



Audubon Center of the North Woods

Experience Your Environment

Dear Summer Youth Camp Participant,

Happy summer! Thank you for registering for an Audubon Center of the North Woods summer camp program. We're looking forward to meeting you and providing a week of fun and adventure for you this summer. These pages contain information intended to assist you with your planning and packing. Each day will be filled with new activities, both on and off-site. If you have any further questions after reviewing this information, please do not hesitate to email or call us at email or number listed below.

LOCATION: The Audubon Center of the North Woods is a 535-acre residential environmental learning center located on the shores of beautiful Grindstone Lake near Sandstone, MN. We're approximately 90 miles north of the Twin Cities and 70 miles south of Duluth, just minutes west of Interstate 35. Driving directions are included in this packet.

STAFF: Our Naturalist Intern staff are highly qualified individuals who will provide a safe and nurturing environment for our summer campers. All staff have basic first aid and CPR training and a few are certified Wilderness First Responders. They embrace our mission to **instill a connection and commitment to the environment in people of all communities through experiential learning.**

We're looking forward to seeing you!

Connie Haugen
Program Director

Questions? Call or email Connie at 320-245-2648, ext. 111 or haugen@audubon-center.org

REQUIRED FORMS: The following forms provide us with essential information and are **REQUIRED** for you to participate. They should be completed and returned at least two weeks prior to the start of camp.

- Participant information sheet
- Health/Medical Form
- Liability Release
- Behavior contract

Send completed forms to:

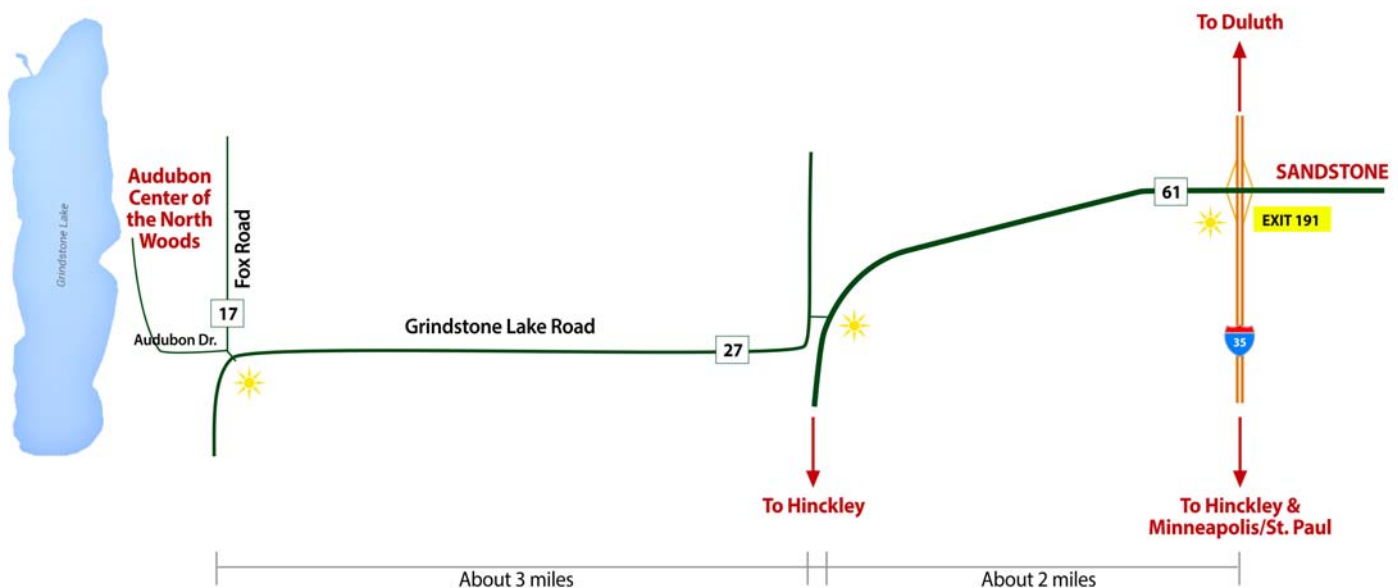
Email: audubon1@audubon-center.org, fax: 320-245-5272, mail: ACNW, PO Box 530, Sandstone, MN 55072:

TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Arrival: Please plan to drop off your camper(s) at the Center between 3:00-4:00 pm on the first day of camp. If you are planning to stay nearby overnight, local accommodations include: Eagle's Inn (320-384-6112), Days Inn (320-384-7751), Grand Northern Inn (320-384-4702), and Americas Best Value Inn (320-245-5284), which are all within 15 miles of ACNW.

