

# Michael Dean Reynolds

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## OBJECTIVE

Seeking opportunities to further develop my career in wilderness leadership

## EDUCATION

- **Northern Michigan University; Marquette, Michigan**  
Associate Degree – Anticipated completion date: December 2009  
Concentration: – Outdoor Recreation, Leadership and Management
- **Columbus North High School, Columbus, Indiana**  
Core 40 (College-Prep) Diploma, 2001

## OUTDOOR EMPLOYMENT

### **Second Nature Wilderness Program** (Clayton, Georgia): 2010 - present

Senior Field Instructor

- Responsible for taking groups of six to ten troubled students into the back-county of Northeast Georgia
- Plan and implement daily logistics
- Manage field staff team
- Delegate responsibilities
- Ensure the physical and emotional safety of students and staff
- Enable students to discuss sensitive and personal issues
- Plan and implement therapeutic strategies with therapist for each student
  - Teach and role-model assertive communication tools
  - Facilitate group therapy sessions
  - Talk one-on-one with students
  - Clarify the wilderness experience as synonymous with "issues" at home
- Teach primitive skills, backpacking techniques and low impact camping principles
- Provide oral and written evaluations to the therapist for each student

### **Northwest Youth Corporation** (Eugene, Oregon): 2009 - seasonal

Assistant Crew Leader

- Safely completed physically demanding conservation projects to high standards
- Trained, worked with, and supervised crews of ten teenage youth (ages 16-20) for 33-40 hours per week. Work projects included trail construction, wetland restoration, and wildlife habitat creation in extremely remote settings with little contact with the "outside" world.
- Provided direction for corps members with specific attention to safe work practices, proper tool use, work quality, and production efficiency.
- Taught an experiential-based environment and life skills education curriculum.

**Wildman Whitewater Ranch** (Niagra, Wisconsin): 2006-2009 - seasonal Rafting, Sea Kayaking, Rock Climbing Guide, and Bus Driver

- Guide Class IV white water rafting and safety facilitator
- Guide top rope rock climbing and repelling
- Guide sea kayaking in flat river water
- Bus customers to and from the river
- Menominee and Peshtigo rivers. (Class III- IV+)

**SOAR** (Balsam, North Carolina): Summer 2006 / Summer 2007

Field Instructor

- Planned, implemented, and debriefed outdoor activities such as whitewater rafting, rock climbing, caving, backpacking, kayaking, mountain biking and ropes courses.
- Supervised youth with learning disabilities in a wilderness setting.
- Client and family collaboration to create an individualized treatment plan.
- Facilitated the development of wilderness skills, organizational skills, and social skills with adolescents.
- 106 expedition days total in 2006 and 2007

**Teaching Family Homes of Upper Michigan** (Marquette, Michigan): 2005

Direct Care Staff

- Provided direct care for children with a history of severe behavior problems in a group home setting using a "Boys Town" model which consisted of social skill instruction and positive discipline.
- Taught interpersonal, social, and self esteem skills.
- Assisted with tutoring clients' education
- Provided conflict de-escalation and positive crisis intervention models

**Rocky Mountain Adventures** (Ft. Collins, Colorado): Summer 2004

Photographer / Bus Driver

- Provided bus transportation for rafters between the store and the "put in" on the Poudre River
- Photograph rafters in rapids

**Agassiz Village Summer Camp** (Poland, Maine): Summer 2003

Ropes Course Director

- Responsible for directing the camp's handicap assessable low and high ropes courses for disadvantaged and physically handicapped youth from the Boston area
- Designed and built elements of low ropes course
- Trained ropes course staff members in both low and high rope facilitation, maintenance and safety rescue.
- Helped campers embrace challenge by choice and develop the self confidence that comes when one successfully completes new experiences.

**Northern Michigan University - Outdoor Recreation Center** (Marquette, Michigan): 2002

Climbing Wall Facilitator

- Taught rock climbing and belaying to students and community members
- Conducted day hikes
- Conducted snowshoe hikes
- Facilitated low ropes courses

## **OTHER EXPERIENCES**

### **Search and Rescue**

- Marquette County Search and Rescue Team, 2008-present
- Served on Search and Rescue Team, Ben Delatour Scout Ranch, Colorado-1999
- Assisted with Appalachian Trail search in Waynesboro, Virginia- 2002

### **Ropes Course Training**

- SOAR Ropes Course, North Carolina, 2006
- Ropes Courses Inc. Low and High Ropes Training, 2005
- Dare-to-Grow Low and High Ropes Training, 2003
- Columbus Youth Camp Low and High Ropes Training, 2001

### **Long Distance Hiking Experience**

- Appalachian Trail Thru-Hiker; Appalachian Mountains, Georgia to Maine (2,172 miles), 2001/2002
- Philmont Scout Ranch, Rocky Mountains, New Mexico (107 miles), 2000
- Long Cabin Wilderness, Sierra Nevada Mountains, California (100 miles), 2000

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

- Wilderness First Responder - Wilderness Medicine Association - 2010
- Whitewater Rescue Technician (Swift Water Rescue) - 2006
- American Red Cross CPR / AED
- Basic Wildland Fire Fighting Type II, S-130, S-190, I-100
- Commercial Drivers License; Class A; Passenger endorsement

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Wilderness Education Association
- Association for Experiential Education
- Low Ropes Courses, Inc.
- National Eagle Scout Association

## **PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES**

- Association for Experiential Education (Vancouver, Canada; 2004)
- Networking Conference (Flint, Michigan)
- Wilderness Education Association Conference (Martinsville, Indiana; 2002)
- Search and Rescue-Clue Awareness Workshop - UP EMT continuing education conference (Marquette, MI 2003)

## **HONORS**

Eagle Scout, 2001