

CAMP LOU HENRY HOOVER SLEEPAWAY CAMP

Who We Are

Camp Lou Henry Hoover sleepaway camp is owned and operated by Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey (GSHNJ) for those who identify as girls between the ages of 6 and 17 (grades 1-12). We offer girls the chance to explore and discover the out-of-doors while challenging them with new and unique opportunities to learn, grow, and develop friendships in a tech free, all girl environment.

What We Do

We provide general and specialized programs each week where campers are grouped according to their grade level and interest. We provide specialized programs in gymnastics, sailing, boating, horseback riding, drama, arts and crafts, archery, STEM, outdoor skills and trips. Our general programs include hiking, cooking out, swimming, boating, arts and crafts, playing games and taking part in all aspects of camp life. All campers will have the opportunity to participate in activities such as art and crafts, swimming, boating, archery, a low ropes challenge course, team-building, hiking, cookouts, all-camp activities, and more.

Where We Are Located

Camp Hoover is located on Swartswood Lake in Middleville, New Jersey. We have beautiful facilities that include: a private beach with swimming and boating, five buildings and five tent units with showers and flush toilets, a multi-purpose building, a modern dining hall, an arts and crafts studio, a large outdoor pavilion, playing field and a primitive camping site. In addition, we have activity spaces for archery, a low ropes course, gaga, hiking trails and amphitheater with a fire circle.

SUMMER SLEEPAWAY CAMP OVERVIEW

Our Staff

Our staff is comprised of high school students, college students, teachers, and other mature adults who are interested in working in a camp setting. Many staff members are experienced campers who having been coming to camp for years. Others are brand new to camp life and quickly discover their love for it. Some of our staff are life-long Girl Scouts, while others become members of Girl Scouts for the first time. Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey is an equal opportunity employer.

When is Camp?

Camp will run for 6 full-week sessions beginning Sunday, July 6th and ending on Saturday August 16th, 2025. Staff who are available to work the full summer including training dates are given priority when hiring. Partial summer hires can be accommodated as long as the period of higher is four weeks plus the training period or more.

Staff Information

Hoover Staff live on site in staff housing located in the tent units or in the buildings with their campers. Staff live in the units with the campers who are assigned to units based on their age and program choice. Each staff member receives at least two hours off daily, one twelve-hour evening off each week and one twenty-four hour evening off Saturday to Sunday. Staff usually spend their breaks relaxing, doing laundry, using the internet, or watching a movie. Trips into town, out to dinner, to the movies or visits into New York help to liven up longer breaks. Working at Camp Hoover is a full-time seasonal job that requires a love of the outdoors, an interest in children and the ability to work well with others.

Working at Camp Hoover gives you the opportunity to meet people who come from a variety of places and backgrounds. All camp staff participate in an intensive week-long training focused on safety, communication, quality programming and team building. The variety of our programs attracts people with many different skills and interests. Hoover is an equal opportunity employer. Staff interested in using their summer experience as an internship are welcome.

Staff Trainings

All staff are required to attend a 8-day staff training program prior to the start of the camp sessions. Depending on their role, staff may also be required to attend additional trainings or certification courses prior to the start of summer camp. During staff training, staff will become oriented to the camp, their job responsibilities, camp procedures and rules, and work on team building, safety, communication, programming, and camp skills. If staff need to arrive early, they should speak to the Camp Director upon being hired or as soon as possible. Staff will be compensated accordingly for attending staff training. Housing and meals are provided during the training period as well.

Staff Training Dates:

Leadership Training (Administrative members, Unit Leaders and Specialty Directors) will be June 23rd to 26th
Full Staff to report on Friday, June 27th between 9:00 and 10:30 am.
Staff who are unable to attend staff training for the entire duration will be required to make up trainings prior to the start of the camp season or before they are able to work. Staff training is a requirement of our accreditation standards.

******* The below training dates are tentative and will be confirmed closer to the start of camp.**

First Aid/CPR Certification

Camp will offer an onsite First Aid/CPR/AED certification training on a date to be determined prior to the start of camp. Spots for this training are limited and are on a first-come, first-served basis. Course information will be sent closer to the start of camp.

All staff should hold a current CPR/First Aid certification. Certain positions, such as Program Specialist and Unit Leader, are required to have CPR/First Aid certification. You may take a course wherever you would like or check our event calendar at: <https://www.gshnj.org/en/events/event-calendar.html> for other training dates. Regardless of where you take the course, please provide us with a copy of your certification.

Lifeguard Training Certification

Camp will offer onsite American Red Cross Lifeguard Training most likely on June 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th. Spots for this training are limited and are on first come, first serve basis. Staff are welcome to stay over and meals will be provided during the training. Training will include Lifeguarding, the Waterfront Module, CPR and First Aid for the professional rescuer.

Archery Instructor Certification

Camp will offer onsite Archery Level 1 Instructor training on a date to be determined prior to the start of camp. Spots for this training are limited and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Low Ropes Challenge Course Instructor Certification

Camp will offer an onsite Low Ropes Challenge Course Instructor training prior to the start of summer camp. Spots for this training are limited and are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Youth Mental Health First Aid

Camp will offer a training in Youth Mental Health First Aid with a date to be determined. This training will only be available to staff who are 18 or older. A half hour, on site lunch break will be included.

Additional Information and Questions

Need additional information about our summer camp? Check our website at www.gshnj.org under the CAMP tab. See the Summer Camp Guide for more information about our camp programs.

For questions regarding Camp Lou Henry Hoover, please email the Director, Deb Hooker at dhooker@gshnj.org.