



# Welcome to Camp El-O-Win Family and Group Camping

We are delighted you have chosen to spend a few of your summer days among the trees at El-O-Win. Dinkey Creek is rushing, the squirrels are scurrying and the stars at night are second to none.

The health and safety of campers, staff and volunteers on-site has always been and remains our #1 priority. We comply with CDC, California, and Fresno County Health Department guidelines. Over the past couple years, we have learned that with Covid, the situation can change (and usually does). We appreciate everyone doing their part to help keep El-O-Win campers as safe as possible.

## **The Health Department's IMPORTANT WAYS TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID include:**

- Cleaning surfaces using soap and water, then using disinfectant.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Wearing a mask to protect yourself and others and stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from others who don't live with you.
- Avoiding crowds.

## **Alcohol & Illegal Drug Policy (passed January 2016 by Board of Directors)**

- Possession and/or use of alcohol, illegal drugs and marijuana is forbidden at Camp El-O-Win.
- No person may attend an event or come onto camp property under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs; and
- Participants may not leave a Friends of Camp El-O-Win sponsored event or the El-O-Win site and then return after consuming alcohol or using illegal drugs.

**Smoking:** Pre-designated smoking areas are the **ONLY** areas in camp where **adults** may smoke. These areas include the dining hall campfire circle, the main campfire circle or the unit campfire circle. Smoking **IS NOT PERMITTED** in buildings or in front of campers. Please dispose of cold cigarette butts in the lined trash can, not the campfire.

**Pets:** Campers are not allowed to bring pets of any kind to camp.

**Firearms:** Possession of any firearms is strictly forbidden at Camp El-O-Win.

## **Fireworks:**

- No Fireworks of any kind are permitted at Camp El-O-Win.
- Shaver Lake is holding its annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks show on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Campers often leave camp and go the Shaver Lake for the evening.

## **Personal Gear**

- We encourage shoes with closed toe & heel. We discourage sandals.
- Evenings can be quite cool even in the middle of summer so bring clothing layers to keep warm. The sleeping areas are not heated.
- Water bottles, sun block and bug repellent are handy to have.

- We **STRONGLY** suggest that all campers leave electronic games, phones and music players at home. El-O-Win dirt is very fine and dust does unmentionable things to electronics. We are in the out of doors to enjoy the out of doors.
- There is no cell phone reception in camp. Shaver Lake is the last place to get reception. Access to outlets for phone charging is extremely limited.
- If you bring propane lanterns or propane camp stoves, they cannot be taken inside any building or tents.
- We have logs for sitting around the campfire. You may choose to bring camp chairs.

#### **Unit Equipment:**

- You are welcome to use the equipment in each unit – brooms, rakes, shovels, galvanized buckets and a table.
- Each unit has one fire circle for wood and charcoal fires – you will need to share with the other groups in your living unit.
- There is plenty of firewood at camp. **DO NOT BRING FIREWOOD!** Fire starters may be helpful if the pine needles are wet.
- We supply toilet paper.
- Beds and/or mattress are furnished depending on unit assignment.

#### **Snacks and Food:**

- Please do not chew gum at camp.
- Having food in the tents or cabins puts all campers in a risky situation. The goodies attract furry food lovers that are messy and more destructive than cute.
- All sleeping units have metal boxes with clasps to secure the door. These are called bear boxes and are used to store food. Bears are unable to open them.
- Make sure snacks and food are secured.
- **DO NOT** wash dishes in the troughs please. Use the buckets to heat water.

#### **Arrival at Camp (oh boy!):**

- It takes about an hour and a half to get to Camp El-O-Win from the Clovis/Fresno area.
- Once you arrive at camp, drive to main camp (dining hall area) for check-in.
- There is a bathroom at the parking lot (looks like an outhouse but we call it a BIFFY – Bathroom in Forest For You). It has an RV type toilet, so it flushes by stepping on a foot pedal and holding it down (water shuts off as soon as you remove your foot). Handwashing sinks are available outside the kitchen near the dining hall.
- At check-in, the Camp Host will ask you to verify the number of children and adults in your group.
- Please drive slowly (**5 mph**) to your assigned campsite, unload. Depending on the number of people in camp, you may be allowed to keep your cars in your unit or you may be asked to move cars back to the main parking lot past the Dining Hall. ***BACK YOUR CAR IN SO IT IS FACING THE WAY OUT!***

#### **Activities:**

- Included in the packet is a listing of **Camp El-O-Win Activity Ideas**.
- There are several **swimming** spots along Dinkey Creek. At the beginning of the season, Dinkey Creek flows swiftly and is ice cold because it is melted snow. Water shoes are **STRONGLY** encouraged because the creek's bed is made up of round rocks which are slippery and unstable. **There is no lifeguard on duty. DO NOT DRINK THE CREEK WATER**, it contains organisms that will make you ill.
- Camp El-O-Win t-shirts and patches, among other items will be available for sale at the camp's Trading Post. **The Trading Post** will be open on Sunday morning at each event. Cash, check and credit cards (all) are accepted. Items can be ordered online at The El-O-Win Outlet

[www.campelowin.org](http://www.campelowin.org), under the S'more tab. If you are not in camp on Sunday and would like the Trading Post open, email the Camp Registrar before camp [info@campelowin.org](mailto:info@campelowin.org).

- **Campfires** can be used for cooking meals, heating water for dishes or for roasting marshmallows. A galvanized bucket filled with water **must be placed adjacent to the fire circle** to use in the event of an emergency or to put the fire out at the end of the evening. Because of the high fire danger, the flame should not exceed 24" in height. Place a 2' stick in your water bucket so "small furries" that fall in can escape.

#### **Water:**

- The shower house will be available. We conserve water wherever we can. A schedule will be posted based on the number of people in camp.
- Drinking water is a most precious commodity at camp. Please turn off all faucets. **PRACTICE WATER CONSERVATION!**
- Wash hands frequently. Hand soap is provided at all sinks.

#### **Trash:**

- Dumpsters in the parking lot are for your use.
- NEVER leave food or trash in the units unprotected, even during the day.
- Bears live in this forest too. By keeping our trash in the dumpsters and food put away, we have avoided the bear problems public campgrounds have.
- The dumpster has chains with clasps. Please replace and clasp the chain after you place your garbage in the dumpster.
- Trash bags gain weight quickly. Dump beverage liquids down the sink, not into the trash can. Paper and food scraps can be mixed in the bag. Each unit has a white container for disposal of aluminum cans and plastic recyclable bottles. We recycle and put the money into camp.

#### **Camp Phone:**

- The phone at camp is for emergency calls only.
- Adults needing to use the phone need to bring a calling card.
- The camp number is 559-841-7799.

#### **Health and Safety:**

- Lifeguards and a First Aiders are not on site for rental groups and families.
- If someone in your family/group is not feeling well and exhibits Covid-19 symptoms (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea) please notify the Camp Host. She has access to a thermometer. If the person's temperature is elevated, he/she will be checked again in 2 hours. If the temperature remains elevated or increases, a decision will be made about the person remaining in camp.

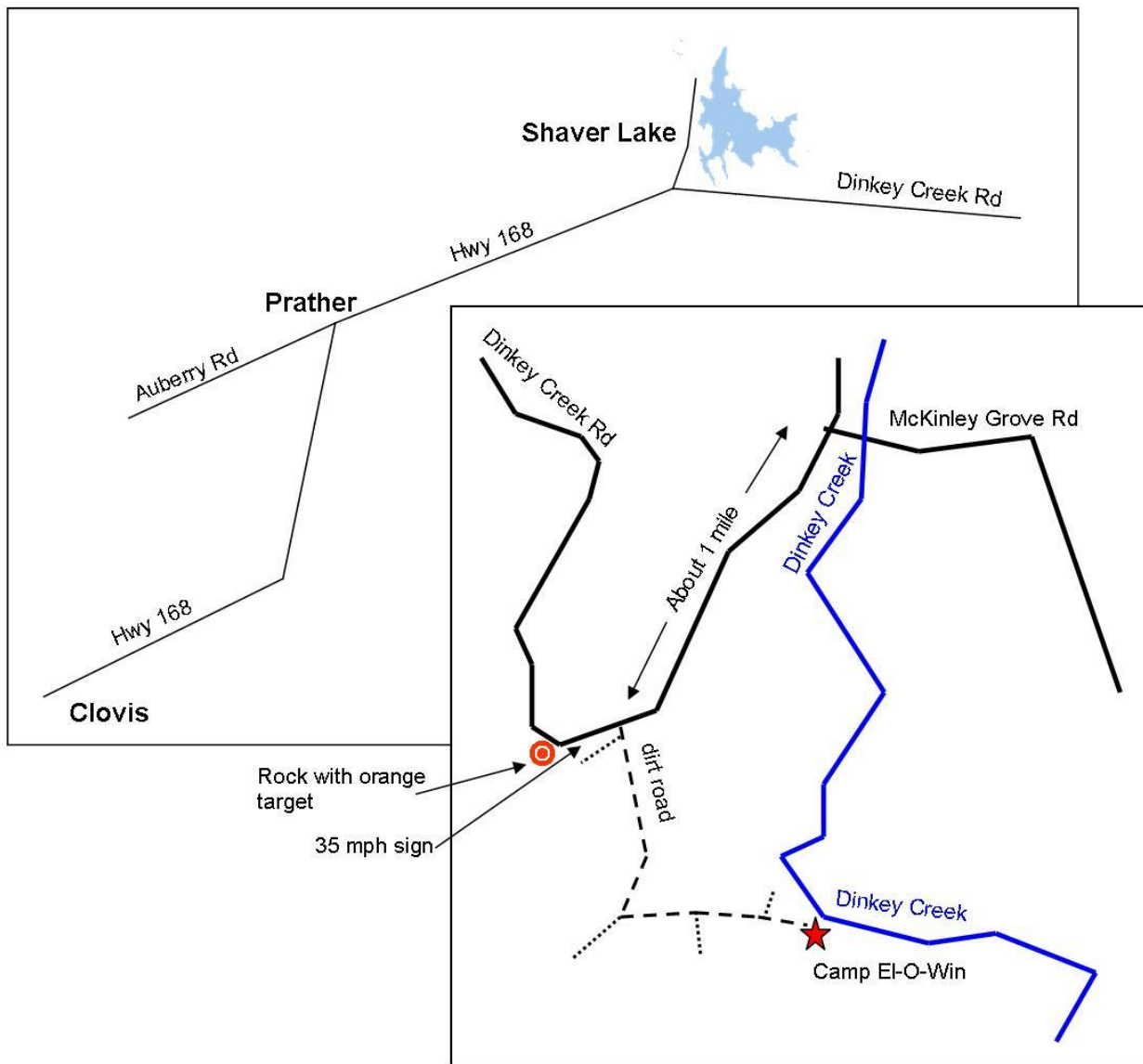
#### **Departure:**

As part of preparing to depart, campers are asked to:

- Clean unit: disinfect and turn mattresses, sweep cabins, disinfect trough & biffy, pick up trash and take it to dumpster in parking lot;
- Dirty rags should be brought to the Camp Host in main camp at Check-Out.

## Directions to Camp El-O-Win

52710 Dinkey Creek Road, Shaver Lake CA



- Take Hwy 168 to Dinkey Creek Road. You will be in the community of Shaver Lake but will not see the lake. Turn right.
- You are on Dinkey Creek Road for about 12 miles.
- You are close to our turn off when you see the orange target painted on a rock.
- The road bends to the left and you will see a 35 mph sign
- Our dirt road is just ahead on the right. Look for the Camp El-O-Win sign. Turn right.
- The road forks right away – stay left.
- When the road forks again – stay left.
- The next fork is our road straight ahead and the main dirt road bends hard to the right. If you miss our road, you will go uphill. Remember you are working your way down to the river so if you go uphill, turn around.
- Camp is straight down this road. There is a road to the left but do not turn.
- You will go through our gate and will pass some cabins. When you get to the large building, the dining hall & kitchen, STOP!

## Camp El-O-Win

# Suggested Personal Equipment

This Equipment List is for 3 days and includes the clothing your camper wears on the day she arrives at camp. No one knows your camper's habits like you do, so pack accordingly. We suggest packing all items in a duffel bag. Suitcases tend to be bulky so duffel bags are preferred. The soft sided duffels with zippers running the length of the bag are easiest to live out of for a few days. Camp is at 5,500 feet so nights can be in the 30's while days are in the 90's.

## Clothing

- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 pair cotton pants (well washed)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 pair shorts
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 cotton/polyester shirts **with sleeves**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 sets of underwear
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 pairs socks (cotton or wool)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 pairs of shoes (not sandals) - one should be an old pair of tennis shoes for wearing in the creek
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warm jacket with hood (or warm cap)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Brimmed hat for sun shade
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warm pajamas or sweat shirt & pants
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hooded sweatshirt or warm sweater & hat for warmth
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warm socks for sleeping
- \_\_\_\_\_ Belt for jeans
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bag for dirty clothes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bathing suit/old shirt & shorts for creek
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

## Personal Items

- \_\_\_\_\_ Ponytail holder if hair is long
- \_\_\_\_\_ Toothbrush and toothpaste
- \_\_\_\_\_ Soap - best if biodegradable
- \_\_\_\_\_ Towel & wash cloth
- \_\_\_\_\_ Beach towel for swimming
- \_\_\_\_\_ Comb or brush
- \_\_\_\_\_ Kleenex
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chapstick/lip balm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Insect repellent (non-aerosol)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sunblock
- \_\_\_\_\_ Flashlight
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bandana
- \_\_\_\_\_ Deodorant
- \_\_\_\_\_ Shampoo/conditioner
- \_\_\_\_\_ Feminine Sanitary Supplies
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

## Sleeping Items

- \_\_\_\_\_ Sleeping bag (if no bag, a bedroll made from several blankets can be used). A mattress and bed will be available for each camper. An extra blanket is great if the sleeping bag is not very warm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small pillow
- \_\_\_\_\_ Favorite stuffed animal (small)

## Other Items

- \_\_\_\_\_ Glasses case for night storage
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rain poncho or large heavy trash bag
- \_\_\_\_\_ Water bottle
- \_\_\_\_\_ Camera
- \_\_\_\_\_ Journal and pen
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book to read
- \_\_\_\_\_ Masks – in case of need
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

- Remember the **layered look** is the proper camp style for warmth and to accommodate weather changes.

# **Camp El-O-Win Activity Ideas Bring Your Own Supplies**

## **Crafts**

- Crayon rubbings
- Nature mosaic
- Nature weaving
- Painting
- Pine needle baskets
- Plaster of Paris animal tracks
- Sculpture with pinecones, puzzle bark
- Sketching with charcoal, color pencil, crayons
- Sun prints

## **Nature Activities**

- Bring your Binoculars – what do you see?
- Bird study
- Flower identification
- Paint chip color hike
- Rock geology
- Stargazing
- Tree study
- Un-nature Hike - items NOT found in nature are hidden along trail, campers search for them
- Wildlife identification
- Map reading and map making
- Trail signs

## **Performing Arts**

- Campfire skits
- Nosebag dramatics – put random (the more random the better) items in brown bag, divide campers in groups, each group must use items in bag in original skit
- Read/Tell story
- Singing: camp songs and original songs to fit the theme
- Talent show

## **Swimming places - Swim at your own risk**

- Apache Wells: below Arapaho
- D & O: in camp behind Orion cabin
- Pioneer: down river past Apache Wells
- Secret Attic: upriver from D & O
- Strawberry

## **Take a Hike!**

- Cave: about 20 minutes
- Follow the river: several nice spots to walk to - about 20 minutes
- Frode: rock formation above camp, great for star gazing
- Loop in camp: don't forget the grinding holes
- Rock hop: for as long as you want
- Strawberry swimming hole: 30-minute walk

## **Service project for camp**