

LAND: Drift Creek Camp is a non-profit organization owned and operated by the Mennonite Camp Association of Oregon. The area is rich with natural resources and leased from the Forest Service. The creek creates a loop around twelve acres that hosts the spot known as **Drift Creek Camp**. The organization was formed in 1960 with the intention of creating a gathering place for summer camp, retreats, family reunions and church conference activities. It is a privilege to enjoy such a majestic wilderness. Guests are not permitted to remove items from the forest, so though it is tempting, please do not disturb plants and animals you encounter.

DRIVING: The 10-mile camp road is east off Hwy 101 south of Lincoln City. The roads are well marked so just follow the signs.

- Turn east off Hwy 101 onto Drift Creek Road at Drift Creek Falls trail sign.
- Follow Drift Creek Road 2 miles to Forest Service Road #17 (a paved single lane fork to the left with a gradual climb).
- Follow FSR 17 for 4.5 miles to FSR 1929, which is a right turn onto gravel.
- Follow FSR 1929 3 miles to FSR 19.
- Follow FSR 19 for 2.7 miles where you will see a yellow & brown sign that reads “Siuslaw National Forest, Drift Creek Camp”
- Turn right at entrance, cross bridge and you’re almost there! It is encouraged for leaders to travel ahead of the group and post group signs. There are 8 intersections with five left turns and three right turns. **Please remove signs upon departure.** (A \$10 per sign fee will be deducted from security deposits for every sign not removed upon departure.)

Guests may begin arriving as early as 4pm. It is especially important to respect the 4pm check-in time during summer months when the window for cleaning between groups is small. *We have limited time to “turn over” the facilities.* In order to make camp presentable for incoming groups, we need to work without interruption. Groups are expected to have the facility cleaned and depart by noon on departure day in order for 4pm arrivals to remain on schedule.

Once you reach Lincoln City, the drive off Hwy 101 is about 30 minutes. If you see that you have plenty of time before check-in, you may want to take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the ocean or explore local attractions. In recent years, traffic on the camp road has increased. With visitors to the Falls Trail, folks out fishing or hunting; forestry workers coming and going, etc., you should expect to meet other vehicles, including logging trucks. **Please use caution**. If driving mountain roads bothers you, consider sharing the ride. Carpooling reduces traffic, saves resources and alleviates the parking load. Keep in mind that though it is only a 10 mile drive from Hwy 101, it takes 30 minutes. Camp staff do their best to keep the road clear, but it is not unusual to encounter fallen branches or trees on the road. At about 4 miles from camp, you will lose cell phone service. It’s a good idea to turn your phone off to avoid depleting the battery.

There is no cell phone or internet service at camp.

Once you have arrived and unloaded, park in the designated area. Guests, especially children, play in front of the lodge and frequently cross the road. There should be adequate spaces, even for large groups, as long as people park in an organized and thoughtful manner.

GENERATOR: DCC is “off the grid.” Power comes from a diesel generator which provides lights, heat, etc. When it’s off, it’s DARK! We do have a back-up battery pack that illuminates emergency exit signs, the kitchen and the two main floor handicap-accessible rooms. **Fuel costs are high. In order to keep DCC affordable, we strive to minimize use of the generator and propane. If your schedule allows, consider having the generator off during a few day-time hours during your stay.**

WHAT TO BRING:

- Flashlights, headlamps or a battery-powered lantern if you plan to stay up past 11pm. (Power goes off at 11pm and returns at 6:30. **Extended generator time is \$50/hour.**)
- The furnace is powered by the generator so nights can be chilly. Bring warm bedding & clothes.
- Please consider bringing a hand towel to use rather than paper towels. All trash has to be hauled out of camp and is a big expense. You can help reduce waste by bringing a towel.
- If you wish to wake up with an alarm, bring a *battery-powered* clock or set your watch. Plug-in clocks go off with the power.

KEEP IN MIND:

- If your room's overhead light goes off with the generator, it will come ON with the generator. Sometimes the generator will come on during the night to charge the batteries. If your light switch is up, your light will turn on. *If your group would prefer that the generator go off early, we are happy to arrange that.*
- To avoid spills, messes and unwanted "guests:", do not take food or beverages upstairs.

WATER SYSTEM: Recently DCC converted to a well. The battery system powers the well's pump so please keep water usage, especially showering, to a minimum during the hours that the generator is off. Occasionally the well harbors the smell and taste of sulfur. A filter is installed on the single prep sink in the kitchen and we recommend using water from that tap for cooking and drinking. ***If the potential taste and smell bothers you, you may want to bring bottled water.***

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS: The main lodge contains 117 beds and can sleep up to 122 if the 12 queen beds have double occupancy. The two main floor rooms each sleep up to 4. The second floor accommodates up to 68 with 58 beds. ***If your group is less than 50, lodge use will be limited to the 1st & 2nd floors. The 3rd floor can be opened for an additional \$100.***

