

# The New Weis Center for Education, Arts & Recreation

150 Snake Den Road, Ringwood, NJ 07456

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## **GROUND RULES for CAMPING & CAMP-FIRES**

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.lnt.com](http://www.lnt.com)). To ensure your safety and enjoyment, please observe the guidelines below.

**Overnight Camping** - Vehicles may be unloaded at the campsite, but then must be moved and parked in the area designated by NWC staff. One or two vehicles 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 that are not staying overnight have left, the outer gate must be "dummy-locked" (gate closed, with chain draped over the pole).

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 to use the restrooms.

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 2½ ft in diameter and 2½ ft high. Fires must be contained within the inner rock circle, and the rocks must 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 (flush-toilets and sinks) may be accessed by the basement-level right side door at the main building. This door must be kept closed and locked unless there is another activity taking place (we'll let you know). You will be given the code to the keypad lock; rotating the handle upwards re-locks the door. You will also be given the key to the latrines near the campsite, which should be dropped into our mailbox by the front gate upon departure. Note: the restrooms at the Pool are *not* available to campers unless you are a Pool member or have purchased a day pass (in season).

**Water** – Warm weather: there is a water spigot at one end of the campsite with potable water, but some people may not like the taste for drinking or for cooking, so you should bring your own water. There is also a garden hose at the other end, for putting out the fire.

Cold weather: once there is a danger of frost, the water system will be shut down for the season. Campers will need to bring their own water. We have a portable (back-pack) fire extinguisher that will need to be filled at the main building and brought over to the camping area if you plan to make a fire.

**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 nonpoisonous, 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. We have seen fox families as well.

**Emergency Contacts** - Adults should check the wi-fi signal at the Pool's kiosk, to make sure at least one person can get a signal to call out. You will be provided with the phone number for the NWC staff-person or Trustee who will be your designated contact for your campout. Please note that we are located in Ringwood, NJ; for a major emergency, the fastest and best way to get an **ambulance, fire truck** or the **police**, is to call the **Ringwood Dispatcher at (973) 962-7017**.