



Charles N. Agree Outpost Camp Family Guide - 2018



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Agree Outpost Camp

(June 25th – August 3rd)

P.O. Box 624
Wawa, Ontario
POS IKO, Canada



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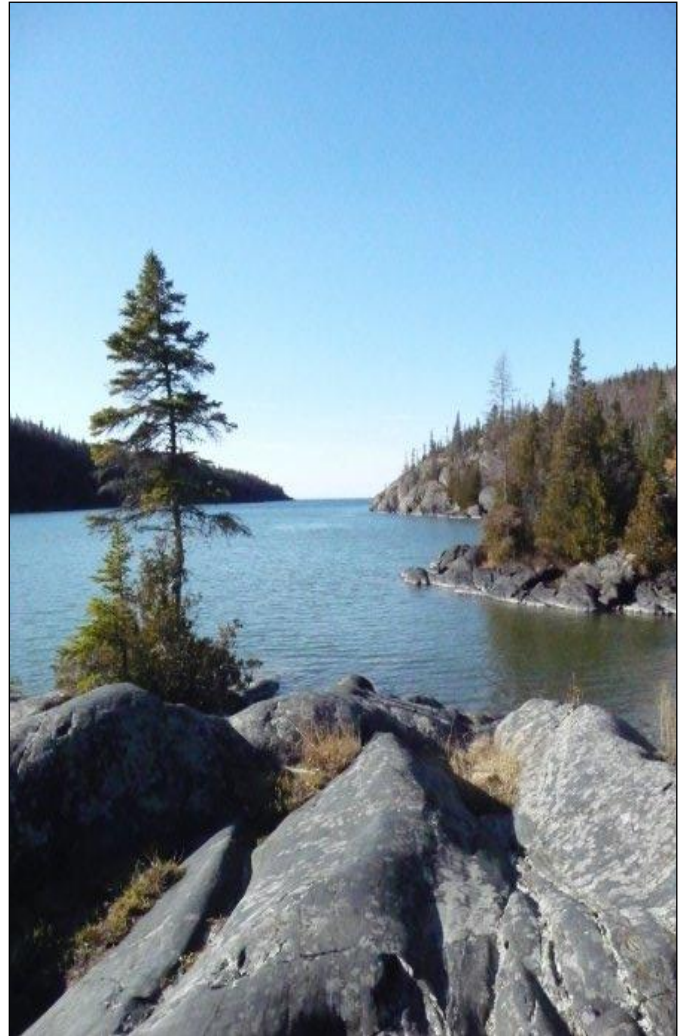
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“You were the best you could be in the most real place there is.”

Welcome

Purpose of the Family Guide

This packet is your reference for Agree Outpost Camp. It includes helpful information for you and your camper prior to the summer and addresses policies and procedures that apply during the summer. Our number one priority is the safety and well-being of your children so please review this material with each camper in order to ensure a successful experience for you and your child. We look forward to a fantastic summer!

Agree Outpost Camp Overview

Agree Outpost Camp six week wilderness and leadership program for campers entering 10th and 11th grade. The session includes a week of camping skills and leadership development, a six-day canoe trip, an eight-day hiking trip in Lake Superior Provincial Park and gorgeous day hikes along Lake Superior's Northern Shore. We also will take a four-day trip to Sleeping Giant Provincial Park near Thunder Bay for sightseeing and exploration.

Agree Outpost Camp Goals

Agree Outpost Camp is a cooperative, wilderness leadership program, where campers will be asked to step outside of their comfort zones, experience new adventures, meet new people and become a part of a special community. It is an opportunity for campers to explore a "leave no trace" lifestyle, to be challenged physically and emotionally, to develop autonomy and a greater respect for the environment, our camp community and each other.

Location

Agree Outpost Camp is located within Obatanga Provincial Park, about 40 miles north of Wawa, Ontario. We are located about four hours north of Sault Ste. Marie and an hour north of Lake Superior Provincial Park, where we do most of our backcountry hiking.

Pre-Camp: Getting Ready

Packing

Gear and Orientation Meeting. ALL campers and parents should attend one Gear and Orientation Meeting, held at Joe's Army Navy in Waterford (981 W. Huron St. Waterford, MI 48328). Additional information about how and what to pack will be covered at meetings. You will be contacted with available dates to choose from.

Don't buy a whole new wardrobe. All new outdoor gear is extremely tempting. However, Agree Outpost Camp is more rugged than life at home and you will find that items return home much more "well-loved" than when they left. **Do not send anything sentimental or expensive!**
TAMARACK CAMPS IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST, MISPLACED OR STOLEN ITEMS.

