

Environmental Practices of ACA Resident Camps
(Selected data from the American Camp Association's
2008 Camp Sites, Facilities, and Programs Survey Report)

For a complete report, visit:

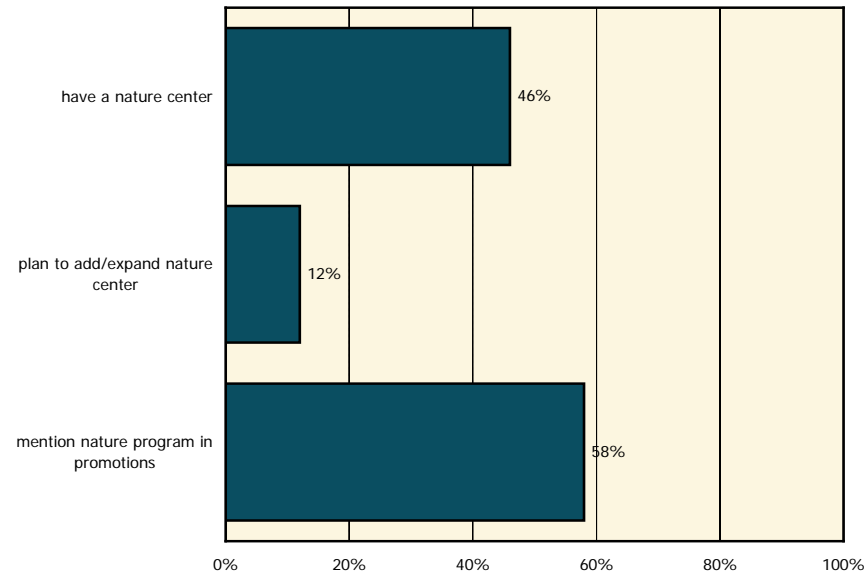
www.acacamps.org/research/improve/site-facilities

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

The final set of results addresses residential camps' engagement with environmental activities and practices in 2006.

About half of residential camps (46%) have a "nature center" and 12% indicated that their camp plans on adding/expanding a nature center in the next five years. More than half (58%) specifically mention their nature programs in their promotional materials, web site, etc.

Exhibit 49 Incidence of Nature Center and Program Promotions

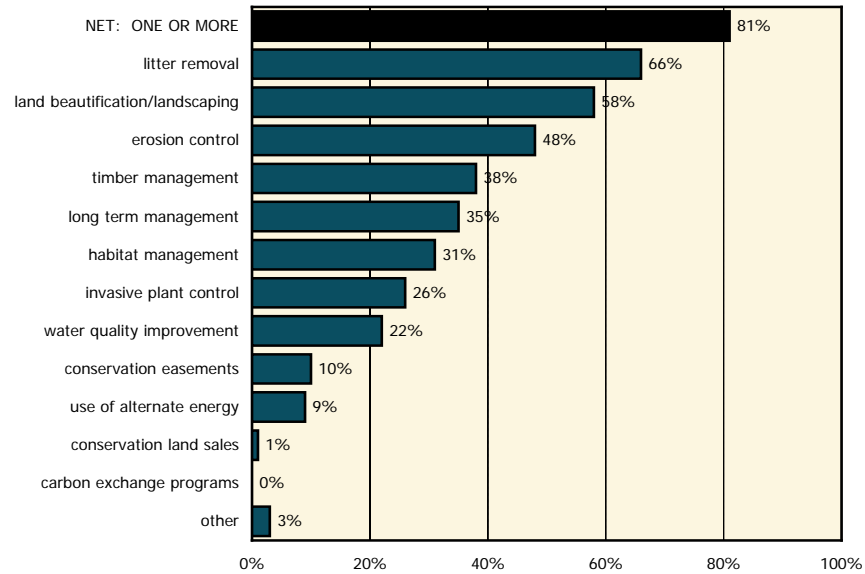


base: 370 residential camp respondents (multiple answers)

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

About four-fifths of residential camps (81%) have undertaken at least one of the land stewardship initiatives listed on the survey. Most commonly, this has manifested itself as litter removal (66%) and land beautification/landscaping (58%). Participation in programs such as conservation land sales and carbon exchange payment programs is rare to nonexistent.

