



Rowe Camp & Conference Center

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BEHAVIOR STANDARDS FOR ROWE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAMP 3 Formerly Known As Transitions Camp

Rowe Camp, founded in 1924, is located in a small New England town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The camp is affiliated with the Unitarian Universalist Association, which in 1984 adopted a revised set of principles, the first four of which affirm and promote:

The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to
spiritual growth;
A free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

We believe in these principles. Our goal is to share them with young people by emphasizing responsibility to and respect for the community. Rowe Camp has a long tradition of respect for young people. We provide leadership, guidance, programming and role models to encourage the development of our principles. Our policies call for watchful awareness from the campers and the development of sensitivity toward others in the community. We trust that, within the parameters of these guidelines, each Rowe camper will have a safe and rewarding experience filled with that indefinable but lasting sense of positive, energetic, personal and community well-being that is called the Rowe Spirit.

YPC 3 Behavior Standards

RESPECT FOR SELF & OTHERS

Smoking (cigarettes or marijuana), the use of alcohol, or drugs is not allowed in camp. Any camper found using alcohol or drugs or smoking while at camp will be sent home.

STEALING

Living at Rowe Camp involves the sharing of a very small living space with a varied number of people, as many as ten in a cabin. Trust and a feeling of safety are essential for the creation of a community, and stealing may be the most destructive action one can take in a community environment. Except under extraordinary circumstances, individuals caught stealing will replace, at their own expense, what has been taken and will be sent home.

It is all of our responsibility to create a safe environment built on trust and respect. Always ask before borrowing anything.

VIOLENCE/AGGRESSION/DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

One of the fundamental principles in the philosophy of Rowe Camp and Unitarian Universalist thought, is respect for the dignity of every person. Only touch people in a respectful manner. Violence, against people, their property, or the natural world is contrary to this principle. Physical violence of any kind will be grounds for being sent home. Bullying in any form (words or actions) will not be tolerated. Counseling before departure will be made available, which may include campers' parents. Aggression can take many forms and can therefore be hard to set guidelines for. Camp directors and the Camp Manager have the responsibility of making decisions in regards to incidents of aggression.

The camp belongs to all of us and it is our responsibility to keep it clean and in good repair. Campers will be held responsible for the repair or the cost of replacement or repair to any property which is damaged as a result of a raid or a willful act of destruction of property. Littering and treating camp property in a destructive way is an act of disrespect for both the camp and other campers. Graffiti is allowed only in designated places. (the left side of the Rec Hall stairwell, the art room walls only, and the unfinished cabins. Graffiti is not allowed on bunk beds, cabin floors, the exterior of cabins or anywhere in Doyle, Newlands, or Schoenfeld cabins. Graffiti that is aggressive or disrespectful will be removed.

Camp is located in a beautiful and natural setting. Carving on trees and pulling up plants is not respectful to our earth.

PRIVACY

Protection and preservation of the privacy of each camper and staff member is important in the creation of a safe community. Cabins and bathrooms are assigned and restricted for use by gender. Campers are not allowed in any cabin but the one they are assigned to unless a counselor is present.

SAFETY

No fires, matches, lighters, candles or incense are allowed at camp, (except when a part of a program and supervised by staff) Weapons of any kind are prohibited at camp.

All campers must get permission of a staff member before going for a snack at the Rec Hall and always tell a staff member if you want to go for a walk outside the boundaries of camp.

SHARING SPACE WITH YPC 1 & 2

Young People's Camp 1 & 2, which is for campers as young as 8 years old, happens at the same time as YPC 3. We ask YPC 3 campers to be good role models, to respect YPC 1 & 2 campers and their space, and to respect their innocence. Use respectful language at all times.

CONCLUSIONS

This document includes only those rules and behavior standards that must be communicated before campers arrive. If these rules are unacceptable to the prospective campers or to their parents, all concerned need to know this before camp begins. There are naturally a number of other, more routine rules about camp life. Some are not negotiable, such as safety on the roads and at the beaches and respect for the camp and town property. Others, such as curfew time and what happens when a camper misses his or her turn at KP, can be decided upon by the staff or the community at the beginning of each session.

Campers and parents are advised on the Camper Contract Form that violations of certain specified behavior standards are cause for a camper to be sent home. Repeated violations of other behavior standards and rules could result in the camper being sent home. It is our intention to handle each case according to the particular situation and individual concerned, but clear violations of specific rules will not be tolerated. Every camper and a parent must sign a contract before coming to camp that makes it crystal clear that this is understood and that the rules, policies and standards are also understood.

If a violation of the behavior standards occurs and a camper is to be sent home, it is required for the parents or guardians to pick up the camper either same day or within 24 hours. There will be no refund of camp fees.

Please do not mistake this document to be a profile of what camp is like at Rowe. Rowe is life-long friendships established firmly, the unfolding of one's own identity in clear and appreciable ways, the testing of one's own capacities, an awareness of our connection with and to the Earth, and a real knowledge of what community means. It is fun, it is unique, it is the Rowe Camp experience and it is the Rowe Spirit. We think you will love it and that you will love yourself for coming here.

In short form:

1. Respect for Self

- a. No Smoking.
- b. No Alcohol, Marijuana or drugs.

2. Respect for Others

- a. Always ask before borrowing something from someone else.
- b. No stealing.
- c. No violence or aggression, including any form of bullying (words or actions)
- d. Respect the privacy of those around you.
- e. Don't go in any cabin but your own without a counselor present.
- f. Only touch people in a respectful way.
- g. Respect Y.P.C. campers and their camp space.
- h. Use respectful language at all times.

3. Property

- a. Respect other people's & Rowe's property
- b. Respect nature - no carving on trees or pulling up plants, etc.
- c. No Graffiti except in designated areas which are:
 - i. 1 wall in the Rec Hall
 - ii. The old cabins where you already see graffiti (not on the beds)

4. Safety

- a. No fires, matches, lighters, candles or incense (we'll collect any matches you may have.)
- b. No weapons of any kind
- c. Get permission of a staff member before going for a snack at the Rec Hall.
- d. Always tell a staff member if you want to go for a walk outside the boundaries of camp.

Dear Parents and Campers,

Thank you for reading the above information, specifically the camp policies and behavior standards, and signing your name to support the intentions which the words represent. Your signatures indicate that you are willing to abide by the policies as they are described here.

If you have questions or would like to discuss any of the policies, please contact our office and we will put you in touch with the directors.