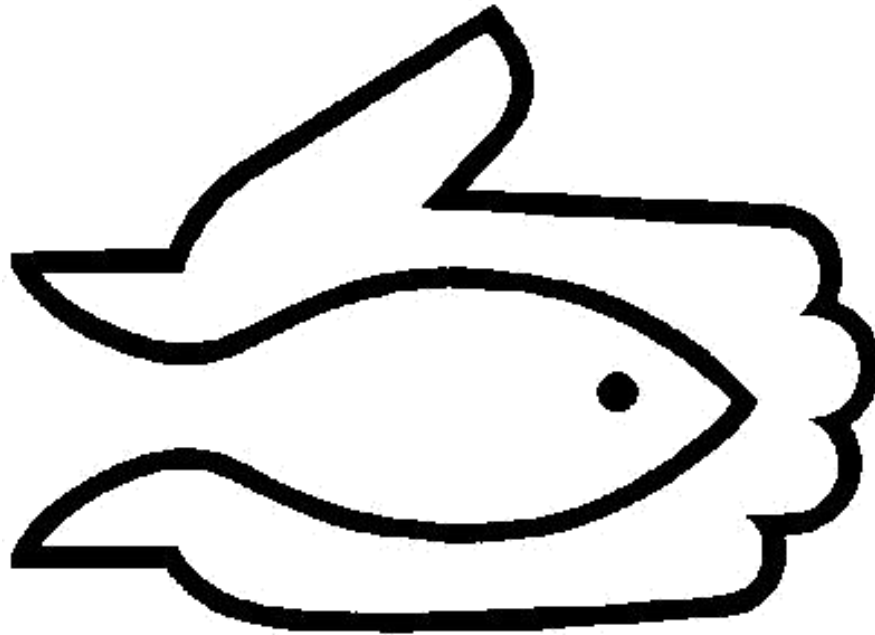


SVSFE's 2012 Fishing & Fisheries Biology Camp



Submitted by: Swan Valley Sport
Fishing Enhancement Inc.
Holly Urban & Melissa Badger

FINAL REPORT

CAMP FUNDED BY FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT FUND

2011 & 2012



FEELING THE MONEY IN – Rosann Wowchuk (left) presented Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement Inc. (SVSFEI) President Jeff Connolly (right) with \$7,475 to go towards a Fishing and Fisheries Biology Camp last weekend's 25th Annual SVSFEI Banquet. As well, she announced at the SVSFEI would be receiving \$92,700 from the Fisheries Enhancement Fund for Integrated Fisheries Assessment in the Swan Valley Region. *May 17, 2011* – Star and Times photo by Caitlin Popoff

fisheriesenhancement
fund



Project Objectives

- Provide a 4-day summer camp to kids conducted by a staff skilled in leading youth groups and activities, and a faculty of instructors with outstanding knowledge and fisheries stewardship.
- The camp will also provide a curriculum of both theoretical and field experiences to inform and motivate campers to pursue the goals of protecting, reconnecting, restoring, and sustaining fisheries and their watersheds.

Goals

- To bring a greater appreciation and respect of natural resources of the Duck Mountains to each camper as responsible anglers.
- To teach kids about the importance of fishing and its role in conservation.
- To teach campers about fisheries research and management of our fisheries resources.
- To teach campers boat and outdoor safety.



August 20 – 23, 2012

Was held at the
Wellman Lake United Church Camp

Keeping youths fishing for the future

Submitted Story

SVSFE

Another successful year of fish camp. Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement (SVSFE) is focused on keeping fish for the future, and camp is definitely a way to start. Educating the youth in our Valley to conserve fish and the environment is key to success. The four day camp is targeted towards providing theoretical and field practical conservation and fishing educational experiences. This year's small group of 19 was great, some returned and there were some new. So SVSFE incorporated a couple new things and expect the camp to continue to evolve.

The week started with boat safety lessons. Ian Kitch (Water Stewardship) and Brock Koutecky (SVSFE student) explained boat parts, motors and types of boats and how to be safe in and around them. Right after boat safety, the campers jumped into their swimsuits for canoe tipping. Jeff Connolly (SVSFE president) taught how to flip and right the canoes. Paddling skills improved and returning campers set great examples for the new campers. So what better way to test their paddling skills? A relay.

The next activity was straight to the point – get the rods set up, lures picked out and head out fishing. The kids are always jumping to get out on the lake. Half the campers in



– Submitted photo by Swan Valley Sport Fishing Enhancement Inc.

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Tuesday started off with fly fishing. SVSFE and the campers were very excited for this new learning opportunity. The kids were split into three groups to learn from Victor Kopecky (SVSFE vice-president) who taught knot tying, Chris Stock (SVSFE director) who taught fly tying, and Ryan Suffron (Alpine Country Outfitters) taught fly rod casting. The afternoon was all about the beach – sandwiches to go and on our way we went. Half the kids stuck to the beach and half the kids said, "I'm going fishing." Leanne Kalinowich (Manitoba Conservation – Forestry) was waiting when we all arrived back at camp. Gathering half of the kids, she started her instruction on tree identification and

edible plants. The other half of the kids followed Kitch and Koutecky and Joel Fedorachuk (Green Team) to begin their wilderness survival lesson which included shelter building and fire building. What a day, but no one was ready to quit yet. Once the campers were fed – we were back out on the lake.

