

MORRELL NATURE SANCTUARY

Junior Leaders
2026

Welcome To Nature, Adventure & Fun!



JUNE 29 – SEPTEMBER 3

787 Nanaimo Lakes Rd

Questions and/or More Information

office: (250) 753-5811

text: (236) 953-3031

email: summercamp@morrellnaturesanctuary.ca

ABOUT MORRELL NATURE SANCTUARY

Bill Morrell donated the 111-hectare property to the BC Land Commission in 1973 as the Morrell Wildlife Sanctuary, which was later transferred to the Nature Trust of BC in 1985 as the Morrell Sanctuary. The Morrell Sanctuary Society for Environmental Education, incorporated as a registered non-profit society in 1984 & leased the property from the Nature Trust in 1985. Bill's vision was for the land to be preserved while serving the public with access to the park & education.

The Society operates on donations, membership/ education program fees, and funding from Canada Summer Jobs when available. The trails/ facilities are maintained on a weekly schedule by a community of dedicated & amazing volunteers. As well, we are fortunate to work with community partners to complete special projects! A recent project with support from Hazelwood Construction, was the resurfacing of the Yew Loop Trail allowing for wheelchair access.

The Society employs a part time Office Manager & contracts a part time Bookkeeper year round. Our Day Camp Supervisor (DCS) & Camp Leaders (CL) are full time seasonal employees delivering 9 weeks of dynamic summer day camps!

We aim to provide our participants with a fun, rewarding, skill developing, and nature immersive experience exclusively within the Sanctuary. Participants can expect to engage in outdoor activities such as hikes, games, fort building, creative crafts, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. We invite you to imagine the Sanctuary as an exciting, intriguing, and colourful outdoor classroom with so many possibilities for learning & growing through adventure in nature!

Mission Statement

To preserve & promote the essential character of Morrell Sanctuary's evolving ecosystem as a model of co-existence and as a source of information, inspiration, awareness, and enjoyment of nature.

Opportunity!

If you would like to receive Society updates, invitations to special events, and vote at our AGM please consider joining our community.



[BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!](#)

CANCELLATION POLICY



Cancellation requests must be in writing & sent to the **DCS** a **minimum of 72-hrs prior to 08:30** on the day of the camp. If the request is received within this timeframe a full refund, less a \$25 administrative fee (AF) will be issued. The AF is a one-time fee per participant, regardless of how many days are cancelled.



When the cancellation request is received **after** the **72-hr window** has passed a **refund will not be issued**. Morrell will make every effort to fill the vacant spot & if another participant is registered prior to 08:30 on the day of the cancelled camp, a full refund less the \$25 AF will be issued.



In the event of an **emergency and/or unforeseeable circumstance** occurring after the 72-hr window has passed a cancellation request must be sent in writing to the **DCS**. The request must provide a basic summary of the situation (**personal details not required**) & is subject to the DCS's discretion & not guaranteed. If the cancellation request is approved, a full refund will be issued less the \$25 AF, regardless of whether the vacant spot has been filled.



If a camp is cancelled by Morrell Nature Sanctuary all fees will be refunded, and no AF will be charged.

Please send cancellation requests with the subject line,
“**Cancellation Request**” to the following email:
summercamp@morrellnaturesanctuary.ca



MAP OFFICE, PARKING PICK-UP & DROP OFF



DROP-OFF
09:00
NO EARLY ARRIVAL
PICK-UP
15:00
FEE FOR LATE PICK-UP



OFFICE
INFO & QUESTIONS
DAY CAMP SUPERVISOR
& OFFICE MANAGER



INFO KIOSK

MAIN PARKING LOT
PAVED, STALL PARKING
& MOBILITY SPOT



ENTRANCE DRIVEWAY

LOWER PARKING LOT
GRAVEL, ANGLE ONLY

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP

🌻 Drop-off is at the **Woods Room** walkway/ front door at **08:45**. Please do not drop your child off early. A parent or caregiver **must** be present for drop-off. Participants must be in an appropriate emotional state. A bit of nervousness is okay, but if there is extreme emotional distress or an inability to self-regulate, CL's may suggest the participant return to camp another day.




🌻 Pick-up is at the **Woods Room** walkway/ front door at **15:00** & this time is **non-negotiable**. CL's will continue to supervise participants on site past 15:00, however, a **late fee of \$10/ participant** will be charged. Payment is due by the start of the next camp day or immediately depending on whether the participant is registered for more days or not.

