



2018 VINS Nature Camps **Returning Leader-in-Training** **Application**

ABOUT VINS NATURE CAMP

VINS Nature Camp operates on a weekly basis for nine weeks in the summer beginning at the end of June and finishing towards the end of August. Our daily hours of operation for camp are approximately 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Thursday and 9:00am to 3:30pm on Fridays. Our camp offerings are broken into 4 main age groups: “Peeps” (Pre-K-Kindergarten), “Fledglings” (grades 1-3), “Falcons” (grades 4-6), and “Eagles” (grades 6-8). Please visit website at www.vinsweb.org/nature-camps for a full listing of camp descriptions by week and the camp schedule.

VOLUNTEER LEADERS-in-TRAINING (L-I-T) PROGRAM

VINS’ Leaders-in-Training program involves teens in our camp program by offering the opportunity to work closely with children, peers, and adults in a fun, recreational setting while providing experiences for participants to develop their leadership skills. Whether or not participants have attended VINS Nature Camp, our L-I-T program offers a fun summer option for teens who love the camp experience or who want to gain experience leading groups in the outdoors. This specialized volunteer program is offered to individuals who are ages 14 (as of June 18, 2018) through 17 and who will be entering or returning to high school in the fall of 2018.

Throughout their summer, L-I-T volunteers will be paired with VINS Nature Camp Instructors who will mentor the L-I-Ts during their week(s) of camp. L-I-T responsibilities are assigned by the VINS Nature Camp Instructors they are working with and may include leading group games, assisting specific campers, or helping to prepare lessons/activities for the week. We believe that the L-I-T program is a valuable learning experience for all and hope that many of our L-I-Ts will eventually return as VINS Nature Camp Instructors.

LOCATION & FACILITIES

The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) Nature Center is located in Quechee, Vermont. We have other branch locations for our Nature Camps such as: Storrs Pond Recreation Area and Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve. Check our website at <http://www.vinsweb.org/nature-camp> for a full listing of our locations and descriptions for our summer camps. L-I-T volunteer options are available at: VINS Nature Center, Quechee, VT, Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve, Washington, VT, and Storrs Pond Recreation Area, Hanover, NH.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Must be entering 9th grade in the fall of 2018, at least 14 years of age, and younger than 18 years of age can be considered a L-I-T volunteer.
- Must have successfully completed at least one season as an L-I-T volunteer, be entering 11th-12th grade in the fall of 2018, and at least 16 years of age to be considered as an L-I-T volunteer for our overnight camps.
- L-I-T volunteers are required to volunteer for **at least** one full week of camp at one of the specified locations but may volunteer for as many weeks as they are able.
- L-I-Ts must attend a training day (selected dates TBD) regarding general camp policies, safety procedures, and an introduction to leadership skills before their scheduled week to volunteer.
- L-I-Ts will receive official acknowledgement of their volunteer hours at the end of their service.

Please follow these instructions to submit your completed application.

Make sure pages 3-5 are completely filled out, including your and a parent/guardian's signatures on the Acknowledgement page. Mail to the address listed below.

Please send completed application by May 20, 2018 to:

Attn: VINS Nature Camp
Vermont Institute of Natural Science
PO Box 1281
Quechee, VT 05059-1281

For questions or comments, please call or email Lead, Nature Camp:

802-359-5000 x245 camps@vinsweb.org

VINS Nature Camp LEADER-in-TRAINING (L-I-T) APPLICATION 2018

TODAY'S DATE: _____

(PLEASE PRINT. ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY.)

Name: _____ Grade entering in Fall 2018: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Shirt Size: _____ Shirt Style: Men's Women's

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone number 1: _____ Phone number 2: _____

Please circle the camp age group(s) you are interested in volunteering with (*you may circle more than one*):

Peeps (Pre-K & K) Fledglings (grades 1-3) Falcons (grades 4-6) Eagles (grades 6-8)

Please circle the camp location(s) you are interested in volunteering at: (*you may circle more than one*):

VINS Nature Center in Quechee, VT Storrs Pond Recreation Area in Hanover, NH

Old Pepper Place Nature Reserve in Washington, VT (*this is where our overnight camp is held*)

Please circle the camp week(s) you are available to volunteer: (*you may circle more than one*):

June 18 – 22

July 9 – 13

July 30 – August 3

June 25 – June 29

July 16 – 20

August 6 – 10

July 2 – 6

July 23 – 27

August 13 – 17

August 20-22

Please list the any/all dates that you would be available for orientation training:

PERSONAL BACKGROUND Please answer the following questions about you and your experiences as completely as possible (Use separate sheets if necessary.):

What is your most memorable experience from your L-I-T experience last summer?

What was the most important lesson you learned about working with children last summer as an L-I-T?

Please explain one thing you learned about yourself last summer while volunteering as an L-I-T?

How do you think your experience as a VINS L-I-T last summer has helped you grow as a leader?

Please list any current certifications you hold such as First Aid or CPR:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: *Please read and sign*

I am aware that the statements I make on this volunteer application will be completely verified by the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS). I hereby authorize VINS to contact my references provided. I understand that misrepresentation or omission of facts called for is cause for immediate dismissal from the L-I-T program. I understand that, if I am accepted into the L-I-T program, I am making a commitment to at least one full week of camp Monday – Friday, during the allotted hours of the camp day.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

As the parent/guardian for the above signed applicant, I understand the above statements and give my permission for the applicant's participation in the VINS Leaders-In-Training Program.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____