Exhibit 50
Land Stewardship Initiatives Undertaken

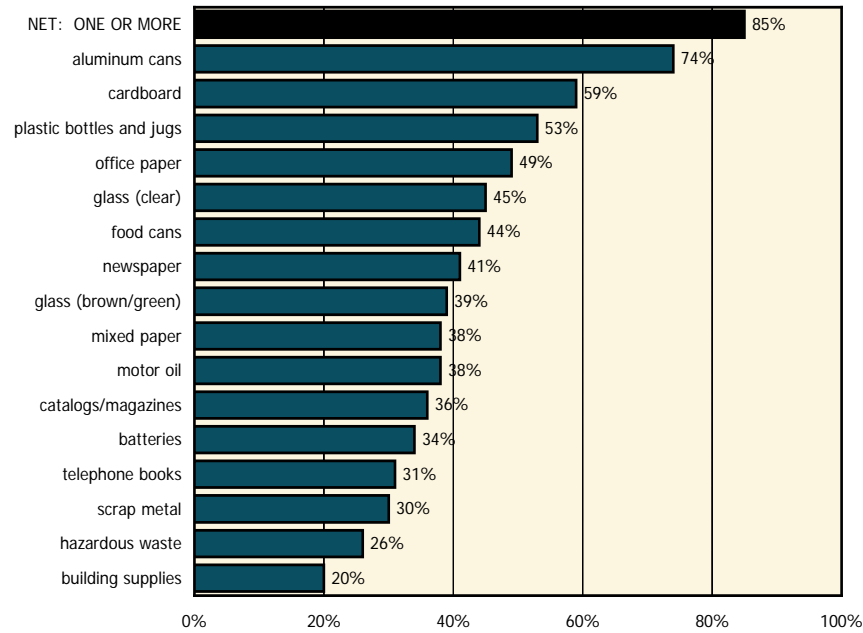


base: 370 residential camp respondents (multiple answers)

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

More than four out of five residential camps (85%) engage in recycling. About half or more indicated recycling aluminum cans, cardboard, plastic bottles and jugs, and office paper.

Exhibit 51
Items Recycled
Top Mentions

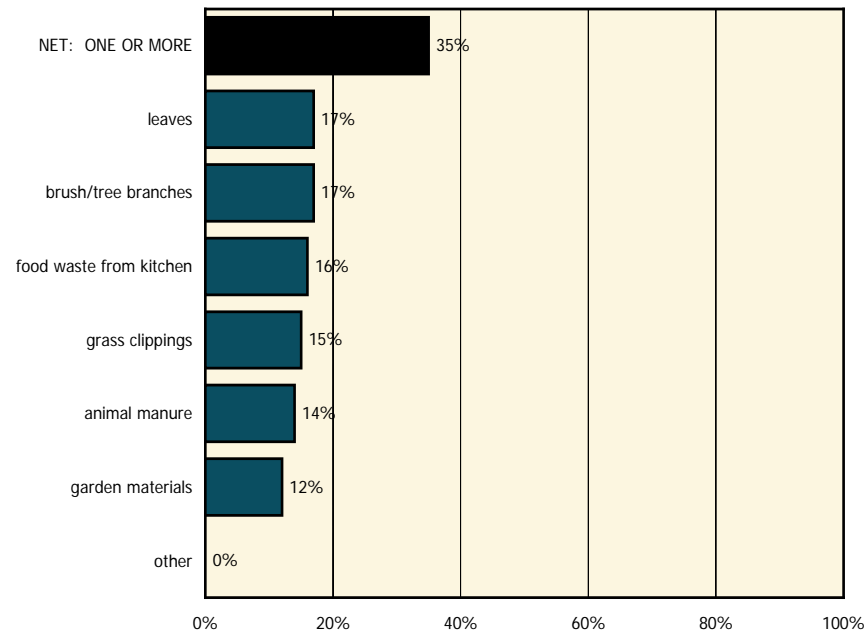


base: 370 residential camp respondents (multiple answers)

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

About one in three residential camps (35%) compost. Although no individual item listed on the survey was indicated as being composted by more than 17% of residential camps.

