

CAMP BILLINGS

Established 1906



**Share the adventure...
discover the difference.**



A Non-Profit Service of Windsor District Board of Directors

All the camp facilities and activities at Camp Billings are under the sponsorship of the above board and is incorporated non-profit with the state of Vermont, and the total fee is used to cover all necessary expenses and to contribute to the development of new facilities.

The camp management believes that the camping situation offers the ideal setting for fulfilling the needs of growing boys and girls to experience adventure and to develop a love of, and appreciation for, the great out-of-doors. Fortifying these habits and attitudes tends to make our youth resourceful, self-reliant and responsible.

With no element of profit involved, our camp strives only to build better moral and physical young people, while learning to develop a sense of service to others.

History and Development

In 1906, the Windsor District Young Men's Christian Association established a summer camp on Fairlee Lake, Fairlee, Vermont, at the suggestion of Dr. Gardner Cobb of Strafford, Vermont. The present beautiful site was purchased as a memorial by the Frederick Billings family of Woodstock – who later erected several of the present buildings.

The present camp evolved through the devoted work of the late Archibald C. Hurd who served as camp director for 50 years. The late John Freitas, Sr. served as interim director in 1957. Ralph Lawrence served the camp as director from 1958 - 1994. John and Anne Freitas were the directors from 1996-2000. Robert Green is the present director.

Additional equipment and improvements have been added through the years by many camp friends and alumni helping Camp Billings become known as more than just a summer camp. It is a highly successful camp for boys and girls and a unique educational and recreational institution serving about 550 campers each year, who can register for 2, 4, 6 or 8 weeks.

Camp Billings, Inc. became an incorporated, non-profit camp in 1985.



Facilities

The permanent buildings and other facilities include 16 well-built, screened cabins plus 5 platform tents, a spacious lakeside dining lodge and kitchen, a well-equipped infirmary, hot water showers, a large recreation lodge, staff house, outdoor chapel, craftshop, 4 hardtop plexipaved tennis courts along with all-weather courts for basketball, volleyball, street hockey court games, dances and movies. Also, archery range, nature-ecology outcamp area, Little League baseball, softball and soccer fields, campfire area, office, camp store, Counselor-in-Training lodge and our landmark Clocktower structure and canoeing-backpacking trips building.

Camp Billings enjoys the best of waterfront facilities. The swimming area is a protected cove with a gradual sloping beach swimming area including a 90-foot "H" cedar wood floating dock with a one-meter diving board and deep water swimming lanes for racing; a swim float with a diving tower and one-meter board and another float with a three-meter diving tower and board. Other waterfront facilities include 10 aluminum canoes, 6 aluminum rowboats, 4 fiberglass canoes and 4 fiberglass kayaks, sailboards, 6 new Aqua Finn sailboats, an O'Day Javelin, 3 Phantoms and a Laser, plus an official inboard waterski boat, playaks, and 2 outboard motorboats for snorkeling, sailing, and fishing programs. The camp has two 15 passenger vans used for cabin group overnight and day trips as well as for transportation for our mountain and canoe tripping programs and athletic competition at other local camps.



Many campers can be found following interests in other areas of life at Billings. Activities such as arts and crafts, music, dramatics, camp newspaper, Sunday non-denominational chapel, camp fire, canoe and mountain trips, cookouts, special day programs and celebrations, birthday parties, camp improvement projects, and nature and environmental programs all lend themselves to providing the camper with a good time. Special programs are planned each afternoon for the youngest campers. Evening programs are planned every night.

The camp program is graded so that with each succeeding year the camper may build on his/her previous experience and skill and at the same time derive the satisfaction of growth and achievement.

Camp Billings is people and what happens to them, more that it is a place. The intangible things that are often difficult to describe, but are remembered for a lifetime are the backbone of the Billings Spirit! We invite you to come, spend some time with us and you will understand our uniqueness.

