



St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center
Barrier Island Environmental Education Program
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August 2, 2016

Dear Schools/Teachers,

Welcome to another great year at St. Christopher's Barrier Island Environmental Education Program! We are excited to start training a new set of Naturalists in mid-August and are confident that both children and adults coming to Barrier Island this school year will have a fantastic time! We would like to take this opportunity to remind you about our policies.

Adults Per Cabin

We strongly recommend 2 adults per cabin. For safety reasons, at Barrier Island, Naturalists are not allowed to be alone with children. In order to protect your chaperones and children, we feel it is best to extend this policy to the chaperones as well by strongly suggesting at least two adults per cabin at all times. As an incentive for schools to recruit more chaperones, we offer one *free* tuition for each cabin that has at least two adults staying in it. Any additional chaperones will pay full price. Your discount is calculated based on the number of cabins assigned to your group - one free adult per cabin. However, we only *require* 1 adult per cabin.

Updated Forms

The only form that has changed for 2016-2017 is the Curriculum Request Form found in the Teacher Packet. Please be sure to look over that carefully as there are a number of changes that may affect your class choices. We no longer offer our Cusabo's class, as only 3 schools chose it last year, and we felt the curriculum needed an overhaul anyway. Other changes are that we have opened up a lot of the 1hr classes to also be choices for 2hr classes, which will increase the opportunity for student-led inquiry, discussion and exploration and reinforcement of key concepts.

Financial Assistance

These are the policies which we hope will help your school afford a trip to Barrier Island:

- Second adult in each cabin is free – note that this can be either a teacher or a parent; the discount can be applied to one individual or split among all of your adults.
- Scholarships: *We offer up to 5% in scholarships to Title I schools.* Please fill out the request form available on our website to take advantage of this offer.

Booking Policy Reminder

All bookings for the following year are accepted beginning the first day of the month in which you wish to book at **6:00am**. For example, if you wish to book dates in September 2017, you can make a reservation beginning at 6:00am on September 1st, 2016.

Rates

Below are the rates for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 school years:

2016-17 School Year

- September-November Mon-Wed\$185/person
- September-November Wed-Fri.....\$195/person
- December-February Mon-Wed\$160/person
- December-February Wed-Fri.....\$170/person
- March-May Mon-Wed.....\$185/person
- March-May Wed-Fri.....\$195/person

***2017-18 School Year**

- September-November Mon-Wed \$185/person
- September-November Wed-Fri \$195/person
- December-February Mon-Wed \$160/person
- December-February Wed-Fri \$170/person
- March-May Mon-Wed \$185/person
- March-May Wed-Fri..... \$195/person

*2017-18 rates are subject to increase (not greater than 4%), with prior written notice.

Lodge Room Upgrades

To book a lodge room upgrade for yourself or other teachers in your group, please email or call Teri or Margaret to check on current availability and to book a room. The rates for 2016-17 are as follows:

Monday – Wednesday

- Single Room upgrade, 2 nights\$55 total
- Double Room upgrade, 2 nights\$60 total
- Triple Room upgrade, 2 nights\$65 total
- Quad Room upgrade, 2 nights\$70 total

Wednesday – Friday

- Single Room upgrade, 2 nights \$85 total
- Double Room upgrade, 2 nights \$90 total
- Triple Room upgrade, 2 nights..... \$95 total
- Quad Room upgrade, 2 nights..... \$100 total

Bus Drivers

If your bus drivers need lodging and/or meals at Barrier Island, these must be booked *in advance* with Teri. Here are the 2016-17 rates:

- Bus Drivers, single, 2 nights with breakfast (M-W) \$150 total
- Bus Drivers, double, 2 nights with breakfast (M-W)..... \$180 total
- Bus Drivers, single, 2 nights with breakfast (W-F)..... \$180 total
- Bus Drivers, double, 2 nights with breakfast (W-F)..... \$230 total
- Bus Driver meal package for all lunches and dinners, per person..... \$60 total/person

Teacher Survey

As you know, we are always seeking ways to improve and perfect the programs we offer to all schools. As such, we hold a bi-annual Teacher Advisory Panel to discuss the program. Before that, we like to get a feel for what all your needs and desires are. Please expect an email inviting you to fill out a short online survey, in the next week. We welcome all feedback.

Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to another great year at Barrier Island!

Yours faithfully,



David Gardner
Director of Environmental Education



Teri Hiers
Office Administrator