

## **Town of Clifton Park Summer Recreation Camps Camper in Leadership Training Program (CILT)**

- Who:** A full or half day program awaits those self-assured teens who want to nurture and mentor our younger campers. This program is for teens entering 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades (must be 14 years old prior to the start of camp) who are highly motivated, ready to work and play hard, and who demonstrate additional responsibility in accepting the challenges of leadership.
- What:** The Town of Clifton Park will be holding a Camper in Leadership Training Program or CILT at its five day camps. There will be two spaces available at each camp site. Each CILT will be assigned one staff member to work with every day during the entire six, seven or eight week camps. The assigned staff could be a site director, site specialist or senior counselor. CILTs meet at the beginning of each day with their assigned staff to set goals and at the end of each week to evaluate their activities. During the rest of the day, CILTs are assigned to work along side an experienced counselor. Being a CILT involves:
- Involvement in various camp projects
  - Opportunities to lead organized activities
  - Group discussion, instruction and evaluation
- Where:** Town of Clifton Park summer recreation camps. Half day sites located at Collins Park, Locust Lane Clubhouse, Jonesville Firehouse, and Okte School. Full Day site located at the Clifton Common Arena.
- Why:** CILT gives older campers the opportunity to participate in unique experiences relating to responsibility and helping others meet exciting challenges. Through activities, older campers learn the skills necessary to become effective leaders while serving as role models to their peers and younger campers. CILTs will learn effective leadership skills that can be used throughout their life and learn how to work with children in the camp setting. The mentor relationship is designed to guide the CILT through an effective leadership experience. This program challenges, instructs and encourages older campers and serves as a real asset to our camp programs.
- How:** There is an application process that includes a student essay and registration form. Registration forms are available at the Office of Parks, Recreation and Community Affairs in Town Hall and on the town's website. Interested individuals are asked to fill out the camp registration form and attach an essay answering the following questions: *What skills, talents or experiences do you have to offer the summer camp program? What do you hope to gain from the CILT experience?* There is a fee of \$75 if you are accepted into the half day program or \$250 if you are accepted to the eight week full day program. CILTs may attend our All-Staff Training in June.

**Application Deadline:** We will begin accepting applications February 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications will be reviewed beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> and will be accepted and evaluated until the program is filled.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **How old are the CILTs?**

The CILTs are 14 to 15 years old.

2. **What age group do the CILTs work with?**

It varies. However, the CILTs work mainly with the younger campers.

3. **Can the CILTs work with groups or do they work in a specific activity area?**

We try to accommodate the CILT's requests regarding the groups or areas they would like to work in.

4. **Do the CILTs automatically become counselors when they finish their summer program?**

No. The CILTs have to apply in order to become a Counselor at age 16.

5. **Why is there a fee for the CILT program?**

The fee covers training and activity material for each CILT participant as well as supervision and a CILT camp t-shirt. The fee also covers the cost of field trips for those accepted at our Full Day Camp.