



Our Purpose

Marmon Valley Farm is an inter-denominational Christian farm camp committed to providing wholesome farm fun for all ages, to proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and to encouraging young people to walk in a Christ-like manner.

Statement of Faith

- We believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God, infallible, authoritative and sufficient for all matters of faith and conduct. (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21)
- We believe in the triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14)
- We believe Jesus Christ was God in the flesh, born of a virgin, lived a perfect life, died as a substitute for our sins, arose after three days in the grave, ascended into heaven and is coming again to receive His elect. (Isaiah 7:14, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
- We believe in the total depravity of man, the reality of sin and necessity of the new birth in salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 1:18-32, John 3:3)
- We believe that salvation is solely by God's sovereign grace through faith alone, apart from any works or any religious rituals. (Ephesians 2:8-10, Galatians 3:1-4)
- We believe in the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ, who died on behalf of spiritually dead sinners once and for all. (Ephesians 2:1-9, John 1:12)
- We believe in the Person of the Holy Spirit and His work of conviction, regeneration, and sanctification, who indwells every believer equipping them with gifts for service and witness. (1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 8:9-11, Hebrews 2:1-4)

Program Goals

- To model and encourage a Christ-centered life
- To teach relationship with Christ as a foundation
- To build one-on-one relationships with campers
- To teach and model Godly character

Position Descriptions

Counselor

The counselor is the primary care taker of campers during their stay. The counselor is also the primary influence in the life of a camper throughout the course of the week. Because of the nature of this role, the counselor has the greatest amount of responsibility to instruct and to model Christ-likeness for the camper. A counselor's is to help their campers grow mentally, physically, spiritually and socially in accordance with the Word of God. We approach this goal by using each activity during the day to help the camper better understand Biblical truth and to draw them into a closer relationship with the Savior.

General Responsibilities:

- Making sure campers care for their daily hygiene...*brushing teeth, showering, changing clothes and so on.*
- Getting campers to and from all events and meal times. Be on time.
- Participation in all events and activities unless otherwise instructed
- AM job assignment: riding instructor, food service, housekeeping, and maintenance.
- Keeping your campers together and know where they are at all times.
- Facilitate cabin devotions and activities, teachable moments and living transparently.
- Generating enthusiasm
- Evening Program and camper interaction

Food Service

The primary responsibility for the food service staff is to assist in meal preparation, serving and clean up, under the head cook. The hours vary according to your assigned shifts and specific responsibilities. The food service director will make specific schedules that include break times. One day off will be scheduled each week on the weekly staff assignment sheet. Food service may be scheduled as an AM or PM responsibility, or it may be designated as an all day assignment. Food service staff are expected to participate in the evening programs.

General Responsibilities:

- Food Preparation
- Serving, Clean up and dishes
- Kitchen cleaning and trash disposal
- Evening program and camper interaction

Stable Staff

The primary responsibility for the stable staff is to man the public stables and care for the horses as well as teaching during the morning riding program. The hours will vary depending on the assignment (AM/PM). Morning work may begin as early as 6:00 AM and it will finish in the evening around 6:00, with the exception of scheduled evening horse events. Stable staff are expected to participate in the evening programs each night. The horsemanship director will assign break times throughout the week.

General Responsibilities:

- Trail guiding
- Round up/Round down and AM catching
- Teaching lessons and morning riding instruction
- Stable clean up, scooping manure
- Tack care
- Doctoring and graining horses
- Some horse training as experience & ability allow

- Some afternoon programming (Harness driving, colt training, saddle soaping)
- Evening program and camper interaction

Maintenance Staff

The primary responsibilities for the maintenance staff are to assist the maintenance directors in the projects of the summer and to take care of routine maintenance tasks. This area may be assigned as an AM or PM job assignment, or it may be scheduled for the entire day. Work begins after breakfast and ends around 6:00. Mornings and evenings are to be spent participating in the camp program. A day off will be scheduled each week and the director of maintenance will assign break times throughout the week.

