

SELF RELIANCE • RESOURCEFULNESS • THE WILL TO ACHIEVE  
SERVICE TO OTHERS

# Roaring Brook Camp for Boys

*Founded 1965*  
**BRADFORD, VERMONT**





# Roaring Brook Camp for Boys

## Philosophy and Goals



**F**or more than forty years, this camp has been dedicated to the principle that a boy's growth is stimulated through wilderness living and adventure. We believe that confidence and satisfaction with life come through personal achievement. Our intent is to build self-reliance, resourcefulness, and will to achieve, primarily through a program of outdoor education.

**Self-reliance** is learned through group living with peers and counselors away from home, learning new skills, providing for oneself in the natural environment.

**Resourcefulness** comes from creating useful articles out of native materials, cooking meals over a personally built fire, and traveling cross-country using a map and compass.

**The will to achieve** emanates from learning to climb to a mountain summit, to finish a rock climbing route, and to successfully navigate in whitewater.

We believe there is a need for boys to experience life as found in the early settlement of America. These experiences not only develop a better understanding of our cultural heritage, they also promote an appreciation of the importance of the natural world in our lives.

We provide experiences that a boy is not likely to have in school or at home. Canoeing, kayaking, survival training, orienteering, rock climbing, fishing, marksmanship, archery, swimming, and Vermont crafts teach life-long outdoor skills.

The boys learn the satisfaction gained from personal endeavor. They come to know the pleasure of a campfire after a long day's paddle or hike and the contentment that comes from living in close harmony with the natural environment. They build meaningful friendships that grow from the camaraderie of shared accomplishment.

The **HEALTH AND SAFETY** of each Roaring Brook resident is of utmost concern. We are very proud of our excellent safety record, but as may be found in any situation, an accident can occur. For this reason, the services of a pediatric physician are secured, and all staff members are trained in first aid; the directors are emergency medical technicians. The camp closely adheres to the safety standards established by the American Camping Association, as an accredited camp. For the health and safety of all campers, parents must submit a current health statement and have all immunizations brought up to date.



Roaring Brook



Bradford

*Camp is located 2.5 miles north of Bradford, Vermont, and is easily reached via VT Route 91, Exit 16 to Route 5 North*



## Where the Adventure Begins

In the heart of New England, off scenic Route 5 north of Bradford, Vermont, 650 wooded acres surround a 15-acre lake on the rim of the Connecticut River Valley. In this wilderness setting, along Roaring Brook, 45 boys aged 9 to 14 live in large Adirondack shelters in groups of six to eight, plus counselors. The location is far removed from the pulse of urban life, yet close at hand. We are just three hours from Boston, six from New York City, and eight from Philadelphia. Cradled between the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Green Mountains of Vermont, Roaring Brook is a place where a boy can live in the beauty of nature while coming to better know himself.

Deep in the forest preserve is the "Main Shelter", which is centrally located and houses the crafts program. The blacksmith's forge stands nearby – 'clank, clank' is often heard, hammer on anvil. Our fully-equipped kitchen is just up the hill, and a short hike away are marksmanship and archery ranges, the ropes course and rock climbing areas. Spacious athletic fields always afford more room for additional team players. On hot days, boys make tracks to our sandy beach; in the cool of the evening they swap stories around the campfire at one of our six, specially-designed group cooking areas.

This is the ideal spot for Roaring Brook, and the ideal program for the boy who wants to know what it's like to live in the wilderness, and to discover its secrets.



