

For resource protection and individual safety, all Redwood National and State Parks regulations apply at Howland Hill Outdoor School. The following rules in particular must be abided by for facility use:

- *Unless specifically designated, all park trails and facilities are closed to personal pets. Exceptions are made for certified assistance animals.*
- *Collection of natural plant materials is allowed only with permission of the site Ranger, and for study purposes only.*
- *All wildlife will be respected. Animals such as snakes, spiders, slugs and bugs may be collected and studied during educational activities, but will then be returned to where they were found.*
- *The marbled murrelet, a small seabird needing large ancient forest trees to nest in for survival, is a federally identified endangered species. Research has shown that corvids (jays, crows, and ravens) are the murrelet's primary predators. Efforts to prevent corvids from "hanging out" at HHOS include paying special attention to reducing food litter.*

**PLEASE HELP** by not feeding ANY park wildlife, and pick up and properly dispose of any food litter you may find, including the smallest food scraps.



### Redwood National and State Parks Common Mission:

To preserve and make available to all people, for their inspiration, enjoyment, and education: the ancient forests, scenic coastlines, prairies, streams, and their associated natural and cultural values, which define this World Heritage Site; and to help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties to these parks.



Howland Hill Outdoor School is dedicated to educational purposes tied to protection of natural and cultural resources in Redwood National and State Parks, to approved school curriculums, and to National Education Standards. Unfortunately, it cannot accommodate private family reunions, weddings, or other unrelated uses at this time.



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Welcome to  
Redwood National and State Parks'

## Howland Hill Outdoor School



Dear family members,

Thank you for taking your valuable time to serve as a "Ranger Aide," helping create a positive learning environment at Howland Hill Outdoor School (HHOS). This orientation pamphlet outlines your responsibilities, Ranger expectations, and facility use policies/requirements. Feel free to ask the site Ranger if you have any questions or concerns.



Explore, Learn, Protect

# Welcome!



**All students deserve equal opportunities for safe, fun, and non-threatening outdoor learning opportunities.**

We need and appreciate your help to make this experience happen!

- **Student safety is absolutely essential** (see next column). All adults accompanying the group will be required to wear provided visual identification.
- **Please participate in all activities.** Talking with other parents during a program is a distraction to the instructor, and detrimental to students' learning.
- **Very young siblings of students should be left with other caregivers at home.** If this is not possible, you assume full responsibility of assuring that the child does not interfere with the group's planned curriculum or your own group responsibilities, and that the child is kept safe from all hazards.
- **NO smoking is allowed in students' presence at any time.** Smoking on site is permitted only on the entrance road, or in the smokers' private vehicle.

## SAFETY FIRST

- Students will not be left alone or out-of-sight at any time, or alone with any adult other than their teacher, family member or personal caregiver.
- The First Aid kit is located inside the kitchen building, immediately to the left of the door
- Rocks, cones, sticks, etc., will stay on the ground (not thrown!); open-bladed knives are permitted only in the kitchen for food prep.
- Running: only during games in the meadow; gravel "hallways" are walk-only!



## "SURVIVAL" TIPS

- Please help the programs stay on schedule by paying attention and assisting the ranger when asked to.
- All students must use the toilet facilities on site. During longer hikes/field studies, field sanitation techniques will be discussed in advance and followed by all.
- Don't be afraid to say "I don't know" in response to student questions. Guide students to those who might know, or find out later and personally get back to them!
- You are the grown-up, not one of the students! Kidding around with students can be easily misunderstood. If asked to lead a group, make sure students know your name and lead by positive example.
- Student discipline may occasionally be necessary, but demeaning punishment, whether physical or verbal, is never in order. Difficult students or continued inappropriate behavior should be directed to the teacher or Ranger.



## FACILITY NOTES

- **The gate on Howland Hill Rd. MUST be kept closed at all times.** If you are the driving the end car in a caravan, arriving late, or leaving early, you **MUST** close the gate behind you. The teacher receives a gate key for security of overnight groups.
- **Parking:** To preserve the limited visual open space on site, all private cars, with the exception of those identified by the teacher for transport or emergency use, be parked in the main lot, less than 1/4 mile from the school.
- **HHOS is "off-the-grid".** All facility heating and lights are either propane- or solar-powered; water is gravity-fed into camp from a hill-top well with a propane pump; security features are solar-powered. Please help conserve water and gas usage. Adjustment of propane utilities is permitted only with prior instruction.



## CRITTERS.... OH MY!

- **The bear-proof garbage cans** must be used to avoid unnaturally attracting any type of wild animal into camp.
- **Large animals are rarely seen at HHOS,** primarily because there is no natural water source (and usually too many people!). Report any unusual wildlife sightings to the Ranger.
- **Only certified guide/assist animals are permitted on site;** ALL personal pets must be at home or in personal vehicles on site.
- **Redwood National and State Parks** are home to many wonderful animals; be grateful for any opportunity to safely observe the residents!