



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE, SKILLS, AND TEAMWORK. 2017

The LDP is our challenging outdoor leadership progression for youth entering age 14-17. LDP instructors coach on group facilitation and leadership, teach technical outdoor skills, and ask participants to collaboratively make consequential decisions.

Participants choose between three focus areas: wilderness canoeing (Explorers), climbing and sailing (Mariners), or horses (Equestrians).

GROUP LEADERSHIP

The progression from shadowing counselors to being the primary leader of games and activities for younger Camp St. Croix campers constitutes a significant arc of development for St. Croix LDP participants. They learn to develop goals, plan activities, implement, then reflect and revise based on what worked well and what did not.

TEAMWORK

LDP participants are continually asked to make consequential decisions as a group. To debrief and learn from those experiences, Camp St. Croix has developed the 445 Leadership Model. That framework conceptualizes leadership as value driven, composed of various skills, and entailing understanding of one's role.

OUTDOOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

MARINERS

CLIMBING AND SAILING

On the water, Mariners hone skills on Optimists, 420s and J22s. After they master the basics they head out on incredible overnight sailing expeditions locally or to Lake Superior. They build climbing skills in camp and explore the Upper Midwest's best crags, including Devil's Lake or Shovel Point.

EXPLORERS

WILDERNESS CANOEING

Camp St. Croix's Explorers master paddling and portaging skills in the upper reaches of the St. Croix watershed before heading out on multi week canoeing trips in Minnesota's Boundary Waters. More than anything else that Camp St. Croix does, the Explorer program teaches wilderness travel skills, exploring untrammelled waterways.

EQUESTRIANS

HORSES

LDP Equestrians are the future leaders of our horse program. They gain skills in training, riding, and caring for horses and teach younger campers. They spend weekends at various training facilities and horse therapy centers in the St. Croix Valley.

	Age 14-16; all 7/23-8/4, 2017	Age 15-17; all 7/9-8/4
Wilderness Canoeing	☐ Explorers; \$1300	☐ Advanced Explorers; \$2575
Sailing and Climbing	☐ Mariners; \$1300	☐ Advanced Mariners; \$2575
Horses	☐ Equestrians; \$1450; female only	☐ Advanced Equestrians; \$2725; female only

APPLY AND REGISTER

For new candidates, application and registration for the St. Croix LDP can be done by completing and submitting the paper 2017 LDP Application/Registration Form along with a Camp St. Croix Waiver. Participants new to the LDP are asked to submit two LDP Reference Forms along with their Registration/Application and waiver. New participants may apply for a place in an Advanced LDP Session, though be aware that very few participants are accepted directly into Advanced Sessions.

Camp St. Croix extends invitations to those participants who have successfully completed Explorers, Mariners, or Equestrians to continue their development with an Advanced Session. No new application is required for invited returners, who may register online at www.campstcroix.org.

Participants who have successfully completed an Advanced Session are invited to continue their development with further Advanced Sessions. Alternatively, Camp St. Croix has also found that the best incoming new staff (with all incoming staff being at least 18 years old) have gained work experience with youth elsewhere prior to joining the St. Croix team. Thus for former LDP participants who would like to pursue employment at St. Croix when they are of age we strongly encourage the pursuit of professional youth work experience elsewhere.

Camp St. Croix’s donors give funds to support all campers, whether a program is just out of reach or you need a full scholarship. Contact John to inquire.

OUTDOOR SKILLS PARTNERS

To assure the highest quality outdoor skill instruction possible Camp St. Croix works with an incredible set of partners. For some an additional waiver may be required.

Mariners	Vertical Endeavors Guided Adventures and Sail Pepin
Advanced Mariners	Vertical Endeavors Guided Adventures, Sail Pepin, and Amicus Sailing
Explorers	YMCA Camp Menogyn
Advanced Explorers	YMCA Camp Menogyn
Equestrians	Changing Gaits Equine Therapy
Advanced Equestrians	Pine Lake Pastures and Changing Gaits Equine Therapy

THE 445 LEADERSHIP MODEL

Four Values	Four Roles	Five Skills
Caring	Self Leader	Grit
Honesty	Peer	Emotional Intelligence
Respect	Team Member	Communication
Responsibility	Team Leader	Judgement
		Initiative

CONTACT

The LDP is overseen by John Bussey, Program Director of YMCA Camp St. Croix. He can be contacted at: john.bussey@ymcamn.org.