



1120 Randall Court • Geneva, IL 60134 • (630) 232-1070 • (630) 232-1471 fax

March 12, 2010



Dear Parents:

If you have been referred to this application by school or other professional staff you may qualify for participation in the TriCity Family Services Wilderness Challenge Program. The Program was designed over 20 years ago to help teens who wish to develop valuable life skills that can aid in preparing them for their adjustment to high school. To see a 7 minute video presentation go to our website at www.tricityfamilyservices.org then simply click on the Wilderness Challenge Video. Our program takes place over eight days, (Friday June 18th-Friday June 25th), in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness of Northern Minnesota and the Quetico Provincial Park of Ontario Canada. The focus of the trip is to enable teens to develop peer relationship, team building, and problem solving skills through a multitude of natural challenges and guidance of trained staff. No prior camping or wilderness experience is required. Program initiatives are designed to match your teen's physical and emotional readiness and at no time will your teen be forced to do anything that they feel unprepared to do.

If your son or daughter has interest in such an opportunity we strongly encourage you to fill out the attached application and send it to us as soon as possible. We also ask your participation a meeting on **Sunday, May 23rd, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at TriCity Family Services, 1120 Randall Court, Geneva IL.** The program will be explained via a slide presentation and parents and teens will be given opportunity to ask questions about the program. Immediately following this presentation your teens will participate in team activities and a swim test until 4:30 p.m. your teen must have \$3 and a swim suit for the swim test. **There will be no cost for teens accepted into the program other than a \$75.00, deposit (refunded at the conclusion of the trip).**

We look forward to meeting with you and your teen on the 23rd of May.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory D. Watson".

**Gregory D. Watson LCSW, LMFT, ACSW
Wilderness Program Coordinator**

***“Strengthening Youth through the Challenges of Nature
Positive Decision Making, Teamwork and Creating
Personal Success”***





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WILDERNESS CHALLENGE PROGRAM APPLICATION

Please be advised that this is only a preliminary application. Candidates and their parents will be expected to attend a group interview with TriCity staff on the date listed below (*Thursday May 13th*). At the interview date parents and teen will see a slide show and be able to ask specific questions about the program. A \$75.00 deposit will be required *only when they are officially accepted* to the program, which occurs after the last interview on *Sunday May 23rd*. The deposit will be returned at the conclusion of the trip. However, if any cancellation is made later than ten (10) days prior to the departure date, the deposit will not be refunded.

PLEASE NOTE: The interview is a 2-part process, which also includes your teen attending an afternoon on a team's course and swim test with TriCity Family Services' staff. This is scheduled for *Sunday May 23rd from 11:00 - 4:30 p.m.* (**Teens must attend both programs to be considered for the program).

<u>TEEN'S NAME</u>	<u>BIRTH DATE</u>
<u>PARENTS' NAME (S)</u>	
<u>ADDRESS</u>	
<u>CITY</u>	<u>ZIP</u>
<u>PHONE: Home</u>	<u>Work (whose?)</u>
<u>Cell (whose?)</u>	
<u>My Teen Attends (School Name)</u>	<u>Middle School OR High School?</u>
<u>MY TEEN CAN SWIM YES () NO ()</u>	

PLEASE RETURN BY Friday May 21st 2010, TO:

**Greg Watson
TriCity Family Services
1120 Randall Court
Geneva, IL 60134**

This form can be Faxed to Greg at (630) 232-1471