



TROOP 5
MIDDLEBURY, CT
2008 Philmont Trek
Information Form

Troop 5 has been selected to be a part of the 2008 Connecticut Rivers Council Philmont Contingent. We have been allowed one crew of 12 participants. Our crew will be traveling with other crews from the Connecticut Rivers Council, and participating in pre-trek activities with the other crews. Once we get to Philmont, we will hike on our own.

This information form will give you the necessary information to help you decide if you want to join us on this once in a lifetime experience. Please read the following and fill out the information section, returning it with your \$250 non-refundable deposit by **May 10, 2007**.

The details:

When: July 12-26, 2008

Where: Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, New Mexico

Cost: Approximately \$1300, depending on travel expenses

Payment Schedule (ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE):

\$250 Deposit – Due May 10, 2007

\$400 – Due approximately October 1, 2007

\$400 – Due approximately January 1, 2008

Balance (estimated \$250) – Due approximately April 1, 2008

All participants are required to participate in fundraising activities as planned by the crew. We want to make this as affordable as we can for you.

How do I know if I am ready for Philmont?

Below are considerations on whether a scout is ready to have his best Philmont experience:

- Physically, the scout must be capable of accomplishing the trek and he must be the one who wants to go.
 - Often parents are the sole motivating reason for a scout attending. When it rains or when in pain with severe blisters, what will sustain the scout is the fact that he chose to participate.
- The scout must have demonstrated an ability of being able to take care of his personal affairs (maturity).
 - The scout must be willing to drink water that has been purified with iodine. The scout has to understand that he must remain hydrated and drinking water that sometimes tastes bad is required for his own health.
 - The scout must be willing to eat food not for taste but for body fuel. Some of Philmont's food does not taste very good but the scout must understand that he needs to fill up his tank every day.
 - The scout must be willing to wash himself and clothes regularly to get the salt off his body and clothes otherwise rashes will develop.
 - The scout must understand that any form of horseplay is not tolerated because if anyone gets hurt, it may be miles before the crew can get help for the injured hiker.

- The scout must have demonstrated working within a patrol or crew environment either as a leader or follower.
 - The scout must be willing to do his job correctly without being repeatedly reminded.
 - The scout must be willing to wake up at reveille and not linger in his sleeping bag.
 - The main reason for advisors to become involved with doing the in camp work is that the scouts get tired and wait for the advisors to do the work. **THIS IS NOT BOY SCOUTING.**
- The scout's parents must have a willingness to cooperate with the advisors for the high adventure.
 - Parents do not like to discuss a scout's Learning Disabilities, Emotional Disabilities, Attention Deficient Disorders (ADD) or Attention Deficient Hyperactivity Disorders (ADHD). While mainstreaming may be a goal of our educational institutions, unskilled and uninformed high adventure advisors do not have the training to manage these scouts. Each case needs to be reviewed SEPARATELY with the parents to determine whether the scout and advisor will have successful treks. Be very careful of ADD and ADHD because the scout may have a "sequencing" problem that would make it quite possible for the scout to head toward the latrine and not be able to remember how to return to the campsite. Parents often do not volunteer this type of information and it is the advisor's responsibility to squeeze this information from the parents. The buddy system is absolutely required for scouts with "sequencing" difficulties.
- The scout must be in good physical shape and start an exercise routine that will prepare them for the rigors of a 50-75 mile backpacking adventure.
 - All scouts and advisors must meet Philmont's strict height and weight ratios. These ratios can be found at <http://www.scouting.org/philmont/visitors/planning/weight.html>.

What will be expected of me as a part of the crew?

- Participation in fundraising activities as planned by the crew.
- Attendance at crew meetings.
- Participation in shakedown hikes.
- Be a part of the crew, there are no individuals – the plaque we receive at the end says it well: “We ALL Made It.”
- Participate in training sessions, such as:
 - Youth Protection
 - CPR
 - First Aid
- Have FUN!

What will happen if I am not selected for the crew?

Philmont is a popular destination for scouts, and with Troop 5 it is no different. There is a good possibility that we will have more scouts sign up and pay a deposit than our crew will hold (our preliminary list has 11 scouts and 4 adults on it). If that is the case, we will take scouts in the order that they expressed interest after the April 3, 2007 announcement of our trek. Troop 5 will make every effort possible to find a spot in another council crew for the scouts who are not selected for the Troop 5 crew. **We want your son to attend Philmont!** If we are unsuccessful, your deposit will be refunded to you.

There is much more information to come, and it will be shared as soon as we have it. You can always check the troop website (www.troop5middlebury.org) for the most up to date information.

Please fill out the attached information form and return it to Jeff Lukens with your \$250 non-refundable deposit by May 10th.



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Please return this form with your \$250 non-refundable deposit to Jeff Lukens by May 10, 2007.

Name: _____ D.O.B.: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: CT Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Your Cell Phone (if you have one): _____

Email: _____

Any allergies, dietary restrictions, or other special needs? (Please describe in detail):

Circle the merit badges you have earned:

CAMPING

HIKING

COOKING

FIRST AID

BACKPACKING

ORIENTEERING

WILDERNESS SURVIVAL

Scout's Signature: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____