



Christodora-Manice Education Center
2011 Field Trip

Student Information & Common Questions



Common Questions and Answers

Q Can I telephone home from the Manice Education Center (MEC)?

A No, please do not expect to call home. The phones at MEC are reserved for business and emergency calls only.

Parents please contact your school or the New York Christodora office at (212) 371-5225 after 2:00 p.m. if you wish to find out about the group's safe arrival at MEC. Please call MEC only if there is a family emergency or urgent situation that your student must be made aware of prior to his/her return home. We want to make sure our time is spent providing safe and enriching experiences for the participants.

Q Are there wild animals living around MEC?

A Yes, maybe you'll be lucky enough to see some (squirrels, deer, frogs, or even a bear, etc.!) but they are often afraid of larger animals (like YOU) and may try to stay out of sight.

Q Can I keep any food (candy, gum, soda, etc.) in my tent?

A No, because bugs and other small animals might come inside looking for it!

Q Should I bring sheets or a sleeping bag?

A Yes, either will be fine. Please closely follow the suggested clothing list. We will provide blankets, pillows and beds. (P.S. Don't forget your pillowcase, second pair of shoes and rain gear!) We can provide rain ponchos if you don't have rain gear. Please don't bring both sheets and a sleeping bag, one or the other will be fine. Help us save room on the bus!

Q Do I have to buy items on the clothing list if my student doesn't have them?

A No, this is a suggested list. Please send only what your student has and only what is on the list. Remember we need to save room on the bus. What your student wears on departure should not be separate from what's on the list. For example, don't pack 2 pairs of shoes. Instead, wear one pair and pack the second. Remember, we need to save room on that bus!

Q Can I take a shower while at Manice?

A No showers. Time and resources are limited, so students do not take showers during their time at the Manice Education Center. This is only one day without a shower – students can shower the morning before they leave and the evening when they return home. (Summer programs receive shower use during their longer stays.)



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Rules and Student Responsibilities



Parents and Students: It is very important that you read and understand the rules and student responsibilities listed below. We expect all students to be respectful of each other, the staff, and the environment just as they are at home and school. Remember that you represent yourself, your family, your school and your community when you are at the Manice Education Center (MEC).

In order to maintain a positive environment for staff and students, Christodora reserves the right to restrict a student's participation in activities at MEC or dismiss a student for participation in any of the unacceptable behaviors listed below or for other conduct which MEC, in its discretion, determines is detrimental to the best interests to your student or of other students.

Both the parent and student must sign at the bottom of the page indicating that they understand these rules and responsibilities and that the student understands it is his/her responsibility to follow these rules while at MEC.

- Students are expected to follow all instructions given for the purpose of insuring their safety.
- Students are responsible for their own actions and behavior at all times.
- Students who have violated MEC rules and expectations are subject to restrictions from participation and/or dismissal from MEC and/or its programs.
- Below is a list of unacceptable behaviors at MEC:
 - Use of profane language.
 - Use or possession of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, or weapons of any sort (including knives).
 - Physically or verbally abusing others, defacing or destroying property, or disregarding expectations and/or safety policies.
 - Boys visiting girls' tents or girls visiting boys' tents: each bed is that person's personal space and each tent is that tent group's private area, no visiting tent to tent.
 - Fighting, stealing, foul or rude language: these all 'pollute' our environment!
 - Walking into the forest or onto the dam without adult supervision.
 - Rock/stick/stone/food throwing: think about it.
 - Keeping food, medications, radios, walkman, MP3 players, cell phones, or video games, etc. in tents. Why? Food will invite bugs and animals into your tent, other items may get lost or broken. There is no cell phone coverage at MEC.
 - Vandalism, graffiti & littering: it is our shared home.
 - Leaving MEC or assigned areas without supervising adult accompaniment.