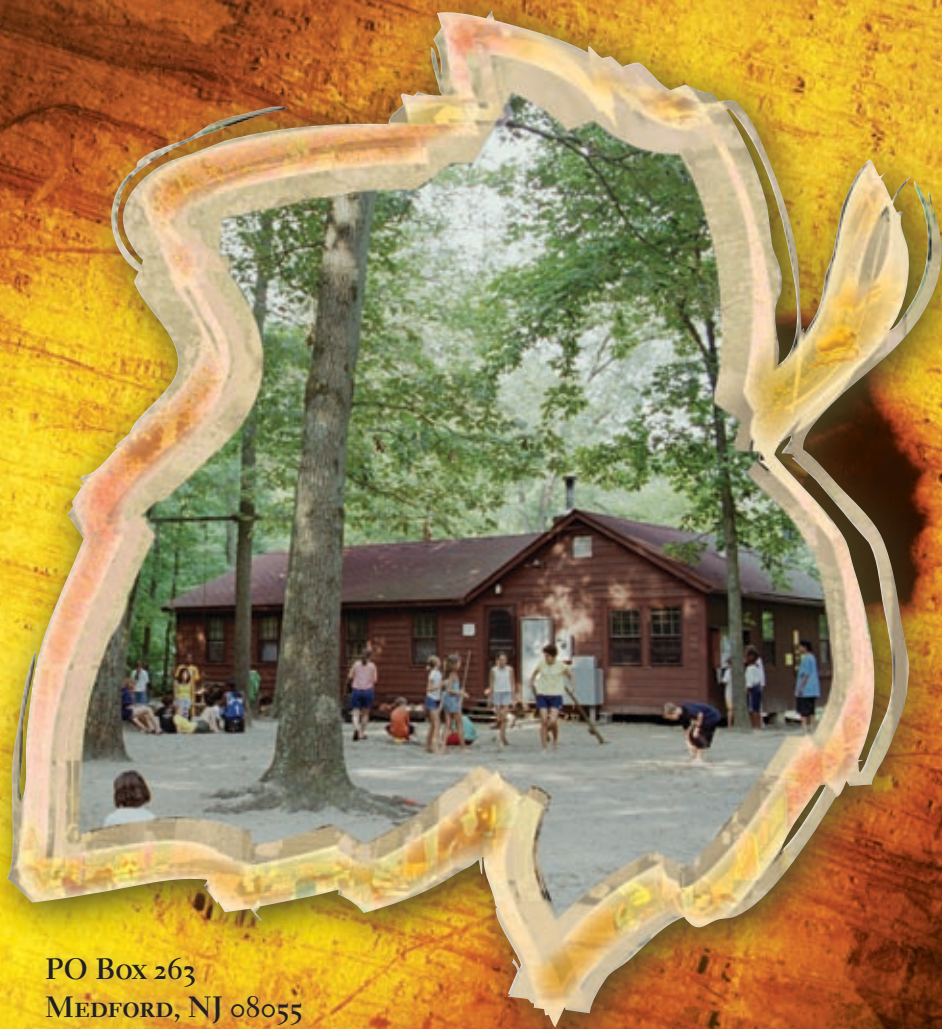




# CAMP DARK WATERS

A Resident Camp for Boys and Girls 7-14 years old

*A Camper's Treasure. A Quaker Tradition.*



PO Box 263  
MEDFORD, NJ 08055  
(609) 654-8846

[WWW.CAMPDARKWATERS.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPDARKWATERS.ORG)  
[campdarkwaters@hotmail.com](mailto:campdarkwaters@hotmail.com)

# Let the Fun Begin...

**F**un and learning begin just as soon as a camper's feet hit the ground (running) at Camp Dark Waters. Our address—New Freedom Road—is serendipitous! Here children find new freedom just to be themselves.

Freed from the stresses of so many "ought to" and "have to" elements in their young lives, campers have a say in how they plan their days. They may choose familiar pursuits or try out new ones. They like the idea that no day is exactly like the one before or the one after.

**E**ach day, our counselors explain the day's program and help children choose what they would like to do. On any given morning, your camper might try:

SWIMMING AND CANOEING  
ROPES COURSE  
ROCK CLIMBING WALL

ARTS AND CRAFTS  
POTTERY  
FISHING  
ARCHERY  
BALL SPORTS  
WATER SPORTS  
MUSIC AND SINGING  
TRAILBLAZER PROGRAM  
DRUM CIRCLE

CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS  
GAMES, NEW GAMES,  
MORE GAMES  
COOKOUTS  
HIKING  
LEARNING ABOUT NATURE  
WOODWORKING  
DRAMA  
ICE CREAM MAKING  
AND SO MUCH MORE!

# The Fun Facilitators

**O**ur skilled counselors and administrative staff members are mostly college-age men and women who share a love of the outdoors and a deep enjoyment in working with children. Their diversity provides an added level of enrichment to camp life.

Camp Dark Waters is proud of its 4-1 counselor-to-camper ratio and overall 3-1 staff-to-camper ratio. Much like a family—a big family—Director Travis Simmons, his staff and team of counselors interact closely with all the campers on a personal level.

The health and safety of each camper, day and night, is the prime responsibility of every staff member and counselor. Medically trained staff monitor the health of each camper and a doctor is on call 24 hours a day.

We schedule special days with different themes.

Off-site trips are a favorite part of camp life and may include visits to county fairs, state parks, berry picking, hiking and canoe trips to name a few.