*"A certain part of me will always be in Bradford, Vermont."*

—JONATHAN CLARK, HAMILTON, MA



Living Shelter



Outhouse



*Deep in the forest is the centralized "Main Shelter"*

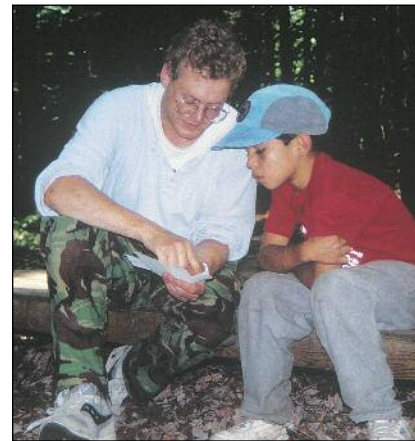
*Our waterfront has a boating dock, rope swing, sandy beach, and great swimming!*





*"An internalized experience...growth... self-esteem...confidence...excellent staff...concern for the inner child are the hallmarks of Roaring Brook, My son speaks of his camp experience every day. He is very proud of his achievements."*

—KEN KOST, OWINGS MILLS, MD



**OUR 2-WEEK PROGRAM** allows for self-direction with a minimum of regimentation in the development of outdoor skills. Each boy selects their activities daily during the in-camp program. This encourages self-motivation and responsibility for personal productivity in a small group setting.

Instruction is individualized, based on ability and interest. The program features daily physical fitness, rock climbing, a ropes course and Tyrolean traverse, survival training, nature study, woodworking, blacksmithing, leatherwork, fly-tying, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, marksmanship and archery.

The general outdoor skills program includes instruction in outdoor cooking, orienteering, toolcraft, marlinspike, woodsman's skills, low impact camping techniques, outdoor safety and first aid. Several special event days complete each camper's experience.

Two-week sessions can be combined to create a 4/6 or 8 week camp sessions. There are discounts for staying at camp for a longer period.



### The Staff of Roaring Brook

The Roaring Brook staff are a very talented group. They are recruited internationally from the college post-graduate and professional ranks. The maturity of the staff is one of the most important considerations, with their minimum age being 21 years.

Inservice training is provided toward certification in trip leading, first aid, and campcraft, to complement the staff's extensive personal wilderness experience. Specialized areas of instruction require additional certification in swim instruction, rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking, riflery, and archery. Each staff member is selected for their dedication to youth, enthusiasm for camp activities, concern for safety, and their ability to lead by example. As a result, many campers develop staff friendships which last a lifetime.



*My son's experience at Roaring Brook was so wonderful. He learned from every moment. He grew up in a number of ways. Roaring Brook is surely one of a kind. It's a place where children are exposed to basic but important values. Your formula works and we thank you.*

—WINSLOW & TINA LEWIS, PRINCETON, NJ

## EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Drs. Thayer and Candice Raines** are involved directors who teach daily and lead trips in the camp program. As graduates of West Chester State University (B.S.), The Pennsylvania State University (M.S.) and Indiana University (Re.D.), they are professors specializing in the administration of adventure education and outdoor skills for youth programs.

Thayer taught elementary school for five years achieving permanent certification for grades K-8 and environmental education. Thayer was employed at Roaring Brook before he and Candi purchased the camp in 1985. Both he and Corc are currently Board members of the Vermont Camping Association.

"Corc" was an Appalachian Mountain Club hutwoman, caretaker, ridgerunner, and a U.S. Forest Service backcountry patroller in the White Mountains. She has been a nordic ski area director and is a PSIA certified nordic ski instructor. She has over 30 years experience as a camp wilderness trips director in New England.

Thayer and Corc are Emergency Medical Technicians and Outdoor Emergency Care Technician Instructors who volunteer as American Red Cross first aid, lifeguard training and swimming instructors. For the American Canoe Association, they are instructors. They are in the National Ski Patrol having served as region officers in nordic and avalanche programs, senior level patrollers for both alpine and nordic patrols, as well as instructors in the ski mountaineering and avalanche programs.

They are both recipients of the "Donald C. Williams" National Outstanding Nordic Patroller Award and national appointments. Members of the National Association of Search and Rescue, they instruct wilderness search and rescue, mountain medicine, river rescue, Leave No Trace, and technical rescue courses for professional organizations.

Both have attended Outward Bound and Corc has completed the National Outdoor Leadership School Instructor Course and the Coast Guard's National Search and Rescue School.



