

Hello!

My time at camp was incredible! Despite the fact that I live in the woods, I barely have the chance to camp, or enjoy the outdoors fully, or even connect with nature! So, having gone to Barry Conservation, I have first hand details about the experience I had.

On the first day, or half day for that matter, we enjoyed activities such as swimming and icebreaker games. We then had dinner, went to a fire, and went to bed. For the next few days, we shot air soft guns and rifles, we learned how to make a snare with a piece of string (and we set it up in the woods, we didn't catch anything though) and we performed archery, which was fun as well.

The counselors, though rowdy at times, were nice and seemed to be professionals in their jobs, even though some were still less than two decades old! We also did fishing and had some free time after lunch, which was fun because that was the opportunity to purchase snacks and Barry Conservation Camp clothing (sweatshirts, shirts, etc.) from the office.

Speaking of food, the breakfast, lunch, and dinner we had was amazing. Linda, the cook/chef, was a very sweet lady who made these bread rolls called "Linda's Rolls" which were very, very delicious. We had food ranging from lasagna, burgers, ice cream, shepherd's pie, and so much more.

However, the best experience of camp that I had was the hike to Roger's Ledge, a rocky outlook on Mount Cabot, not too far from camp. We were given two choices: hike to Roger's Ledge and camp there, or go whitewater rafting and fishing. I chose Roger's Ledge because I wanted to see the view of the mountains. The three to four mile hike took about half a day to reach. Some may wonder why it took so long, but the reason why was because we had to carry all sorts of supplies on our backs in heavy duty backpacks that we were supposed to bring with us. It weighed, most likely, fifteen to twenty pounds. It was back-aching work, and along the trail we stopped to take bathroom breaks, to drink a vast quantity of water, and for lunch breaks, which consisted of apples/oranges, sandwiches, trail mix, fruit snacks, water, and a few more items. Along with us we had to carry our sleeping bag, parts of tents that we would put together, blankets, and other supplies that may seem important for our stay on the mountain. I did say it took half a day, but it felt like two days! I was glad to finally be there. We were sweaty, hot, dehydrated, tired, and happy we reached our goal.

After sitting down for a few minutes, I got up and walked to Roger's Ledge. And, let me just say now, it was the most beautiful view of nature I have ever seen. The ledge was directly in the sight of Mount Washington, and around her were a large majority of other mountains, and a small little town, with a church, shops, and so many buildings. It was very impressive.

We ate fajitas for dinner, climbed into our tents, and slept. The tents, of course, were nowhere near the ledge, rather inside the little forest area that the ledge connected with. The next morning, I got an even better view. The sun offered the perfect amount of brisk air and warm

air, I could just feel it. And the sunlight, oh, the sunlight! It shined right on the ledge, and it offered beautiful views of the world. After that, we endured on hiking back down, which took a shorter time than hiking up, and we arrived at a camp where we rested, then went back to camp. It was an amazing time there.

For the last day, we had a mini competition between the cabins, and then we had lunch. After that, we just relaxed until our parents arrived. We enjoyed a quick film of all the photos taken during the stay, and then we left (we stayed at a country club afterwards, and that was fun too.)

Overall, I definitely recommend this camp. It was fun, the quality was great, and the stay at Roger's Ledge was undoubtedly a great time with the best scenic views in New Hampshire.

- *Written by Tristan Warriner about his camp experience at Barry Conservation Camp, Summer 2016*