



Why work at camp?

Camp Elk River I

Live, play and work in the great outdoors!

Make a difference in campers' lives and be a role model.

Make new friends from all over the world.

Receive training on child development, teaching techniques, leadership skills, and DEI.

Gain problem solving and collaboration skills that you can take with you no matter where your career takes you.

Our Mission

Building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts River Valleys is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, access, and racial justice, and is working to boldly lead as an anti-racist organization that uplifts and empowers every Girl Scout to know their worth and lead in their world. This means leading not just with words, but with actions.



Working at camp

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Work hours are 7 am – 11 pm with 2 hours off during the day.

Work week is Saturday – Friday with one day off each week (typically a Friday or Saturday).

Meals and lodging available for the summer (meals will not be served during the 4th of July break).

Camp Elk River has WIFI in select locations at camp. The dining hall/office, program center, staff lounge, and staff safe spaces are the only places with internet access.

Laundry is available on camp.

Girl Scouts River Valleys is an equal opportunity employer. We do hire staff of all genders.

Our camps are open to girls (including cisgender and transgender girls) and individuals who don't identify with the gender binary, including those who identify as transgender, non-binary, gender fluid, and gender nonconforming.



Living at camp

■ Camp Elk River



Camp Elk River is located in Zimmerman, MN on 1,130 acres of land. The nearest city is 10-15 minutes away. Minneapolis and St. Paul are 30-60 minutes away.

On days off transportation will be provided to either go to town to buy needed items and 3 times we will offer rides to participate in a Minnesota based activity – past activities have included going to Twins/Saints game, Mall of America, river tubing, going to a rodeo, and Minneapolis Sculpture Garden.

There are a variety of places staff will live while at Camp Elk River. All locations have bathrooms and showers located inside the living space. Counselors and Specialist change living locations about every 2 weeks.



Sleeping accommodations at Camp Elk River:

- Dorms are insulated, year-round, indoor sleeping spaces with bunk beds, bathrooms, and showers. They sleep 60 people and contain a separate room for staff
- Four-season cabins have bunk beds, sleep eight campers, and have electricity. Staff have a half wall separating them from the campers and are allowed to put up a curtain for more privacy.
- Staff may also be scheduled to sleep in a tent with another staff member for 1-4 nights at a time.



A day in the life of staff

■ Camp Elk River I

7:00 am:	Campers wake up, get dressed, and head to morning gathering. Counselors may need to set their alarm a few minutes earlier so they are available to help campers get ready for the day.
8:00 am:	Breakfast. You'll sit with 6-8 campers to help them learn proper table manners, engage all campers in conversation, develop camaraderie, and ensure that campers are eating a well-balanced meal.
8:45 am:	Brief staff meeting, and then counselors lead campers in completing kapers (a.k.a. camp chores) like picking up litter, sweeping, emptying garbage, cleaning up cabins, etc.
9:00 am:	Program time: Staff organize and lead a variety of camper activities like archery, canoeing, art, outdoor skills, swimming, and so much more (staff are encouraged to get creative!) Staff working the horse program will lead campers in riding and/or barn science lessons.
12:15 am:	Lunchtime! You'll refuel with your campers over a healthy meal and good conversation.
Rest Hour:	While campers rest and relax in their cabins or do individual activities, you'll check-in to ensure they are using this quiet time to themselves to re-energize. You might use this time to work on a lesson plan, paperwork, scheduling, or a new activity idea.
Late Afternoon:	You'll lead program time for your group and help with all-camp activities, like open swim, hiking, or boating. Staff working with Horses head back to the barn to lead more riding and barn science lessons.

5:15 pm:

Dinnertime! At dinner, staff ensure campers are eating enough (they're expending lots of energy during the day!) and are connecting with others and feeling comfortable at camp.

Evening:

You might lead an activity with your group, like Gaga Ball or a sunset walk, or help lead an all-camp activity like songs and s'mores around the campfire.

Bedtime starts sometime between 8:45 and 9:15: Staff ensure campers are ready for the night (teeth brushed, PJ's on, tick check complete, hair brushed, etc.) and winding down for a good night's rest. Then, you'll turn in for the night and get re-energized to do it all over again the next day! Even when sleeping, staff members in units need to be available to comfort campers who may be homesick, help with night trips to the bathroom, and attend any other of the campers' needs. Staff curfew is 11pm.