Program

The camping program at Camp Billings is varied in that it seeks to arrive at a proper balance between those activities that make up interesting, diversified, challenging and educational programs. With a wide variety of activities to choose from the camper experiences times of activity and rest, instruction and fun, and individual accomplishment and competition. The camper can choose to concentrate on just a few activities on a daily basis or experience a wider variety of program with some changes daily. At Camp Billings everything centers around the camper. It is our intention to utilize all camp facilities, both personal and physical for growth, welfare, and pleasure of the camper in terms of his/her needs and interests. Most activities are co-ed.

Learning to do for one's self as well as for others is at the heart of our plans for each camper.

Daily cabin and camp duties are a part of each camper's day.

Campers are encouraged to develop interests and skills in sports such as tennis, badminton, soccer, basketball, baseball, volleyball, badminton, archery, ultimate frisbee, street hockey and running. Another major activity involve the waterfront programs such as swimming instruction, free swims and competitive swimming against nearby camps, water polo, diving, snorkeling, rowing, playaks, canoeing, kayaking, sailboarding, sailing and sailing regattas, waterskiing and fishing.

Daily Schedule

AM
 7:30 Reveille
 7:50 Flag Raising
 8:00 Breakfast & Announcements
 8:45 Camp Duties

Morning Program
 9:30 1st Period
 10:10 2nd Period
 10:50 3rd Period
 11:30 Cabin Time

PM
 12:00 Lunch & Announcements
 1:00 Mail
 Juniors Rest Hour & Showers

Afternoon Programs
 2:00 - 4:00
 4:00 Campers Free Swim
 4:40 Staff Free Swim
 5:00 Cabin Cleanup
 5:40 Flag Lowering

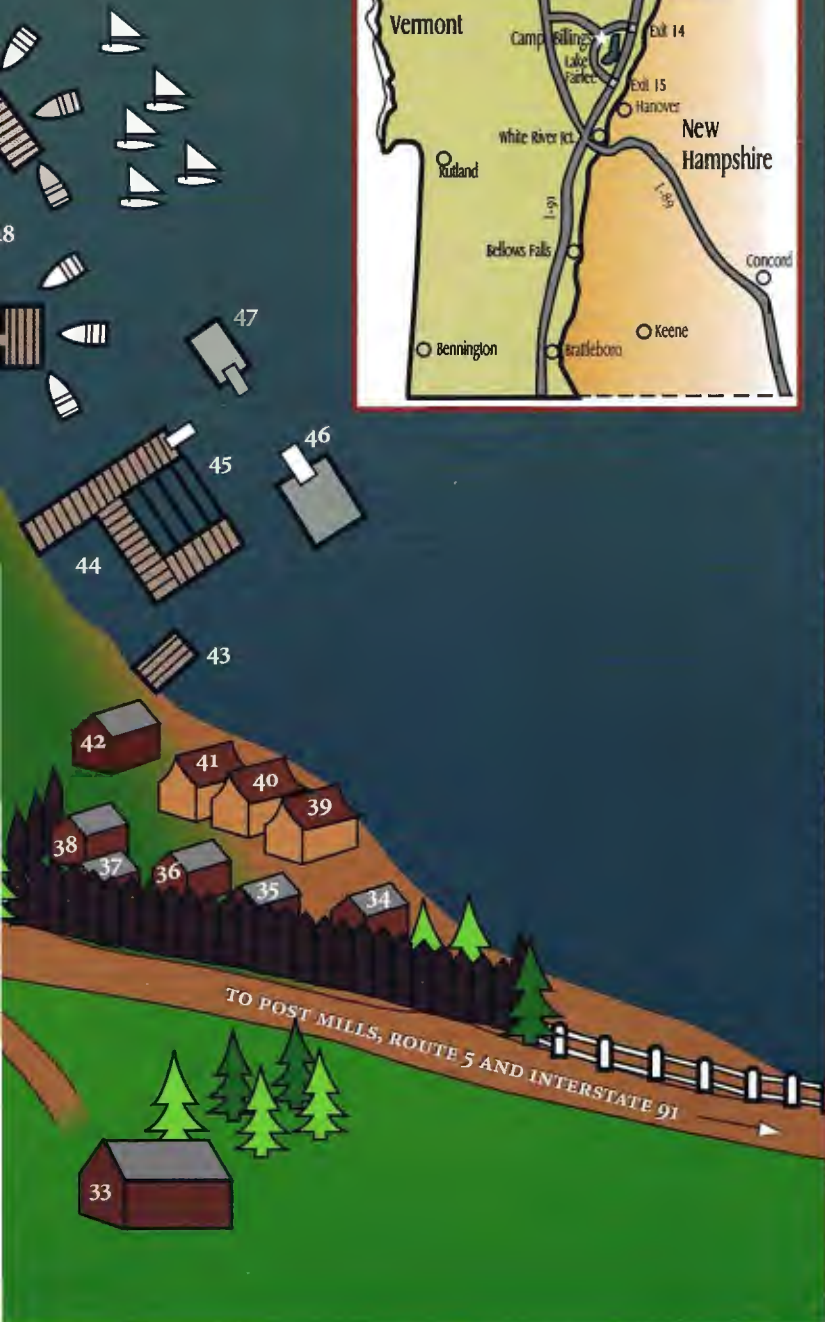
6:00 Dinner
 7:15 Evening Program
 9:15 Taps