Departure: Camp ends at 1:00 pm on the last day of camp. Please plan to join us for lunch and a special presentation at noon! We would love to meet you and are sure your camper(s) would enjoy showing you around. *Don't forget your ID to check out your student from camp.*

AUDUBON CENTER DRIVING DIRECTIONS



Audubon Center of the North Woods
54165 Audubon Dr., Sandstone, MN 55072 ☎ 320-245-2648

Audubon Center GPS coordinates
(46.117186384284004, -92.99793720245361)

1. From Interstate 35, exit on the Sandstone **Exit 191** (then watch for signs the whole way).
2. Go west/southwest on Hwy 61 just over two miles.
3. Take a right on County Road 27, cross the Munger bike trail, turn left at the 'T' (Grindstone Lake Road) and go just over three miles.
4. Take a right on County Road 17 (Fox Road) and turn left almost immediately between the stone pillars (Audubon Road – our driveway).
5. Follow our driveway (one mile) all the way until it ends at the parking lot and the office.



SUMMER CAMP PACKING LIST

Check off each item as it is packed so you don't forget anything. Save the list for repacking at the end of the session at the Audubon Center. **We may even have some limited equipment, i.e., sleeping bag, to lend out – PLEASE CONTACT US!** On any particular day, we will probably wear shorts and a T-shirt. Evenings may be chilly.

Required

- Large daypack (a large school book bag will work)
- Sleeping bag with a stuff sack
- Pillow
- 2 towels (One beach towel and one bath towel)
- 1 washcloth
- Water bottle (1 quart or larger)
- Rain gear (jacket and pants)
- 5 -7 pairs socks
- Sufficient underwear (1 pair/day)
- 3 - 6 Short sleeved t-shirts
- Long sleeved shirt
- 1 sweater, jacket, fleece or sweatshirt
- Shorts (2-3 pairs)
- Long pants (at least 2 pairs)
- Swimsuit
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.
- 1 pair of sneakers, that can get dirty
- 1 pair of durable, outdoor sandals (no flip flops)
- 1 hat or cap for sun protection

Optional

- Postage stamps, paper, envelopes, notebook
- Journal
- Sunglasses
- Bandana
- Binoculars
- Poison ivy medication
- Feminine napkins and/or tampons (girls)
- Camp store spending money (we will hold this aside at registration for your camper to use in the Nature Store only)

It should not be necessary to purchase new hiking boots or any fancy gear, for that matter. Tennis shoes will work just as well and won't have to be broken in.

*Except for a camera, please **DO NOT PACK** electronic devices, such as cell phones, iPods, or clocks. These detract from the experience!*



**Audubon Center
of the North Woods**
Experience Your Environment

Participant Information Sheet

Audubon Center Summer Camp Sessions

- Rocks, Ropes & Rafts, June 25-30, 2017
- Outdoor Explorations, July 9-14, 2017
- Ways of Wildlife, July 30 - August 4, 2017

Please email, fax or mail back to us two weeks prior to the first day of camp!

(Email: audubon1@audubon-center.org, Fax: 320-245-5272,
Address: ACNW, PO Box 530, Sandstone, MN 55072)

Camper Name: _____

Nickname: _____

Last grade completed: _____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PARTICIPANT: (Write on extra sheet of paper, if more space is needed)

1. Why do you want to attend summer camp at the Audubon Center?

2. What do you do with your free time?

3. Have you had other camp experiences? Yes _____ No _____ If yes, where? _____

TO BE FILLED OUT BY PARENT:

1. How did you learn about summer youth camp at the Audubon Center?

2. What do you hope your child will learn from this experience?

3. What general or specific comments/suggestions do you have for your child's instructor/counselor that will help make this a comfortable and rewarding experience?



