

About Camp Echo Bridge

The Newton Parks & Recreation Department works with the Newton Public Schools to offer an exciting inclusive summer program that focuses on fun while bridging recreation and academics.

Camp Goals

- To provide a positive recreational experience that fosters friendship and fun
- To teach lifelong leisure skills
- To help prevent academic regression over the summer months by providing academics through fun teaching methods
- To promote a greater degree of independence
- To meet the individual needs of our campers

Camp Programming

Theme-Based Weeks, Sports, Games, Arts & Crafts, Nature, Music, Academic Enrichment Activities, Swimming at Crystal Lake, Special Events & Camp Show

Special Events:

CIT's will participate in special events while at camp to gain first-hand experience in planning these events, as well as the policies and procedures involved. Each week of camp has a theme and a related special event. Sample special events may include:

- Camp BBQ
- Car Wash/Aqua Extreme
- Boston Sports Fest/Olympic Color Day
- Glitz and Glamour /Red Carpet Runway Show
- Talent Show/Prom



CIT Residential Camping Trip

The Camp Echo Bridge residential camping week has been a fun and unique part of camp for over 40 years. For the past ten years we expanded this opportunity to include our CIT's and it has been a great success. We are delighted to announce that we are heading back to Camp Winadu in Pittsfield, MA. Camp Winadu has beautiful sports facilities and waterfront and is loaded with fun nature-based activities. It will truly be a memorable way to end our CIT's summer. This week will provide an opportunity for the CIT's to have fun, make friends and further develop the skills they learned during their day camp experience. All meals, transportation and supervision included. Program includes hiking, campfires, adventure activities, evening entertainment, sports, dance parties, arts/ crafts, swimming, and water sports. More information about Camp Winadu can be found online at campwinadu.com

Eligibility is based on the CIT's day camp experience and space.

**Dates for the Residential Week:
August 14 – August 18**

Resident \$750.00
Non-Resident \$800.00



Camp Echo Bridge 2024 CIT

**Counselor in Training
Leadership Initiative**

**Newton Parks, Recreation &
Culture**

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Nicole Banks, Commissioner
Mark Kelly & Karen Peirce
Directors of Special Needs

246 Dudley Road
Newton, MA 02459
617-796-1538
www.newtonma.gov/gov/parks



Who can be a CIT?

CIT's are teens who are 13 to 16 years old and will be entering 8th-11th grade in the fall. This is a great program for individuals who may feel they are too old to be a camper but not yet old enough or experienced enough to be a counselor. This is an apprenticeship program where participants learn by doing. CIT's have daily leadership training sessions and work directly with the campers and staff.

What does a CIT do?

The CIT Leadership Initiative at Camp Echo Bridge is designed to teach important skills inherent to becoming a camp counselor. The program also helps CIT'S understand the importance of inclusive programming and respecting and embracing individual differences.

Dates and Sessions

New CIT'S participate in a two-week training session. Returning CIT's participate in a three- week training session. Each session will include instruction, observation, and activities that will focus on developing the skills necessary to become a great camp counselor. Meetings and training sessions with the CIT Director will take place to help CIT's to further develop their camp counselor skills. CIT's will also work with camper groups throughout the session to further develop their skills and involvement in camp.

RETURNING CIT'S *Three-week sessions offered*

CIT's can sign up for one session only.

Session 1: July 1-July 19

Session 2: July 22- August 9

NEW CIT'S *Two-week sessions are offered*

CIT's can sign up for one session only.

Session 1: July 8-July 19

Session 2: July 22 – August 2

What are the Advantages of Being a CIT?

- Gain experience and have fun working with children
- Gain leadership & activity planning skills
- Gain valuable work experience
- Personal development
- Explore future career possibilities
- Learn about disabilities and how to work with children with disabilities

Cost of the Program:

Residents- \$380 per session

Non-Residents- \$400 per session

A \$60 per session non-refundable deposit must be submitted with the registration. Final payments are due May 15th. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed for late paperwork and payments received after May 15.

Registration:

Registration begins online on Wednesday, January 31 at 5:30pm and continues until the program fills up. Go to newtonma.myrec.com and create an account prior to registration. Once registration opens on Jan 31 at 5:30pm you may register for only one session of the CIT program.

What to bring to camp:

CIT's should wear comfortable appropriate clothing including sneakers and socks. They will receive 2 Camp Echo Bridge CIT T-shirts that should be worn each day. They should bring a camp appropriate bathing suit and towel each day as we swim at Crystal Lake and water play at camp is utilized on very hot days as well. CIT's should also have sunscreen and a water bottle in their backpack. Lunch and snacks should be brought from home.

Location and Facilities:

The Counselor in Training Leadership Initiative will be conducted at Camp Echo Bridge at Mason Rice School. It is located at 149 Pleasant Street Newton, MA 02459. The school is centrally located in Newton and is a great place for summer camp. We will walk to Crystal Lake for swimming on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Staff:

The staff consists of the Directors of Special Needs, CIT Director, Camp Directors, Unit Leaders, and Counselors. We recognize the importance of mature and qualified staff and have selected staff based on their enthusiasm, dedication, and experience.

The staff and the program meet the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Camping standards and the Newton Health Department licenses the program. Parents may request, in writing, copies of any and all camp policies.

