



ALTERNATIVE WINTER BREAK

Destination:
Camp Boggy Creek
Eustis, Florida

2010



WELCOME!



Welcome to Alternative Winter Break! We are looking forward to a rewarding and enriching experience. You are participating in a great experience that engages thousands of college students each year in service communities from California to the Midwest and everywhere in between during their winter break.

We hope that this service experience will not only provide you the opportunity to learn about a new population and the challenges it faces, but also learn more about yourself in a setting outside of your day to day college routine. For this weekend in January, you will be volunteering with a group of other students you probably have never met before of varying backgrounds and personalities. Together, you will be facing real world challenges and lending a helping hand to a community in need. Hundreds of students come back each year with stories about how their time serving another community away from school was rewarding. We hope your AWB experience will be great as well!

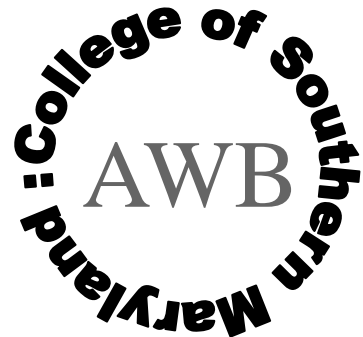
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

AWB Trip Coordinator

Sarah Merranko
sarahm@csmd.edu
301-934-2251 x7367

Camp Boggy Creek

Emergency Contact number: 352-483-4200 x250
30500 Brantley Branch Road
Eustis, FL 32736
Main Number: 352-483-4200
Camp Office: ext 200
Medical Center: ext 250
Administration: ext 620



ALTERNATIVE WINTER BREAK



FAQS ABOUT AWB



- **What is Alternative Winter Break?**
AWB is trip during winter break that allows a group of students to volunteer and serve another community while learning about the issues it faces.
- **Who can go on AWB?**
Any credit student who is currently enrolled and is interested in serving another community and learning about the issues it faces.
- **Will we have an advisor?**
Yes, staff members from the college will be participants and leaders of the trip.
- **How will be traveling there?**
We will be traveling by airplane from Maryland to Florida. Once in Florida we will be traveling by van to and from our service site. For complete details, see the travel section.
- **What does the AWB fee cover?**
Included in your AWB fee is air travel, lodging, shuttle to and from the service site, all meals, and orientation. Participants should bring their own spending money for extra activities, souvenirs, or incidentals.
- **Why is this trip “alternative”?**
These trip’s focus is on community service and social issues and is drug and alcohol free, offering students an alternative to a more “traditional” break trip.
- **If I have more questions who should I contact?**
Sarah Merranko
sarahm@csm.edu
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Destination: Camp Boggy Creek



Destination

We will be traveling to Eustis, FL (near Orlando) to serve at Camp Boggy Creek.

Service

The focus of our trip to Camp Boggy Creek is to volunteer at a camp for children with chronic illnesses. We will be volunteers all day from Friday-Monday. Service will range from being a family pal to helping out with traditional camp activities.

Travel

Our AWB group will travel together by airplane from the Washington DC area to Florida.

Lodging

We will be staying three nights onsite at Camp Boggy Creek. The camp will be host to all campers, families, volunteers, and staff during the weekend. The camp provides staff and volunteer female and male group sleeping rooms with community bathrooms separate from the campers and their families.

Food

All food is included in the cost of your trip. Camp Boggy Creek will provide us with all meals while we are there. We will eat along side camp participants and staff.

Weather

The average high and low temperatures in Eustis, FL for January are 71° and 49° Fahrenheit and an average of 2.3” of precipitation.





Tentative Travel Schedule

Our group will be traveling together from Maryland to Camp Boggy Creek in Eustis, FL. Once at the camp we will participate in the camp schedule of events. It will be a busy and fulfilling weekend.

Friday

Depart early in the morning on Friday and arrive in Florida. The group will travel to Camp Boggy Creek by van. Upon arrival participants will attend an orientation and overview session.

Friday evening-Monday morning

Participants will follow the Camp Boggy Creek schedule

Monday afternoon

Participants will depart from Camp Boggy Creek at approximately 2 pm. We will drive to the airport and depart late afternoon-evening. Returning back to CSM Monday night.



Suggested packing list

What to bring?

We will be away for only four days, so you must pack light. Each participant will be **limited to one carry-on bag only**. Due to the temperate weather in Florida you can leave those heavy sweaters behind. Camp Boggy Creek has a modest dress code and has provided some guidelines for appropriate clothing at the camp.

Please don't worry about packing your whole wardrobe, we will be working hard and probably be getting dirty, so make sure to leave your nicer items at home. Towels, sheets, pillows, and comforters will be provided.

Below is a suggested packing list:

- Two-three pairs of shorts.
- Two-three-T shirts.
- One pair of long pants and a long sleeve shirt (it can be chilly in the morning)
- One pair of sneakers and a pair of flip-flops for pool area.
- Fun items (optional)
- One dress outfit (nice pants, sun dress, jeans and a nice shirt) or theme-related clothes for dance night.
- Toiletries (essential)
- PJ's or something to sleep in since you will be sharing a room.
- Bathing Suit (one piece bathing suits only)
- Flashlight
- Alarm Clock
- Water bottle
- Extra spending money
- Health Insurance Card (essential)
- Reading material – book or magazines
- A journal
- Please leave all valuables at home. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- Patience, flexibility, and a great attitude (essential)**

Camp Boggy Creek Wardrobe Guidelines

- **NO spaghetti strap tank tops or midriffbaring shirts**
- **NO bikinis or Speedos**
- **NO prom dresses**
- **NO expensive jewelry or other valuable items**

Optional items that you may want to bring:

- Camera and film
- Insect repellent and sun-screen
- Phone cards
- Soda (There will be a fridge at the cabin where you'll be staying)





CAMP BOGGY CREEK 101

General Camp Boggy Creek Information

Camp Boggy Creek is a camp specifically designed for children with chronic or life threatening illnesses and allows them to safely enjoy the activities of a "traditional" camp. Located on 232 acres of beautiful wooded land, it has 44 buildings including 16 camper cabins, dining hall, medical center, swim center, stable, little farm, sports and recreation center, arts and crafts building, creative center and theater.

Who will be there?

Our weekend at camp will consist of children with Spina Bifida and their families. This provides the family and children the opportunity to have some normalcy and fun in their lives.

Costs of Camp Boggy Creek

The majority of the cost of staffing and operating the camp is covered by contributions from individuals, healthcare partnerships, foundations and corporations. **Camp Boggy Creek does not charge its participants or volunteers anything.** The program fee associated with Alternative Winter Break was imposed by the College of Southern Maryland to cover the cost of airfare.

Spina Bifida

Children participating in the weekend at camp have spina bifida. Spina Bifida is a permanent birth defect that results from the failure of the spine to close properly during the first month of pregnancy. Most children typically need mobility assistive devices such as crutches, braces, or wheelchairs to move around. Typically children with spina bifida have close to normal cognitive ability.

Where is Camp Boggy Creek located?

Camp Boggy Creek is located in Eustis, FL about an hour away from Orlando.