Camper Health Form

Please send completed and signed form to:
Audubon Center of the North Woods
PO Box 530, Sandstone, MN 55072
Phone: 320-245-2648; Fax: 320-245-5272
Email: audubon1@audubon-center.org

This form is essential for your child's safety and enjoyment of the session. Please take the time to fill it out completely and accurately. Your thoroughness in answering these questions will enable us to respond to any problem or emergency which may arise during your child's stay with us. **This form must be received two weeks prior to the start of camp in order for your child to attend camp.**

General Information

Full Name: _____ Age: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

Birthdate: _____ (Month / Date / Year)

Parent or Guardian: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ Business Phone: () _____

Family Doctor: _____ Phone: () _____

In an emergency, if unable to reach parent, contact: _____

Phone: () _____

Health Insurance Company: _____ Policy#: _____

Immunization History

Measles, Mumps, Rubella series dates _____, _____, _____

DTP series _____, _____, _____, _____ booster _____

Polio series _____, _____, _____

If the participant has not been immunized, a statement of conscientious objection (or medical reasons) signed by a parent or physician is required.

Tetanus shot: Please indicate the date of your child's last tetanus shot or booster shot below. If it has been more than 5 years, we suggest that a booster shot be administered before your child arrives at camp.

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Allergies

- insects - be specific _____
- penicillin
- aspirin
- other medication - please explain
- food - be specific _____

- fabric - be specific _____
- iodine
- cold
- heat

If you have checked any of the above, please describe the allergic reaction and how you treat it:

Does your child use any type of corrective brace or device? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, explain:

Is your child taking medication at the present time? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, explain:

Special Information (Check if yes)

- contact lenses
- recent exposure to contagious disease
- sleepwalking
- bedwetting
- Raynaud's Syndrome
- Crohn's Disease
- chronic diarrhea
- rheumatic fever
- hypothermia
- poor circulation
- abnormal blood pressure
- seizures
- dizziness
- eyestrain or light sensitivity

- heart trouble
- diabetes
controlled by injection _____ *diet* _____
- mononucleosis
- back problems - please explain:
- knee or other joint problems - explain
- stomach or intestinal problems
- asthma
- bronchitis
- arthritis
- toothaches
- fainting
- hypertension
- ADD
- ADHD

If you have checked any of the above, has your child been treated or is now under treatment for the condition? Explain:

Are any activities to be restricted? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, explain:

I AM SENDING THE FOLLOWING MEDICATION ALONG WITH MY CHILD:

CHILD'S NAME: _____

NAME OF MEDICATION: _____

TO TAKE FOR: _____

DOSAGE (be specific): _____

I HEREBY GIVE PERMISSION FOR NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION (FOR EXAMPLE, TYLENOL) TO BE GIVEN TO MY CHILD IF DEEMED ADVISABLE BY THE ACNW STAFF.

Parent/Guardian or Participating Adult Signature _____

THE FOLLOWING NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN TO MY CHILD:

Swimming Ability (all campers will wear PFDs in and on the water)

_____ Non-Swimmer _____ Beginner _____ Average _____ Above Average _____ Very Good

Diet Requirements/Preferences:

Does your child require a special diet (INCLUDE GLUTEN, LACTOSE, NUT AND OTHER ALLERGIES/SENSITIVITIES)?
Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain in detail:

Is your child a _____ VEGETARIAN or a _____ VEGAN?

Any other information or direction from parent or guardian:

Medical Authorization:

I have answered the questions on the Health History form accurately and completely, and I believe that my child is in good physical condition and that he/she may participate fully in the trip activities. I realize the demands and expectations of this session and understand that I cannot hold the Audubon Center of the North Woods liable for any physical or medical problems that may result from my child's participation due to a previous condition not indicated on this form.