On Wednesday morning we had a quick lesson on the research being done by SVSFE on our local lakes (Holly Urban and Melissa Badger – SVSFE technicians). Pulling the trap was great with canoes and boats surrounding – the kids had the opportunity to sample fish and learn about what to do with tagged fish. At this point requests began coming in for quiet time or maybe a nap. But when the choice came later that morning – what do you know? The campers picked fishing. The rest of the day was spent learning how to use a GPS and a compass (with a bearing challenge) and listening to Park Patrol – Judith Simmons and Brian Webster. The group split into two, half went with Park Patrol and the other half went with Connolly for a tea boiling competition. Park Patrol had a great presentation about angler responsibilities and bear safety. Afterwards Webster shared Bigfoot stories with all campers sitting in the dark hall, while patiently waiting for supper.

This was well worth the wait – fish fry night. Our amazing cook (Andrea Kalinowich) split her duties with volunteer Trevor Urban and it was delicious.

Throughout the week the campers were given the responsibility of recording the fish they caught in their angler diaries – than sharing them with everyone on the fish tally board. All campers were well aware of the fish titles they could receive on the last morning. It was time to say farewell on Thursday, but not without a big bacon pancake breakfast and some giveaways. Handing out prizes for Biggest Fish, Smallest Fish, Most Fish, Least Fish, and Biggest and Only Walleye was part of saying goodbye.

We asked the campers to tell us what they liked most about camp. Some comments the campers made were:

Brody Kitch said, "Fishing." Jessica Urban said, "Being with all my friends."

Connor Blosha said, "Getting arrested... oh and the bacon breakfast."

Bryar Werbicki said, "Fly Fishing."

Brenden Gilroy said, "The bacon breakfast."

Tyler Filipchuk said, "Catching a lot of fish."

Our camp counsellors Clarke Zinkiew and Lanaya Zaretsky did a great job at keeping the campers busy when we needed a few minutes to set up the next activity. SVSFE would like to acknowledge each volunteer listed above, who did more than just their assigned activity. SVSFE could not have done it without you. We also like to take this opportunity to recognize our fish camp supporters including Fisheries Enhancement Fund (FEF), Rough Country, Tru Hardware, Parkland Embroidery, Co – op Marketplace, Merv's Audiotronic, Quik Stop, Wellman Lake United Church Camp, Len Thompson, and Dynamic Aqua-Supply Ltd.

SVSFE advertised the camp in the local newspaper, and on our website – and of course by word of mouth.. The feedback was great from 2011 – we had no problem filling our camp this year

**Stampede
Golf Classic**

012

DAY #1

Canoe Safety



Start
Bailing



Canoe Relay

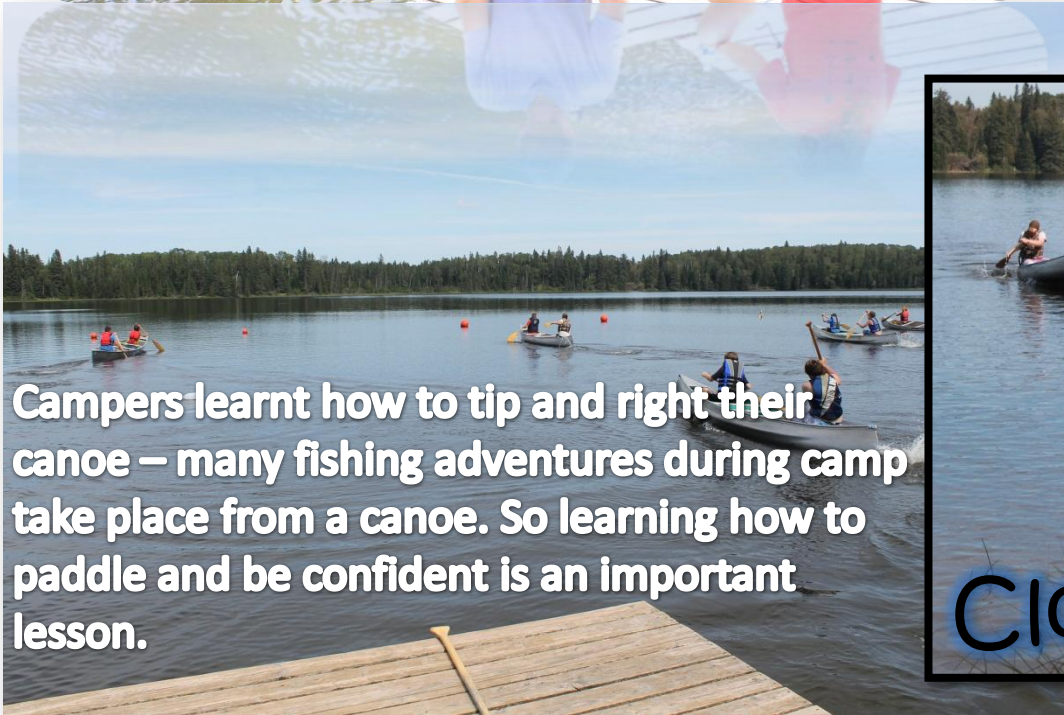
Ready...Set...



GO!



Campers learnt how to tip and right their canoe – many fishing adventures during camp take place from a canoe. So learning how to paddle and be confident is an important lesson.



Close one!



Boat Safety Review



The group of 19 split into two groups to learn about motors, boat types and boat safety.