- If you have guests who require use of CPAP machines, there are three options available, including the two main floor rooms and room 207 on the second floor. The two main floor rooms should be reserved for folks who cannot do stairs or who need special accessibility.
- **If you do not want to pack your own bedding, linens are available for \$20 per twin set and \$25 for queens. Bath towels can be rented for \$5 each.**
- There are two restrooms for men and women both on the main and second floors. If a single-sex group is using the lodge, please feel free to use both restrooms accordingly.
- **If camp is providing food service for your group, space will need to be reserved for kitchen staff workers.** The number will vary according to the size of the group. *Arrangements will need to be made in advance with camp staff.*

ACTIVITIES: The lodge provides a cozy atmosphere for families, friends, churches, etc. to spend time away from life's hectic routine. Many describe the "Ahhhh," feeling when they arrive. We strive to provide a relaxing stay where you can experience renewal. However, some folks find it easier to relax with things to do!

If your group enjoys activities, feel free to bring equipment for:

- **OUTSIDE:** Basketball (we have hoops), volleyball (we have the net), soccer (we have the goal posts), softball (we have the bases), Horseshoes (we have the posts and shoes), etc. Equipment can be checked out from the camp staff but replacement fees will be charged for lost or damaged items. **If you have a lifeguard along and would like to float the creek, inner tubes and life jackets can be rented for \$5 per set. A \$25 replacement fee will be charged for popped tubes.**

- Enjoy the well-marked trails within the camp loop. Trail maps are provided for your enjoyment, but please return them to the office once you've scoped out the area.
- **INSIDE:** Foosball and ping pong tables are available in the lodge. Additional ping pong balls can be purchased for 50 cents each. There are tables for games, puzzles, etc. which are found in the game cabinet next to the fireplace.
- If you enjoy music, there is piano on the main floor and two in the chapel.
- A digital projector is available to rent (\$25) for showing movies, presentations, photos, etc.

NATURE CENTER: Fascinating collections and useful equipment are always being added to the Drift Creek Nature Center. This resource is located inside the lodge to enrich your camp experience. There are trail maps, field guides, displays, photographs, microscopes, computers, artifacts and countless educational materials for you to use and enjoy as you learn about the unique riparian area found at Drift Creek Camp. However, these items are costly to replace and should be checked-out through the camp staff. ***Please accompany your children while they explore the nature center!***

MEALTIME: A large bell is used to indicate mealtimes. This can be heard ringing throughout the grounds. It is appreciated if your group could assign volunteers to wipe tables before and after meals. Please allow all guests to go through the line prior to serving seconds. A small inside bell can be rung to indicate that seconds are available. Food waste is a big issue for camp. It is expensive and time-consuming to haul away trash. Additionally, we do not wish to attract unwelcome animals on the grounds. **Please minimize food waste. Drift Creek Camp is not a dump nor do we have garbage service. Extra fees will be deducted from deposits for excessive trash.**

It is helpful to staff when groups respect the meal clean-up system. There are bins for receiving recyclable items as well as one reserved for paper napkins. Please read the labels. Place napkins in the burnable depository and NOT in the scrap bin. Deposit food waste in scrap bin. Deposit leftover beverages in liquid bin. Deposit silverware in tubs marked accordingly. Deposit neatly stacked plates and cups in dish window. In an effort to minimize waste and operate sustainably, camp staff is committed to gathering left-overs to feed chickens off-site. ***Your cooperation in managing and reducing waste is deeply appreciated!***

If your group is cooking for yourselves, please remember to include the camp staff who is hosting you in your meal count . Currently the on-site staff includes 2 adults and 4 children.

CHECK OUT: The on-site staff will give cleaning instructions. (This usually happens on Saturday evening.) ***Please leave DCC the way you found it .***

We have found it helpful for groups to follow these procedures:

1. Guests load bags into vehicles before getting started on cleaning assignments. This prevents walking through (and dirtying) areas that have already been cleaned. Remind guests to check in restrooms and under beds for personal items.
2. Cleaning lists are posted and supplies will be distributed.
3. ***It is up to the group leader to ensure that all cleaning is completed.*** We recommend tracking where each family or group sleeps and ask them to be responsible for cleaning those specific areas, then divide common spaces up among guests. *(Don't forget to pick up outside litter too!)* Charges will be deducted from deposits for areas that are damaged, not cleaned and for items not put back in designated locations (i.e. beds moved and not returned, etc.)

DEPARTURE: Just as arrival time was important, so is departure. Please respect the 12 pm check-out time. If you strive for an 11:30 check-out, then noon is probably realistic. Please respect the experience of groups arriving after you by giving staff adequate time to prepare.

THANK YOU!!! *We appreciate your choice of Drift Creek Camp. While our unique location provides a wonderful setting, it also presents interesting challenges. However, we do our best to overcome natural obstacles and the limitations that come with maintaining a small staff. Our goal is to create a warm and inviting experience for your group. We will strive to meet your needs and to make your stay a positive experience! **We welcome your return and hope you have a wonderful time!***

Have a safe trip home! It's never too early to make arrangements for your next stay!

Remember that the camp road will be closed for repairs July 15-September 15, 2012.

Contact the office in order to book available dates!