In the event I cannot be reached in an EMERGENCY, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by ACNW Staff to hospitalize, secure treatment for, and to order injections, anesthesia or surgery for my child as named below:

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature (required): _____

Please Print Parent/Guardian Name: _____



Liability Release Form

Please send completed and signed form to:
Audubon Center of the North Woods
PO Box 530, Sandstone, MN 55072
Phone: 320-245-2648; Fax: 320-245-5272
Email: audubon1@audubon-center.org

Form MUST be signed by parent/guardian before child can participate

Assumption of Risk and Liability Release

Participant Name _____

I will be participating / I authorize the above-named participant to participate in the program at the Audubon Center of the North Woods. I acknowledge and am aware that this program involves certain inherent risks which I expressly accept and assume. These risks may include (but are not limited to) physical injury, emotional injury, paralysis, permanent disability, illness, death or property damage due to inclement weather; walking on uneven trails; canoeing; cross country skiing; snowshoeing; rock climbing and belaying on an indoor climbing wall; a high ropes course activity; field trips to non-Audubon Center sites; and other peoples' actions. Following appropriate medical consultation, I have determined that my child's/my health is adequate to participate safely in this program (except as indicated on the Student or Adult Health Form). In the event of an emergency, I authorize treatment by emergency medical personnel.

Accordingly, I hereby voluntarily release and forever discharge the Audubon Center of the North Woods, including all of their personnel, agents, affiliates, staff and directors, from any and all liabilities to me with respect to injury, sickness, disease, loss or damage. This release applies to any and all liabilities to me or my estate of any description, whether arising from ordinary negligence or otherwise, and whether involving fees and expenses of any kind. In the event that some other person or entity seeks compensation for these released liabilities, I or my estate will indemnify and hold harmless the Audubon Center of the North Woods for all sums reasonably incurred in response to that claim. This release is to be interpreted and enforced under Minnesota law.

By signing this document, I understand and agree that if I am hurt or if my property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against the parties being release on the basis of any claim for negligence. I have had enough time to read this agreement and consult with legal counsel if I so chose to do so. I understand that this activity may not be made available to me if I were to choose not to sign this release. I have read and understood this document and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Parent/Guardian or Participating Adult Signature (required) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date _____

I am a (please check one of the following):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participant of legal age/adult. | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian/Chaperone who will attend the Audubon Center program. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian who will not be attending the Audubon Center program. | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/Staff Member of the participating school/group who will attend the Audubon Center program. |

Select one below (required):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I authorize the Audubon Center to use any photos taken during the visit in publicity materials for the Center and understand my/my child's name will not be used. | <input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not authorize the Audubon Center to use any photos taken during the visit in publicity materials |
|---|--|

(Parent/Guardian or Participating Adult Signature required)

Behavior Contract

I, _____ (print first & last name) promise:

- To be kind and polite to my instructors and all my fellow campers**
- To listen to directions, make safe decisions, and have a positive attitude**
- To make new friends, include others, and try new things**
- To follow all rules set by my instructors**
- To stay with the group at all times and not wander off**
- To be well-rested and prepared for all activities**
- To let the instructor know if you are being bullied or are uncomfortable**
- To take my medications if my parents require it**
- To have the BEST WEEK EVER!**

I also understand that:

- There is a “3 strikes, you’re out” bad behavior policy**
- Instructors will call my parents if needed**
- Cell phones are NOT allowed at any time**
- If I’m sent home, there is no refund of my camp tuition to my parents.**

(Camper's Signature – first & last name)

(Date)

Audubon Center of the North Woods

Camp Discipline Policy

Behaviors that will warrant talks with discipline supervisor(s): These may include a call home to parents and after 3 violations the camp participant will be sent home

- Disrespectful behaviors towards people, nature and animals (education animals or wild)
- Violation of quiet hours
- Running off from the group
- Not listening to directions (especially ones concerned with personal safety (i.e. life jackets and swimming/ water activities)
- Refusal to take medications
- Entering rooms that are not assigned to yourself
- Throwing food
- Using inappropriate language

Behaviors that when violated will have the camp participant sent home right away

Inappropriate behaviors such as:

- Stealing
- Intentional property damage (personal or the center's)
- Purposeful belligerence involving canoes, rafts, climbing or any other equipment
- Leaving the dorms (camping area) at night (without permission)
- Bullying & Threatening Harm
- Pantsing
- Sexual Harassment