**Local Fisheries Biologist
Ian Kitch reviewed
fishing regulations and
the responsibilities of an
angler**

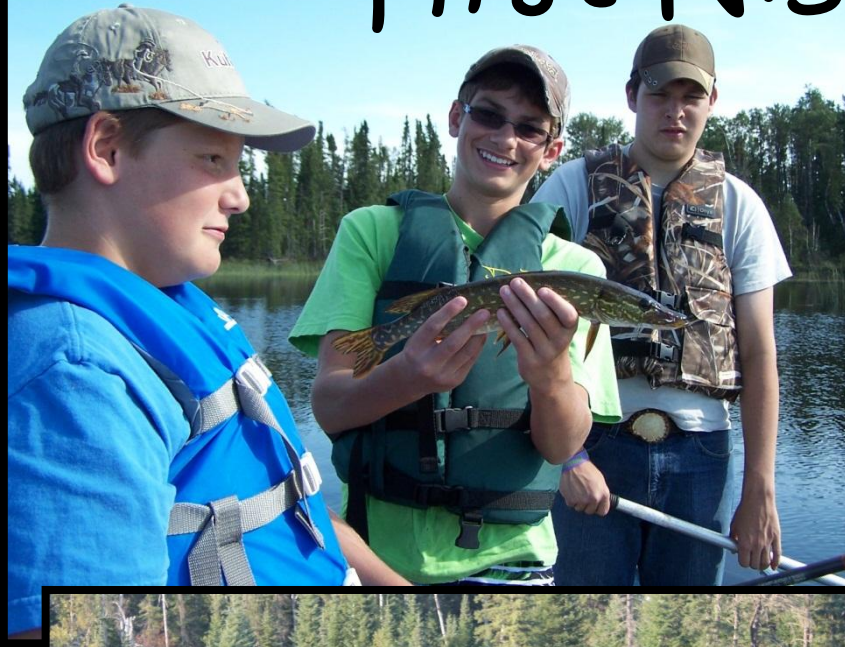


1st Night of Fishing!



Campers had the opportunity to spool line, tie hooks and bait hooks . Some for the first time

First Night of Fishing



Campers decided whether they would fish the open water in a boat or paddle the calm waters of Regatta Bay

Campers learned hands on the responsibilities of an angler and why they are important.





And learned
that not
every Cast
catches a
fish!



And got to enjoy
silly fishing fun

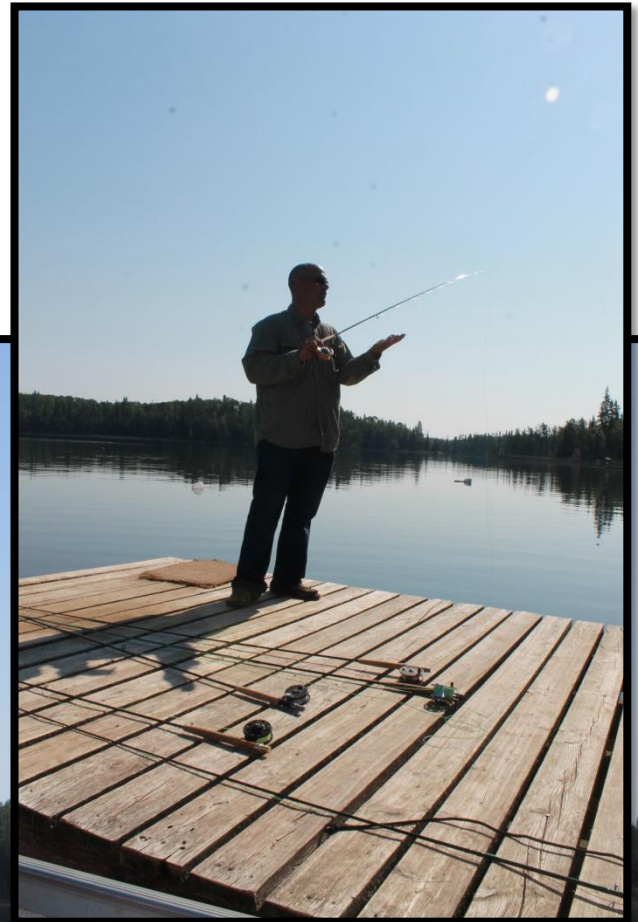


Day #2

Fly Fishing Presentations

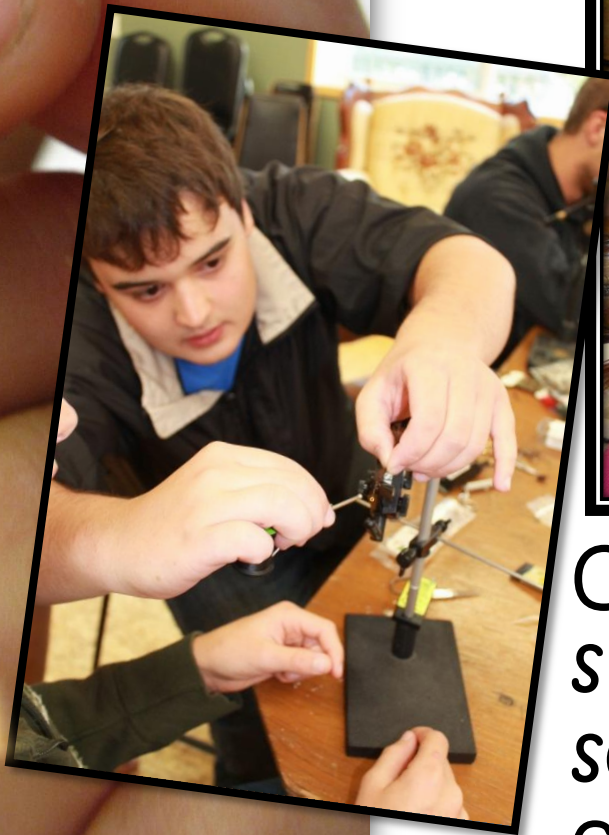


Ryan Suffron (Alpine Country Outfitters) taught fly rod casting.. The kids loved it!