Welcome to Camp



Billings



- 1 Crowley Corners - Staff
- 2 Sunnyside - Staff
- 3 Senior Cabin - Boys
- 4 Senior Cabin - Boys
- 5 Senior Cabin - Boys
- 6 Senior Tent - Boys
- 7 Waterski Area
- 8 Guest House - Staff
- 9 Senior Cabin - Boys
- 10 Staff Housing
- 11 Aldrich Infirmary
- 12 Garage
- 13 Shower Building
- 14 Junior Cabin - Girls
- 15 Hard Top Tennis Courts
- 16 Rising Moon Campfire Area
- 17 Arts & Crafts
- 18 Senior Cabin - Boys
- 19 Senior Tent - Boys
- 20 Outdoor Chapel
- 21 Archery Range
- 22 Junior Cabin - Boys
- 23 Junior Cabin - Boys
- 24 Junior Cabin - Boys
- 25 Junior Cabin - Boys
- 26 Boys Toilet
- 27 Junior Cabin - Girls
- 28 Junior Cabin - Girls
- 29 Game Fields
- 30 Hard Top Tennis Courts
- 31 Perseverance Foot Bridge
- 32 Rainshadow Athletic Fields
- 33 Harley Outdoor Education and Backpacking
- 34 Senior Cabin - Girls
- 35 Senior Cabin - Girls
- 36 Senior Cabin - Girls
- 37 Girls Toilet
- 38 Senior Cabin - Girls
- 39 Senior Tent - Girls
- 40 Senior Tent - Girls
- 41 Senior Tent - Girls
- 42 Pinewold - Staff
- 43 Canoeing and Sailboarding Area and Dock
- 44 Swimming Dock with One-Meter Board
- 45 Competitive Swimming Lanes
- 46 Swim Float with Three-Meter Board
- 47 Swim Float with One-Meter Board
- 48 Boat Docks
- 49 Camp Office
- 50 Main Lodge, Dining Room, Store
- 51 Dartt Recreation Hall, Staff Lounge and Alumni Room
- 52 Clock Tower
- 53 Tennis Court, Basketball, Volleyball and Street Hockey Courts

Backpacking – Canoeing Educational Trips Center

The Patrick Harley Outdoor Educational Building opened in 1991 serves as a base camp for all our outdoor trips, a center for education of campers interested in canoeing and backpacking trips, storage for all our tripping equipment and a center for in-camp nature and environmental programs. Our white water, flat-water canoe trips and mountain backpacking trips hold a tremendous interest for many of our campers in all age groups. Campers must qualify in camp for these out-of-camp trips.

