

ATTENTION ADVISOR!
COPY AND DISTRIBUTE PAGES 16, 17, 18, 19
TO EACH PARTICIPANT AND THEIR PARENT(S) or GUARDIAN(S)

RISK ADVISORY

The Health Lodge Task Force will meet at the conclusion of the 2010 summer season and review all health information. Any changes will be included in the 2011 Philmont Health & Medical Record that will be mailed to you in November 2010 and will apply to all participants for 2011.

Philmont has an excellent health and safety record with over 910,000 adults and young people having attended since 1938. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Most participants in Philmont programs do not experience injuries because they are prepared, are conscious of risks, and take safety precautions. If you decide to attend Philmont, you should be physically fit, have proper clothing and equipment, be willing to follow instructions and work as a team with your crew and take responsibility for your own health and safety. For further information please thoroughly read the Guidebook to Adventure. Like other wilderness areas, Philmont is not risk free and you should be prepared to listen to safety instructions carefully, follow directions and take appropriate steps to safeguard yourself and others.

Parents, guardians and potential participants in Philmont programs are advised that journeying to and from Philmont, and one's stay at Philmont, can involve exposure to accident, illness, and/or injury associated with a high elevation, physically demanding, high adventure program in a remote mountainous area. Campers may be exposed to occasional severe weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flash floods and heat. Other potential problems include: injuries from tripping and falling, motor vehicle accidents, worsening of underlying medical conditions such as diabetes or asthma, heart attacks, heat exhaustion and falls from horses.

Philmont's trails are steep and rocky. Wild animals such as bears, rattlesnakes and mountain lions are native and usually present little danger if proper precautions are taken. Please refer to the Guidebook to Adventure, speak with previous Philmont participants, or call Philmont for further information concerning risks and measures which can be taken to avoid accidents. Philmont has staff trained in first aid, CPR and accident prevention, and is prepared to assist in recognizing, reacting, and responding to accidents, injuries and illnesses. Each crew is also required to have at least one member trained in wilderness first aid and CPR. Medical and search and rescue services are provided by Philmont in response to an accident or emergency. However, response times can be affected by location, weather or other emergencies and could be delayed six (6) or more hours.

Philmont trail food is, by necessity, a high carbohydrate, high caloric diet. The trail food is high in wheat, milk products, sugar and corn syrup, and artificial coloring/flavoring. Most dinner meals contain meat. If participant has a problem with the diet described above, contact Philmont for a copy of the trail menu and ingredients and plan to send supplemental food. Philmont will deliver supplemental food to the appropriate pickup places.

THE PHILMONT TREK EXPERIENCE

A Philmont trek is physically, mentally and emotionally demanding. Each person will carry a 35 to 50 lb. Pack while hiking 5 to 12 miles per day in an isolated mountain wilderness, ranging from 6,500 to 12,500 feet in elevation. Climatic conditions include temperatures from 30 to 90 degrees F, low humidity (10-30%) and frequent, sometimes severe, afternoon thunderstorms. Activities include horseback riding, rock climbing and rappelling, challenge events, pole climbing, blackpowder shooting, 12 gauge trap shooting, 30-06 shooting, trail building, mountain biking and other activities that may have potential for inquiry. Philmont strives to minimize risks to participants and advisors by emphasizing proper safety precautions. Refer to the Guidebook to Adventure, which will be mailed in mid-March, for specific information. Philmont staff instruct participants in safety measures to be followed. Each participant and crew is expected to follow these safety measures and to accept responsibility for the health and safety of each of its members.

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CHRONIC ILLNESSES

Philmont requires that this information be shared with the parent(s) or guardian(s) and examining physician of every participant. Philmont does not have facilities for extended care or treatment, therefore, participants who cannot meet these requirements will be sent home at their expense.