

Constance Caterpillar Patch Program

Camp Candlewood

29 Bogus Hill Road

New Fairfield, CT

Please do all five requirements

Requirement # 1: Please use the form #5340 Site Reservation Application for GSofCT Users. Monday through Thursday, Camp Candlewood is available without fee for a period of 3 hours or less.. There is a \$3 per person usage fee for Friday evenings and weekends.

Requirement #2: Discover the camp!

The Candlewood mascot is an otter named Olivia. No one has reported seeing a river otter on Lake Candlewood since the 1960's but we are ever hopeful of seeing one of the playing creatures. Candlewood does have several other forms of wildlife native to this region. This includes raccoons, skunks, chipmunks, mice, bats, and deer. To protect our wildlife, we never capture or play with wild animals. Like a real otter, Olivia likes to play. She plays in the cleanest camper's tent each day of our summer camp. If the campers find her in their unit they know they have won the inspection for that day.

Camp Candlewood has a nature trail which begins behind Catamaran and heads through the woods to Candleberry, skirts the archery field at Deer Run, and runs through the Challenge course. There is also a branch of the trail at the waterfront. Girls may walk along the trail and listen and watch for wild life. When coming up the billy goat trail, they can rest at the rest pavilion and look out over our lovely lake. Then girls can draw what they see in a notebook at Jev's Hollow nature Hut.

Candlewood Lake is the largest lake in Connecticut and one of the largest man-made lakes in the country. It was completed in December of 1928. It covers over 8 square miles, and has over 60 miles of shoreline. Camp Candlewood has about ¼ mile of shorefront where we offer swimming lessons, sailing, canoeing, kayaking, and recreational swimming during the summer months.

Camp Candlewood was purchased by the newly formed Southwestern Connecticut Girl Scout Council in 1959 to be a sister camp to Camp Francis, which the Stamford area Girl Scouts were bringing to the merger. It would be the aquatics camp that each of the communities forming the new council had wanted. In 1960, Camp Candleberry, a day camp opened with a shelter and latrines. A road was bulldozed to the waterfront and offices were in the green metal building. The beach was slightly south of the building. Resident Camp Topsiside began in 1962 with seniors staying in Round-up tents. They cleared a field and built the original "billy goat trail." Fund raising had provided the means to build the Yarsloop Shelter. In 1963 the "Sick Bay" was built as a multipurpose building. Campers came from the day camps throughout the council participating in a "Day and Away" program. In 1964 several structures were built, including the "Bridge"; A-frames in Catamaran and Yarsloop; the Catamaran shelter; and latrines throughout camp. The original galley was built in 1965, and the boathouse in 1968. Camp was stable for almost two decades serving Cadettes and Senior Girl Scouts who wanted to participate in a sailing program while at Girl Scout Camp. Those who wanted to participate all summer long were in the "Captain's Patrol." In 1987, the present day Dining Hall was built. This year-round building brought the first flush toilets to Camp Candlewood, and allowed for winter use by casual campers. In 2008, the Foster Family Troop House, aka "the Lighthouse" was built at Candlewood. The building is connected by a breeze-way to Sick Bay. This troop house allows for troops to stay at Candlewood in the non-summer months and provides an ADA compliant bathroom for use by campers confined to the health center during summer camp.

Using the enclosed map, take a hike through the property in search of the following:

Yarsloop Shelter
Candleberry Latrines
The Lighthouse
Catamaran Shelter

Roberts' Landing
Candleberry beach

Requirement #3: Connect with the property!

Please have the group answer the question "What did you do today?" in Camp Candlewood's Reflection Journal. Take a moment and read what others groups have written and then share your group's story.

Requirement #4: Take Action!









Each group will need to complete a service project for the property. You can collect wood for a wood pile. Groups can clean, dust, wash windows at one of the camp buildings. You can rake leaves and clear trails for future use. Groups wishing to do a larger project can contact Samantha Goodman in the Property Department for a Candlewood wish list.

Requirement #5: Live Healthy, Lead Healthy

As part of the Girl Scout Live Healthy, Lead Healthy initiative, girls must either use the troop equipment to create some games that will challenge them physically or learn about healthy snacks and prepare a healthy snack, press cider in the autumn, or make a smoothie.



CAMP CANDLEWOOD

-  A-Frame
-  Bunk Cabin
-  Cook Shelter
-  Stone Wall
-  Water
-  Fire Circle
-  Trails
-  Rest Stop