



## Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F Counselor

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Website: [www.wolfesneck.org](http://www.wolfesneck.org)

### About Our Organization

Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture and the Environment is dedicated to transforming relationships between farming and food for a healthier planet. We are a farm-based education, research, and visitor center situated on 626 acres of farmland, forest, and rocky coast in Freeport, Maine. Our campus consists of an organic dairy program, livestock barns, fruit and vegetable production, an oceanfront campground, and miles of wooded hiking trails. As a working farm located within a unique mix of ecosystems, we offer a remarkable and inspiring place for visitors to learn, play, and connect while empowering people of all ages to engage with their food.

### Farm Camp

At [Farm Camp](#), kids engage in hands-on learning that immerses them in sustainable agriculture and the environment. From caring for livestock, tending (and tasting) what is in our gardens, and exploring our surrounding ecosystems, campers fill their days with discovery. While emphasizing play, exploration, and farm-based activities, campers try new things, gain confidence, and grow in their individual relationship with farming and food. Each year, we host hundreds of campers ages 4-15 from the local community and out-of-state. The Farm Camp season runs for 10 weeks from June 17 to August 23, 2024.

### Farmward Bound

Farmward Bound (FWB) campers take a deeper dive into farming, agriculture and environmental education, while also focusing on group building, leadership, and communication skills. This group will participate more heavily in the day to day operations of our farm and expand their exploration of Wolfe's Neck during weekly excursions to nearby Wolfe's Neck State Park and canoeing along our coast. Campers can participate in a one-night overnight on the farm - facilitated by the FWB Counselors. This program only runs for 8 out of the 10 weeks of the summer and will be supplemented by two weeks of our new C.H.E.F program.

### C.H.E.F.

Cook. Harvest. Eat. Farm! This group of campers will transform into farm-based chefs over the course of their week here. They will get a closer look at what it takes to produce the food we eat – visiting and working in our gardens and vegetable fields and harvesting produce. They will then take to the kitchen to learn how to prepare what was picked, the basics of knife and food safety, and different cooking techniques. Professional chefs, guest cooks, and the Farm Camp Leadership Team will work with counselors to create and facilitate the programming. This program is for 12-15 year olds. It does not include an overnight and will only take place during Weeks 6 and 7 (July 22 to 26 and July 29 to August 2).

### Role & Responsibilities

Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F Counselors will be responsible for the following:

- Co-lead the following groups: Farmward Bound (ages 12-13) and C.H.E.F (ages 12-15)
- Co-lead a 1-night FWB overnight each week on the property – note that the two weeks of C.H.E.F programming does not include an overnight
- Co-lead farm and cooking-based activities and provide appropriate structure and supervision
  - Activities are hands-on and inquiry-based and include daily farm chores, harvesting, cooking meals, crafts, soil science, cooking, and wool crafts. These can be taken from existing curriculum or created and implemented by staff
- Introduce leadership skills including listening, communication, team building, and peaceful conflict resolution
- Prepare and manage food/gear for overnight and keep storage spaces clean and organized
- Organize and facilitate weekly excursion to Wolfe's Neck State Park
- Guide weekly canoe trip off coast of farm, teaching proper paddling techniques and safety and maintenance of gear (dependent on qualifications of hired staff)
- Create and lead activities based on interests and experiences for mixed age groups during afternoon "Choice Time"
  - See copy of the general schedule under our "[Farm Camp Schedule](#)" FAQ.
- Communicate daily updates and concerns regarding camp or campers to the Farm Camp Leadership Team

- Connect with parents and caregivers with updates, answering general questions, and providing behavioral notes as required
- Participate in staff training, weekly staff meetings, and miscellaneous duties that contribute to the day-to-day operation of the camp including set up and clean-up of all daily supplies and equipment
- Implement all camp policies and expectations that help foster an environment of mutual respect, safety, support, and engagement for all campers
- Provide and document basic first aid according to camp policy and level of training

## Qualifications

- Experience:
  - Working with youth and teens, especially in an experiential or outdoor setting
  - Leading any of the following activities: arts and crafts, nature exploration, cooking, and science-based activities
  - Experience with and/or knowledge of any of the following: sustainable agriculture, farming, environmental science, gardening, livestock, or culinary arts
  - Camping or guiding experience, preferably with young people
  - Canoe or kayak experience, preferably with young people and in group guiding setting (encouraged, but not required)
- Skills:
  - Create, plan, and lead summer camp activities that are age-appropriate, engaging, and fun
  - Build positive relationships with and between campers, staff, and parents
  - Manage risk, exercise judgment, and adapt on the fly with a keen eye for safety on a working farm
  - Take initiative, be creative, and communicate effectively
  - Willingness to learn about and handle farm animals, get your hands dirty in the garden, and actively engage in all our camp activities
  - Comfort in the kitchen and knowledge of food, kitchen skills, and safety (can be informal)
- Ability to work outside in a variety of environments and weather (including heat, humidity, and rain)
- Wolfe’s Neck Center follows Maine CDC guidelines for COVID-19 protocols and expects all employees to be willing to adhere to those recommendations
- At least one of the Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F. counselors must hold a WFA certification
- At least one of the Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F. counselors must be over the age of 21
- Advanced First Aid, WFA/WFR, CRP, and lifeguard certifications encouraged

## Terms of Employment

This is a full-time, seasonal position, *running from June 10 – August 23, 2024*. A commitment to the entire training and camp season is required. Typical working hours are Monday through Friday 8am – 4:30pm, with the exception of the overnight for Farmward Bound. There will be a brief staff meeting held every Wednesday after camp that might result in a later departure time.

- Staff Training: June 10 - 14
- 10 Weeks of Camp: June 17 - August 23
  - Note: there will be no camp on June 19 and July 4 in observance of federal holidays. These are unpaid holidays.

Documentation establishing your right to work in the United States is required along with the completion of a successful background check.

Compensation includes:

- A stipend of \$1,633-\$1,850 per pay period, to be paid on a bi-weekly basis
- Potential for low-cost, on-site housing (limited availability)
- Free or discounted rentals at our campground, including tent sites, bikes, kayaks, and canoes (dependent on availability)
- Discount in the Farm Café and Farm Store.

## To Apply

Please submit online: [Farm Camp Staff Application](#), Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F. Counselor Questionnaire, and upload your resume

and cover letter.

- Your resume should include: contact information, education details, brief outline and list of work/volunteer/related experience, applicable skills, certifications with expiration dates
- Your cover letter should include: an explanation of why you are interested in the position and a more in-depth description of what skills you have and any applicable experience that makes you a good candidate for the position

For more details about our camp and Wolfe's Neck Center, please visit our [website](#). If you have questions about the position and application process, please contact Katie Williams, the Farm Camp Manager, at [kwilliams@wolfesneck.org](mailto:kwilliams@wolfesneck.org). Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all fill positions are filled.

Farm Camp Positions Include:

- Farm Camp Counselor
- Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F. Counselor
- Barn and Garden Lead Counselor
- Farm Camp Lead Counselor
- Farm Camp Medic

*Wolfe's Neck Center for Agriculture & the Environment does not discriminate on the basis of any protected category. Applicants are selected based on their ability to perform the essential functions of the job, prior related work experience, and references from previous employers.*