General Responsibilities:

- Lawn mowing and weed whacking
- Building repair and construction
- Trash run after each meal
- Other responsibilities as assigned
- Evening Program and camper interaction

Riding Instructor

The primary responsibility of a riding instructor is to safely and with enthusiasm teach a horsemanship class according to the level of the class. This is a morning assignment that begins after breakfast and finishes when the instructor has accompanied the entire riding class to the dining hall for lunch.

General Responsibilities:

- Prepare lesson plans
- Instruct an arena lesson, a ground lesson and guide the class on a trail ride
- Work with or as an assistant
- Generate fun and enthusiasm for your class
- Be educational, emphasizing safety and fun

Assistant Riding Instructor

The primary responsibility of the assistant riding instructor is to assist the riding instructor in all of their above listed responsibilities.

Program Staff

The primary responsibility of the afternoon activity instructor is to safely and with enthusiasm teach an activity to cabin groups. The afternoon schedule runs three activity periods. The time before and after the activity periods is to be used for setting up, fixing up and cleaning up. Afternoon activities are always susceptible to change and cancellation, so program staff needs to be flexible and ready to jump in to any event at any time. Program staff are expected to participate in evening events.

General Responsibilities:

- Prepare for activity, set up, and get materials (tell Michelle if any orders need to be placed)
- Supervise and lead campers at that activity
- Teach activity with enthusiasm
- Be alert to safety (keep necessary logs) and report any accidents to Program Director
- Evening Program and camper interaction

Housekeeping Staff

The primary responsibility is to take care of the general cleaning of our public facilities and to care for the needs of any special summer guests. This may be assigned as an AM or PM job assignment, or it may be scheduled for the entire day. Usually the morning work will begin after breakfast and the job finishes around 6:00. Housekeeping staff are expected to participate in the evening programs.

General responsibilities:

- Facility cleaning
- Restroom cleaning and up-keep
- Meeting hospitality needs of guests
- Evening Program and camper interaction

Attire for Various Areas of Camp

General Principle

In general, you are welcome to dress informally and comfortably, yet appropriately modest – as Christ’s ambassador. Our goal should be to honor Christ in our dress just as we would in other areas of life. If you are in question of anything do not hesitate to ask. You will be representing God and Marmon Valley Farm this summer, and you will be modeling Christ-likeness before the campers, so use discretion and wisdom. Good personal hygiene practices are expected at all times from all staff members. Certain work areas of camp do have specific requirements as noted below:

Stables

Plan to dress professionally when you work in the horse area. Professional dress may include, jeans, cowboy boots or other riding footwear, button down shirts, knit shirt with collars (“Polo” style shirts), English riding attire or western wear and a cowboy hat or riding helmet. Please do not wear t-shirts, shorts, sweats, wind suits or excessively tight or baggy or low cut (for girls) pants as they are not conducive to good horsemanship. Try the thrift store first if you need to buy clothing for the stables. Clothing worn during the horse program may get quite dirty or muddy depending on the weather. Marmon Valley Farm will provide a cowboy hat for each staff member. These hats are part of your uniform on Saturday and Sunday when parents are here, and anytime you are in the stables. Other accessories that you may wish to bring, although they are not required include, a saddle slicker for rainy days and chaps, jodhpurs and the like. If you own a saddle that you would like to use this summer, you may bring it, but usage will depend upon the horsemanship director’s approval. (We want to be sure it fits the horse you are riding.)

Non Stables

Counselors will spend their afternoons with camper enjoying several afternoon activities together. Although some activities require specific attire (i.e.: swimming) most of the afternoons you will be able to wear shorts, t-shirts, tennis shoes or sandals. Dress comfortably and dress as a good role model. The following guidelines may be helpful as you plan.

- Sleeveless shirts should not be loose fitting around the arms.
- Men are to wear shirts at all times except when swimming.
- No bare feet (it can be very dangerous on the farm) except at the lake.
- No *short* shorts or low-rise hip-hugger style pants are to be worn at camp.
- Shirts should not be cut so short that they expose your midriff (in any department at camp).