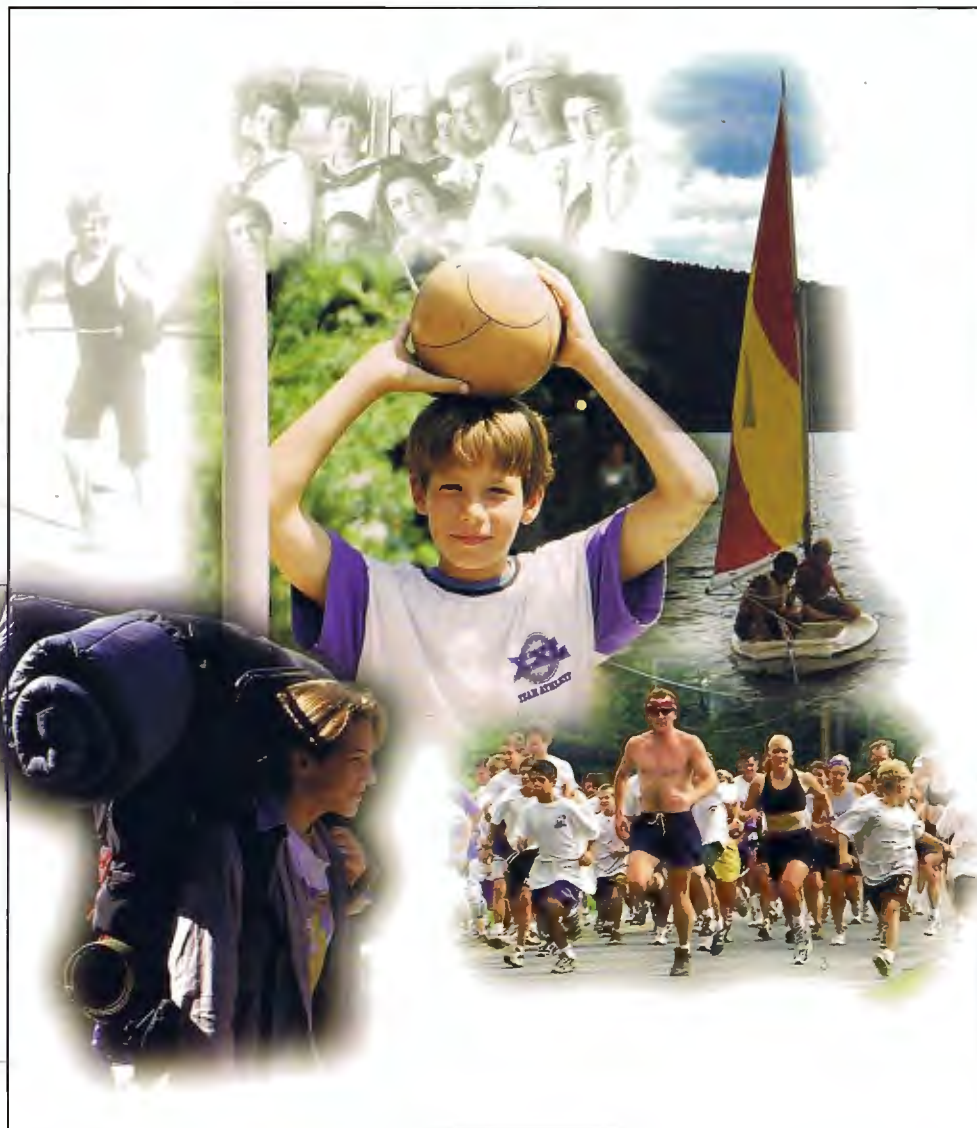
Bunk-In Policy

One of the purposes of going to camp is to make new friends. Therefore, bunk-in requests will only be accepted from first time Billings campers. They may request one friend at time of registration and it must be a mutual request. However, the campers must be within one year of each other in age. In general, campers are bunked with children of approximately the same age and grade unless the parent requests the child be with older/younger campers for a specific reason.

