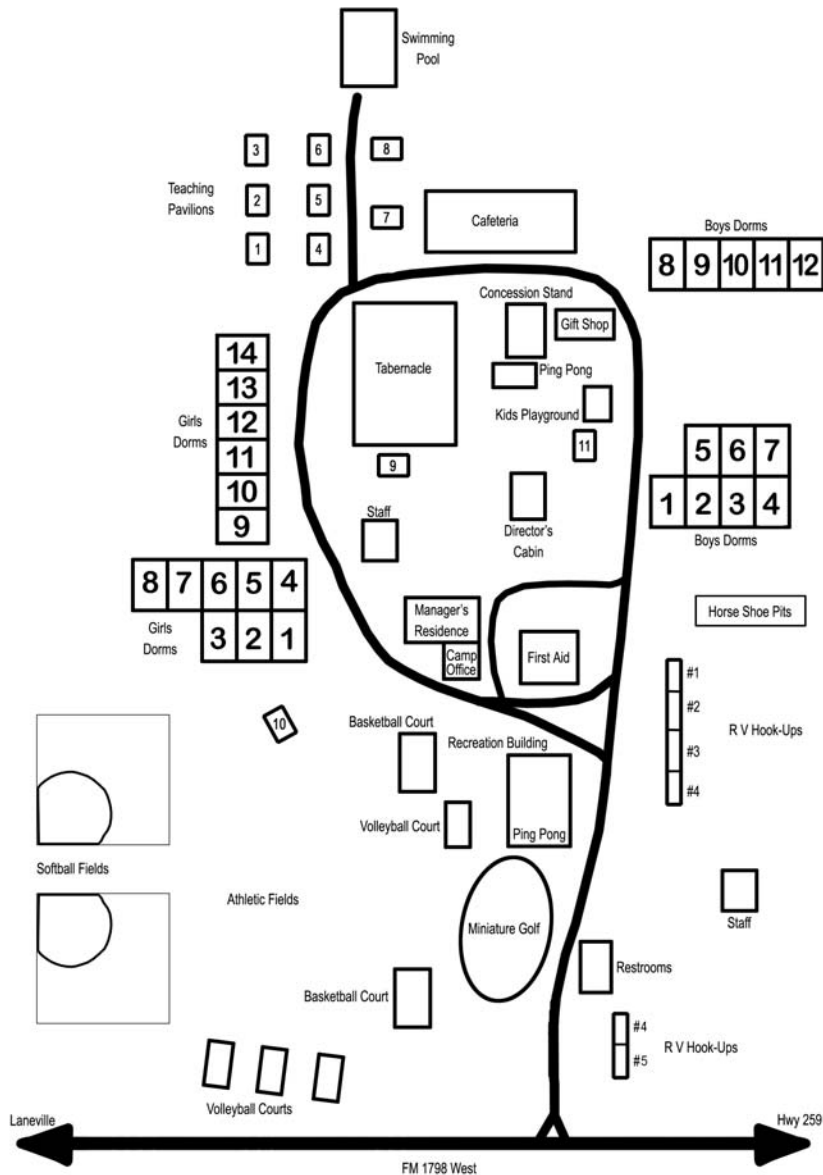


# Campground Map

# Pine Springs Baptist Camp

3386 FM 1798 West • Laneville, Texas 75667 • 903.863.5524



# 2006 Sponsor's Handbook

All sponsors must receive a copy of this handbook and become familiar with its contents. Most of your questions will be answered here. Please do not hesitate to get clarification from your Camp Director when needed.

This handbook is intended to help make your job easier. Please share any suggestions that might help to make this a better tool for your use.

This Camp operates under an annual permit issued by the Texas State Department of Health. We are required to operate according to the requirements of the Texas Youth Camp Safety and Health Act. Our policies, rules, and procedures reflect those requirements.

## ***PINE SPRINGS BAPTIST CAMP PURPOSE***

Pine Springs Baptist Camp is a place where kids and teens can meet in an atmosphere away from the cares, influences, and responsibilities of the world. In a concentrated program of study and preaching of God's Word, wholesome recreation, and fellowship with other Christians, the Holy Spirit of God has a better opportunity to convict the hearts of the lost and convince the saved to surrender to God's plan for their lives. The Youth Encampment Trustees are directed by the Messenger Assembly of the American Baptist Association to maintain, develop, and improve the grounds and facilities of the Camp for such use.

## ***EMERGENCY PROCEDURES***

*All sponsors should familiarize themselves with the following Emergency Procedures and share needed information with the campers.*

### ***IN CASE OF TORNADO OR OTHER HIGH WINDS***

1. If advanced notice or warning is received: All dorms and buildings will be notified by Staff members.
2. Gather campers near an inside wall near the center of the building and remain there until the danger is past.

