

BEAR CREEK CAMP

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

The goals of this program are to:

- Preserve and protect the habitat and populations of wildlife found on the site.
- Support sound sportsmanship exemplified by responsible harvesting of fish and game.
- Develop a sense of common cause and cooperation with all other users of the site.

The privileges of membership shall include:

- Hunting and fishing on the site during designated seasons according to the Pennsylvania Game Commission regulations and Bear Creek Camp.
- Sleeping quarter at the camp will be provided to members and guests during the deer season and upon availability during other hunting seasons. These accommodations will be provided on a reservation basis.

I. Rules and Regulations

A. Registration and Guests

1. Every member when he/she visits the Bear Creek Camp and Conference shall register at the Welcome Center, to the right of the camp office. At that time he/she must also register any guests with him/her. An identification tag is to be worn while hunting or fishing on the site, and a BCWCA ID car tag shall be placed on the rear view mirror of any vehicle which allows a member or his guest to park on camp property or the main road. Before leaving the camp, all members and guests shall sign out at the Welcome Center and report the number and kind of fish and/or game taken, and the area in which they were taken; and before leaving all members and guests will be responsible for clean up of all facilities used by them.
2. Guests will at all times be accompanied by the member introducing them and it is the duty of each member to advise and carefully direct the attention of his guest to the Rules and Regulations. The hunting/fishing member will make certain that his/her guest has a properly signed Pennsylvania fishing or hunting license and is familiar with the Fish and Game Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Guests of members and staff will be accompanied on site by their host. It is the duty of that host to be certain that their guest(s) are signed in on the roster, have executed a release form, display vehicle tags and wear I.D. tags. Furthermore, guests are responsible for upholding the rules set forth in the by-laws.
3. Members are allowed a maximum of two guests on any given day except the first three days of Buck season. No guests are allowed on those days.
4. On an annual basis each registrant, whether individual member, family member, or guest, shall execute a release in form prescribed by the Camp Corporation, which shall release and indemnify the Corporation, its agents, subcontractors, and affiliates from all liability relation the membership and guest privileges granted herein.

B. Fishing and Hunting, General

1. The laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania must be observed, and in no case shall the daily of seasonal limit of fish or game exceed that specified by the State.
2. Any member having an illegal game kill will be required to report said kill to the local Game Warden. The individual responsible will pay all fines for such a kill.
3. The Executive Committee of the Camp Board and the Hunting and Fishing Committee of the Board may impose restrictions in addition to those fixed by State Laws.
4. Each member shall be responsible for giving Bear Creek Camp eight (8) hours of work per year. This work shall be done for the benefit of the Camp, and may include habitat improvement, trail

improvement, and boundary marking and posting or any other improvements to the camp as deemed necessary.

5. All trout less than eight (8) inches in length shall be returned to the water, unless in hooking, a fish is fatally injured. Two (2) trout limit per day from streams.
6. There may be no fishing from the beach area of the lake and the creel limit at the lake is five (5) per day.
7. Members and their guests shall at all times observe the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pertaining to the preservation and protection of our forests. No member shall remove or destroy any portion of the existing forest without obtaining permission from the Staff of Bear Creek Camp and Conference Center.
8. When on site, all members are considered patrolmen. All violators of any of the rules and regulations, and all trespassers will identify themselves and be asked to leave the grounds. Members are encouraged to record the violator's or trespasser's hunting and/or fishing license. This information shall be recorded on the Incident Report form in the box in the Welcome Center.
9. During the deer and bear seasons all hunters are strongly encourage to hunt in a group of no less than two (2) while on the site. This is important because of safety reasons as well as having witnesses if the hunters should encounter trespassers.
10. The buildings will be open at 8:00 a.m. on the Sunday before the opening day of deer season. Anyone entering before then will have his or her membership revoked.
11. There shall be no target practice but the sighting in of handguns and rifles may be done at the range September through January. You must sign in at the Welcome Center prior to and after using the range.
 - a. All participants must be located behind the provided table/firearm rest when a firearm is being fired.
 - b. Before using the range a visual check of the parallel trail should be done to be sure that no hikers are present.
 - c. All shells, casings, targets, and other garbage should be removed from the range upon departure.
 - d. Firearms should be fired from the cleared firing zone located perpendicular to the backstop. No firing outside of this area is permitted.
12. Each individual hunter or member is deemed responsible for the proper observance of these gun rules and is urged to assist in their enforcement.
 - a. No person shall bring a loaded gun or one with shells in the magazine into any of the Camp's buildings, nor shall they load a gun inside any of the buildings. Unless cased, guns must be stored with magazines open.
 - b. As per the American Camping Association, "When not in use, all firearms must be stored in a locked cabinet or closet, within a locked room or inaccessible area for redundant safety." (PD-23) A gun lock may be used for each individual firearm.
 - c. As per the American Camping Association, " All ammunition is stored in a third location or container, requiring a separate key or access system." (PD-23) Ammunition should be stored in your locked vehicle or within a locked container using a different key than your firearm lock.
13. Unnecessary and unusual damage to the property by any member or his guest will be charged to the member.
14. All drinking is to be kept to a socially acceptable level at all times. If the member cannot control this, he or she may be asked to refrain from hunting during that time or the next day. Each member will be responsible for his or her own refreshments. Only cans or bottles will be allowed to be brought to hunting camp.
15. Hunting while under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall be cause for immediate expulsion from the Camp, with forfeiture of membership privileges.
16. There shall be no waterfowl hunting.