## OUR MISSION

Since 1928, Camp Dark Waters has held a simple belief: That the precious days of summer should be a time when children are free to play, to venture forth in learning new skills and to grow. We offer a friendly emphasis on physical, emotional and spiritual growth through living simply, encouraging independence, caring for self and others, building self-esteem and learning to resolve conflicts peacefully.

In this peaceful, wooded haven, children learn, have fun and forge friendships that can last a lifetime. We honor our founding principles of Peace, Education, Simplicity, Stewardship, Equality, and Integrity. Camp Dark Waters is a not-for-profit organization.

*“Our world is so fast paced and technology infused, I love that our children can ‘unplug’ and be appreciated for who they are.”*

—Parent

## NURTURING SPIRITUALITY

After the manner of Quakers, a “Meeting for Worship” is held on Sunday morning. This is a quiet time for personal, inner contemplation. There is no ritual, sermon or liturgy. From the silence, a camper may offer spoken thoughts for others to consider. On Sunday evening, a Vesper Service may include a variety of programs and music.

## GROUP LIVING

An important aspect of personal growth is group living. Children learn the value of responsibility and cooperation. They learn how to care for themselves and each other. Each child is assigned to a crew of about 12 campers from all age groups, and two or three staff. The crew becomes a team, eating meals together (the food is great!) and fulfilling crew duties. The tasks vary and may include meal setup, table-setting, cleanup or general utilities like litter patrol.

Campers develop a sense of ownership. They call Camp Dark Waters “My camp!”

*“My son came home having a strong sense of self-esteem. He felt loved and accepted by everyone of all ages.”*

—Parent

## FAMILY WEEKEND

Parents often tell us that they wish they could come to camp too. Well, this is your chance! Your family can spend the weekend with our camp family. Participate in traditional camp activities — archery, arts & crafts and canoeing — or relax on the dock. Perfect for families beginning to think about overnight camp, or for “seasoned campers” excited to share their experience with family. A weekend full of friends, family, campfires and s’mores may be just what you’ve been looking for!

# COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (CIT)

Designed for 15- and 16-year-old previous campers of Dark Waters, this four-week Leadership course focuses on skills that will help teens well beyond their time at Camp Dark Waters:

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| TEAMWORK       | INITIATIVE      |
| RESPONSIBILITY | CREATIVITY      |
| RESPECT        | PERSISTENCE     |
| MOTIVATION     | OBSERVATION     |
| LISTENING      | PRESENTING      |
| PLANNING       | PROBLEM SOLVING |

Mastering these 12 key skills helps to prepare teens to become not just future counselors, but also to become leaders in their community, school and beyond.

CIT's have the opportunity to visit other camps, become trained in team building and low-ropes course facilitation, plan and lead small group activities and help in cabins all while under the careful guidance of two experienced CIT Directors.

Counselor-In-Training application packets are mailed separately from the brochure. If interested, please contact the camp office at (609) 654-8846.



# TEEN ADVENTURE CAMP (TAC)

"The classic Camp Dark Waters community — with tougher terrain!"

For 15- and 16-year-olds looking for a challenge, this two-week trip requires determination, teamwork, and a love of the outdoors. Spending almost the entire trip away from the Camp Dark Waters campus, Teen Adventure Campers explore the Poconos and the Delaware River Water Gap in Pennsylvania, Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and the Pinelands and Coastal regions of New Jersey.

Appreciation of nature, awareness of self and development of leadership skills are cornerstones of this high-adrenaline program. Led by experienced guides, campers push

their limits while mountain biking, whitewater rafting, backpacking, camping, and surfing. Other events such as participating in a Native American Sweat Lodge ceremony provide ample opportunity for self reflection and growth.

To download the Teen Adventure Camp application form, please visit [www.campdarkwaters.org](http://www.campdarkwaters.org).

*"I feel reconnected to myself and nature; I know now that I can push myself further than I ever thought possible."*

—Former TAC Camper

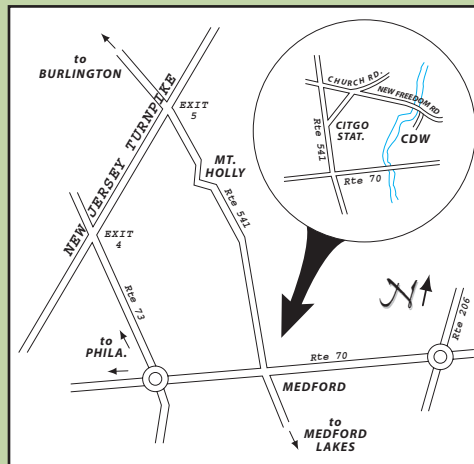
## DIRECTIONS

**FROM SOUTH:** Rt. 295 North to Route 70 East, turn left on Route 541 N (Medford-Mount Holly Road/Main St.), Turn right on Wilkins Station Rd. (CITGO station); Next stop sign, hard right onto New Freedom Road. Camp entrance immediate right after bridge.

**FROM NORTH:** NJ Turnpike Exit 5, right on 541, take Mt. Holly by-pass (Route 541 South), then right on Main St. Lumberton (still 541). Left on Church, go 4/10 mile to bend, go straight onto New Freedom Road.

**FROM WEST:** PA Turnpike, to NJ Turnpike connection, South to Exit 5, follow as above. From Philadelphia: Ben Franklin Bridge, Rt. 30, to Route 70.

Check web site: [www.campdarkwaters.org](http://www.campdarkwaters.org)



MAPQUEST: Use 26 New Freedom Road, Medford NJ, 08055.



*Established in 1928*

# CAMP DARK WATERS

PO Box 263  
MEDFORD, NJ 08055

Return Service Requested



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