

## Tips for Chaperones



The staff of **Rawhide Ranch** is thrilled that you have volunteered your time to accompany your camper's group for an adventure into the Old West. You have a unique privilege to observe and learn new things not only with your child but with others. We hope that you will have a very rewarding and exciting time.

### **Chaperone – noun \ˈsha-pe-, rōn\**

Chaperones are an integral part of the Rawhide Ranch experience for each youth group. We encourage you to take advantage of each and every opportunity to participate - have new experiences & try new things right along with the kids in your group.

*Upon arrival at the camp, the ranch road will whisk you away from the city and suburbs and take you back to a simpler time. The rustic nature of life at camp will be a challenge for some, an adventure for others.*

*The camp cabins are rustic and won't be confused with a hotel or the ultimate dude ranch of your dreams but the quiet sounds of life in the country and the laughter of children will permeate the air around you.*

*The menu is camp-friendly and won't be confused with your favorite restaurant's menu but mealtime is a wonderful chance to gather together and enjoy each other's company.*

*These experiences will be memories that last a lifetime. To help make them fond memories here are a few helpful hints.....*

- Pack for the weather. (Fallbrook - zip 92028 is the most accurate location if you are checking an on-line weather service). Winter nights are chilly and the cabins are not heated- bring a WARM sleeping bag and an extra blanket is always nice. Don't forget a warm pair of socks for bedtime. Rainy days add a lot of memories to a weekend as well....if rain is in the forecast come prepared for some muddy pathways.
- Cell phones are great for emergencies - but for those "non-emergencies" ---- it's less than 48 hours that we ask you to devote to your camper instead of phone calls. **Please do not take/make calls in any of the program or class areas.** We appreciate your helping to keep Rawhide Ranch as tech-free as possible.
- Sorry - Computers / Wi-Fi not available.
- Need a band-aid or an aspirin? See your group's leader. Each group/school provides & administers their own basic first aid supplies and will have a person designated to help with first aid needs for the group.
- Be on-time for meals and classes. If you aren't ready - don't hold up your small group of campers -ask someone else to go with them.
- Depending on group sizes we are not able to guarantee that everyone with your group will be assigned to the same class times. Reminder – adults do not ride.
- After "lights out" please do not stand and talk outside the cabin areas or along the camp's Main Street - others are trying to sleep and the voices carry a great distance around camp. Also remind your campers that "lights out" means "quiet time" - please do not allow your campers to disturb your neighbors.
- Please respect our "no alcoholic beverages" policy and also respect those around you - no smoking at camp, please.
- Be encouraging and supportive of all campers as they learn new skills or perhaps accomplish great feats of bravery. The weekend will be a great learning opportunity for the campers to see that everyone has something to contribute and there are no small parts...your positive attitude will help to reinforce that.
- Be prepared to join in the fun! No need to just sit back and watch.
- And last, but not least.....we believe strongly in the "Leave a place better than you found it." Thank you for helping us at Rawhide Ranch to provide a welcoming place for the next group of adventuresome chaperones.