Packing List. Please refer to the Agree Outpost Camp packing list for items that are required and recommended for camp. The *Agree Outpost Camp Gear Guide* contains clarification about the gear on the packing list, and should be used when purchasing new items like sleeping bags, hiking boots, and long underwear. Please do not pack more than the quantity we have suggested, as space in cabins is extremely limited. We will do laundry halfway through the session.

Shabbat. Agree Outpost Camp may be rugged, but we do try to capture the spirit of Shabbat by wearing a clean (or our cleanest) outfit. A special outfit is not necessary.

Labeling Personal Items. To minimize loss, please mark **all** of your teen's clothing and personal property (including socks) with his or her first and last name. Please use permanent marker or purchase nametapes. Please label all sports equipment, disposable cameras, eyeglasses, sleeping bags, etc.

Electronic Devices. Agree Outpost Camp is about enjoying the outdoors and sharing wonderful experiences with old and new friends. Not only do devices like radios, mp3 players, iPods and electronic games take away from time enjoying each other, headphones look ridiculous in the backcountry. Not to worry! We always have beautiful music echoing throughout camp! Playing cards, favorite travel games, guitars, hand drums, cowbells and tambourines are welcome and highly encouraged!

Watches and Alarm Clocks. Agree Outpost Camp runs on the magic of our sleep and eating cycles. We eat when we're hungry and we sleep when we're tired. Watches are not necessary and will be confiscated and returned upon arrival at Adat Shalom Synagogue (29901 Middlebelt Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48334). Cell phones count as both an electronic device AND a watch.

Spending Money. **\$100** is what we recommend to send with your camper. In addition to the Town/Phone/Laundry day, we will be taking a trip to Thunder Bay. Your camper may want to spend some money while there on souvenirs or some snacks.

Knives. Campers are not to bring their own pocket knife with them to camp. Agree staff will have knives that campers can use under supervision when in the backcountry.

Luggage

Luggage should be brought to the bus on departure day. Our super-human-strong staff will load bags with their bare hands.

Luggage is limited to ONE medium sized (no big-bertha bags) duffel bag. A pillow and sleeping bag may be tied to the outside of the duffel bag or loaded separately.

Passport and Border Crossing Forms

Passport. Please bring a valid passport or passport card to the bus with your camper on June 25th. **Campers will not be allowed to board the bus without this mandatory document.** Passports will be kept in a safe at Agree Outpost Camp and will be returned to parents at the bus on the last day of the session.

Border Crossing Form. The form must be signed by a parent before a notary.

At Camp: During the Summer

Administrative

Agree Outpost Camp does not have a formal "office." If you need to contact your child or Olga Semenova, Director, at any time during the session, please call Jason Charnas, Director of Teen and Family Programs, at the Camp Maas office in Ortonville. Olga is in regular contact with Jason and will return any messages as soon as possible.

Camp Summer Office Information

248-627-2821 (during normal business hours)

248-627-2821 ext. 217 (when office is closed, and in case of a **MEDICAL EMERGENCY**)

For urgent calls, please note that staff is available in the office daily until 1:00 a.m.

Hours

Sunday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: Closed in observance of Shabbat

Departure Day and Arrival to Camp

Campers travel to Agree Outpost Camp by bus. Our drive takes us through Michigan's Lower and Upper Peninsulas along I-75, and then north through Ontario along Highway 17. We will make bathroom stops throughout the journey and stop for lunch in the Upper Peninsula. The whole trip will take approximately 11-13 hours.

Agree will depart from **Adat Shalom Synagogue** (29901 Middlebelt Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48334).

We will **depart by 7:30 am on Monday, June 25th**.

PLEASE ARRIVE AT ADAT SHALOM NO LATER THAN 6:30 AM

If you live outside of the metro Detroit area, special transportation arrangements can be made. Please contact Jason Charnas at the office for details.