### ***IN CASE OF FIRE OR OTHER DISASTER***

1. Leave the building via the nearest exit and proceed straight ahead until you are clear of any danger.
2. Identify campers to be sure all are accounted and present.
3. Notify Camp Manager or Camp Office.
4. Keep away from roads and vehicle traffic.

### ***IN CASE OF SERIOUS ACCIDENT OR INJURY***

1. Notify the Camp Nurse.
2. Notify the Camp Manager or Camp Office.

## ***POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING CHILD ABUSE***

Child abuse in any form will not be tolerated. This would include, but not limited to, improper touching, abusive or suggestive language, or striking a child. Avoid compromising situations. Children can mistake well-meaning attention as sexual misconduct. According to Texas State Law, Child Abuse or Sexual Abuse, real or alleged, must be reported to proper authorities for investigation.

## ***HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL SPONSOR***

*"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

## ***HOW TO COOPERATE WITH GOD***

You are at camp to lead kids to Jesus Christ, and/or to build them up to serve Him. You are not on vacation. You are not here to be a babysitter; you are here to be an example of a Christian and to be a leader and guide.

See your job for exactly what it is: a ministry. Being a camp sponsor means giving, giving, giving. If you do a good job at being a sponsor, you will work harder than you do at just about any other time. Your day may start as early as 6:00 a.m. and not end until very late. But no one will be prodding you to do it. You will be expected to be on time, to participate, to cooperate; but no one will be dogging your steps to make you do it. Let God minister through you this week.

Don't worry about your shortcomings. Put yourself in God's hands. Let Him begin to mold you into the servant of the Lord that you really want to be. God is able! Just get self out of the way!

Follow the plan your Camp Director has given you. The Director and Staff have a purpose for everything. Hundreds of details have been thought through in advance, so go with the plan and forget complaining. People help make this Camp effective, but people can be the biggest problem too. People who don't understand or who don't have all the information may gripe, gossip, grumble, and grouch. They get their motives twisted so they sow discord and spread negative undercurrents. Some people specialize in creating problems - why don't you vow to the Lord to be part of the solution.

Realize that you are part of a team. As part of the team at Camp, you need to function together with the other leaders and sponsors in unity to accomplish God's purposes in young lives. Encourage and help one another. Stand Together!

## ABA YOUTH ENCAMPMENT TRUSTEE RULES

- Pine Springs Baptist Camp is a Christian Camp. The conduct of each camper should be in keeping with Christian camping.
- **No pets are permitted on the camp property.** They pose numerous health risks and possible liabilities to you, your church, and our Camp. Please, for the safety of each camper and Pine Springs Baptist Camp, leave your pets at home.
- Absolutely NO smoking is permitted anywhere on camp property.
- Absolutely NO alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, firearms, or gambling devices are permitted anywhere on camp property.
- Modest dress should be practiced at all times. All clothing (whether dresses, pants, shorts, etc.) is to be long enough that no skin will be touched with the fingertips while standing with the arms held at the side.
- Mixed swimming will not be permitted. Swimming will be permitted only during scheduled periods when lifeguards are on duty.
- Each camper is expected to attend religious services and participate in the recreational and educational programs.
- Shaving cream fights are prohibited. All other building defacing activities are also forbidden.
- **The Camp Director and Sponsors** are responsible for the enforcement of all policies and rules and the supervision of their groups at all times.
- **Sponsors** are responsible for the campers' care of equipment and buildings. Sponsors are also responsible to see that campers are not left unsupervised in the cabins at any time.
- **Each Camp** is responsible for any and all damages to the Camp property. **Each camp** is required to provide a licensed nurse for their week. The **camp group** is expected to leave the camp grounds and buildings clean before leaving. Making sure the grounds are cleaned will avoid cleaning surcharges.
- Signs, posters, decorations, etc. must not be affixed to any painted surface. When used elsewhere, these items must be removed before leaving Camp, including all nails, staples, tape, etc. Check with manager if unsure of surface.
- The **Camp curfew is Midnight.** Curfew for individual camps may be earlier, but no later than 12:00 AM.

### **Texas State Health Department Regulations**

- Beds are **not to be moved** from one dorm to another. Maximum number of individual beds per room is 24. Maximum Camp sleeping capacity is 624.
- A licensed medical person must accompany each camp week.