Victor (SVSFE Vice-President) taught the kids the three basic fly knots; clinch knot, blood knot, albright knot



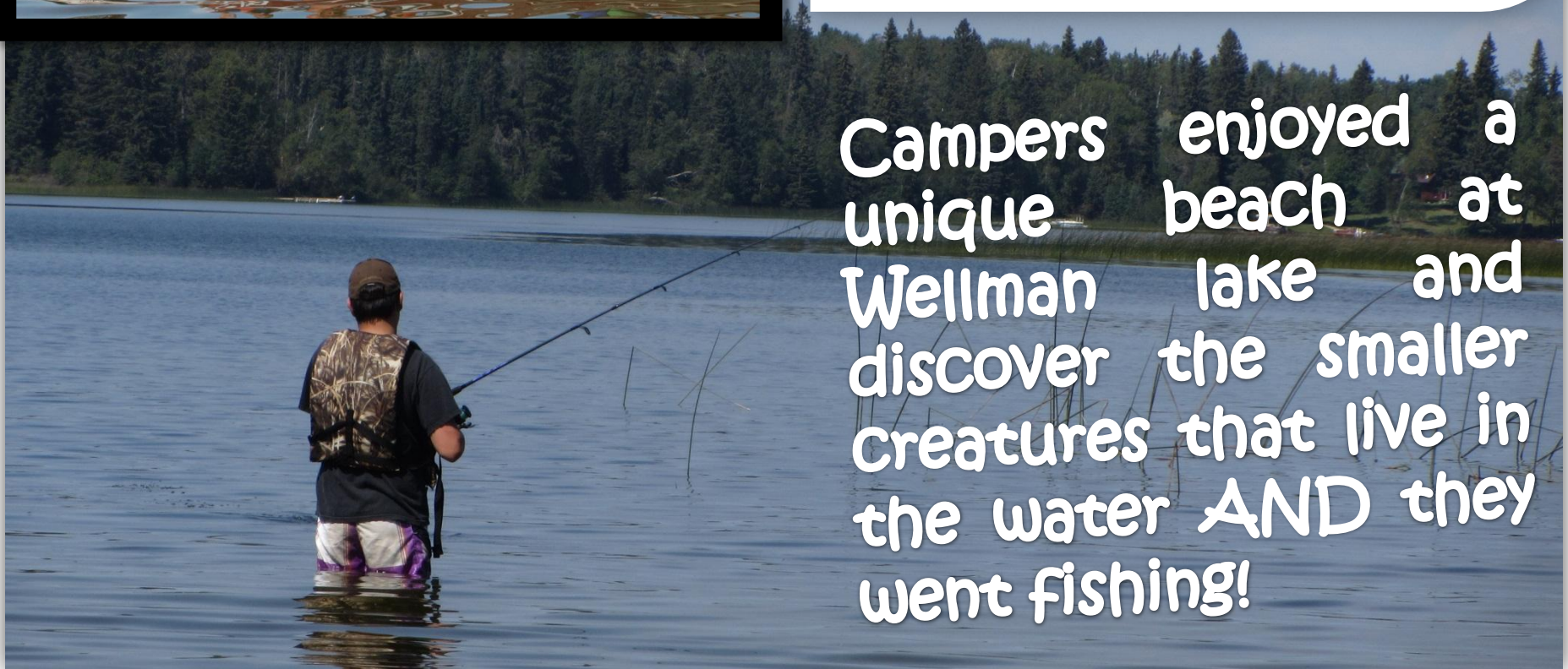
Chris (SVSFE Volunteer)
shared his fly tying
secrets with the
Campers

Beach Time!



Seining





Campers enjoyed a unique beach at Wellman lake and discover the smaller creatures that live in the water AND they went fishing!

Tree I.D

Leanne (MB Conservation – Forestry & SVSFE Director) hiked 2 groups of kids down a small trail to identify trees and edible plants to heighten their wilderness survival skills