🌻 Junior Leaders **must remain** at the **Woods Room** walkway/ front door until their parent or other authorized person is present to sign them out. Please do not instruct participants to meet for pick-up in the parking lot, office etc...

🌻 Participants are required to assist with cleaning up equipment and/or materials they have used **prior to leaving for the day**.


PARENT COMMUNICATION




🌻 At least 1 parent **must be available for contact** should any emergencies, issues, and/or concerns arise with a Junior Leader (JL). If the parent is unavailable, the DCS will leave a message. If the parent doesn't respond within 30 minutes the DCS will contact the next authorized person.

🌻 Feedback about activities, supervision, participant conflicts and/or concerns about a CL **must be sent** to the DCS at summercamp@morrellnaturesanctuary.ca. 

🌻 Reports on major behaviour concerns (i.e., violence, constant group disruption, foul language), will be communicated by the DCS either by email, phone, and/or in person. Minor concerns (i.e., difficulty sharing, inability to resolve disagreements, avoiding certain activities), will be communicated by a CL at pick-up or drop-off, whichever is more appropriate. Behaviour concerns will always be **handled with sensitivity & professionalism** by the DCS/ CL & in person discussions will be held privately to ensure participants & their parent or caregiver's **privacy is protected**.

🌻 All parent communication must be **respectful & professional**. Harassment, abuse, violence, foul language and/or mistreatment of the DCS/ CL's won't be tolerated. Any person (including participants) who violate this policy will be asked to leave the property immediately & the JL will not be allowed back on the property to attend camp. **No refund for camp fees will be issued**. If a person refuses to leave the property, the police will be notified.

🌻 If your JL has special needs/ requirements, please email the details to the DCS **prior to the start of the camp** to summercamp@morrellnaturesanctuary.ca.  **Please Note:** we don't have the resources to accommodate JL's who require 1:1 support. Behaviour plans and/or management strategies used at home are appreciated but not required.

🌻 If your JL requires support tools,    these **must be** identified & approved **prior to 08:30** on the camp date. We aren't responsible for support items & if they are a distraction to the JL and/or others, a CL will confiscate them to be stored away for safe keeping for the remainder of the day.

JUNIOR LEADERS

Our CL's are always grateful to have kind caring participants who are willing to take their camp experience to the next level as a JL. We are excited to offer this unique opportunity for participants aged 10-12 to develop their leadership skills in a safe, collaborative, & welcoming environment.

This program generates a lot of interest & we receive many inquires from qualified candidates prior to registration opening. However, we only accept 2 JL's on site/ day & although the fee is the same as the 5-9 camp fee we expect JL's to assist our CL's in delivering a fun & rewarding experience for everyone. Plus, those who successfully complete the program will receive a certificate in recognition of their achievement!

If you have registered a participant for this program, please ensure they have reviewed our camp/ JL Guidelines & Expectations & agree to try their best to meet or exceed these guidelines. It is a privilege to attend this program & failure to meet these expectations may result in CL's giving a JL less responsibilities & a certificate may not be issued.

GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

BEFORE CAMP

- ✓ Arrive at 08:45 to help CL's prepare for the day. Ask what you can do!
- ✓ Be ready to lead & be a positive role model with a great attitude, striving to make camp fun for everyone.
- ✓ Brainstorm & write down a few ideas for games, crafts and/or activities to suggest to CL's. Be sure to remember the theme of the week.
- ✓ Take a moment to reflect on what you hope to learn or a skill you'd like to develop. I.e., practice speaking in front of others, or leading an activity.
- ✓ Write down 1 goal you would like to achieve for the day.

DURING CAMP

- ✓ Treat all campers with respect. Bring a sense of curiosity. Practice patience & be kind.
- ✓ Give your best effort & participate meaningfully in all activities aiming to inspire participation from other campers.
- ✓ Take initiative when you see an opportunity to lead.
- ✓ Engage with other campers by making conversation, playing games, and helping others.
- ✓ CL's will provide tasks and give direction but don't be afraid to take action when it is appropriate & you feel confident.
- ✓ Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Reflect on what happened, how you would do things differently next time & keep moving forward with a Can Do Attitude!

BEFORE CAMP

🌻 When possible, please ensure your JL is interested in the theme of the week. **Alternative activities will not be offered** & JL's are expected to participate in all activities. JL's who refuse to participate in activities may require parent communication and/or early pick-up depending on the situation. **Refunds will not be issued for JL's who require an early pick-up.**

🌻 Please ensure your JL understands & agrees to follow camp/ JL guidelines & expectations. Please remind them that the **DCS/ CL's Expect Respect & Cooperation.**

🌻 Please check the weather each morning & ensure your JL has the **appropriate clothing and/or outer wear for the day.** Given the local climate, intermittent cloud coverage and/or rain is common, even during the summer months. It can get chilly under the forest canopy.

