occupied during this time while at the Mill. Although we highly encourage everyone to participate, we never force or insist that anyone engage in any particular activity, unless we are instructed otherwise. If you do not wish for your child to participate, please sign the form and then make a note of it below your signature. Regardless of participation, all Everest campers will travel with their group to the Mill, as we do not have additional staff to supervise campers who do not participate and will not have Everest campers join another group during this time.

Campers may receive credit for their Service Learning Hours upon written request. Please read the following carefully. We hope you are as excited about this opportunity as we are!

I understand that my child will be participating in outdoor activities which may involve walking near water, walking along the trails, using tools and working with artifacts. I further understand that adult supervision and safety precautions appropriate for the age group will be provided. I hereby grant permission for my child to travel to the Mill. I hereby grant permission for my child to participate in these activities.

NAME OF CHILD _____

GROUP - IT'S ALL FUN AND GAMES DAY CAMP, EVEREST GROUP

DATES OF ACTIVITY - JUNE 12 TO AUGUST 18, 2017

PLACE OF ACTIVITY - JERUSALEM MILL, GUNPOWDER FALLS STATE PARK

PARENT'S NAME (please print) _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE: _____