Anything considered excessively hurtful to yourself or others including:

- Punching
- Kicking
- Hair pulling
- Choking
- Pushing
- Headlocks
- Biting
- Holding heads underwater
- Weapon use (sticks, rocks, etc.)
- Possession of drugs and/or alcohol

These lists are not exhaustive: certain situations can and will be dealt with on a case by case basis



Audubon Center of the North Woods

Experience Your Environment

Adventure and fun for your child is just around the corner! We have compiled this guide based on the most commonly asked questions concerning summer camp at the Audubon Center of the North Woods.

Please read and save this guide. It contains essential information that will help you to best prepare your child for their week at the Audubon Center of the North Woods.

Directions to the Audubon Center of the North Woods

Driving Directions & Map



Directions to the Audubon Center From the Twin Cities and Duluth:

- ❖ From Interstate 35, exit on the Sandstone Exit 191
- ❖ Go southwest on County road 61 just over two miles
- ❖ Take a right on County Road 27, cross the Munger bike trail, turn left (Grindstone Lake Road)
- ❖ Go just over three miles and take a right on County Road 17 (Fox Road)
- ❖ Turn left between the stone pillars (Audubon Road)
- ❖ Follow this road to the office - one mile (There will be signs the whole way)

Our center is located only six miles from Interstate 35, 90 miles north of the Twin Cities (about 1 1/2 hours) and 60 miles south of Duluth (about 1 hour). ACNW is on Grindstone Lake and is near Banning State Park, the Hinckley Fire Museum, the Northwest Fur Post and the Kettle River.

Summer Camp 2017 Parent's Guide

- Recheck scheduled arrival time and pick-up
- Ensure health history form is complete
- Sign Liability Release Form
- Bring along any medication needed for camp

Sunday Check-in Time

- Camp starts at 4:00 pm the first day of camp, unless otherwise noted. Check-in at the Main Office/Dining Hall.
- Please make arrangements far enough in advance that will allow you or another adult to bring your camper to the Audubon Center on the first day between 3:00pm and 4:00pm. You are welcome to come early and stroll the grounds, but staff will not be available to supervise campers or begin check-in until 3:00. Thank you!
- If your child is traveling to Minnesota by plane, please contact us - timing is crucial.

Friday Check-out Time

- Parents - please arrive at the Audubon Center by noon and join us for lunch!
- You will be directed to your child's luggage and then to the front desk to check out your child.
- **REMEMBER! You must bring your ID to check out your child or provide written permission at the time of check-in if you intend to have someone else pick up your child.**
- The gift shop will also be open during check-out.

ACNW Accreditation

We are accredited as a school by the North Central Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement.

The Camp Telephone

The number at the Audubon Center is 320-245-2648. We discourage phone calls to campers because they so often tend to initiate or nurture homesickness. However, if you have an emergency or a concern, please call the number listed above. A staff member will be happy to talk with you. We will allow campers to call home if necessary but we try to discourage this as much as possible.

Emailing

Emailing your son or daughter is a fantastic way to say hello while they are at the Audubon Center. Please email: audubon1@audubon-center.org.

What to Bring

Please read the packing list attached to this guide, carefully. *Please put your camper's name on every piece of clothing and equipment.*

What Not to Bring

There are some basic items not appropriate for camp and must be left at home. These items include: skateboards, radios, iPods, walkie-talkies, laptops, expensive jewelry, portable TV's, cellular phones, and other electronics. **Please DO NOT SEND snacks and candy with your campers.** Snacks are not permitted in the dorm. We will provide healthy snacks to the campers throughout the week. Furthermore, fireworks, knives, hatchets and items that could be used as a weapon are strictly prohibited. Please support the ACNW staff with your assistance in this area. The Audubon Center is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken items.

Spending Money

Each camper will receive the opportunity to visit the Audubon store during the week. You may deposit spending money in the "Camp Bank" at check-in. This system eliminates the possibility of loss or theft.