Leadership

The success of any camp program and the experiences of the camper are dependent on the caliber of leadership offered. With these thoughts in mind, the staff at Camp Billings is carefully selected.

All administrative program and supervisory staff members are selected from the teaching and recreation professions and from many colleges and universities. Each year a few outstanding men and women from other countries, under the sponsorship of foreign exchange programs, join our staff. Many of our staff return year after year, and after having been campers at Billings. Pre-camp and weekly staff meetings are held for the purpose of ensuring the smooth and purposeful running of camp. A counselor-in-training program (CIT) for 16 and 17 year olds offers important experience for older boys and girls who seek training in the camp counselor field.



Telephone

Use of the telephone is not available to campers without permission from the nurse or camp director. If the camper has not had a visitor for 2 weeks, they may be brought to the office for incoming calls as pre-arranged.

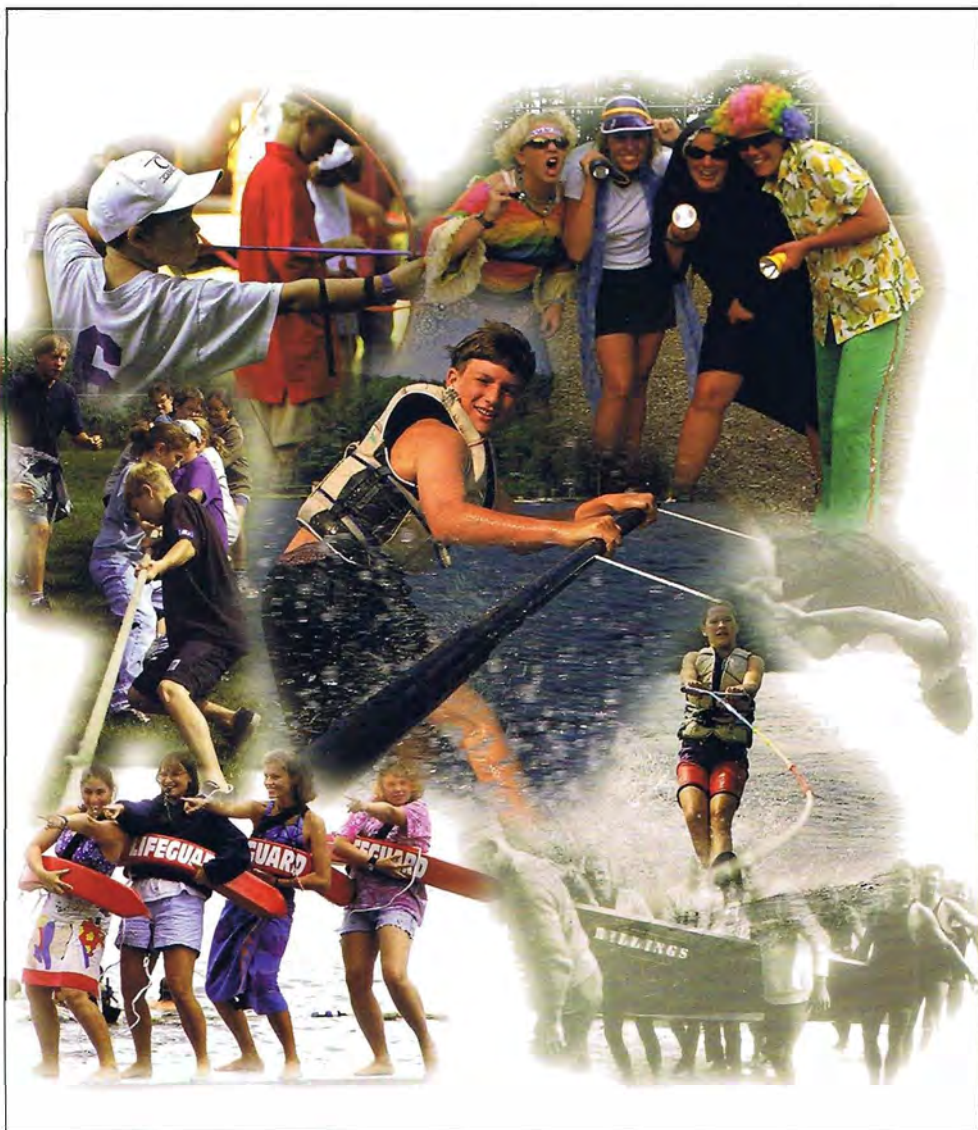
Health and Safety

Every precaution is taken by Camp Billings to insure the health, safety and general welfare of all campers. As a result of carefully planned menus, our food is both abundant and wholesome. Milk is served at each meal, and all drinking water is artesian and carefully tested and supervised by the State Board of Health.

Safety on the waterfront is a watchword with our swimming instructors.

Proper techniques in swimming, including our "buddy" system, and in boating, sailing and canoeing are continuously stressed so that complete safety is a priority. Strong State and Camp laws and rules are followed in regards to life-jackets and proper boating and canoeing use.

Daily rest periods are scheduled and sleeping hours are carefully supervised. Registered nurses are employed by the camp. Our camp doctor and hospital facilities are within minutes of the camp. Pre-camp physical examinations are required of all campers and staff personnel. As a private camp, it is our policy to only admit children who are up-to-date on their immunizations, in accordance with the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics.



Aims and Objectives

With over 95 years in the field of camping, Camp Billings is proud of the position it holds as one of the oldest children's camps.

As an active and accredited member of the American Camping Association since 1963, Camp Billings subscribes to its purposes and standards. With its philosophy firmly in mind, we make an effort to offer an experience in democratic living.