## THE 2-WEEK SCHEDULE

DAY 1 (Sun)

**Opening Day**

DAY 2 (Mon)

**Safety Presentations**

DAY 3 (Tues)

**Activities**

DAY 4 (Wed)

**Activities**

DAY 5 (Thurs)

**Orienteering Competition Activities**

DAY 6 (Fri)

**Activities Day Trip**

DAY 7 (Sat)

**Activities Beach Cookout**

DAY 8 (Sun)

**Activities Day Trip**

DAY 9 (Mon)

**Activities**

DAY 10 (Tues)

**Activities Search and Rescue**

DAY 11 (Wed)

**Activities Kayak Trip**

DAY 12 (Thurs)

**Activities**

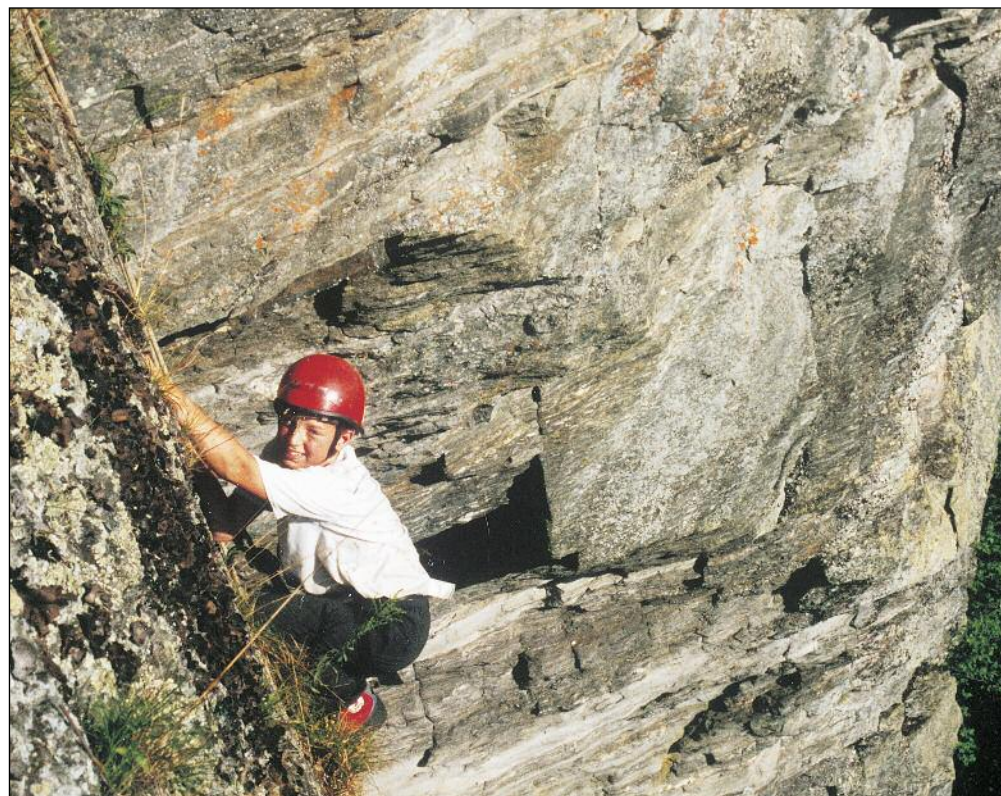
DAY 13 (Fri)

**Triathlon Woodsmens Day Beach Cookout**

DAY 14 (Sat)

