

CAMP TAMARACK

A rustic outdoor setting, in the Sierra Mountain Range at 7500', Tamarack gives the feeling of the sierra wilderness. It is nestled among towering pines 60 miles from Fresno. The area around the camp has seen little development and is rustic but beautiful. A meandering creek runs through the edge of camp. Shade from tall Lodge Pole pines and Sugar Pine trees, and the elevation, keep daytime temperatures cool - usually 70's to 80's. The temperature can dip to the 30's at night.

The land is leased from the US Forest Service. Since the area is covered in snow most of the year, the camp is only open in summer (late June - early September). The manager lives at the camp during the summer season.

There is no electricity and a telephone for emergency use only. Light is provided by a solar generation unit or gas lights in some buildings.

LODGING: Ten tent cabins (tents on platforms) with 7-8 beds per tent can sleep a maximum of 70 persons. This is a firm capacity and the Forest Service strictly enforces it. Two frame cabins with 5-10 beds in each are used by group staff. A few RV's are permitted, but there is very limited space for parking (they cannot increase the group size above 70). Anyone who chooses to sleep in an RV pays regular price. Each group can arrange the beds in the tents and cabins as needed.

There are 2 bathhouses, one at each end of the camp. They are both double sided with 3 sinks, a mirror, 3 toilets and a shower area with 3 shower heads. There are gas lights in each bathroom.

No gas lanterns or candles are allowed in the tents, only flashlights.

DINING: Groups do their own cooking in Tamarack's fully equipped kitchen which has a triple sink, 6 burner stove, 2 commercial size ovens, a grill, 2 sinks, 3 refrigerators, 1 freezer, 2 big Formica tables, utensils and dishes for up to 70 persons, hot and cold water and solar powered lights. There is a room with shelves off the kitchen for storing food at 45 to 60 degrees F. The kitchen can comfortably hold 2 cooks and 4 helpers.

Bring your own towels for dish drying.

Two drinking fountains outside the lodge provide cool, crystal-clear mountain water. All meals are served outside on 11-12 picnic tables with benches. Groups can bring their own tables and camp chairs if extra seating is needed. A large, very loud dinner bell and garbage cans with plastic sacks are provided.

MEETING: **Irving Smith Memorial Lodge** (ISM) is used for indoor meetings. It has gas lighting, a fireplace, and large benches along the side. Outside the ISM are 2 drinking fountains. A large deck graces the front of the building.

Fire Circle is located near the lodge and provides another meeting area. Seating is on log benches. An **Outdoor Chapel** at the edge of a large meadow nearby doubles as an amphitheatre. Most programs meet outside.

RECREATION:

Volleyball, softball and ping pong. Other activities within the vicinity include: **swimming, boating, fishing, and sailing** at **Shaver Lake** or **Huntington Lake** and many **hiking trails** through the National Forest Wilderness area.

MISCELLANEOUS:

There are parking spaces for up to 10 cars.

Shaver Lake is 15 miles from camp; Huntington Lake is 6 miles from camp.

The nearest public phone is 1.2 miles from camp.

The temperature can dip into the 30's and 40's at night.

There can be mosquitoes and/or yellowjackets, so repellent is recommended.