Please be sure to bring to the bus on departure day:

1. A daypack loaded with a sweatshirt, socks, long pants, reading materials and bug dope
2. A bag lunch
3. Nalgene water bottle filled with water
4. Duffle Bag
5. Passport / Passport Card



Camp Design

Campers will stay in one of four cabins. Cabins are equipped with shelving units and between 8 and 14 beds to sleep. Agree Outpost Camp is equipped with our beloved shower "Fernando." The shower is outdoors, with four walls, a wooden floor and wonderful hot water. Our bathroom facilities are known as "Melvin and Matilda," the most beautifully decorated outhouses in Northern Ontario. Our waterfront contains canoes, kayaks, a sauna, a dock and a sandy beach. The lodge holds enough history on the walls to keep all Agree campers and staff mesmerized all summer long and eager to add our own histories and stories. Our kitchen is attached with a fully functioning stove, wood-burning stove and refrigerators. In addition, the family room is attached to the lodge, complete with many comfy couches where we all gather to read, sing songs, and play games.

Mail and Communication

Mail is a novelty in our fast-paced world and an especially fun way to communicate from the woods of the Canadian Wilderness. In other words, send us letters! Please address all mail to:

Camper's Name
Agree Outpost Camp
PO Box 624
Wawa, Ontario
POS 1KO Canada

You do not need to send your child to camp with stamps. The Agree staff will provide postage for any outgoing mail and will keep a tally that will be reimbursed at the end of the summer.

Packages. You are welcome to send packages in padded, flat envelopes only. **No boxes are permitted.** Please send all packages in padded flat envelopes no larger than 9" x 14". In order for these packages to be delivered to us, they must be sent using the US Postal Service. The post office will not accept delivery from UPS or FedEx.

DO NOT SEND ANY FOOD TO YOUR TEEN. This includes gum and candy. Raccoons and mice, in addition to bears, are clever and have a great sense of smell. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Phone Contact. There will be a town day in downtown Wawa when each camper will call home. You will receive an email with an exact date of our town day, so that you may plan to receive a phone call from your camper. These phone calls will be between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm.

A Typical Day at Agree Outpost Camp

Agree is unique in that it encourages campers to be independent. Campers most often decide how the day will be spent; whether they kayak, swim, tie-dye, read or play volleyball.

- Breakfast – Kitchen Patrol (KP) group will rise first and prepare a hearty meal to begin the day! (Early morning runs, yoga sessions or swims are common before breakfast.)
- Morning – chores like outhouse cleaning, small projects, and camp tidying are often first priority and are followed by activities like canoe skills, map and compass reading skills, familiarizing ourselves with outdoor gear, day hikes, etc.
- Lunch – KP group will prepare lunch.
- Afternoon – similar to the morning: projects, activities, etc. This is more of a time for campers to do what is most interesting to them.
- Dinner – KP group will prepare a delicious meal.
- Evening – Most evenings there will be a group activity: campfire, capture the flag, wrestle mania, Purim (yes, in the summer) or general hang-out time.

Trips

Some of the highlights of the Agree Outpost Camp experience are the backcountry trips. The trips are our chance to connect with a smaller group of campers, to push our physical and emotional boundaries, to see some wildlife and to truly experience the beauty of our surroundings.

The first trip will be a 7-night, 8-day adventure on the coastal trail of Lake Superior Provincial Park. The length of the trail and rough terrain make this trip challenging, but fulfilling. The second trip will be a 6-day Canoeing trip in the park.

Returning Home

Campers will be dropped off at Adat Shalom Synagogue (29901 Middlebelt Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48334) on Friday, August 3rd between 8:00-10:00 am. A Tamarack Camps representative will contact you two to three days before the end of the session to notify you of the approximate arrival time.

IMPORTANT: Camper Agreement

Please review the camper agreement in the online camper information form, for information about other expectations and policies at camp. While we pride ourselves on our freedoms and new experiences at Agree, those freedoms and adventures come with a lot of responsibility for ourselves and our community. The physical and emotional safety of our group is of the utmost importance and if any camper is acting in a way that compromises that safety or the health of the community, HE OR SHE WILL BE SENT HOME. Please take time to read through the policies and expectations carefully before signing either form.

Health and Safety

Tamarack Camps collects and manages all health information through CampDoc, a secure, web-based health management system. To submit your teen's health information, you will receive an email invitation from CampDoc. If you are a new family, instructions for creating your username and password will be included. If you are a returning family, use your same email address and password from the previous year.

Completed Health Profile

Your teen's health profile consists of several different components, including questions you answer directly into the system, documents to print and upload when completed (Healthcare Provider Form, etc.), as well as additional required items (a copy of your teen's insurance card, for example). It is an easy-to-follow process which updates your progress as you complete the components. As every profile must be reviewed by our medical staff, your camper's profile is **due by March 15, 2018**.

Please answer the questions in this health profile honestly and completely. The information we ask for will be used in our efforts to create a safe and successful summer for everyone.

