

**APACHE SPRINGS PROGRAM COUNSELOR  
POSITION DESCRIPTION****POSITION CONCEPT**

The Apache Springs Program Counselor is responsible for cheerfully and willingly serving as a member the camp staff, whose objective is to serve the campers and advisors who come to Philmont. Primary responsibility is to help make the program at Apache Springs meet the expectations of those who participate and help fulfill the Archery and Jicarilla Apache Ethnology program and the entire work load of the camp. This position reports directly to the Camp Director.

**PHILMONT REQUIREMENTS**

- Provide and maintain a cheerful, helpful and efficient service to all Philmont guests. Insure that all participants have an enjoyable experience. When possible, solve their needs and concerns, when not possible, steer them to someone who can.
- Carry out the prescribed policies and procedure of the Philmont Scout Ranch as outlined in the Staff Guidebook and during staff training.
- Become familiar with all materials supplied prior to the camping season.
- Present oneself to every participant and guest clean, sharp appearing and correctly uniformed as described in the Staff Guidebook.
- Become familiar with all pertinent Philmont policies and procedures.
- Must be 18 years of age by time of employment.

**PRINCIPLE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- At the direction and supervision of the Camp Director, participate in the specialized program training during staff training week.
- Become thoroughly familiar with all information relative to the program specialty, so you can answer questions and deliver a stimulating and informative program of consistently high quality.
- Under the direction of the Camp Director, continue on-the-job training throughout the season, sharing your expertise with fellow staff members and learning theirs through cross training.
- Responsible for seeing that proper archery range safety procedures are stressed to each camper before any shooting activity takes place and that these procedures are followed implicitly for the safe enjoyment of everyone.

**DAILY OPERATIONS**

- Present programs on time with all materials on hand, ready to go.
- Present a program that imparts useful knowledge that supports aims and objective of the Boy Scouts of America and is fun, challenging, stimulating and safe.
- Maintain a clean and efficient program area.

- Check material frequently and keep the Camp Director informed of any supplies needed.
- Insure proper use, security and care of program equipment.
- Help your Camp Director compile information for the end of season report from your observations and knowledge of the Archaeology program(s), and complete a separate report detailing the work and duties completed as the Archaeologist.
- Assist with camp chores – cleaning showers and latrines, checking in crews, checking trails and trail camps.
- Assist with other staff responsibilities as directed by the Camp Director to insure that the mission of the Philmont Scout Ranch is carried out.

## PROGRAM OPERATIONS

- As a program counselor at **Apache Springs** camp, you will present an historical and ethological overview of Jicarilla Apache culture from roughly 1705 to 1880. Your program will feature several varied presentations that will serve to illuminate the life and culture of the Jicarilla.
  - You will present a brief history of the Jicarilla in the Philmont country, describe their hunting and farming methods, demonstrate corn grinding and arrowhead making, and make a tour through a simulated Jicarilla tepee village. It is important to involve your campers in these activities as much as possible so that they might better understand and appreciate the life of the Native Americans.
- Primary program features include:
  - Tipi Tour – Describe the use and functionality of the tipi and their importance to the nomadic nature of some tribes. Discuss daily life of the tribe, use of the various artifacts on display, including furs, hunting implements, and daily use items.
  - Sweat Lodge – Crews love the opportunity to participate in the sweat lodge program at Apache. Describe the history and importance of the sweat lodge, as well as proper safety and operation procedures to each crew.
  - Flint Knapping – Provide crews the opportunity to make their own arrowhead. Discuss proper safety procedures and demonstrate the proper techniques on how to make an arrowhead.
  - 3D Archery – Conduct a safe and informative 3D archery program.
    - Archery activities at Apache Springs are dictated by camp specific SOPs. Become familiar with all SOPs prior to any participant activity.
    - Present Range Safety Briefings prior to all shooting sports activities.
    - Ensure ranges and archery equipment is safe to utilize prior to all shooting sports activities.
    - Demonstrate proper usage, and operation of all equipment and proper shooting positions to ensure a safe and memorable experience.
    - Ensure all shooting logbooks, participant logbooks, and firearm logs are completed daily.
    - Daily cleaning and inspection of all archery equipment is required.
    - Sporting Arrows – This is a fairly new program for the BSA and Philmont! This program uses a specialized thrower that launches a foam target into the air, then a group of archers then try to shoot this target out of the sky. Separate SOP's are established for this program and crews are given an

opportunity to participate as an afternoon or evening program. (Especially important for layover crews to participate.)

- Please note: Personal archery equipment is not allowed at backcountry camps.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

It is important that as a program counselor in Jicarilla Apache Native American culture you become familiar with the ethnographic literature pertaining to the tribe.

The Jicarilla (Hic-a-ree-ya) Apache tribe was the major Native American group inhabiting the Philmont country when Spaniards first visited the area at the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. These Native Americans developed a diversified economy, exploiting natural food plants, raising corn, and also hunting deer, elk, bear and buffalo in the mountains and plains of Northeastern New Mexico

The following bibliography offers resources that will assist in learning more regarding the history and culture of the Jicarilla.

- Gunnerson, Dolores, *The Jicarilla Apaches*, (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1974)
- Laubin, Reginald, and Gladys Laubin, *The Indian Tepee*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press)
- Mails, Thomas E., *The People Called Apache*, (Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1974)
- Murphy, Lawrence R., *Philmont*, (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1972)
- Opler, Morris, *Childhood and Youth in Jicarilla Apache Society*, (Los Angeles: Southwest Museum, 1946)
- Opler, Morris, *Myths and Tales of the Jicarilla Apache Indian*, (New Your, Kraus Reprint Company, 1969)
- Wilson, Clyde, *Jicarilla Apache Political and Economical Structures*, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1964)