



## WS:sample parent letter

Use this letter as a starting point to develop your own letter to parents. Feel free to cut and paste whatever makes sense for you in your context. PLEASE NOTE - the info about the theme night is incorrect, but you can tweak it for this year. This is a letter used by RiverTree for WildSide 2018. It was sent to parents in the weeks leading up to Wildside. This would be one of our final communications with parents before camp begins.

Hi everyone,

Wildside is quickly approaching and we are so excited to have another great year at Camp!! This letter will give you all the information that you will need. As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us and we will be happy to answer them for you.

**Pray:** Would you begin to praying for your son or daughter and their friends that they would have an amazing time at Wildside and God would be at work in their hearts throughout their time at Wildside. Pray for the staff- for energy, for wisdom to accomplish and carry out all the things planned for this amazing week.

**Final Payments:** All final payments are due by Wednesday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. You can drop cash or checks off at the welcome center with your son or daughter's name on the envelop that says "Wildside" attention Sandy Moores. If you have any questions regarding your final balance owed or amounts earned through fundraising selling the power cards, please give Sandy a call at 330-494-1860 ext-105. If you would like to make a payment on-line, you can click on the following link <https://secure.accessacs.com/access/memberlogin.aspx> and use your e-mail address and password that you registered with. Once you login, you will be at your acs home page. If you scroll down to the bottom you will see tabs for my registrations and guest registrations. Under one of these tabs you should find your registration. On the far right hand side, you will find a link that you can click on to make your final payment. If you have made any special financing arrangements, please touch base with Chad Salle.

**Snack Bar/Auction Money:** Please put all auction/snack bar money in an envelope (cash or check made payable to RiverTree) with your son or daughter's name clearly marked on it. **Please do not pack it with their luggage.** They will need to turn it in at the registration table at RiverTree when they sign in. The money will be deposited into an account for them to use throughout the week. It is completely up to you how much money you would like to send along with your son or daughter. The following will give you an idea of what is offered so you can decide what you would like to do. **Please know that any unused funds will not be returned.**

**Snack Bar:** At the snack bar we will serve candy, pop, bottle water, sports drinks, hot dogs, nachos and some other snacks. All food items are \$1-2 each so a \$3 per day allotment for a drink and snack is a good indicator. Also available at the snack bar are camp t-shirts for \$18, tank tops for \$18, Hats for \$18 and sunglasses and strong bags for \$5, and make and take crafts for \$1 each.

**Auction:** This has become one of the highlights of camp each year. This is a fantastic way to have fun and also change lives. We will auction off all sorts of items that students can bid on individually or as a group or cabin. It is a lot of fun and students love bidding on some of the crazy stuff we offer. Each year we donate the proceeds of the auction to support and bless a non-profit ministry. This year we are going to use the money to bless Leaders by establishing a wilderness retreat for them. This will be done through RippleFX. The purpose of the Wilderness retreat is to help leaders who have been investing in students to have their hearts filled back up.

**Summary:** It's totally up to you how much extra money you bring to spend. If your student wants a shirt, sunglasses, make a craft or two, \$3 per day snack bar, and \$25-\$30 towards the auction, then \$60 to \$70 should cover most everything.

**Theme: Beach Party!!** Each year, we do a dinner and evening with a theme night. We encourage students to bring costumes for this too. It doesn't have to be anything expensive or elaborate. You can get creative with white t-shirts and some sharpie markers or find dress up in your favorite beach outfit. Flowered shirts are always good! It's just meant to be fun!! WildSide will provide Leis.

**Electronics:** NO Cell phone, i-pads, tablets, etc. Just don't bring them. We don't allow them at Wildside. Quite simply, students don't need them and it actually is a distraction from interacting with friends and leaders and hearing from God, so we don't allow them for any reason. However, we do allow the adult leaders to bring phones. We have some emergency contact phone numbers listed on the website and at the end of this letter. Should you need to contact your student for any reason, please feel free to contact us.

**Medications:** All medication, including over the counter stuff, must be handed in upon arriving for departure. If you have a prescription, please leave that in its original bottle and put it in a zip lock baggie with your son/daughter's name on the bag. All prescription meds are distributed during meals by our camp nurse.

**Energy Drinks and Soda Contra ban:** We don't allow students to bring soda or energy drinks. They can purchase sodas one at a time at the snack bar, but we have found that in the past excessive amounts of pop, candy or energy drinks right before bed create problems for students getting to sleep. Students are welcome to bring some snacks to share with their cabin, however, the soda and energy drinks need to be left at home.

**Packing List:** Here's a link to the packing list to help:

<http://www.rivertreechristian.com/jackson/students/trips/wildside/download-forms-and-pack-list/>

**In addition please bring the following:**

**3 pair of shoes (one for every day use, one for mud, and flip flops for the waterfront)**

**2 sets of clothes you don't mind if they get muddy or ruined**

**Something for Beach Party theme night**

## **Plain white T-shirt for Color War**

**Departure:** We need everyone to arrive at RiverTree by 2 pm on Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup> with your luggage, sleeping bag/pillow, medications, envelopes with auction and snack bar money. You will need to enter through the back **northeast entrance** to the registration table and sign-in and drop off the necessary items. **We should be returning around 7:00 pm on Friday, June 22.**

**Follow us on Facebook to see what's happening each day:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wildside365/>

## **Emergency Contact Info:**

Beth Kinkaid- 330-268-0743- Jackson Team Leader

Ben Eberly – 330-309-5752- Massillon Team Leader

Isaac Smaglinski- 330-417-3289- Lake Team Leader

Round Lake Christian Camp- 419-827-2017