Note that all campers must have a current (completed yearly) Healthcare Provider Form on file with us which contains vital health information from a physical examination completed and signed by your teen's physician within the last 12 months. We understand that your teen's physical might not be scheduled by March 15 and, therefore, the Healthcare Provider Form may not be complete. However, please complete all other components by then, and upload the signed Healthcare Provider Form as soon as it is complete. Healthcare Provider Forms will not be accepted at the bus. **DUE TO MICHIGAN BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS, CAMPERS WHO DO NOT HAVE A COMPLETED HEALTH PROFILE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED ON THE BUS.**

Immunizations

The Tamarack Camps immunization policy requires everyone to be fully immunized according to the recommendations of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), State of Michigan, and AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics). Tamarack Camps full policy can be viewed at <http://tamarackcamps.com/immunization/>.

Pre-Packaged Medication

For summer 2018, our medication policy has changed, so please read the following information carefully:

We are proud to announce our partnership with AMAC Pharmacy Services. AMAC will provide each camper's medication in safe, easy to use, pre-packaged bags, labeled with your child's name, medication(s), and time of day for administration.

All campers are required to use AMAC to obtain medications that will be administered during a summer program. This includes over-the-counter medications that are taken routinely or as needed, excluding medications such as Tylenol and Ibuprofen. Tamarack Camps will not accept or administer gummy medications/vitamins; in the heat, they melt and stick together. There is a \$10 per camper service fee, charged by AMAC, to pre-package the medications, in addition to any co-payments required by your health insurance.

Some specialized medications may not be available through AMAC. In this case, and only in this case, you may obtain blister cards, and follow directions to complete the packaging process.

Those choosing not to use the pre-packaged medication process will be assessed a \$100 fee, unless you have received prior approval from Roberta Blumberg.

Upon request, exceptions will be made for items like epi-pens, inhalers, and any medication started 30 days prior to their session start date. Please clear all medication exceptions by Roberta Blumberg.

For questions related to pre-packaged medications, please email AMAC contact@amacrxs.com. Emails will be responded to within 24 hours. For emergencies, call 888-722- 5579.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation and commitment to the health, safety, and well being of our entire camp community.

No medication will be accepted at the bus on departure day without prior approval by Roberta Blumberg, Director of Health and Safety.

Medical Staff and Supplies

Your child's health and safety is our absolute, number one priority. Each staff member at Agree is certified in Wilderness First Aid and CPR. Many staff members are also lifeguards. Doctors and nurses at the Camp Clinic are accessible by phone at all times. Every precaution is taken to safeguard the health of each and every camper.

In addition, we carry a fully stocked First Aid Kit, including such items as dressings, splints, bandages, over-the-counter and other medications, antibiotic, antifungal, and steroid ointments, and Epi Pens.

Roberta Blumberg, Director, Health and Safety

It has been 22 years and I'm still blessed to spend my summers in what some might say is "the greatest place on earth, Tamarack Camps." I've been a nurse for 40 years and have worked in many different areas, including emergency and orthopedics. In my role as Director of Health and Safety I've had the opportunity to see my children and yours begin their experience at camp with delight, and return each summer growing, maturing and making lifelong friends while experiencing Judaism in an informal and beautiful setting. Our team works closely with Agree Outpost Camp



staff to ensure that each child is cared for on an individual basis. All staff are trained to recognize and identify medical and emotional issues that can occur among their campers. From bug bites to bullying, any camper issues relating to physical and psychological health come directly to me and my staff. The safety and wellbeing of each camper is my highest priority, and the clinic is dedicated to providing the very best care we can. The clinic is a busy place and a hub of activity during camp. Many of our doctors and nurses went to Tamarack as kids and now return committed to use their expertise to provide our campers and staff with first class medical care in a warm and welcoming setting. Thank you for entrusting your most precious treasures with us.

Agree Outpost Staff

Your child's counselors are college students or college graduates who have camp work experience or other informal education experience in outdoor settings working with children. The staff report to camp 15 days prior to the camper's arrival for highly-focused leadership and backcountry training.

Our staff training provides our counselors with the necessary tools to be able to handle camper issues, and when necessary, to bring challenging situations to the supervisor. Also, our counselors are trained on emergencies procedures, and to seek additional support when necessary. Staff training includes sessions on leadership, Tamarack values, camper security, how to motivate campers, and how to spot and handle incidents of abuse by and among their campers and other staff.

