

# **CAMP LO-MIA**

## **INFORMATION and INSTRUCTIONS**

The following are a few of the items leaders need to be aware of regarding the use of Camp Lo-Mia. Camp Lo-Mia is located just north of Pine, Arizona, under the Mogollon Rim. It serves 48 stakes, mostly from the valley. It is a camp, not a resort or hotel. Campers bring and prepare their own food and provide their own bedding. The camp provides the facilities; i.e. shelters, beds, bathrooms, commercial style cooking facilities, beautiful surroundings, and access to scenic hiking trails along the Mogollon Rim. Camp Lo-Mia also has a spirit about it that is unlike anything else around.

**Vehicular traffic into and out of Camp Lo-Mia must be kept to a minimum. Resist the temptation to run into town to get some forgotten item. Dust along the road into and within the camp is always a problem. We need to be good neighbors to those who live along Pine Creek Canyon Road into Camp Lo-Mia. Do not exceed 10 mph on the dirt roads inside or outside the camp. Keep traffic within the camp to a minimum.**

Water use in the camp is always a concern. Showers are to be limited to 3 minutes. While we are located in the pines, it is a water short area. The town of Pine is nearly always on restricted water use. We pump our water from the same aquifer as the town, but we are upstream. Many wells in Pine go dry when the water table is low. This causes a good deal of resentment when they see the camp "wasting their water". If water use is not controlled, it may be necessary to turn off water heaters in the bathhouses, and in extreme cases, limit or prohibit showers. All of the water used in kitchens and bathrooms has to be treated. It requires an intricate system of pumps, pipes, and filters. This is not only expensive to operate and maintain, it is very difficult to dispose of the treated wastewater.

Even in the wettest of years, Camp Lo-Mia can be dangerous. It is located in Pine Creek Canyon; a narrow canyon with only one access road. A fire starting south of the camp could move quickly up the canyon and trap people in the camp. Leaders are urged to familiarize themselves with emergency exit routes posted in gathering places throughout the camp.

The vent hoods over the cooking stoves in each kitchen are equipped with fire suppression systems. These systems are heat activated and must be run any time the stoves are used. If the heat in the vent canopy builds above a set level, the suppression system is activated. The system spreads a thick, sticky fire retardant over the stove and surrounding area. It takes about a week for a professional contractor to remove the retardant. It is a very expensive process. The systems are tested each year and as long as the fans are operated while using the stoves, there will be no problem. If the system is activated because the vent fans are not turned on, the stake or ward responsible will be billed for the clean-up and recharging of the system. The drip pan at the edge of the griddle on the stove is to be cleaned each time the griddle is used. The vent grids and drip pans mounted in the hoods are to be cleaned as part of the final cleanup before leaving camp.

Another note about the kitchen stoves. The ovens do not heat evenly. They have been checked and adjusted by the manufacturer, but they are still not like the ovens home. Rotating baking foods often will help to avoid burned spots. It also helps to give the ovens plenty of time to pre-heat. This helps to even the heat out. Remember that it takes longer for food to cook because of the higher altitude.

Each group using the camp is required to thoroughly clean it before departure. All kitchen equipment is to be cleaned and stored in its proper location. The kitchen area is to be mopped as is the dining hall in the lodge. All other floors in lodge, staff rooms, priesthood building, crafts rooms, cabins and ramadas are to be swept. All bathrooms are to be cleaned and mopped. The caretaker will tour the facilities with a representative of each group to verify that the camp has been cleaned. The group is responsible for the repair of any damage to the camp. This includes

removing graffiti and recharging or replacing fire extinguishers which have been needlessly discharged. Please try to leave the camp in better condition than you found it. **No one is to remain in the camp after the caretaker tours and approves the facilities.**

**No motor bikes, trail bikes, ATVs, firearms, BB or pellet guns, paintball guns, firecrackers, fireworks, pets, or horses are permitted in the camp. During dry seasons, no outside fires are permitted. Check with the caretaker regarding fire regulations at the time of your stay. Camp Lo-Mia's State Operating Permit does not permit horses or pets in camp.**

Each group is to bring its own biodegradable toilet paper, paper towels, hand and dish soap, dish towels, and 33 gallon trash bags for trash and garbage disposal. Only liquid hand and bath soaps are to be used. The County Health Department does not permit the use of bar soaps due to the possible spread of disease.

Do not dispose of any sanitary napkins, paper towels, newspapers, grease or vegetable matter into the toilets or drains. The wastewater system at the camp is not designed to handle such things and a very expensive repair will result.

Signs and decorations in and on cabins and in the Lodge are OK, but please remove them during clean-up. This includes the tacks or staples used to attach them. Please don't put signs on the exterior of the Lodge. Also, please remove any direction signs or flags you place to guide those who might not be familiar with the route to the camp.

All groups must have ample adult supervision. Do not allow groups to wander through other camps. Remember, your stake/ward will be responsible for any damage.

Noise carries up and down the canyon, especially during the morning and evening hours. Bugles in the morning result in angry calls from the residents in the canyon south and west of the camp. It is a problem when one group is holding a devotional and another is playing a noisy game. Please coordinate with the other groups in camp to avoid this.

The beds in the "Cook's Room" are longer than normal twin beds. This is not a problem if sleeping bags are used, but if sheets and blankets are used they need to be those made for extra long beds. These beds or mattresses are not to be moved from that room.

We now have WiFi access in the Lodge and the Orchard and West Camp areas. This is for use by adult leaders only. The caretaker can give you the password. The system is set up using the church firewall, so there are some sites, such as Facebook, that aren't accessible.

The caretaker is Neil Taft. He and his wife, Sandie, live at the camp and are available to assist in any way they can. Brother or Sister Taft can be reached at (928) 476-3578. Brother Taft will give a short orientation to each group as they arrive. At this time he will explain any special regulations, such as the fire conditions, and answer any questions.

We want every participating stake and ward to use the camp and enjoy the atmosphere and the spirit that exists there. Camp Lo-Mia is unique in its facilities and its accessibility. There is no other camp like it in the church. It is the Lord's camp, and we are privileged to be able to use it.