Exhibit 52 Items Composted

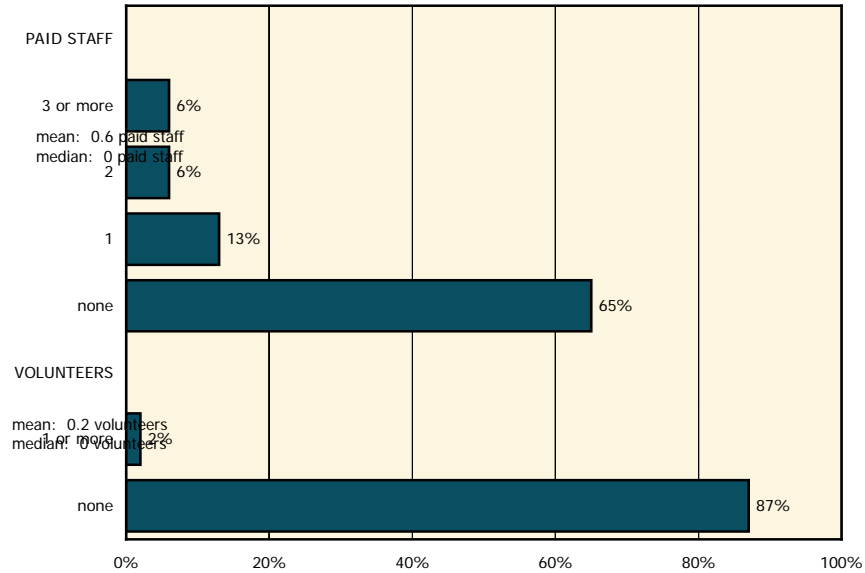


base: 370 residential camp respondents (multiple answers)

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

Respondents were asked to indicate the number of people used by their camps for nature/environmental education on a full-time basis, either as paid staff or volunteers. Most (65% and 87%, respectively) indicated they don't have anyone devoted to this purpose, either among paid staff or volunteers. This results in the median, on both accounts, to be 0. The average report is also less than one employee for paid staff and volunteers.

Exhibit 53
Number of Full-Time Staff Used for Nature/Environmental Education
by Payment Status



