



Natural Leaders Regional Legacy Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

Apply at: <http://bit.ly/NLLegacyCampATX2016>

1. What is the Legacy Camp?

Legacy Camp serves as the centerpiece of the [Natural Leaders Network](#). Legacy Camp has brought diverse millennials from all over the country together to develop a peer to peer mentoring network and create action items that encourage children to connect with nature in their communities. During camp we encourage participants to sharpen their leadership skills and develop confidence. Camp will focus on four leadership pillars: Personal Narrative, Community Organizing, Leadership IQ, and Setting Personal Goals.

After years of hosting Legacy Camp at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, the Natural Leaders Network has shifted its focus to local communities. In order to create a stronger network Legacy Camp will be held regionally in different hubs across the country. The Camp for Austin is being held on the beautiful Shield Ranch in the Texas Hill Country just west of Austin. Our camp will take place March 14th – 18th of 2016. This event has been made possible by the support of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, The Children & Nature Network, The Natural Leaders Network, the Shield Ranch, Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center, and El Ranchito Summer Camp.

2. What to expect?

#LegacyCampATX is a 5-day, 4-night nature immersion experience in the Texas Hill Country which will include; camping, hiking, and service projects. Sessions will focus on leadership and outdoors skills. These sessions will be bolstered by the development of home teams and lots of networking opportunities. Local environmental leaders, advocates, and supporters will even make appearances to offer bits of inspiration and connect with our group. The Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin and its membership organizations will support Natural Leaders as they head back to their communities to create social change. The connections made during camp will give Natural Leaders select opportunities to build relationships with environmental organizations that they have always wanted to work with. Participants will also be a part of the larger and broader national peer network through the Children & Nature Network.

3. Will food be provided?

Food will be provided for the week (breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks). Please make sure that you communicate any dietary restrictions with us in advance so that we can prepare for you.



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4. Who can participate and how are they selected?

Legacy Camp is designed to support diverse millennials who are looking to lead the conservation movement of the future. We are looking for diverse, dynamic, and dedicated leaders who are between 18 and 29 years of age. Applicants should demonstrate a strong inclination for outdoor recreation and education. Applications will be taken through February 5th, 2016, and interested parties are encouraged to visit our application [website](#) for more information.

5. How to best prepare for the program (physically & mentally).

Legacy Camp is a nature immersion experience with opportunities to challenge oneself. Those who are selected to attend Legacy Camp are encouraged to refer to our packing list to ensure that they have the essentials for the week. During the week participants will often set out on hikes (1 – 4 miles) with their home team and engage in meaningful discussions about conservation and the Children & Nature movement. Respect for others is a very important theme throughout Legacy Camp and participants will engage with Natural Leaders that have a wide range of backgrounds. Participants will be encouraged to share their story, speak in front of the group, and participate fully with trainers and support staff. If you have further questions about how to adequately prepare for Legacy Camp, please forward them to Ryan Spencer at ryan@westcave.org.

6. What will we learn?

You will learn about the Children & Nature Network and its movement, the Natural Leaders Network, CiNCA (Children in Nature Collaborative of Austin), community leadership and receive an introduction to several tools you can use to create change and connect communities to nature. Our goals are to:

- Engage participants in the Natural Leaders Network, the Children & Nature movement and grassroots organizing
- Prepare and mentor participants to lead at least four action items in their home communities over the next year related to several different initiatives, including:
 - Introducing people to nature
 - Let's GO (Get Outdoors)! Month
 - Every 4th grader in a National Park initiative
 - and several others!



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7. What happens after Legacy Camp?

Participants will have the tools and support to lead events in the community. Here are examples of possible events. (you can check out the [Natural Leaders Network Facebook page](#) for other examples from Natural Leaders):

- an outdoor service project,
- a Let's Get Outside event,
- a Nature-Deficit Disorder house party, and
- give a speech at your school or another community location.

At the Legacy Camp, you will receive training and mentoring that will prepare you to lead these events. To stay engaged in the local Natural Leaders Network, you can follow us on [Facebook](#) and other forms of social media (@naturalleaders) and share your work! We may also ask you to support the work of the Network by occasionally volunteering your time and sharing your training with others.

Legacy Camp ATX Packing List: You will be camping on a private ranch in Austin, TX, sharing a tent with one or two other participants. Legacy Camp Participants will be provided the following:

- Food/Snacks/Water
- CamelBack backpacks with water bladders
- Tents and Cots

What you should bring: (note: there is no electricity at camp)

- Pants and shorts
- Casual shirts
- Rain coat or poncho
- Sturdy sneakers and/or hiking shoes
- Closed-toe sandals or water shoes
- Hat & sunglasses
- Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent?
- Water bottle
- Something to write with (pen or pencil) & something to write on (a notebook or journal)
- Towel
- Headlamp/flashlight
- Sleeping Bag/pillow (temperatures could range 40s-80s)
- Sleeping pad (Optional)