

2017 Manager's Letter

June 16, 2017

Hello Three Mile Island Community,

Summer will soon be upon us, which means your time at Three Mile is happily fast approaching. That first step onto the Island from *The Appy* will be a special moment for all of us. The chance to meet new people, rekindle old relationships, and begin to make the most of your time at this special place. This will be my tenth summer as the manager and one that brings tremendous promise.

Three Mile is making progress toward its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and ceasing fossil fuel use by 2030. Step one involved years of effort by a dedicated volunteer to transfer our electricity generation to a 100% renewable source on Mount Cardigan. The next step is to transition camper cabins from kerosene light to other sources, most likely solar powered LED lanterns. The camp still has some solar lights that can be borrowed, but feel free to bring your favorite light source. People are also coalescing around transitioning the Island away from propane and reducing gasoline use.

On another bigger than Three Mile note, you may be familiar with this country's recent efforts to provide public accommodations that are more inclusive for all people. Some of those efforts include moving away from larger single-sex multi-stalled restrooms to more individual single-stalled restrooms like we already have at Three Mile. We made the decision to bring the Change House in line with our values that honor diversity and inclusiveness. This year you will find four individual stalls in each side of the changing house, for a total of eight stalls, instead of one large open space in each side. The eight individual stalls are available to anyone - there is no longer a men's side and a women's side. We recognize that during the few minutes before lunch, there may be more people needing to change than there are available stalls, so we greatly appreciate everyone's patience and support during this first phase of our move toward full inclusiveness.

Timothy Tucker and Laurie Pzena are returning to the TMI kitchen. This cooking duo will be blessing us with their delicious treats for the fifth summer together. Yes, our connection with a local farm continues to yield many boxes of fresh produce a couple of times a week. The kitchen staff does a wonderful job of taking care of a wide variety of dietary needs. We will also be welcoming two new members of the Three Mile Staff, Peggy Merrow and Colin Bradley. Peggy's background as a camper and former Croo parent plus her enthusiasm should make her an excellent Assistant Manager. Colin grew up as a camper and has a background working with children and camps, so being Island Educator should be a natural fit for him. Nick Barker will be the Maintenance Manager. This will be the sixth consecutive summer that at least one of the Barker brothers has been part of the summer maintenance team. Three Mile will continue to benefit from Nick's attention to detail.

The Croo is also going to be a nice mixture of returning and new members. The veterans this summer are Jake Atwood (Maintenance Assistant), Lindsay Cartmell, Anna Darrow (Kitchen Assistant), Kipling Haviland-Hack (Launch Driver), Nick Holmes (Bugler), Trace Hybertson (Store Manager), Rory Lowe (Croo Boss), Vega Walke (Dock Manager), and Ben Zeitz-Moskin. They are going to be leading a highly recommended group of first year Croo members. Please welcome Allie Campbell, Sarah Cartmell, Cece Giaimo, Kady Jarvis, Will Parker, Molly Rains, Grace Samaritano, Kevin Snell, Christian Welch, and Autumn Welling to their first summer working at Three Mile.

The list below includes some helpful hints to read before you arrive so that your visit is easier and more enjoyable:

***Please call 603-279-7626 if you want to contact us on the island this summer.**

*If you need to cancel a reservation for any member of your party, please call as soon as possible.

*There are very few summer openings, but you can contact Sally Wilson about fall weekend availability.

*If you want the lower guest rate, make sure the AMC membership for everyone in your group is current before you arrive at Three Mile.

*The camp's technology policy limits the use of phones, electronic books, electronic music players, etc. to our cabins. you are encouraged to "unplug" as much as possible during your stay.

*If needed, bring your own over-the-counter medications, prescription medications, and epi-pens.

*The Three Mile parking lot is located on the right hand side of Lovejoy Sands Road as you approach Lovejoy Landing and Shep Brown's Boat Basin.

*The NEW mailing address is: Three Mile Island Camp, 1 Three Mile Island, Laconia, NH 03246.

When you start to pack for Three Mile, consider including this summer's read, *Braiding Sweetgrass*. Written by Robin Wall Kimmerer, it is a weaving of plant biology, Native American stories, and a mother's relationship with our Earth. A woman of Potawatomi descent who grew up in upstate New York, Professor Kimmerer questions our current relationship with our plant and animal relatives. Colin recommends these core chapters as a good place to start your reading: *Skywoman Falling, A Mother's Work, The Teachings of Grass, Sitting in a Circle, People of the Seventh Fire*. There will be a handful of camp copies of the book to share.

Thank you for choosing to spend part of your summer at Three Mile. It is an amazing place to enjoy time with family and friends.

See you on the dock!

Wilbur Holmes
Manager