

# Mail at Camp & New Package Policy



## Campers may only receive letters, cards, and emails during daily mail call. Care packages will no longer be accepted at camp.

Camp IS the gift and letters are love! Standard letter envelopes, traditional cards and email letters will continue to be accepted and celebrated at camp. We encourage silly cards, fun postcards and 'boring' newsy letters from home reminding campers that camp is THE place to be. Please do not smuggle in any edible items (food, treats, cookies, gum, candy, etc.)

If a package - box or bag - arrives at camp for a child that was not anticipated by the director and the office, then we will return to sender upon arrival. Camp cannot be responsible for returned packages or those held until the end of the session. Please communicate this package policy to extended family to help avoid frustration.

## **A Few Exceptions**

**Forgotten or needed Items:** If your camper left something important at home, please contact the office so we can try to replace a forgotten item such as a toothbrush, headlamp or a book. If we determine together that sending the forgotten item from home is best, then parents may ship the item directly to the camp office with the child's name and cabin on the package. We will open the package and find a way to unobtrusively deliver the needed item.

Shipping of luggage or critical supplies from the packing list ahead of opening day is anticipated and will be accepted.

**Resupply:** Care packages will continue to be welcomed for our tenacious campers who have more than one resupply on their trip schedule – Allagash, Long Voyage and Maine Trails only. We will share a list of suggested items, vetted by veteran campers, with the cabin list. **IT MUST BE MARKED "RESUPPLY" ON THE OUTSIDE.** 

**Birthdays:** If a birthday is happening during camp, then the parent can leave / send a small box with party hats or fun bunk decorations with /to the camp Office to be delivered on the special day. Please resist the urge to go overboard and remember that Camp IS the gift. Our kitchen will make a cabin sized treat for every child with a birthday.

Kieve Camp for BoysWavus Camp for GirlsCamper Name/Session/CabinCamper Name/Session/CabinPO Box 169 (mail)PO Box 350 (mail)42 Kieve Road (shipping)88 Wavus Point Road (shipping)Nobleboro, ME 04555Jefferson, ME 04348

### Why No Packages?

We have found that packages frequently detract from the camp experience.

- Reducing consumption and living simply is one of the best things about camp, but packages negatively impact this 'simple living' ethos
- Differing mail practices in families can inadvertently lead to competition, sadness or jealousy within a cabin. Even packages that have 'something for everyone' cause difficulty.
- "Things" from home can exacerbate homesickness and we want to help campers learn to rely on their camp family for resources and support
- Monitoring the influx of food and other unexpected items in a cabin with allergies has become more challenging as the volume and variety of "stuff" coming in daily has increased.
- The pure volume of sweets and stuff has become difficult to manage in camp **AND** the act of creating care packages has become unwieldy and guilt-laden for parents

### For More Information

Please contact us in the office with any questions. We anticipate the new policy will be met with relief, but we also expect some confusion. We are excited to keep our focus on the daily Gift of Camp and to reduce anxiety at mail time.