

The New Weis Center for Education, Arts & Recreation

150 Snake Den Road, Ringwood, NJ 07456

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GROUND RULES for CAMPING & CAMPFIRES

We welcome you to the fire circle and camping area of The New Weis Center (NWC)! Advance registration is required, and payment is due by the day of the reservation. Alcohol, smoking, drugs and firearms are not permitted anywhere on NWC property. Please follow the 'Leave No Trace' principle when using any NWC facilities (www.Int.com). To ensure your safety and enjoyment, please observe the guidelines below.

Overnight Camping

Vehicle(s) may be unloaded at the campsite, but must be moved and parked in the area designated by NWC staff. One vehicle or trailer may be left in the camping area (not on the field) to lock up food and anything that might attract animals (see [Animals](#) below). After all vehicles have left the NWC property, except those belonging to overnight campers, the outer gate may be *locked*; you will be given the code to unlock it in case of an emergency.

Children must be kept within sight and supervised by an adult at all times, and must be accompanied by an *adult* when entering the main building.

No *amplified* music or speech is allowed on NWC property; acoustic instruments are welcome. *Quiet time* (talking only, voices low) begins at 9pm and *all quiet* is at 10pm.

Campfires

State Fire Code mandates that fires be no more than *2.5 feet in diameter* and *2.5 feet high*. The fire must be contained within the rock circle and the rocks should not be moved. *Large bonfires are not permitted*.

Please be sure to *completely put out the fire* before you leave the site. *Leave all coals and burnt wood* in the fire circle. See below for [water](#) sources.

Please do NOT bring your own firewood, as this can contribute to the spread of invasive insects, which can damage or destroy our local trees. Ample firewood and kindling is available onsite at no charge.

Bathrooms

Bathrooms may be accessed by the basement-level right side door at the main building. This door must be kept *locked and closed* unless there is another activity taking place; such activities generally occur in the daytime and you will be advised in advance. There is a lock-box on this entry door, which uses the same code as the entry gate.

Water

During the pre-frost season, there will be a water hose next to the fire circle. There is also a water spigot near the fire circle. While this spigot provides potable water, and the pipes supplying it are certified for potable water systems, some people may find that the pipes impart a taste they don't like; this may or may not be remedied by running the water for a while. Please contact us for instructions on water for winter camping.

Animals

NWC's 152-acre property is surrounded by woods, so be alert for animals. Bears and other animals are *attracted to food*. All food should be stored in tight containers and locked in a vehicle or trailer when not being used. No food, including snacks, should be brought into any tent. Garbage and recyclables with food remnants should be stored or brought over to the NWC dumpsters; let NWC staff know in advance so they can add ammonia to the garbage as an animal repellent!

The local snakes are primarily northern water snakes, black rat snakes and garter snakes, which are non-poisonous, though there have been occasional sightings of copperheads. Deer are often on and near the field around dusk, and nocturnal foragers include raccoons and skunks.