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SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE AT DEC SUMMER CAMPS FOR 2011 SEASON
Camps Offer Unique Educational Outdoor Experiences for Youth

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced that the state's four summer environmental education camps still have spaces available for the 2011 summer camping season. Families are encouraged to act quickly on submitting applications as they are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

DEC's unique residential camp program currently has openings for youth ages 12 to 14. Each of the camps focuses on conservation education by immersing campers in outdoor activities and hands-on learning that teach the wise use of natural resources. Highly qualified staff ensure that campers enjoy their week-long outdoor adventure and help campers develop outdoor skills such as hiking, fishing and canoeing that can last a lifetime. For those interested, hunter safety training is available from certified sportsman education instructors, with prior permission from parents/guardians.

All four camps - Colby and Pack Forest in the Adirondacks, DeBruce in the Catskills and Rushford in Western New York - have openings for some weeks during the seven weeks of camp, which run from July 3 through August 20. Campers arrive on Sunday afternoon and are picked up Saturday morning. The cost is \$350 per week at any of the DEC camps. Local organizations such as civic groups, garden and sportsmen clubs can also sponsor a camper. Applications are still being accepted and registration will continue until all spaces are filled.

For more information, including registration forms, available weeks and detailed program descriptions, visit www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html or write to NYSDEC Camps, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4500 or by email at edcamps@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

MEDIA NOTE: Photos of past campers are available on the DEC website at <ftp://ftp.dec.ny.gov/dpae/press/EdCamps/>.

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