17. No new permanent tree stands. Temporary (ladder) stands only. Stands may be locked and left for the season.
 18. There shall be no trapping whatsoever.
 19. All vehicles must be parked at designated areas of the site. All guns or bows must be kept in the hunter's vehicle until after he/she has registered him/herself and guest. (Be aware of the visitors, retreat groups, and special camps) At no time while retreat groups and visitors are here shall a hunter carry any loaded firearm within one hundred and fifty (150) yards of any retreat facility. When retreat groups are present, firearms should be stored in vehicles, unless prior approval has been given by Bear Creek Camp staff.
 20. Driving is allowed only on the main road and the two back roads (Election Path and Railroad Trail) that parallel the creek south of the Gully Ford, and the lake road. Driving on any other road is prohibited by any camp member.
 21. See attached page for policies regarding the use of ATV's.
 22. Hunters shall obey the safety zone regulations set forth by the PA Game Commission and additionally:
 - a. Shall not hunt or discharge any firearm inside the "no hunting zone".
 - b. Shall not hunt small game or turkey inside the larger "courtesy zone".
 - c. Big game hunting (with the exception of turkey) will be allowed inside the "courtesy zone" DURING SPECIFIED TIMES, with drives operation away from the buildings and "no hunting zone".
- C. Requested Contributions Associated with Membership: Membership, Accommodations, and Guests.
1. Membership includes both hunting and fishing privileges. Requested contributions associated with membership shall be determined by the Board of Bear Creek Camp.
 2. There shall be a maximum of sixty (60) memberships.
 3. Requested contributions associated with membership for guests shall be a donation of \$10.00 for each guest using the site to hunt or fish. Money to be left in the box in the Welcome Center.
 4. Membership shall extend annually from September 1 to August 31; renewal by July 1. New memberships will be granted after July 1 of each year.
 5. The camp is closed to all members *during June*, July and August due to our summer camping sessions, unless special permission has been granted by the camp.
 6. Contributions associated with membership are not refundable, however, they may be tax deductible. Membership is not transferable.
 7. Membership can be made non-renewable by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership.
 8. Categories of membership are family and individual memberships. Annual requested contributions associated with membership of each membership to be set by the Board of Bear Creek Camp.
 - a. Family Membership: to include spouse and children up to and including seventeen (17) years of age.
 - b. Individual Membership: to include only the member himself/herself. All other persons in his/her family will be considered guests.
 - c. Family members "coming of age" (age 18) for individual membership are given priority on the waiting list, or after returning military.
 9. Prior members returning from active military service have priority on the waiting list.
- D. Meetings and Work Parties
1. The annual meeting of the members shall be held on the evening prior to the opening of buck season each year to transact any business as may lawfully come before it.
 2. All members planning to hunt on camp property during the first two days of deer season must attend the annual meeting on the Sunday night before deer season.
 3. Special meetings may be called at the request of any six members. Thirty (30) days written notice of the time and place of such meetings shall be given to each member by mail addressed to the member's last known residence as it appears on the Associations membership list.

4. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the membership.
5. One mandatory workday shall be scheduled each year. An extra \$75.00 donation will be levied if workday requirement is not fulfilled by November 1 that year. Substitutions or proxies are not permitted. At least one week's notice must be given to the camp office in the event a member is unable to attend a scheduled work day, and it is that member's responsibility to schedule a work day in advance with the camp staff.
6. Revisions or additions to these bylaws are subject to approval by the Camp Board and will not take effect until such approval is granted. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the governing parliamentary law of this Association except as otherwise provided in these bylaws or by the Camp Board.
7. Failure to comply with these bylaws including future revisions and additions may, after one warning, result in loss of membership renewal privileges.
8. A request for interpretation or exemption must be submitted in writing to the Steering Committee for approval.

Bylaws approved by the Camp Board on May 16, 1995.

Revised and approved by Board of Directors on September, 2000, November, 2003, September 2009.