As a member of a group, the camper has the opportunity to plan, execute and evaluate activities and projects in which he or she participates. Campers have the opportunity to develop lasting friendships and work with others cooperatively. The camper also has the opportunity to learn how to make positive personal choices, improve skills and interests, form and strengthen desirable habits and attitudes. Through the camper's contacts with nature and the fellowship of camp friends, he or she can learn that this is also a meaningful adventure.

Camp Billings opens its doors to boys and girls 8 - 15 years of age and in no way restricts admission based on race, ethnic origin, or religious affiliation.

Brief Points of Information for Parents and Campers

- 1] The reverse side of the registration card gives permission for out of camp trips and waterskiing, along with other important information.
- 2] Camp office will send out clothing lists and other information upon registration.
- 3] A health examination by a physician is required of each camper immediately prior to arrival at camp.
- 4] At no extra cost, the camper is protected by limited insurance in event of sickness or accident.
- 5] Children arrive on Sundays and leave on Saturdays.
- 6] 2 week campers - no visiting times. Visitors on "change-over" weekends only and notice with the office/ counselor.
- 7] No camper may leave at any time with anyone but their own parents without written permission.
- 8] 2 - 4 staff live in the cabins with the campers.
- 9] Small charges are made for trips, store, waterskiing, and materials used in crafts.
- 10] Cd's, hairdryers, knives, skateboards, etc. are to be left at home.
- 11] Campers laundry may be sent to the laundry service used by camp, in which case a charge is made (for campers staying more than 2 weeks).
- 12] Campers spending monies are deposited in the camp safe and handled by office staff. A minimum of \$50.00 each two week session is needed.
- 13] Our food is excellent and plentiful. Menus are supervised by the nurse and director. Extra food, sweets and gum are not permitted and will be thrown away.
- 14] Qualified lifeguards on duty at all swimming activities. Boats, canoes, sailboats used only by those who pass qualifying tests or with qualified staff. Waterskiers must be qualified swimmers.
- 15] We have a strict no smoking policy on camp property.
- 16] We encourage diversity in our camp family population, yet as an English speaking institution, we strongly emphasize that all should speak English.



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AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION®