

# 4-H SPACE ADVENTURE CAMP

## CELL PHONE/ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY AGREEMENT

- Campers and counselors are not allowed to bring to camp any cell phone, iPod, handheld electronic game, tablet, laptop, or other communications device capable of accessing the internet through WiFi or another external network.
- If such a device is brought to camp by either a camper or a counselor, it will be held by the Camp Director until the conclusion of camp.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand that I am not to bring a cell phone or other device as  
(Print name of camper/counselor)  
described above to camp.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Camper/Counselor                      Date

### **Message to Parents:**

We know in this high tech era that it's difficult for youth to not be in constant contact with their families and friends via Facebook, texting, or cell phone calls. However, camp is a unique experience. The camp experience helps youth develop life skills including independence and self-reliance. Among the concerns that make bringing and using cell phones and other communications devices inappropriate at camp are:

- Concern that such expensive devices will be lost, damaged, or stolen. OSU Extension, camp, and staff cannot accept responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged items at camp.
- Inappropriate use of photo and video devices. We know from media reports that the ease of uploading *inappropriate* photos and videos is a concern. Cyberbullying is not permitted before, during, or after camp.

In addition, youth contact with home when they are suffering a temporary spate of homesickness at camp may cause the condition to worsen. We fully appreciate and respect the positive relationships our campers and counselors have with their families, but if they are to benefit fully from the camp experience, they must be encouraged to develop the skills of independence and self-reliance. If there is an emergency, or if we are concerned about the youth's well-being, we will contact the parents or guardians immediately. Campers are constantly in the company of other campers and counselors while at camp, and our camps are staffed with many caring adults, including a camp nurse.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the above policy and agree to the  
(Print Name of Parent/Guardian)  
guidelines stated, including that the cell phone or other device will be collected and held by camp staff and returned at the end of camp if the policy is violated. I understand that if there is an emergency and I need to reach my child while s/he is at camp, I may do so by contacting the Camp Director at (740) 591-7423.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian                      Date