## Is Accredited by the American Camping Association



## WHY IS ACA ACCREDITATION IMPORTANT?

ACA Accreditation assures parents that the camp has had a regular, independent safety audit that goes beyond regulations in most states. To be accredited, camps must first comply with up to 26 mandatory prerequisite health and safety standards. Camps must demonstrate substantial compliance with up to forty additional standards in ten operational areas to learn ACA accreditation.

Although many state and federal laws and regulations address basic sanitation and food service concerns, the ACA Standards go a step further in addressing the specific areas of programming, personnel, health care and management practices. Separate standards are applied to activities such as aquatics, horseback riding, adventure challenge activities, and travel and trip programs.

Accreditation standards cover all aspects of camp operation, including: Site/Food Service, Transportation, Health Care, Management, Staffing and Program.

ACA accreditation is the best evidence parents have a camp's commitment to a safe and nurturing environment for their children. This voluntary accreditation assures parents that camp practices have been measured against national standards and go a step beyond a state's basic licensing requirements. Accreditation is based on a commitment by the camp to best practices.

Parents can (and should) verify the accreditation status of any camp at any time.

This may be accomplished through ACA's Web site at

www.ACAcamps.org or by calling 1-800-428-CAMP