Wilderness Survival

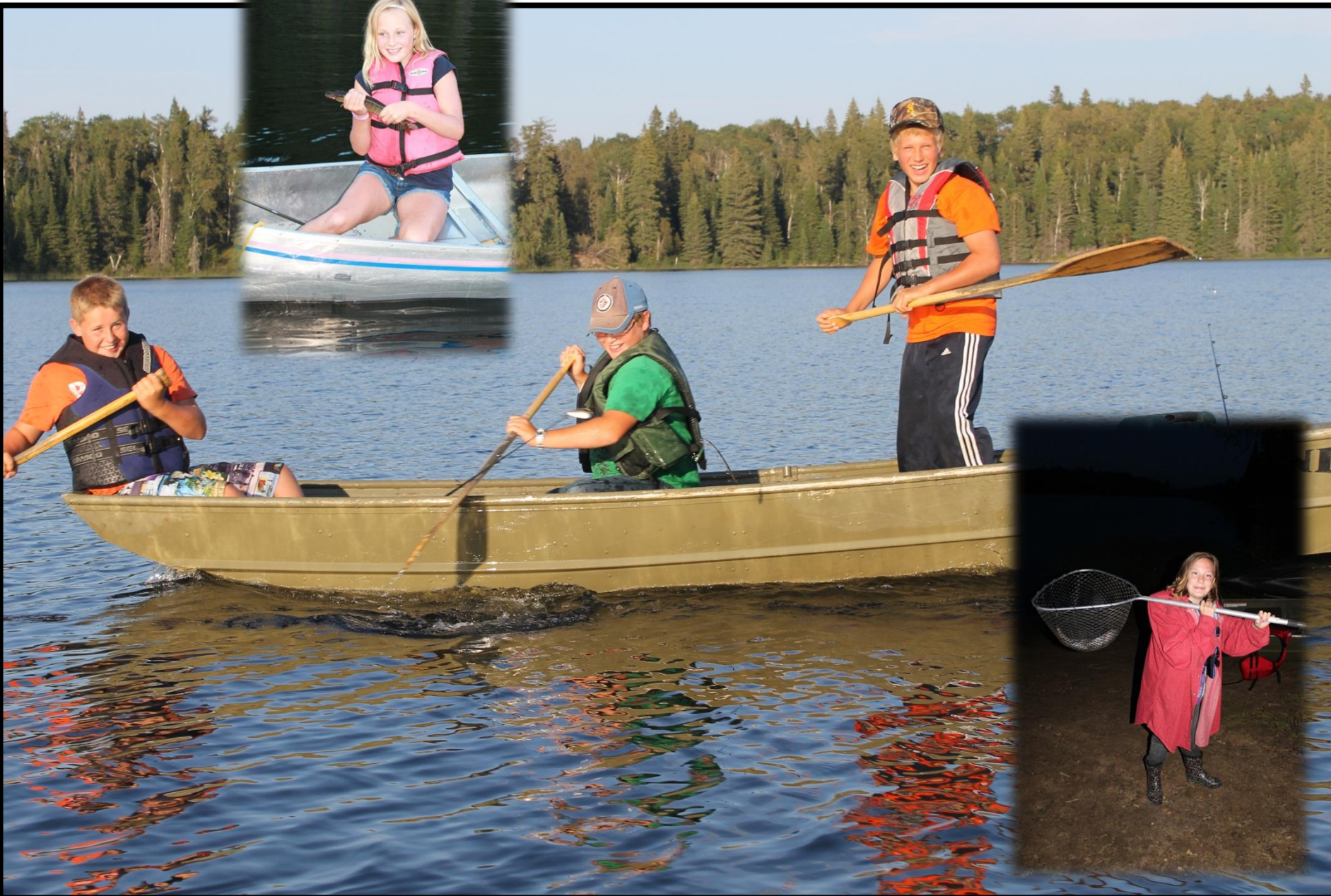
**Campers
learnt how
to build a
fire &
create
various
rescue
signals**



And of course

More Fishing





Filleting Demonstration

This camper was the one and only to catch a walleye at camp.... She also helped to fillet the fish and learnt about the internal anatomy of walleye



Day #3

Fisheries Demonstration



Our campers helped pull in one of our live release trap nets and learnt why we conduct this research on individual lakes and how important it is in ensuring fish for the future.

Our catch was low, but these campers are seasoned at giving fish a helping hand.....

And kissing them!



Fisheries Demonstration



Fishing!

Before another busy afternoon, campers were given a choice whether they wanted to fish or have free time.. They all picked fishing of course..... & maybe a little goofing around!



Geo-caching



Campers learnt the importance of knowing how to use a Compass & GPS and received some hands on training



Campers navigated to various locations and found a prize at their last waypoint! There was also a bearing challenge at the end! Even our president tested his skills

Tea Boiling Competition

A group of children and adults are gathered on a dirt path, likely at a camp. They are focused on building fires using sticks and wood. In the foreground, a boy in a blue and black jacket and a boy in a red shirt are crouched, working on their fire. To their right, a girl in a grey jacket is also crouched, looking at her fire. Further back, a boy in a black shirt and a boy in a white shirt and blue shorts are also working. A large, grey, shaggy dog is standing on the right side of the path, looking towards the left. A red and white cooler is visible in the bottom right corner. The background shows a white building and some trees.

While other groups were taking in the Park Patrol presentation other campers were testing their fire building skills by boiling up some mint tea

A group of about ten children and two adults are gathered outdoors in a grassy area with trees in the background. One adult, a man in a park patrol uniform and vest, stands on the right next to a large, cylindrical metal trailer with corrugated sides. Another person in a uniform stands near the trailer's front. The children are dressed in casual summer clothing like t-shirts and shorts. The trailer has a sign that says "BEAR TRAILER".

Park Patrol Presentation

Park Patrol reviewed angler responsibilities and went into a detailed explanation of what to do in case of a bear encounter.

FISH FRY!



Campers waited patiently for
our fish to fry while Park
Patrol, Brian told bigfoot
stories



Never fails, there is always some campers who get the opportunity to perform dish duty for their extraordinary camp behaviour – unfortunately this year we missed the dish duty with the camera.. But the 2011 picture still does it justice!

Dish Duty



Day #4

Campers requested a later morning, giving time for our wonderful cook to prepare the biggest bacon breakfast EVER!



Seriously the biggest
bacon breakfast EVER!