Kitchen

Kitchen staff may wear the same “Non Stable” attire outlined above. However, sandals are not permitted in the kitchen, shoes are required. Also, you will need to keep long hair pulled back. Dirty boots and attire from the horse area are not to be worn when working in the kitchen. For certain staff schedules, this may require changing clothes before reporting to work in the kitchen.

Swim/Lake

While most of our camp experiences do not segregate boys and girls at activities, we do try to schedule girls at the lake at times opposite from when boys are at the lake. The lake is however, in a central location to other activities, so we would like all campers and staff to wear appropriately modest swim suits while at the lake.

Saturday/Sunday Uniforms

During Sunday registration and Saturday check out, all staff members are to wear their staff uniforms. Staff shirts will be issued at staff training along with a cowboy hat. You will need to have a clean pair of blue jeans and boots to complete the uniform. Blue denim skirts are permitted for women if they don’t have horse responsibilities. You will be responsible for the care and upkeep of your shirts and hat. Replacements will be issued at your expense.

Professional Practice

Possession or practice of any of following is not permitted and will result in immediate dismissal:

Alcoholic Beverages

No one serving on staff may participate in the consumption of alcoholic beverages whether at camp or away from camp. While the Bible does not forbid drinking in moderation in accordance with the laws of the culture, we believe that it is a bad example to portray to campers. Please refrain from such activity.

Tobacco

Likewise, Marmon Valley Farm is a smoke free facility, no tobacco products or drugs are permitted.

Drugs

The inappropriate use of pharmaceutical drugs or the use and possession of illegal drugs is strictly prohibited at camp.

Sexual activity

In accordance with scripture's mandates extra-marital sexual activity is prohibited including any form of sexual harassment or pornography.

Homosexual Behavior

Marmon Valley Farm holds to the Biblical position that homosexual activity is sinful and willful. No such activity or behavior is permitted from any staff member.

Firearms

We ask that you do not bring firearms/ ammunition with you to camp. You are not permitted to have them in your possession while serving at MVF. If for some reason you would need to store a firearm/ammunition during the summer camping season, it will be kept at one of the full time staff homes. At no time will firearms/ammunition be stored in camper cabins or other areas campers frequent.

Music

CD players or other audio devices may be brought to camp; however, we ask that they are only played during rest period or the morning wake up routine. For the purpose of exalting Christ in your music we ask that only good Christian music with easily understood and biblically sound lyrics be played here. Music has been a controversial topic among staff and camper families in the past. Please be prepared to exercise deference in this area of Christian liberty.

Time Off

All staff will receive 24 hours off each week. In most cases time off will be scheduled for Saturday at 12:00pm – Sunday at 1:30PM (3:00PM for counselors). Since your spiritual growth and strength is so critical in a ministry position, we expect all staff to sit under the preached word at a church on Sunday morning.

Church Attendance

Each summer staff member is expected to attend church every weekend throughout the summer. You are welcome to join any of the following congregations, or you may find another one in the area.

- ❖ Grace Chapel..... 465-3736
8:00am, 10:45 am
- ❖ Calvary Baptist Church..... 599-4775
10:45 am
- ❖ Goshen Friends Church..... 592-4933
9:30 am
- ❖ Christian Fellowship Church..... 593-0981

Personal Vehicles

You may bring a vehicle to camp and leave it in our staff parking lot during the camp week. There will be no need for transportation during the camp week.

Telephone

Phone calls are to be made on your time or arranged with the Program Director. Phones are available in the shop for men and the old kitchen for women. Please only use the *staff phone* for your calls. The phone number is (937) 599-5567. All long distance calls must be made either collect or with your calling card. Cell phones are permitted, however, usage is limited to your time off as well.

Email

Email messages can be sent and received on the staff email computer at staff@marmonvalley.com. This machine is provided for your convenience. All staff will share this account using folders and “rules” to keep their email sorted. **All email sent to you should be directed to the above email address with your name in the subject line.** The computers in the camp office are not available to summer staff.

Laundry

Laundry facilities are available on site and free of charge for staff members. Bring your detergent and fabric softeners, etc. with your name on the box. Staff members will be assigned a laundry day each week.