**Closing Day**





## CHALLENGE ON THE ROCKS AND ROPES

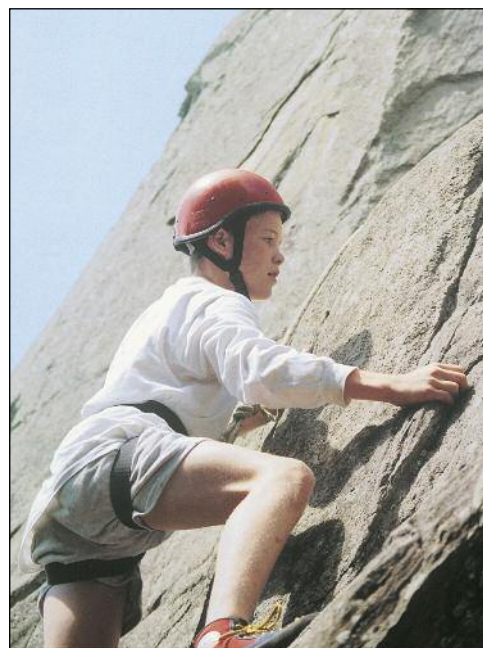
**T**he Rock Climbing Program encompasses instruction in bouldering, rock climbing, rappelling and Tyrolean traverse. The bouldering program emphasizes safety procedures, proper care and use of equipment, climbing techniques, basic rappelling techniques and basic Tyrolean traverse techniques.

All participants wear properly-fitted seat harnesses and helmets which are specifically designed for the sport and UIAA approved.

The camp property contains a 30-foot granite rock cliff. The

face is used to practice belay techniques, rappel techniques and top rope anchor systems. Climbs range from 5.0 to 5.8 in difficulty on the American scale including friction and crack

climbs. The Tyrolean traverse is set up across a gorge on Roaring Brook. Campers who demonstrate skill and interest in rock climbing may participate in an out-of-camp trip to a local Vermont private cliff, located 20 minutes from camp. As part of the trip, basic lead climbing techniques are demonstrated by the staff.



**T**he Roaring Brook Ropes Course Program encompasses instruction for successful participation on a 16 element interconnected low and high ropes course.

The ropes course is located on the camp property. While regularly-maintained and updated, it is believed to be the oldest continuously-operated course in a private

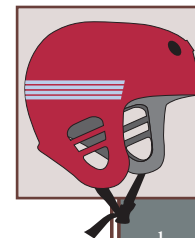
summer camp in the United States (1966). On high elements a double cable system is utilized to assure proper security. It takes many campers several tries to complete the entire course at



one time, but each camper achieves success on separate course elements each summer. Elements include: inclined log, postman's walk, Burma bridge, firecracker ladder, kitten crawl, swinging log, stump walk, jump for life, dangle do, bosun's chairs, stump jump, hour glass, double ladder, tension traverse, fidget ladder, and hand over hand.

Rock climbing, rappelling, the Tyrolean traverse, and ropes course provide campers with the opportunity to participate in physically and mentally challenging activities. These activities promote the development of self-confidence; team-building and trust among campers and staff; ability to handle both eustress and distress situations in the outdoor environment; and ability to deal positively with individual fears, strengths and weaknesses.

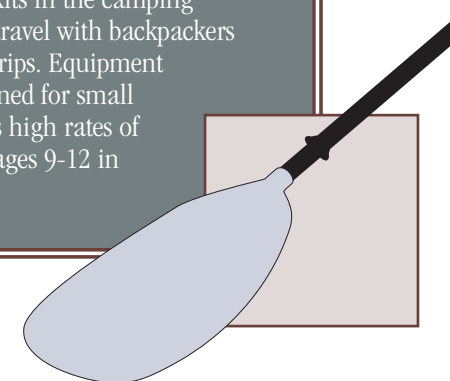
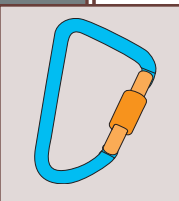
All campers participate in the rock climbing and ropes course programs. Specific program activities are geared to the physical, mental and emotional capabilities of campers as individuals. The program provides campers with exciting opportunities for personal growth. During participation a ratio of 1:1 is maintained between staff and climber.



**PROGRAM EQUIPMENT** is the highest quality available in the outdoor field. Perception®

kayaks, Harmony® paddles, Extrasport® lifevests and Old Town® canoes line the waterfront. Campers are outfitted with Black Diamond® harnesses, Joe Brown® helmets and Blue Water II® and Edelrid® rope in rock climbing and the rope courses.