Campers were rewarded with camp souvenirs which included minnow traps for their fishing adventures and camp T-shirts



2012 FISH CAMP

SUSFE FISH CAMP



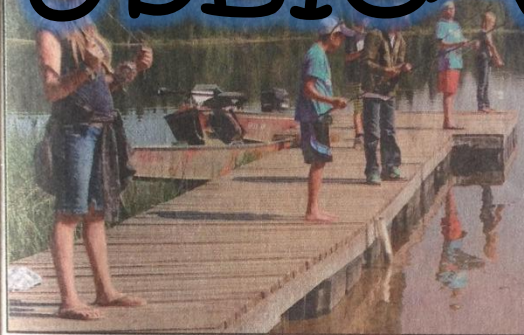
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This was well worth the wait. Our amazing cook (Andrea Kalinowich) lit the fire and the volunteer Trevor Urban and it was delicious.

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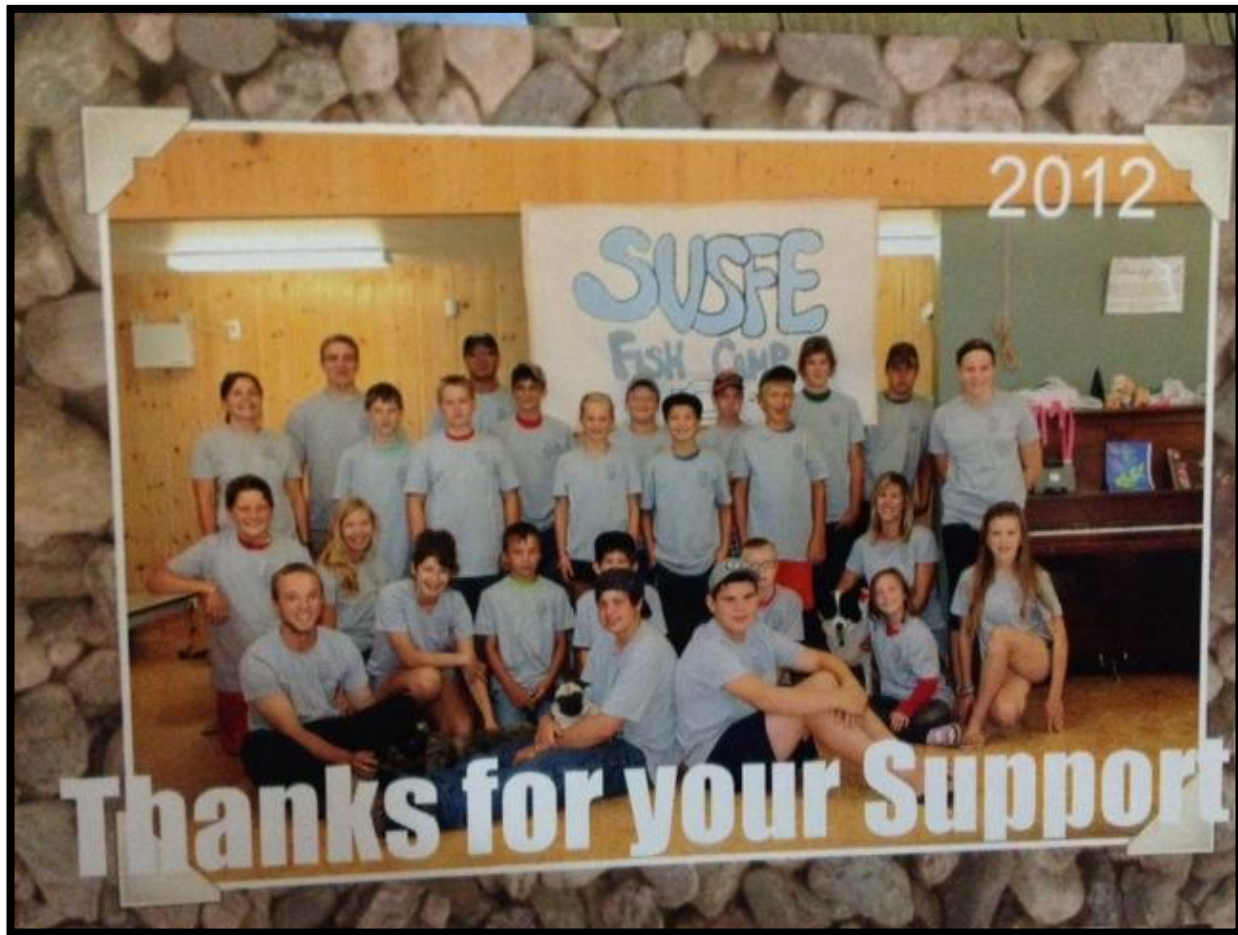
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A detailed article was submitted after Camp – also thanking all businesses who supported the 2012 Camp

Business Thank You's

Thanks were distributed to the local business who helped make the Camp a success



THANK YOU TO:

- Volunteers who made the camp a success:
 - Ian Kitch, Jeff Connolly, Trevor Urban, Ronnie Badger, Leanne Kalinowich, Chris Stock, Ryan Suffron, Victor Kopecky
- Camp Staff:
 - Holly Urban, Melissa Badger, Clark Zinkiew, Lanaya Zaretsky, Brock Koutecky, Joel Fedorachuk, Andrea Kalinowich

- Park Patrol – Judith & Brian
- Wellman Lake United Church camp for their exceptional facility
- Local Business for their support with the Camp
- Dynamic Aqua & Len Thompson for their support
- To all the Campers – making the Camp what it was
- FEF – helping young anglers give fish a helping hand

