North Central 4-H Camp Provides Experiences that Enhance Life Skills and Promotes Lifelong Learning

“4-H camp has changed my life for the better and has taught me how to be a better person. To make a difference in a young child’s life lifts your spirit so high you never want to come down. Giving them a chance to grow and learn is the most rewarding experience I have ever had.”

Kyle, Camp Counselor
In 2015, Kentucky 4-H camp served over 32,000 youth and adults at day camps and overnight ventures. 4-H youth are 70% more likely to attend college and 20% more likely to graduate from college (Positive Youth Development Survey, Tuft University, 2009).

North Central 4-H Camp is located on 350 acres of rolling hills and forested land near Lake Carnico. North Central serves 28 counties and can accommodate 358 campers and counselors in its heated cabins and bath houses. The camp offers a restored, historic log cabin for nature activities, swimming pool with waterslide, facilities for rifle and archery classes, bird blind for nature classes, observation bee hive, low and high ropes challenge course, and trails for hiking. The six acre lake offers opportunities for fishing, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boating, and pond studies. The shelter house and the lakeside campfire area are perfect for evening programs and special events. Many learn to swim for the first time at 4-H camp. North Central 4-H Camp has been accredited by the American Camp Association since 2005.

The 4-H approach to learning has always been and still is “learn by doing”. Camp is in a non-formal setting that provides experiential learning for youth 9 to 14 years of age. Campers report making new friends, exhibit responsibility for themselves and their belongings, and learn something new that can be used at home and school. The camp experience leads to participating in other 4-H activities including: afterschool programs, special interest clubs and leadership opportunities. 4-H campers who develop into leaders sometimes return to the camp as camp counselors to impact the next generation.