Laundry

Your child should come to camp with enough clean clothes to last the entire week. We have included a suggested list of clothes necessary for the week.

Care Packages

A package from home can be a welcome surprise. However, we encourage you to think creatively and send **only non-food items**. Parent's support in this area helps us tremendously. Your child will receive occasional snacks as part of camp.

Homesickness

Homesickness is normal! It can often be lessened or prevented by the following suggestions:

- Utilize the camp brochure or website as a starting point for a discussion of what to expect at camp.
- Have your camper call us and ask us questions that they might have.
- Emphasize to your child how fun camp will be! They will make new friends, enjoy the outdoors, and have adventures.
- Share your own summer camp memories.
- Please do not promise your child that you will pick them up if they are homesick, as it will set them up for failure.
- Missing one another is a normal, healthy experience. So too, is the experience of being away and adapting to new people and surroundings. Once the camper is at the Audubon Center, please do not linger. Make your good-bye "short and sweet."
- When writing letters or emails from home, keep the news light and happy.
- Avoid making telephone calls to your child.
- The Audubon staff will do their best to help campers overcome homesickness.
- If you would like *more* ideas on how to prepare your first time camper, please call us.

Camper Conduct

The Audubon Center of the North Woods is dedicated to the development of confident, happy, and respectful youth. Each young person that participates in a ACNW program is asked to dedicate him/herself to the fulfillment of this expectation. Minor violations may include having privileges taken away and natural consequences assigned. Violations of the following behaviors are an immediate ticket home and no refund will be given:

- Drugs and alcohol use
- Damage to Audubon property
- Blatantly disrespectful behavior/use of profanity
- Harm or threat to other campers and staff

Dining Service

Our kitchen and dining facilities are quite modern, and we are proud of our year-round dining service staff. The menu is well balanced and campers receive plenty to eat. Accommodations are made for special dietary needs, if we are notified in advance. Please feel free to contact us, with your special concerns. We provide a vegetarian option at every meal. Our sustainability efforts additionally include supporting local farmers and providing our guests with local and organic produce.

Final Payment to Camp

Please pay your balance by the due date mentioned elsewhere in these documents. We are unable to guarantee a place for your child if the balance is not paid when due.

Refund Policy

There are no refunds for cancellations less than 30 days prior to the first day of camp (see above dates for each camp).

Health and Liability Forms

These forms are required and are included in this packet. **Please make sure you fill the forms out carefully! If we don't have a health and liability form, your child will be unable to participate in camp activities.** It is critical that you initial and sign in designated areas. Please elaborate on any medical conditions that your child might have. Also make sure to include detailed travel information if your child is flying into the Twin Cities.

Mosquitoes and Ticks

Mosquitoes are attracted to certain colors, but find yellows and tans to be the least attractive. Note this while packing for camp. Ticks are easiest to see on light-colored clothing. We will discuss ticks in more detail during orientation on the first day of camp.

Medicine

All prescription/over-the-counter medicines should be in their original containers. If your child will be bringing any form of medication, either prescription or non-prescription, the **ACNW staff should be notified in advance.** Please instruct ACNW Summer Camp Director and counselor about how to dispense the medicine, upon arrival at the Center. This information should be added in writing to the student's health form. No medication is to be left with any camper; this includes over-the-counter drugs like Tylenol or Benadryl.

Cabin Mate Request

We will attempt to provide as diverse a cabin group experience as possible by limiting the number of campers in each cabin from any known social circle or specific town.

If your camper did not request a bunkmate, you may do so **up until one week before his or her session begins** by submitting it in writing or in an email to the Audubon Center.

Similarly, if your camper would like to change an existing bunkmate request, you may do so **up until one week before the session begins** in the same manner.

Our main concern is to remove the potential for cliques so that other campers who are coming without a friend will not feel alienated. We are very aware of the anxieties that some campers feel toward this experience. Our policies are part of the design that allows us to guide young people to be open-minded, flexible, respectful, and kind.

Dear parents,

Your children are going to have an amazing experience as a participant at Audubon Center of the North Woods summer camps. They are in good hands. Our staff is looking forward to meeting the campers! Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,
ACNW Education Staff