🌻 Please check the weight of your JL's backpack, as they are required to carry their backpacks on walks periodically throughout the day. CL's will have their own backpacks/ gear & will not assist with carrying JL bags if they are too heavy.

🌻 Please **leave electronics & valuables at home.** Morrell Nature Sanctuary is not responsible for personal items & we wouldn't want any special items damaged or lost. JL's who arrive with these items can expect CL's to confiscate them to be stored away for safe keeping for the remainder of the day.



CAMP GUIDELINES & BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

JUNIOR LEADERS **MUST FOLLOW** THESE BASIC RULES

1 Morrell is a hands/ feet to yourself & no contact with wildlife environment. This means do no harm to yourself, other participants, CL's, wildlife, and/or nature. **Physical violence will not be tolerated.**

2 Always stay on the trails (unless directed otherwise). The forest is a delicate home for many plants & animals - we **must be respectful** & keep them **safe**.

3 Follow CL instructions & directions at all times. This means sitting or standing quietly & using listening ears.

4 Remain with the group & stay on the property at all times. If a JL decides they would like to go somewhere, they **must** talk to a CL immediately.

5 Foul language and/or threats (verbal or physical) will not be tolerated.



It's okay to ask for help

CONSEQUENCES

Junior Leaders who don't follow the rules, leave the property/ group and/or use threatening language/ physical harm towards another participant, CL, wildlife and/or nature may create a danger for themselves, others, and/or the Sanctuary.

Junior Leaders who behave this way will receive 1 warning only. If the behaviour continues, they will require an early pick-up & won't be allowed to return for any other camp days they are registered for.

****No refunds will be issued if a participant is asked to leave****



JUNIOR LEADER TIPS



Preparation: Summer camp is your adventure & whenever there is adventure you **must be prepared**. Please **take the initiative** to get your gear ready ahead of your departure time, even the night before if you want to be extra prepared! We have provided a **checklist** on page 11 to help you prepare. **Go For It Camper!**



Gear: Morrell is full of beautiful trails & we'll be exploring these throughout the day, **rain or shine**. Wear your best **outdoor shoes (no open toes)** & bring a **raincoat**, to stay dry when we are outdoors & it's raining. **Don't overpack your backpack**, as you need to carry it on the trails. Camp Leader's will not assist with carrying your bag.



Special Items: Please **leave toys and/or electronics at home**. We don't want your important items lost or damaged. If you choose to bring these items, they will be **confiscated** by a Camp Leader for safe keeping & **returned to you** at the end of the day. Also, a Camp Leader will inform your parent of your decision not to follow camp guidelines.



Positive Attitude: Whether it's your 1st time as a JL or you've been a JL before, everyone is expected to be **kind, thoughtful, & helpful**. Please be open to trying activities & give your best effort even if you think you might not like something. We are all responsible for contributing to camp being a fun experience for everyone!



Responsibility: You are **always responsible for your choices**. Mistakes happen. This is how we learn, grow & become our best selves! Making good decisions & encouraging others to do the same is important. If you see a younger camper and/or another JL making poor decisions, kindly remind them to be responsible. If your attempt to help someone stay out of trouble fails, **ask a Camp Leader for help right away!**



Be Respectful: Camp Leaders want to ensure everyone has a fun & enjoyable summer adventure by leading activities & helping when needed. Camp Leaders are responsible for everyone's safety. Please help by **listening, responding to directions, cooperating, and taking the initiative to be helpful**. **Respect is always expected.**

If Cool
To be Kind





CAMPER CHECKLIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>LUNCH & SNACKS</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>CHANGE OF CLOTHES</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>RUNNING SHOES (NO OPEN TOES)</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>RAIN COAT</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>SUNSCREEN</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>BRIMMED HAT</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>BUG SPRAY</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>SMALL COMPOSTABLE OR PLASTIC BAG</u> |

CAMP LEADERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR APPLYING THESE ITEMS. LEAVE AT HOME IF YOU CAN'T APPLY ON YOUR OWN.

NO TRASH BIN ON SITE, PLEASE REMOVE TRASH WITH BAG OR INSIDE YOUR LUNCH KIT

SUMMER CAMP

HAVE FUN!
MAKE NEW FRIENDS!
LEARN ABOUT NATURE!
BE CREATIVE!
LEARN NEW SKILLS!
BE A LEADER!