**VIOLATION OF CAMP POLICIES AND RULES  
MAY RESULT IN EXPULSION FROM THE CAMP WITH  
NO REFUND OF ANY FEES PAID**

## SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS

*"I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Ephesians 4:1-3)*

1. Being a sponsor takes time. Plan for it. Make it happen.
2. Keep the confidence of the campers. Something may be humorous to you, but not to them.
3. Maintain a cheerful objectivity. Getting emotionally involved will not help situations. You are the adult. Act like it.
4. Be careful in giving advice. Guide the camper to come up with possible solutions.
5. Stay within your ability to counsel.
6. Expect patterns of behavior. For example, children often make little problems into big problems.
7. If you run into a counseling problem, ask for help.
8. Encourage independence from you and dependence upon God.
9. Don't make promises to campers that you cannot or should not keep.
10. Intentionally violating Camp policies and rules is NOT part of the camping experience. Do not encourage it or allow it to happen.

## PRINCIPLES FOR CONDUCTING A CABIN DEVOTION

1. Base all teachings on scripture, not opinion.
2. Involve the campers.
3. Stay on track.
4. Pass by questions that are not pertinent.
5. Avoid talking over the campers' heads.
6. Use variety:
  - A. Discuss a question as a group with you as moderator.
  - B. Give a verse or two to look up and discuss them.
  - C. Ask a question and get different answers.
  - D. Tell a story.
  - E. Use a visual.
  - F. Try an object lesson.
  - G. Let one of the campers give a devotional.

## HOW TO BECOME A COUNSELOR - FRIEND

1. Be ready to listen
2. Talk on their level. Keep it simple.
3. Exhibit a positive attitude. It *IS* contagious.
4. Stay neutral. Listen in confidence.
5. Be honest and sincere.

## HOW TO LEAD SOMEONE TO CHRIST

### THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me." (John 14:6)

### NOBODY ELSE CAN HELP YOU

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast." (Ephesians 2: 8,9)

### WHAT YOU MUST DO:

#### PRAY TO GOD IN YOUR OWN WORDS

1. **ADMIT** you are a sinner and that only the Lord Jesus can save you.  
"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23)
2. **REPENT**: be willing to turn away from sin and submit to God.  
"I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:5)
3. **BELIEVE** that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross and shed his blood to pay the price for your sins, and that He rose again.  
"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."  
(Romans 10:9)
4. **ASK** God to save you.  
"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."  
(Romans 10:13)
5. **ASK** Jesus Christ to be the Lord (take control) of your life.  
"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:1,2)

### IF YOU REALLY MADE JESUS YOUR LORD AND KING, THE ACT LIKE IT!

1. Read your Bible every day to get to know Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Find a church where the Bible is taught as the complete Word of God and in the final authority.
4. Obey Christ's command and be baptized (Matthew 28:19).

## MESSAGES AND PHONE INFORMATION

- Emergency messages will be delivered to the Camp director or sponsor. Personal messages will be either delivered to sponsor or posted on the message board in the Cafeteria at meal times.
- Pay phones are provided for personal calls. Please respect the needs of others to use them. Prank calls to 9-1-1 are illegal and the Rusk County Sheriff's Office may issue fines.

## FORGOTTEN ITEMS

Bibles, articles of clothing, bedding items, etc. left behind will be kept for a period of 30 days. Items returned to you by mail will be shipped C.O.D. Please be sure all campers put their name on their belongings.

## SWIMMING POOL

Swimming will be allowed only during scheduled times when a lifeguard is on duty and weather conditions permit. Lifeguards are provided for your safety and must be obeyed.

## MEDICAL POLICIES AND INSURANCE

- Only the PSBC 2006 Camper Medical Form is accepted. Campers (including adults) will not be allowed to remain on the grounds without this completed and signed - by order of the Texas Department of Health.
- Prescription drugs must be left with the Camp nurse and will be dispensed per prescription at the First Aid Station by the Nurse ONLY.
- Except for receiving scheduled medication, all campers going to the First Aid Station for any reason must be accompanied by a sponsor. The Camp Nurse must follow Standing Orders issued by our Physician on call. Do not ask the nurse to change from these without a Family Physician's written consent order.
- Accidents and sickness insurance coverage is provided for each camper. This covers campers during the week plus travel time (from midnight Monday morning to midnight Friday). \$2500 is the maximum coverage. Maximum dental coverage is \$300. This is meant to be basic primary coverage to supplement private insurance. Pre-existing conditions will not be covered.
- Crutches and other orthopedic aids are not covered by Camp insurance and will be the responsibility of the camper or his/her parents if prescribed.

## MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY CONSERVATION

- Notify Camp Manager or the Camp Office of any maintenance problems or breakage.
- Do not tamper with or change A/C thermostats.
- Turn off lights when not needed. Please keep doors/windows closed.