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Outdoor Wisconsin Leadership School



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PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

(if under 18 years old—must be signed by parent or guardian)

This information is provided to introduce you to the benefits, risks and responsibilities associated with participation in all adventure programs. Please read the following carefully. If you choose to participate in the adventure education program at the Outdoor Wisconsin Leadership School program, your signature (or a parent/guardian signature for participants under 18 years old) is required on page 2 of this form (the photo release is optional). This form must be turned in to an OWLS representative before you begin your program.

What is adventure education?

Adventure education is the purposeful use of activities in which there are real and perceived risks and where the outcomes are uncertain but can be influenced by the participants. The OWLS program is founded upon the idea of learning by doing and its purpose is to give people opportunities to develop awareness and skills that lead to personal and group achievement.

Where does the OWLS program take place?

Most programs take place at Holiday Home Camp in Williams Bay, Wisconsin. All residential guests are housed in dorms (shared bath) and eat meals in a large dining hall. The campus is located within five minutes of professional emergency medical services.

What kinds of activities are in an OWLS program?

Your organization's group leader will have specific information regarding the type of activities designed for this specific program. The activities can be physically demanding and may include running, jumping, lifting, being lifted, spotting others and climbing to heights. The activities can be mentally, socially and emotionally challenging as well. OWLS programs are created from a combination of some or all of the following curriculum areas: trust building and group problem solving activities, low ropes and high ropes courses, rock climbing, canoeing or sailing. Participants will need to learn the skills and specific safety procedures associated with all activities including the proper use of safety equipment.

Do participants have choices while at OWLS?

OWLS educational philosophy is *challenge by choice*, which means that we believe maximum benefits and learning occur when the challenges are freely chosen by the participants. Your instructors will make every reasonable effort to teach the associated skills and safety procedures which help create a supportive environment where accepting challenges is encouraged. Your responsibility is to make appropriate choices regarding participation in the activities based on your understanding of the benefits to be gained, risks involved and your fitness level.

What are the risks?

Your OWLS leaders are skilled and experienced and will make every reasonable effort to minimize exposure to known risks associated with the activities. However, there are risks inherent in adventure education, and your OWLS leaders cannot guarantee total protection from all risks. Different program components carry different levels of potential risks which are not limited to risks of a physical nature. The risks may be social or emotional in nature, as well. With regard to physical risks, participants in an adventure programs generally have fewer injuries than do participants in school sports, recreation or physical education programs. This does not mean that injuries cannot and do not occur in adventure education programs.

What are the participant's responsibilities?

Participants must be responsible for their own safety and for the safety of others. To minimize safety risks, you must therefore learn and follow all safety rules and your leader's instructions. You must develop a questioning attitude and make your instructors aware at any point during an activity if you question your knowledge of the safety rules or your ability to participate.

Contact OWLS at (262) 245-5161 with any questions or concerns.

ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND RISKS – LIABILITY RELEASE

My signature below indicates that I, (adult participant or name of parent/guardian) _____ (and my son/my daughter if participant is under 18 year old) have read all of the information on this and the preceding page, have been informed of the risks and responsibilities associated with the OWLS program, and understand and agree to assume the risks and responsibilities associated with my/my son's/my daughter's participation in the OWLS program.

I understand that some of the program components may involve strenuous physical activity, that there are inherent risks in the OWLS program, and that participation in any activity is voluntary. I represent that I/my son/my daughter am physically able to participate in any activity I/he/she choose(s).

I have provided complete, up-to-date, and accurate health information on the OWLS participant health form and I/my son/my daughter will notify the OWLS instructors regarding any changes in my/his/her health or fitness which may occur during the program.

In the event of an illness or injury, I give my consent to Holiday Home Camp, to administer first aid and to secure professional medical services as needed.

Furthermore, I acknowledge that Holiday Home Camp, assumes no liability whatsoever for any loss, injury, or damage that may occur due to my/my son's/my daughter's participation in the OWLS program. I hereby release from liability and covenant not to sue Holiday Home Camp, including Lake Geneva Fresh Air Association Inc., as well as its employees and volunteers for any damages, injuries, or losses which may be sustained by me/my son/my daughter while participating in this program.

Signature (if under 18 years of age—must be signed by parent or guardian)

Date

I have read, understand, and agree to follow all of the rules described on the preceding page and in the above paragraphs.

Please print name of minor participant

Signature of minor participant

Date

Photo Release — *Optional*

I, _____, hereby consent to the use of my child's or my photograph, image, voice, written and/or verbal statements by Holiday Home Camp in its publications, video taping, advertisements, brochures, Web sites, etc. I agree that Holiday Home Camp may use my child's or my photo with or without my child's name or mine for lawful purposes including the above. I further acknowledge that there is no agreement or promise on the part of the camp to compensate my child or me in any way for the use of my child's or my photograph/image in said manner. I hereby release Holiday Home Camp from any and every personal or proprietary claim, demand, right, or cause of action of whatever kind or nature, either in law or equity, arising from the use of my child's or my photograph/image. I have read and fully understand the terms of this Release.

I also authorize the use of any information I provide to the camp with regard to my child's or my career, personal life, and accomplishments for use in promotional materials.

In witness, whereof, I have set here my hand and signature this _____ day of _____, 20_____.
(day) (month) (year)

Signature (if under 18 years of age—must be signed by parent or guardian)