Custom Hoyt® bows, Easton® arrows and Anschutz® rifles are used on the archery and marksmanship ranges. Snow & Neally® axe heads, Norwegian steel knifeblades and Stanley® tools are used in the crafts shelter. Eureka® tents, Svea® stoves and the most extensive emergency medical kits in the camping industry travel with backpackers and canoers on trips. Equipment specifically designed for small campers provides high rates of success for boys ages 9-12 in camp activities.



*"Thank you for such a super experience for Nathan. He likes to be known as the 'wilderness kid.' His self-reliance and confidence levels have increased and he's proud at having attended camp."*

—LINDA & PETER FENTON  
NEWTON, MA





# ROARING BROOK

## THE OUTDOOR SKILLS SERIES

Our *Outdoor Skills Series* is integral to the Roaring Brook program, providing campers with knowledge and practice of the following skills:

- Toolcraft • Survival training • Lost-proofing • Outdoor cooking • Leave No Trace techniques • Marlinspike • Environmental awareness • Water rescue • First aid
- Expedition planning • Wilderness orienteering

While developing the skills required to plan and execute a safe trip, boys come to know and appreciate the wilderness and become responsible, independent outdoorsmen.

## PHYSICAL FITNESS

While in camp, each day begins with exercise and fitness games based on the President's Council Physical Fitness Program. It is designed to invigorate the body and stimulate the spirit. We strive to obtain a peak in physical performance through a healthy balance of work and play. Work to build strength and play to heighten enthusiasm lead to increased mental alertness and personal confidence.

## COOKING

To live comfortably in the woods one must know how to cook over an open fire. At Roaring Brook we believe the most effective way of learning is by doing. Each group of 6-8 campers, with their counselors supervising, prepare and cook their breakfast and supper. The main meal at noon is provided by the camp chef.



## SURVIVAL TRAINING

The instruction in survival skills emphasizes the development of independence. It is felt that by taking care of oneself, given only the necessities for making food, warmth, and shelter, builds confidence and provides the opportunity to show what may be achieved through one's own efforts. Campers can choose to have the opportunity to spend a night practicing what they have learned.



## FISHING

Our spring-fed lake is stocked regularly with rainbow trout for the enjoyment of those who wish to try their luck at landing a big one. For beginners, we offer the chance to learn this sport which demands patience and persistence in exchange for the pleasure of fresh fish or for the right to tell a fish tale. We offer spin-casting, bait-casting, and fly-fishing. Some boys also enjoy the pastime of hunting for crayfish in Roaring Brook.

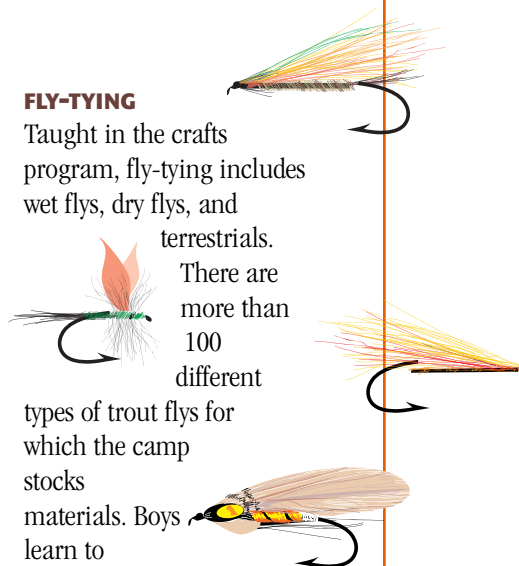


## FLY-TYING

Taught in the crafts program, fly-tying includes wet flies, dry flies, and terrestrials.

There are more than 100 different

types of trout flies for which the camp stocks materials. Boys learn to select hooks, tie tails, dub bodies, attach wings, hackle, and heads.



