

About Camp Echo Bridge

The Newton Parks & Recreation Department in collaboration with Newton Public Schools is offering an exciting inclusive summer program that focuses on fun while bridging recreation and academics in the summertime.

Camp Goals

- Provide a positive recreational experience that fosters friendship and fun
- Teach lifelong leisure skills
- Help prevent academic regression over the summer months by providing fun academic enrichment activities.
- Promote a greater degree of independence
- Meet the individual needs of our campers

Camp Programming

Theme-Based Weeks, Sports, Games, Arts & Crafts, Nature, Music, Academic enrichment activities, Swimming at Crystal Lake, Special Events, Field Trips, Theatre, Camp Show

Special Events

CIT's will participate in special events while at camp to gain first-hand experience in planning. Sample events include:

- Camp BBQ
- Car Wash/Aqua Extreme
- Boston Sports Fest/Color Day
- Glitz & Glamour
- Talent Show/Prom

CIT Residential Camping Trip

For over 40 years, the Camp Echo Bridge residential camping week has been a fun, unique part of camp. Our inclusion of our CIT's for the past 10 years has been a great success, and we are happy to continue these traditions in 2025.

We will once again head to Camp Winadu in Pittsfield, MA. This camp has a beautiful waterfront, is loaded with fun, nature-based activities, and has excellent sports facilities. Check out www.campwinadu.com for more information! This week will provide our CIT's to have fun and make friends, while further developing their skills from day camp.

All meals, transportation, housing, and supervision is included. Program experiences include:

- Hiking
- Campfires
- Adventure activities
- Sports
- Dance parties
- Arts/crafts
- Swimming
- Water sports

Eligibility is based on space, as well as the CIT's experience at day camp.

Dates/Costs:

Mon. August 11—Fri. August 15

Residents—\$750

Non-Residents—\$800



Camp Echo Bridge 2025 CIT Counselor In Training Leadership Initiative



*Newton Parks, Recreation
& Culture*

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor
Nicole Banks, Commissioner
**Mark Kelly & Miranda
Morse**, Directors of Special
Needs

246 Dudley Rd.
Newton, MA 02459
617-796-1538
www.newtonma.gov.parks

Who Can Be a CIT?

CIT's are teens who are entering 8th-11th grade. This is a great program for individuals who may feel they are too old to be a camper but not yet old enough or experienced enough to be a counselor. Participants will have hands-on experience working directly with campers and staff, and will have daily leadership trainings.

What Does a CIT Do?

This is an apprenticeship program where participants learn by doing. CIT's have a daily leadership training sessions and work directly with the campers and staff. The CIT Leadership Initiative at Camp Echo Bridge is designed to teach important life skills inherent to becoming a camp counselor.

Why Be a CIT?

Being a CIT allows you to gain hands-on experience working with children with and without disabilities. You'll learn how to plan for camp activities, learn leadership skills, and explore future career possibilities.



Dates and Sessions

New CITs: Two-week training session, including instruction, observation, and activities that focus on developing camp counselor skills.

- Session 1: 6/7-6/18
- Session 2: 6/28-8/8

Returning CITs: Three-week training session including instruction, observation, and activities that focus on developing camp counselor skills.

- Session 1: 6/30-6/18
- Session 2: 6/21-8/8

CIT's may register for ONE session only.

Registration Info:

Registration for this year begins on Wednesday, January 29th at 5:30pm. Go to www.newtonma.myrec.com to create an account prior to registration. **CIT's may register for ONE session only.**

Cost:

Residents—\$380/session
Non-Residents—\$400/session

NOTE: A \$60/session non-refundable deposit must be submitted with registration. Final payments are due May 15th. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed for any payments and/or paperwork received after May 15th.

Location

The CIT Leadership Initiative will be conducted at Camp Echo Bridge, held at Mason Rice Elementary School. This school is centrally located in Newton, and in walking distance of Crystal Lake, which we will utilize for swimming on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Address: 149 Pleasant St., Newton, MA 02459

Staff:

The staff for this program consists of:

- Directors of Special Needs
- CIT Director
- Camp Directors
- Unit Leaders
- Counselors

We recognize the importance of qualified, mature staff, and have selected the most experienced, dedicated and enthusiastic individuals for these important roles. The staff and program meet the Commonwealth of Massachusetts standards, and is licensed by the Newton Health Dept. Parents may request copies of any and all camp policies in writing.

What to Bring to Camp:

CIT's should wear comfortable, appropriate clothing, including socks/sneakers. Each CIT will receive 2 Camp Echo Bridge CIT shirts, which they should wear each day. Please bring a camp appropriate bathing suit and towel each day for swimming and/or water play. Lunch, snacks, water bottle, and sunscreen should be brought as well.