SUSFE

Holly Urban
(camp boss)

Brady Kitch

Jessica Urban/aka Victoria

Clarke Zinkiew

FISH TECH
Melissa & Ronnie BADGER

Jalen Handsh

Bsai Urban

Stanne Kalinowich

Jeff Connolly

Tyler Filippchuck

Dustin Tibble

FISH CAMP

Brandt

ANDREA KALINOWICH
"CAMP COOK"
MISSOURI

Bryor Werbach

IAN Kitch

Nick (Cousin) Connolly

Eric Hengrich

Janae Sandelky

Cole Brading

BANDIT KALINOWICH
GILROY #10

2012

AQUINE Badger

Hannah Kitch



DEVLEN Vanderpool

2012

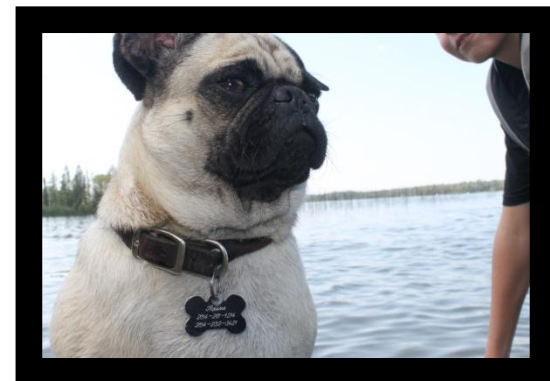
ZACK

Conner Blasha

Megan Werbach

Joel Fedorchuk

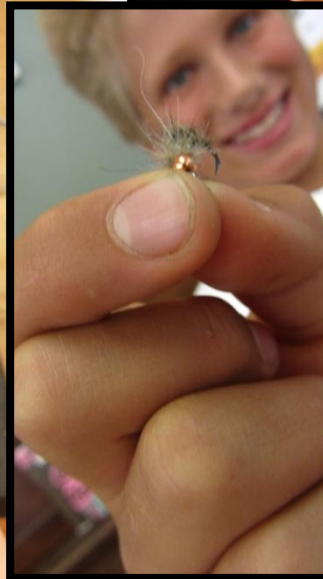
Beach Fun



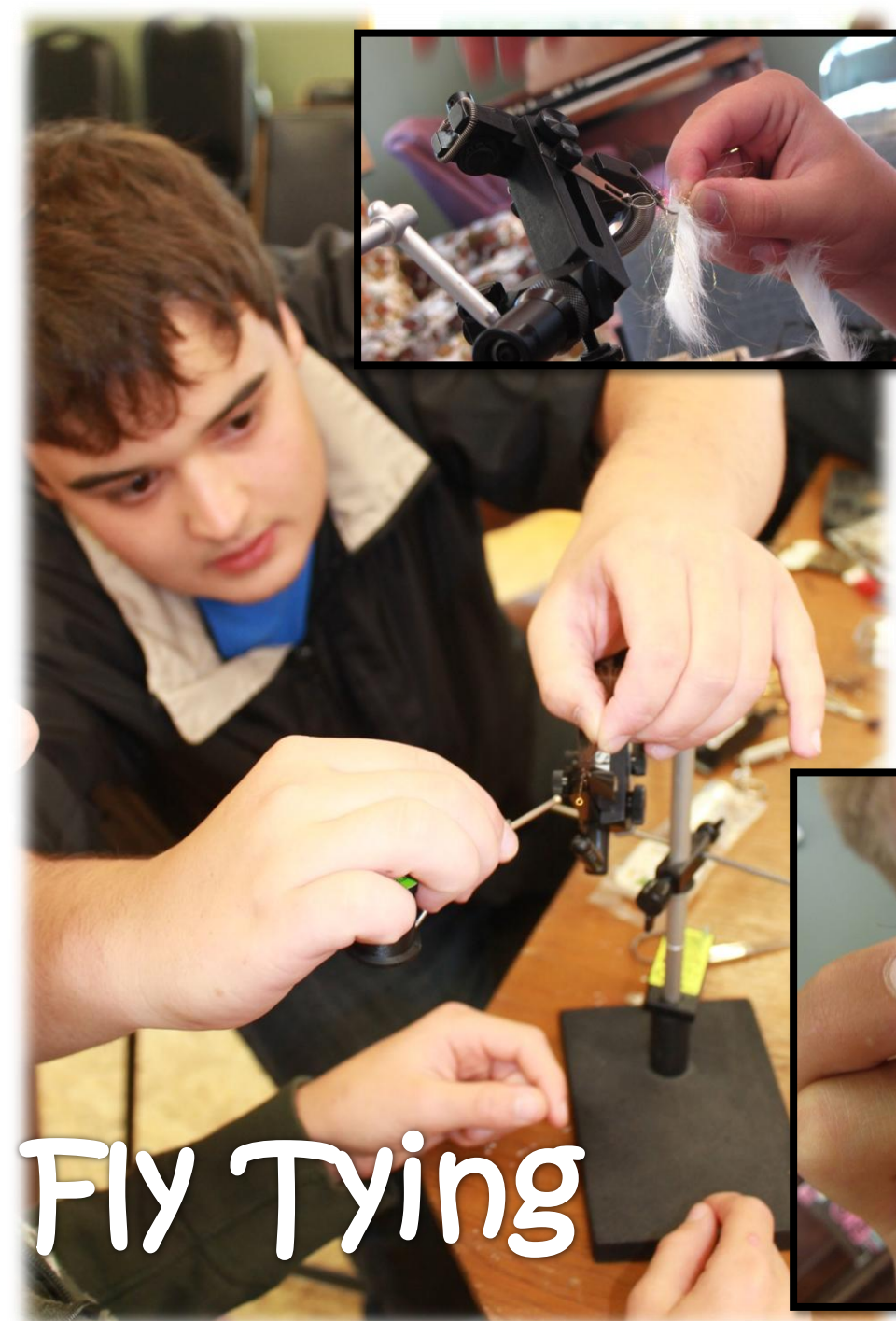


Fly Casting

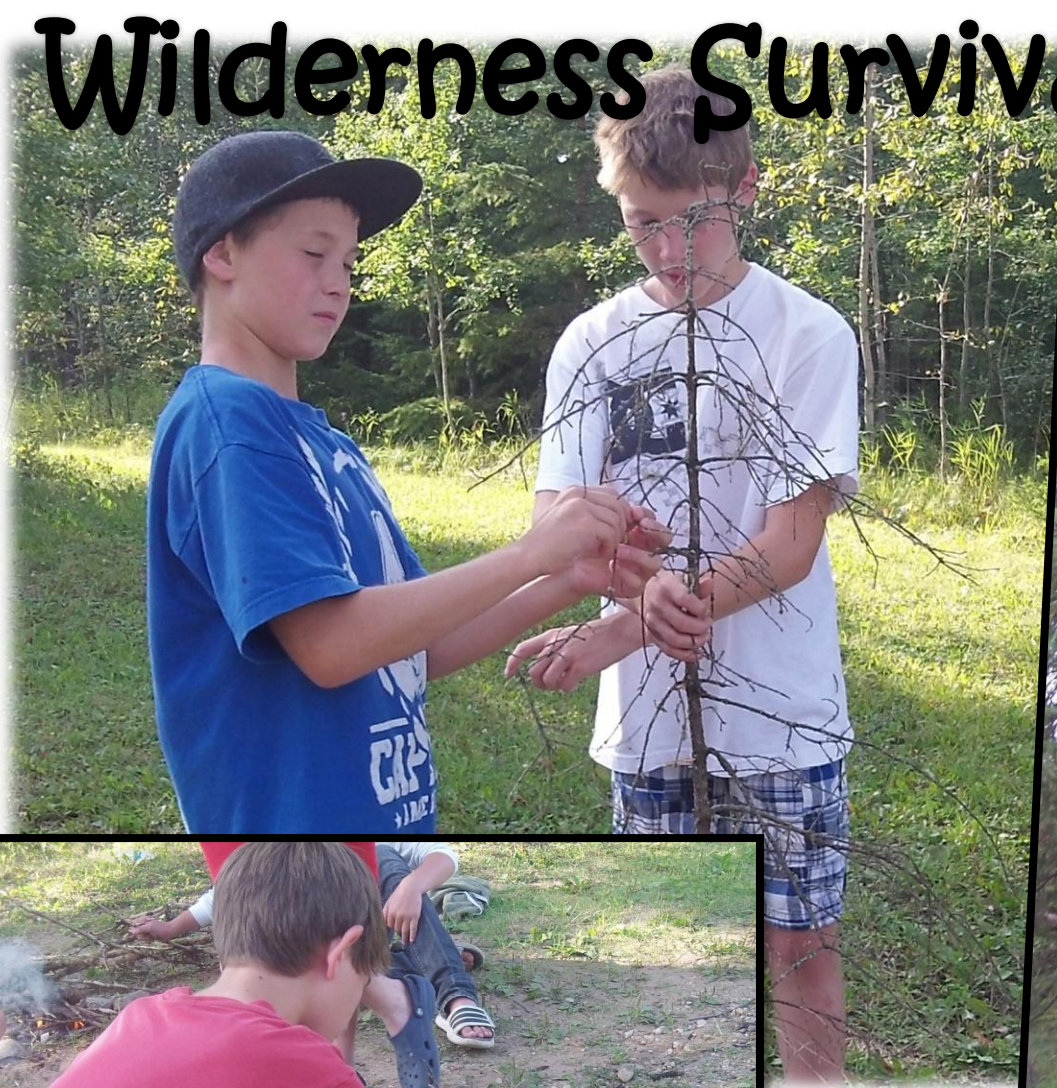
Knot Tying



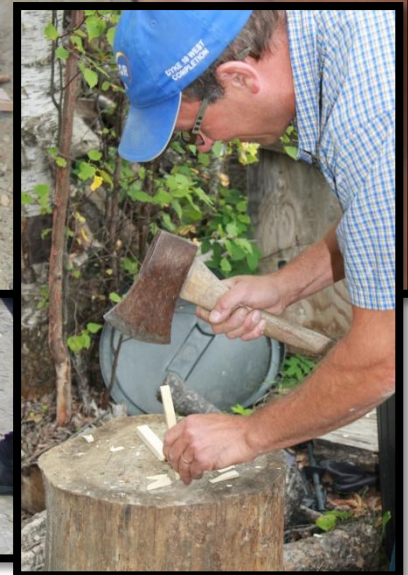
Fly Tying



Wilderness Survival & Tree I.D



Tea Boiling Competition



Park Patrol

Story Time & Presentation





Message from our President:

I Can't wait until Camp
next year!!