## SWIMMING INSTRUCTION

Roaring Brook provides American Red Cross swim instruction by certified staff. Swimming ability is an asset to any canoe trip or other water related outdoor activity; personal water safety skills are a necessity. All boys participate in the swim program. Elective water safety programs are offered for those with advanced skills.



## PADDLESPOUT INSTRUCTION

Canoeing stresses the value of teamwork while kayakers experience the joy of self direction, gliding quickly across the water's surface to the far reaches of the Lake. Boys are given the opportunity to participate in both activities while at Roaring Brook. Competent kayakers may participate in a special trip to a nearby river. Instructional programs follow the guidelines of the American Canoe Association.





## ROARING BROOK

### THE CRAFTS PROGRAM

**T**he crafts program at Roaring Brook is unique. Boys do not make things from kits, but rather from native materials which are found close by. The craft shop is well equipped with essential tools for woodwork and leatherwork. Using the techniques of early Americans, the tools are used to shape objects of simple beauty and function. The boys learn to appreciate the time it takes to create a useable object with the basic skills of an artisan. A new value is assigned to personal belongings when it is the result of one's own creativity and workmanship.

#### LEATHERWORK

Moccasins, belts, knife and axe sheaths are but a few of the items which are made in the

leatherwork program. Each item is cut from a side of full grain leather and custom made to individual specifications. Sewing is done with traditional gut or beeswax sein. Items may be personalized or given added texture with a variety of tools.



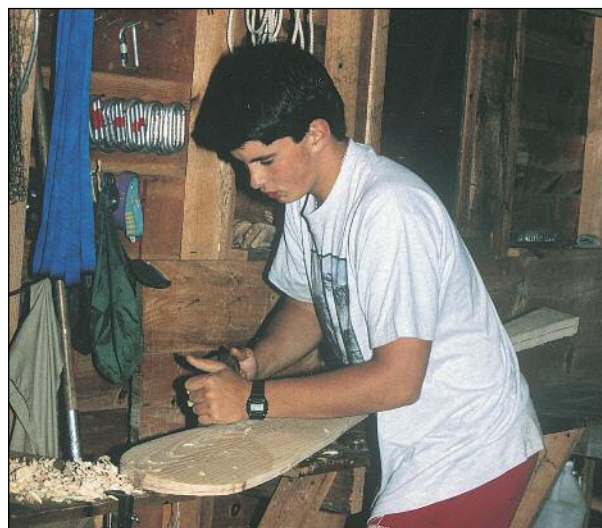
#### BLACKSMITHING

At our forge, boys make many useful objects from specially-forged steel. This is more than a craft, it is an art form. The skills involved encourage the development of patience, dexterity, creativity, and self-discipline in close adherence to safety procedures.



#### WOODCRAFT

Axe handles, canoe paddles, ash-split furniture, birch bark containers and knives are all made in the woodcraft program. From the felled tree to a finished handle, the boys experience the entire creative process.

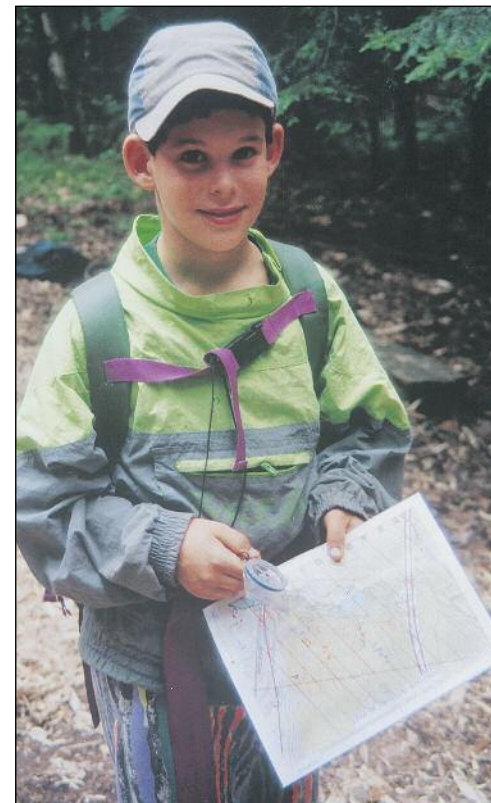


#### WOODSMEN'S DAY

This is an all camp event during which campers have a chance to showcase the skills they have learned at camp. Old skills are practiced and the traditions of the New England are brought to life providing many memories for participants.