Availability of Medical Services

There is a clinic and a hospital in Wawa, Ontario, which we utilize for medical issues that are more severe than what the Agree staff and director are trained to handle. If your child needs to see a doctor, the hospital will contact you for payment or will send you a bill for treatment. It will be the parent's responsibility to submit the receipt to their own insurer for reimbursement.

While in the backcountry, each group carries a satellite phone that can be used to contact the proper authorities or medical personnel in the event of an emergency.

In addition, doctors and nurses at the Camp Clinic are available by phone at all times. We also have access to a licensed social worker on staff.

Notification for Medical Circumstances

You, or your emergency contact will be contacted by a clinic staff member if:

1. Your child needs to start on antibiotics or steroids.
2. Your child needs to leave camp for medical attention, i.e. x- rays, stitches, etc.

Emotional Preparation

At Agree Outpost Camp, we take our job as in loco parentis ("in place of a parent") extremely seriously. We strive to provide the same quality of care for your children as you would. Therefore, along with preparing your child emotionally for the challenges of Agree, we want you to prepare your children for the realities of being away from home. As you may know, physical abuse, neglect and sexual abuse of children is an ongoing problem in our society. As such, we extensively screen all staff members with background checks and interviews. We also require all staff to participate in a sexual abuse prevention training. Be assured that our staff has the skills necessary to spot, stop, and prevent child abuse. We have reporting procedures in place which require staff that see, hear, or suspect abuse to report immediately to their supervisor or to any senior staff member. We then

report all incidents to the appropriate authorities. However, parents, we need your help to keep our program as safe as possible. We implore you to educate your child on what is and what is not appropriate while they are at camp, be it amongst their friends or with their counselors. We inform our staff at training that all campers come prepared with this knowledge. Skilled counselors and knowledgeable campers help to ensure a safe camping experience for everyone. If you would like additional resources to aid in your child's emotional preparation for camp, please visit our website or contact our office for helpful tips for this important discussion.

As caretakers for your children, are we responsible for their complete safety while in our care. Like your children's teachers at school, we are mandatory reporters under Michigan law. This means we are required to report any allegations or signs of child abuse occurring at home to the appropriate state authorities. We are prohibited from notifying parents until permission is given to us by the state should such an event occur. For more information regarding mandatory reporter responsibilities, please visit the state of Michigan, Department of Human Services website or contact our office.

Lice

Campers at Agree are in very close contact with each other. Therefore, we expect that parents will check their teens for head lice in the weeks preceding camp and treat as necessary so that all teens coming to the trip are lice and nit free.

At lice check, on the first day of the summer, if your child's exam reveals live lice and/or nits (eggs), he/she will be sent home along with their belongings and guidelines for treatment. Parents will be responsible for administering the treatment. Or, if preferred, the Lice Sisters are available to treat your child(ren)—for a fee. The camper's head must be nit-free in order to return to camp.

Food Allergies

Increasing numbers of children have food allergies and we will gladly work with families to provide alternative menu items or special foods for most children with allergies. If, however, your teen has a life-threatening or airborne food allergy, Agree Outpost Camp may not be the right place for him or her.

Agree Outpost Camp is not a nut-free program. Nuts are served, including peanut butter, which is available to campers at every meal. Counselors are notified of children with significant allergies, including when and how to use an Epi-Pen. The counselor and/or camper will carry an Epi-Pen at all times:

We cannot guarantee that:

1. Everyone will follow the above guidelines.
2. There will not be food fights at your child's meal.
3. Campers eating peanut butter will not touch each other or objects at meals.
4. Campers will not purchase items containing nuts during pop/snack stops.

Our goal is to provide a safe and healthy environment for every camper. There may be circumstances when our program will not be appropriate for an individual child. If your child has a severe, life-threatening allergy to nuts, a nut-free program is recommended. Our Director of Health and Safety, Roberta Blumberg is happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Support

Tamarack Camps depends upon the generosity of families like yours. You can volunteer to help with camp projects during the year. You can open your home and invite others to hear about camp

at a “parlor meeting” with some of our directors. You can bring your professional expertise to camp as a doctor, nurse, psychologist, social worker or administrative assistant. You can provide funding for a special program or initiative. You can make a contribution to the Tamarack Camps Send a Kid to Tamarack fund in order to provide financial assistance for other children to attend camp.

By doing one or a number of these things, you can and will make a difference! Please contact Steve Engel, CEO, for more details. Thank you so much for your generosity.

As always, please feel free to contact Jason Charnas if you have any questions or comments at charnas@tamarackcamps.com.

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