

Job Title: Wilderness Leader

Every program in the Wilderness Department is designed both to create stronger, well-bonded groups and to foster a respect, appreciation and stewardship of nature. Wilderness leaders rotate during the summer through a combination of the four roles, outlined below.



Salary & Dates: \$5100, more DOE. Dates for this position are May 22 – August 9

Job Responsibilities

- ❖ **Backpacking Trip Leader**
 - Solo lead groups of 12 campers and 2 counselors on 1-2 night backpacking trips in the Yosemite area and surrounding wilderness areas. You are the primary leader on these trips.
 - Before each trip, acquire camper medical info, meds, and diet/allergy info. Stock and carry a first aid kit.
 - Transportation: Understand departure and pick-up times, routes, and possess safe driving tactics.
 - Maintain safety throughout trips.
 - Provide fun, experiential and educational outdoor programming.
- ❖ **Challenge Course Leader**
 - Lead each bunk through a full day of team building, low and high elements on the Camp Tawonga Challenge Course.
 - Set up and take down the course daily and maintain equipment to ensure safety.
 - Meet with counselors to review the goals of the day, their role, and belay skills.
 - Facilitate sharing, listening, safe risk-taking, reflection and fun.
 - Check in with your co-facilitator(s) each day.
- ❖ **Quest Leaders**
 - Co-lead a group of teenagers on one, two or three week van trips through California or the Pacific Northwest.
 - Drive passenger vans, keep financial accounting records, write in daily journal, manage group dynamics and individual needs, communicate with camp, offer creative programming, provide medical care, and represent Tawonga's interests, image, and character with campers, families, outfitters, and the general public.
 - As a quest leader, you are a counselor, program specialist, cook, health technician and more!
- ❖ **Teva/Naturalist or Farmhand**
 - Create new nature based programming and lead programming around the property.
 - Weave new and traditional Jewish ways of enjoying, respecting, and caring for the natural world into your activities.
 - Care for Tawonga's farm and garden spaces.

Qualifications

- ❖ Must be 21 or older
- ❖ Must have current certifications:
 - Lifeguard Certification (LGT)
 - Wilderness First Responder Certification (WFR)
 - ServSafe Certification
 - A safe driving record
- ❖ Experience with children and prior experience backpacking are essential.

- ❖ Experience with rock climbing and belaying, natural history, environmental education, and Judaic knowledge are helpful.
- ❖ Be able to lift 50 lbs
 - * If you do not possess these certifications Tawonga may help cover the costs of obtaining them.*

Day in the Life (Final Morning of a Backpacking Trip)

6:00AM – Wake up early to mountains and rivers in the backcountry; pack personal backpack and get water boiling.

6:45AM – Wake up bunk and help them get packed up.

7:30AM – Yummy backcountry breakfast as the sun hits your breakfast spot.

9:00AM – Stretch and get hiking! Hike through the Yosemite wilderness.

12:00PM – Lunch at the trailhead, meet your driver and load those packs!

2:30PM – Back at camp, unload and take a break.

4:00PM – Greet your next bunk and help them get prepared for backpacking.

6:00PM – Dinner at Camp, prep for your backpack trip and get a good night's rest!

Tawonga requires staff to be up to date on vaccinations and staff may be required to participate in COVID-19 testing and health screening.