

Camp Westwind

2024 Spring Family Camp Handbook



Your Guide to a Safe
and Enjoyable
Experience at Westwind

We are excited to welcome you to Westwind this spring!

As you know, Westwind is a special place. Situated within the larger Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve, Westwind's 529 acres contain each iconic landscape of the Oregon Coast: headland meadows, dense Sitka Spruce and Hemlock rainforest, a dynamic estuary, and the unparalleled beach and rocky coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The Westwind Stewardship Group is charged with protecting Westwind's ecosystems and facilitating educational and inspirational experiences for children, families and private groups.

Stroll more than a mile of unspoiled ocean beach. Observe the abundant wildlife of the Salmon River estuary. Play in the sand. Explore deep rainforest ecosystems. Meander through upland meadows. Study marine life in coastal tide pools. Discover hidden lakes and babbling streams. This and more await you during a stay at Westwind.



About Westwind

Westwind is a 529-acre camp, farm, and wilderness area set in the middle of the Cascade Head UN Biosphere Reserve in Oregon. Owned and operated by the Westwind Stewardship Group, Westwind is home to Camp Westwind, Outdoor School, workshops, events, and volunteer programs.

Our Vision

Westwind will always welcome people to these wild shores and green hills to discover that caring for the land is caring for ourselves and our communities.

Our Mission

The Westwind Stewardship Group inspires people to be stewards of the environment and their communities by conserving Westwind's diverse ecosystems in perpetuity and fostering life-changing experiences for children, families, individuals, and groups.

General Information

Important Information

Please remember to double-check that all important information is updated in our online registration system. This includes dietary request forms, cabin requests, and final payments. It is very important that we are aware of any dietary restrictions or allergies. Our online system will remind you automatically if you have any incomplete forms.

Camp Store and Babysitters

Camp Westwind Family Camps offer a few perks. In our camp store, we sell souvenirs such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, and hats. Teen babysitters volunteer their time to help parents as needed and participate in kid's groups. We collect tips for the babysitters and share them equally among them. If you would like to participate, please bring cash so we can distribute the tips at the end of the session.

To order from our online store, please visit: <http://otgpromoshop.com/westwind>

Camp Payment

Camp Westwind offers flexible payment options. You may make payments in whatever fashion suits your budget be that weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. We do need to have camp paid for prior to attending. If you are in need of any financial assistance, (even just partial fees), applications are available online.

Lost and Found!

Email info@westwind.org to schedule a time to find your belongings. We will open our office in September for you to retrieve your lost and found if you do not contact us during the summer.

Westwind is not responsible for items that are lost, stolen, or damaged. Do not bring items that cannot be easily replaced or that you consider to be expensive.

Arrival, Departure, and Parking

Check-in for Spring Family Camp is 4:30–6pm

Arrival

- Parking is at Fraser Farm.
- Drive to 7500 N Fraser Rd, Otis, 97368. Fraser is off of Highway 101. Drive through the yellow and green gates, and another ¼ mile to our black gate.
- Continue through the black gate (checking in with any staff who are there) and continue up and around to the far side of our field. There will be traffic cones and staff directing parking.
- Please follow staff directions and park close to other cars. Once you are parked, you can load your luggage onto our Westwind truck or trailer.
- From there, please enjoy the 2 mile walk down our beautiful Rainforest Trail into camp. Keep an eye out for skunk cabbage, eagles, and elk in the estuary!
- If a member of your group needs to be driven to the lodge and dropped off, please call 541-994-2383 or email izzy@westwind.org and make arrangements in advance of arrival.
- At approximately 6:30pm, the luggage truck will arrive at Wilson Lodge.

Departure

- Check-out time is at 11:00am. Please have your cabin packed, empty, and cleaned by 10:30am with your luggage on the Westwind truck or trailer at Wilson Lodge.
- Remember to check out with a staff member to pay any remaining store balances! And tip your babysitter! Cash tips only.
- Enjoy the walk back to the farm!

Staff Assistance Contact Information:

Westwind Office: 541-994-2383

Laura, Program Director:

503-927-9557

Reishelle, Assistant Camp Director:

503-680-8314

Izzy, Program/Volunteer Coordinator:

608-239-5733

Sarah, Business Director:

971-409-5337

Late Arrival and Early Departures

The unique location of Camp Westwind is part of what makes camp so magical—it also makes accommodating late arrivals and early departures difficult. Your request for special accommodations for late arrival and early departure must be made to program staff by email or phone in advance.



Recommended Packing List & Tips

Packing List:

- Weather-appropriate clothing
- Waterproof rain gear (jacket/poncho)
- Sturdy shoes or boots for hiking
- Sturdy shoes for sand & water (flip flops are not recommended)
- Warm sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Twin sheet to cover mattress
- Toiletries
- Medications
- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- Water bottle
- Flashlight/Headlamp and extra batteries
- Hat/Sun hat or visor
- Playing cards/travel games
- Beverages/Snacks for evening Adult Time

Please DO NOT bring these items to camp:

- Alcohol (ALL family camps will be alcohol-free)
- Electronic equipment you don't want to be damaged
- Weapons
- Any illegal substance
- Pets

Packing Tips

- Please DO NOT bring your packed items in a plastic garbage bag - this does not support our environmental mission.
- Pack items in bags you can easily carry up a steep, sandy hill. Wheeled bags are NOT recommended.
- **Remember coastal weather- it is typically 10+ degrees cooler than Portland. It is often a mix of rain and sun in March. Please pack accordingly.**

A Note about Personal Care Products

Westwind is on a septic system and we need your help to keep it running properly. Please DO NOT use antibacterial soaps (the septic system relies on healthy bacteria to run properly), body washes, and other products high in fats and proteins. There are biodegradable, castile, and other environmentally-friendly products available at most grocery stores.