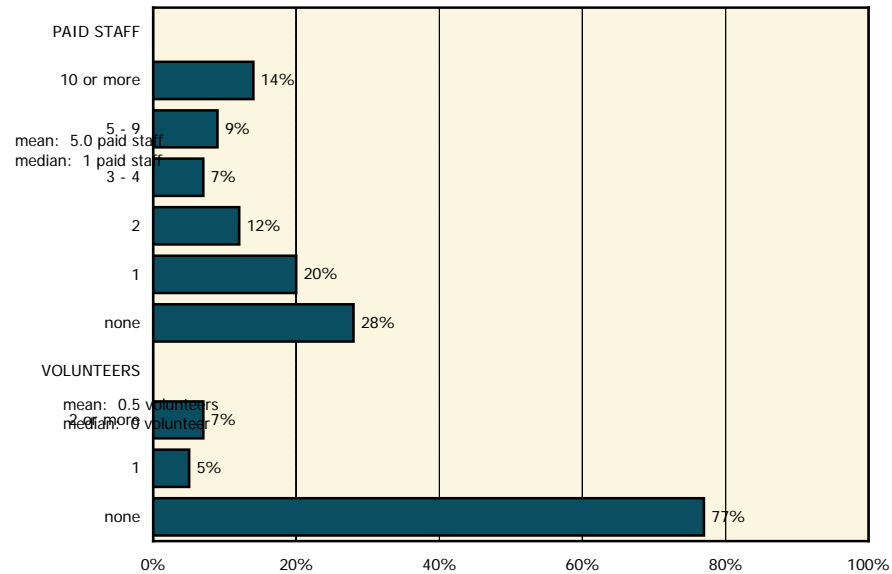
base: 370 residential camp respondents

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

Nature/environmental education appears to be primarily the province of seasonal paid staff. 62% of residential camps indicated they do have such staff devoted to this purpose. This includes 42% with multiple persons engaged in this type of education. The average residential camp has 5.0 seasonal paid staff used for nature/environmental education, the median report was 1 staff member.

Most residential camps (77%) do not have any volunteer seasonal staff members devoted to nature/environmental education. This results in the median report of 0 and the average is not much higher, at 0.5.

Exhibit 54
Number of Seasonal Staff Used for Nature/Environmental Education
by Payment Status

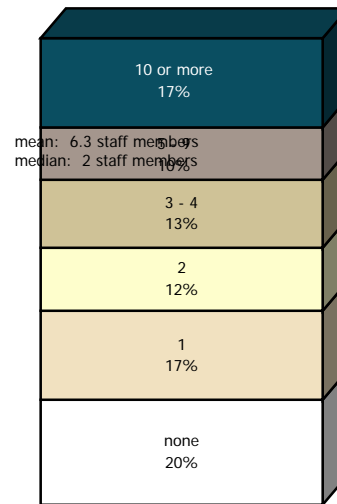


base: 370 residential camp respondents

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

The total number of staff members dedicated to nature/environmental education, both full-time and seasonal, paid staff and volunteers, was also calculated. The average residential camp reported having 6.3 total staff members dedicated to this purpose. The median report was 2 staff members. At the extremes, 20% don't have any staff members involved in this type of education. The top 17% indicated 10 or more staff members.

Exhibit 55
Number of Staff Members Used for Nature/Environmental Education



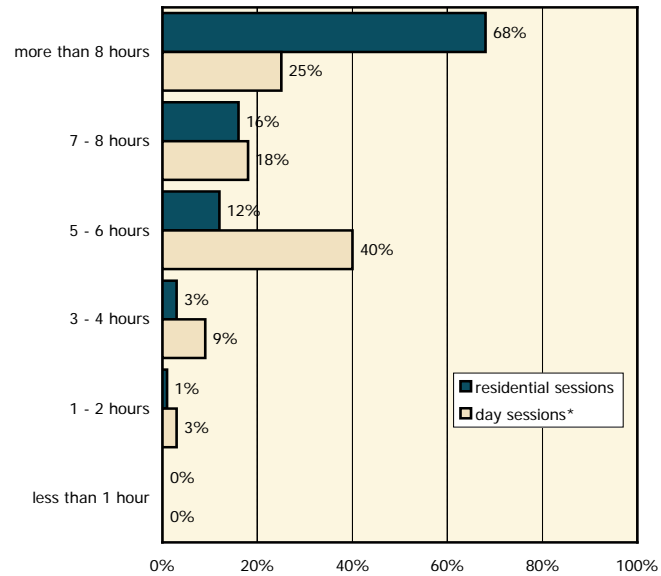
base: 370 residential camp respondents

FINDINGS: Environmental Practices

Guests at residential camps spend a considerable amount of time outdoors. Nearly all guests at residential camp sessions (96%) spend 5 or more hours outdoors, including 68% spending more than 8 hours, the categorical maximum. This results in the mean and median being incalculable in any meaningful way. However, it is fair to say they would both exceed 8 hours.

The time spent outdoors during day camp sessions is less, but still substantial. Most (58%) indicated they spent 5 to 8 hours outdoors. An additional 25% spent more than 8 hours. The mean (6.8 hours) and median (7 hours) reports are about equal at around 7 hours per day spent outdoors for guests at day camp sessions.

Exhibit 56
Number of Hours Spent Outdoors For a Typical Guest



base: 370 residential camp respondents

*base: 95 resident