

Ten Strategies for Reducing Illnesses and Injuries in Camp: Keeping Campers and Staff Out of the Health Center

Barry Garst PhD, Director of Program Development & Research Application, American Camp Association

ACA is involved in a 5-year monitoring study of camp injuries and illnesses that affect camp program participation by staff and campers. Hear the national results of years 1-3 and learn strategies to keep staff and campers healthy. This session is a must for directors, health staff, and risk managers.

Campfire Cooking

Becky Gilles, Camp Director/Youth Birding Coordinator, Mass Audubon Drumlin Farms and Sara Leshay, High School Science Teacher and Director, Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass

Bring your appetite because we are going to cook! Combining various cooking techniques, we will teach you how to make your outdoor cooking more fun and creative while working with children. Familiarize yourself with those old Coleman stoves, pie irons, reflector ovens, Dutch ovens, steaming, solar cooking, and more. It's time to bring your campfire cooking to a whole new level.

Essential Staff Training Activities

Jim Cain, Speaker/Author, Teamwork & Teampay

Tips, activities, ideas, and suggestions for making your next staff training active, engaging, memorable, effective, and fun!

Not Just Letters Home: Developing a Writing Program at Camp

Josh Fischel, Public Relations Associate, American Camp Association, New England

Getting kids and staff to provide a record of the camp season while having fun besides can be a tricky process. We'll try various writing prompts, talk about ways to share it, and how to use writing (and reading it) to set the tone for your camp season. A fun and interactive session. Bring something to write on and something to write with; we'll give you something to write about.

Style from Salvage - Wearable Crafts from Recycled Items

Marla Cohen, Education Coordinator, Mass Audubon, Stoney Brook Natural Summer Day Camp

These days, everyone's looking for creative ways to stretch their budget. This class will show you how to take discarded "trash" like cardboard, paper, newspaper, buttons, puzzle pieces, and plastic bags, and reconstruct and refashion them into stylish wardrobe accessories. Whether you use up what you've got or make something out of a found treasure, these ideas will cost you next to nothing.

Participants will gain new ideas regarding recycling throw-away items, use their creativity to make recyclables into clothes and accessories, and learn how to make yarn out of plastic bags.

SUPERB SUPERVISION: Doing It & Teaching It to Others

Michael Brandwein / speaker, educator, author

This session is for both the staff supervisor who wants to develop outstanding skills and for the person who wants to train supervisors. One of the most important things we do is train our leadership team, but tools on how to do this are rare. This session fills that gap by providing new tools and training activities that you can use immediately. You'll be able to explain clearly what staff leaders are supposed to do when "walking around" and provide them opportunities to actually develop and practice these skills so that they are ready to support staff and lead them in positive, confident ways.

Extended Day Roundtable

Nat Saltonstall, Director, Beaver Summer Programs

Is your camp struggling for activity ideas during extended day programs? Join this roundtable to discuss the challenges and triumphs your program faces in offering extended day programs. If staffing a challenge, how does your camp handle staffing the extended times? Come share what age-group activities, snacks, games, and crafts work well at your camp, and get ready to learn new ideas from others.

Behavior Management Through the Application Process

Rebecca Lopez, Director, Kamp Kiwanis

Have you ever been into the first or second day into a session and realized that your campers have special needs you never knew about? Learn to alleviate this surprise by incorporating "telling" questions into your application, thus setting yourself and your campers up for a positive, fulfilling summer.

How to Interact with the People that Matter

Rick Swartz, Presenter/Consultant, StraightTalk

A fun and interactive workshop that can lead into strategic planning. Do you know all the important people in your "neighborhood"? Exactly what you want them to do? How to get them to do it? Introducing a new way to organize your work.

Where the Wild Things Are...

Steve Lockney, Director, YMCA Camp Harrington

Day camp counselors are in the trenches every day with our campers. It is imperative that, as administrative staff, we give them the knowledge (behavior management and essential job functions), skills (games, songs, & transition activities), and tools (resources for playing with kids) to help create a magical world for the kids they work with. Come for an interactive and fun session where, like Max, you can learn how to make your kingdom fun for everyone!

Don't Change Seats on the Titanic: 7 Traits that Destroy Every Administrative Team

Steve Maguire, Presenter, Maguire Presentations

Every administrative team has flaws. However, there are some choices that administrative teams make that actually make them worse, not better. It's like changing seats on the Titanic, the view may change, but you are still going down! Come join Steve as we explore how to avoid these pitfalls and be sure your admin team isn't sinking

Inclusiveness in Camp

Terrie Campbell, Executive Director, 4-H Camp Howe

Creating an inclusive community for all youth with a focus on accommodating youth with disabilities successfully. With the rise in mainstreaming in schools, parents are seeking inclusive summer options and there are too few camps opening their gates. The intent of this workshop is to discuss the implications for camps, costs, and considerations, and to open up to discussion for camps that are already doing it (most camps are with differing levels of success). I would like to get a panel together of different camps that are doing it – Howe, Ag. Village and a few of the "Let's all play Programs (day camps) so we have differing levels of history (old and more recent) variety of disabilities supported. I think focusing in on low cost easy accommodations as most think it is too hard, too expensive or they can't do it.... So looking at ways to overcome the obstacles that stand between the camp and the child!