

## **Dandelion Gathering Guidelines**

J.

Welcome to Texas and to this first ever Dandelion Gathering!!! Here is some important information to help make your time at Camp Arrowhead easier and safer.

**Buddy:** There are 650 acres of wild land to explore here. We highly recommend many beautiful hikes. Be sure to take water, tell someone that you are going, and take a buddy. Keep your eyes and ears wide open, and you will experience the amazing spirits of this land.

Critters: Texas is famous for its wildlife, mostly harmless. However, FIRE ANTS are really out. The large piles that look like dirt are filled with nasty biting ants that can really hurt you. If you get a bite, you can make it sting less with a bit of disinfectant or even bleach. Don't keep food in your cabin or tent as the ants will probably find it. SNAKES: There are many varieties and some are poisonous. Take care when moving rocks and hiking. They will not bother you if you don't bother them.

Plants: Poison ivy and poison oak are abundant right now. Study the diagrams if you don't know what to avoid. Wear long pants when going through foliage. Take a cool shower if you get itchy plants on you.

Weather: Texas weather is extremely variable. The sun may be hotter than you are used to, so be sure to drink lots of water and wear sunscreen and a hat. If it rains torrentially, beware of flash flooding and do not cross low-water crossings. In the event of a severe weather emergency, we will ring the bell repeatedly and gather at The Crossroads (Gillis Hall).

**Medical:** Yarrow (of Texas) is heading up our healing team. There is a little infirmary in the South of The Hearth. Yarrow is tenting there. Let her know if you have any medical conditions. She will have basic first aid and will coordinate with anyone who wishes to offer healing. There is a major hospital in Kerrville for serious emergencies.

The Hearth: The dining hall will serve as our Hearth for this Gathering. There will be food and tea available there at all times. Please do not remove dishes from The Hearth. Please stay out of the kitchen as much as possible, but feel free to use the rest of the hall, as well as the historic sitting room on the west end of the building. In the event of rain, outdoor activities may be rescheduled here.

**The Pavillion:** Located just outside of the dining hall, The Pavillion is the site of our community-wide lunch time discussions. We strongly encourage everyone to eat in the Pavillion as a community. At other times, this space will be used for meetings and offerings and is a covered backup space for ritual in case of rain.

**The CrossRoads:** (Gillis Hall) Vending, information sharing, the free store for swapping items. The CrossRoads is also large enough to hold the whole gathering and will house various offerings, meetings, and activities.

**Faery Meadow:** Just a 10 minute walk from The Hearth, this open area is the site of our large group rituals. Camping is allowed in the meadow. The cliffs are amazing and the ancestral energy very powerful here. This is a good place to be skyclad. If you are unable to walk to the Meadow for ritual, there will be transportation provided.

Craft Hut: Feel free to use the Craft Hut to create spells or magnificent works of art. Leave supplies there that you wish to share with others.

**Waterfront:** There is no lifeguard on duty. Use the buddy system. River access is easy, but take normal swimming precautions. Be careful not to dive in shallow areas. You may want to wear river shoes if wading: Stay off of and away from the dam. There are beautiful areas for offerings and meetings at either end of the waterfront.

Boundaries & Edges: Respect boundaries—your own and others.

We encourage open and frank dealings with sex.

Clothing is optional in wilder areas, but we have been asked not to be skyclad in the main area of camp: around the road, buildings, or the river.

Do not keep food in your sleeping spaces where it could draw ants or other critters.

Do not leave candles unattended. If you use candles, be sure they are in secure protective holders.

Camp fires are allowed only in designated fire circles.

Please smoke in designated areas only.

No fireworks or weapons.

Absolutely no photos during ritual. No other photos without permission.

To maintain the integrity of sacred space and out of respect for one another, Dandelion Gathering is drug and alcohol free.

**Money:** Soft drinks are available for purchase in The Hearth on the honor system. Place money in the container provided. Be sure to settle with vendors at the earliest possible time, so that they can pack up and leave on Sunday.

Fundraising supports scholarships for this event. There will be a combination of raffle and auction items. Please donate an item and spend generously to help support those who could not otherwise be at the gathering.

**Environment:** We are composting most food garbage, please be careful to place in these buckets only the materials that can be safely composted. Look for designated containers.

We are recycling aluminum, glass, and plastic. Please help us gather these items clean and out of the trash.

Communication & Self-Empowerment: Please be respectful of those who live on the land. We have been welcomed here to their land, and we ask for your consideration and sensitivity.

Be open to your own accountability. Take any concerns to the morning meeting or to organizers.

Everyone must assist with camp creation/maintenance with Two work shifts. Sign up at registration.

Please keep your shared bathrooms clean.

Give honest and compassionate feedback about what you hear, see, feel, and experience.

Not everyone needs the same level of tending. Ask for help if you need it. There are many options available for conflict resolution, please discuss with an organizer as there are many people at the Gathering who can help with this.

Rituals: Thursday and Friday night rituals will be co-created by various groups and individuals.

Be sure to sign up for a space if you and a group are offering a ritual.

Thursday: Tending the Hearth Friday: Dreaming the Future

All activities are co-created, so if you want something to happen, feel free to make it happen.

**BRING** 

- o Insect repellent
- o Sun block or sunscreen
- o BATHING SUIT

## **Gathering Contacts:**

Please contact us before April 11 if you have any other questions dandelion-info@riseup.net. You can also contact Morgana at 512-447-2410 (home) or 512-217-3283 (cell). If you have changes or problems with your flight, contact Lori at 210-269-6595 (cell).

## **Emergency Contact Number:**

You may use the cell numbers above for Morgana and Lori for emergency. In an EXTREME EMERGENCY you may call the Camp Arrowhead Office (to be used during the Gathering only): (830) 238-3793. This rings in theowner, s home, so please don, t use this number unless absolutely necessary.

## DIRECTIONS TO CAMP ARROWHEAD

Midnight Ant Myshin 43155, 1st St #B

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From Austin

- \* Take US 290/TX 71 South to Oak Hill (end of the freeway). At the ŒY, (split), where 290 goes west and 71 goes northwest, follow 290 (stay to the left).
- \* Go approximately 34 miles, and follow the signs to Johnson City, where 290 West joins 281 North. Continue on US 290 West/281 North for 5 miles to Johnson City, where US 290 West splits from 281 North. Follow the signs, continuing on 290 West for 30 more miles to Fredericksburg.
- \* Go through Fredericksburg on 290 West to TX Highway 16, .35 miles or a couple of stoplights. Turn left on Highway 16, following the signs to Kerrville. Continue to follow Highway 16 until you hit I-10 (almost to Kerrville).
- \* Take I-10 West for not quite a mile past Kerrville to the Harper Road exit (Highway 783). Exit to the right and it loops around over I-10 and becomes Harper Road. Take Harper Road west towards Kerrville to TX Highway 27 (Main Street). Turn right (west) on Highway 27. Continue on Highway 27 through Ingram and Hunt, (stay to the left) where Highway 27 becomes Highway 39.
- \* Arrowhead will be approximately 3 miles ahead. Look for a large rock sign on the right side of the road; turn left onto the Camp Arrowhead drive. Take the right fork to Camp Arrowhead (NOT the left fork to Camp Flaming Arrow).