

ROAD'S END FARM

HORSEMANSHIP CAMP

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The Philosophy

When people speak of summer camp programs for children, they invariably make reference to camps with sizable enrollments and an abundance of scheduled activities. While a goodly number of camps fall into that category, smaller camps do exist and are doing remarkably well by their campers. With a limited enrollment and a more specialized program, a small camp is able to afford each camper the best possible opportunity to excel in the activities it offers. This advantage, added to the spirit of togetherness that prevails in a small group of like-minded children, quickly explains why discerning families are finding smaller camp programs both appealing and valuable.

With five main activities and five dozen campers, Road's End Farm enjoys the good fortune of being a small camp, pure and simple. Since first becoming a horsemanship camp in 1958, the Farm has been providing girls with fun-filled summertime experiences that are cherished by all. Far more than a mere respite from the rigors and routine of the school year, a stay at Road's End Farm enables girls to develop naturally in worthwhile directions not usually possible in contemporary classrooms and homes.

In keeping with tradition at Road's End Farm, the days of summer amble pleasantly by while the campers befriend the horses and learn about riding, swimming, canoeing, arts & crafts, and last but not least, the work ethic that fosters confidence and self worth in young people. The lifestyle is congenial and down-to-earth and campers soon realize the sense of belonging that comes from being on a working horse farm, where everyone counts and in turn is counted upon. With the undisturbed beauty of Mother Nature in the background, the campers nurture the close-knit, enduring friendships that tie one camp season to another with laughter and youthful exuberance.



To make certain that each girl's stay at the camp will not only be enjoyable but also truly worthwhile, Road's End Farm operates on a simple philosophy that emphasizes common sense, teamwork, and respect for the natural world. Oftentimes expressed to the campers in the form of widely accepted adages, this approach to living becomes a way of life for them while at the Farm. Use your head to save your back; Many hands make light work; What you waste today you'll want tomorrow; A stitch in time saves nine; and A penny saved is a penny earned are but a sampling of the practical sayings that characterize the passage of time at the end of Jackson Hill Road.

The practice of citing maxims to convey useful lessons to younger generations has been a hallmark of farm life for time immemorial. At Road's End Farm the custom has been well preserved in the wholehearted belief that such lessons are still highly beneficial to children and as relevant as ever to the needs of society. So that these lessons and the goals of the program will not be jeopardized, tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs are strictly forbidden at the Farm. Mindful that the distractions that abound for young people nowadays can easily overshadow the value of what Road's End Farm has to offer, cell phones* and electronics other than ones dedicated solely to reading or music appreciation are also not allowed. Aside from these two steadfast rules, camp life is shaped by flexible guidelines that encourage responsible behavior while excusing honest mistakes and kindly shenanigans.

*Girls traveling from afar via public transport may leave their cell phones with Margaret for the duration of their camp stay thereby having them available for travel purposes and safety.