#### ORIENTEERING

The sport of the mountains; using map and compass, boys find their way through the wilderness without using trails in much the same manner as men first ventured into the north woods. Orienteering is used on backpacking trips to explore those places which remain hidden from the common trekker. During one all camp event, boys orienteer in pairs, or solo on cross-country and score orienteering courses. A special waterfest and cookout featuring lumberjack beans awaits at the waterfront at the end of the day. Orienteering is another skill which assists the camper in becoming a competent outdoorsman.



#### ARCHERY

The archery program is conducted by a USA Archery Level III NTS coach utilizing Hoyt, W&W, PSE and SF bows, Easton arrows and 52" ethafoam targets. Progression in the Camp Archery Association and USA Archery Junior Olympic Development program are offered.

#### MARKSMANSHIP

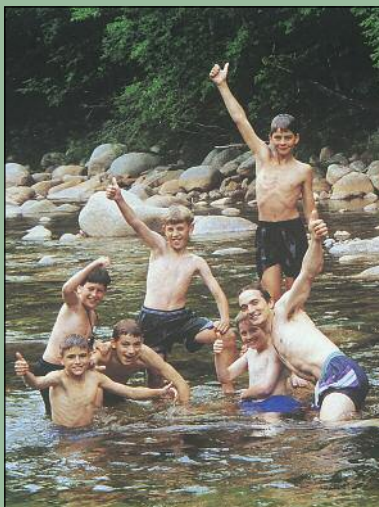
The optional marksmanship program allows campers the opportunity to learn self discipline, patience, concentration, and fine motor skills. The camp conducts a National Rifle Association (NRA) Junior Marksmanship Program utilizing Anschutz .22 match rifles on a 50 foot NRA regulation range.





## A FINAL WORD ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

**Roaring Brook Camp** is fun, exciting, and filled with adventure. With the primary tenets of Self-Reliance, Resourcefulness, and The Will to Achieve, the program offers a unique opportunity to experience true wilderness living. To develop self-reliance you should know that you will be doing things for yourself. While some of the activities are just for pleasure, the real fun at Roaring Brook is seeing what you can accomplish through your own efforts and the learning of new outdoor skills. It will be your motivation which will take you to the top of a mountain. It will be your resourcefulness which will make a knife or ax. It will be your will to achieve getting you up on the ropes course or down a river. This will give you a deep sense of accomplishment and satisfaction, knowing that you were responsible for making it happen! This is the formula for the creation



of lifelong memories and happiness. If you are accepted, you should be prepared to give your best effort. This doesn't mean you need to be a great athlete or perfect person. Regular physical activity and a healthy lifestyle before camp will go a long way in maximizing your enjoyment of the wilderness. Giving your best effort also means you are willing to live without some of the comforts of home and some of your personal desires to achieve group goals. If you are willing to try to: be open to new experiences, be independent, be flexible, make friends, treat others

the way you would like to be treated, accept the ups and downs of sunshine and rain, share your feelings in good company. . . If you are willing to try your best to become the best you can be, COME JOIN US for an experience which will exceed your expectations!



## Roaring Brook Camp for Boys

### S U M M E R

480 Roaring Brook Road, Bradford, Vermont 05033 (802) 222-5702

### W I N T E R

Country Grove 4, 300 Grove Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701

Toll Free (800) 832-HAWK (4295) <http://www.roaringbrookcamp.com> E-mail: [rainest@sover.net](mailto:rainest@sover.net)

