

**ELIOT INSTITUTE  
TIE-DYE COORDINATOR**  
(Revised January 2017)

**DESCRIPTION:** Tie-dyeing has been a part of July and August summer camps for some years. Each camp has their own unique method and procedure. The current organizers agree that anyone taking on this role probably needs to have done it at least one year along with someone who has done it before.

**SELECTION:** Selected by and responsible to the Dean.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Previous experience tie-dyeing at Eliot. Has been Tie-Dye Coordinator or Assistant before or is going to be working with someone who has been a coordinator before.

**GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:** Organize the tie-dye event, prepare materials, and assist campers in creating their own tie-dye items.

**SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES:** [See Timeline]

**TIE-DYE COORDINATOR  
TIMELINE**

**BEFORE CAMP**

- \_\_\_ Register for camp. Sign contract and Code of Ethics; return to Registrar.
- \_\_\_ Prepare article for pre-camp newsletter.
- \_\_\_ If you know your schedule for the week, send to Newsletter Editor.
- \_\_\_ Purchase supplies and have delivered or bring to camp.

**ARRIVAL DAY**

- \_\_\_ Attend staff meeting.
- \_\_\_ Get any materials stored at Seabeck in Colman.

**DURING CAMP**

- \_\_\_ Write articles for daily newsletter if you haven't already done so.
- \_\_\_ See " Ideas, Hints and Tips" gathered from 2016 Summer Tie-Dye Coordinators.

**LAST DAY**

- \_\_\_ Clean up area and store supplies to remain at camp in the storage closet in Colman.

**AFTER CAMP**

- \_\_\_ Within two weeks of the end of camp, submit a report to the camp Deans using the template they provide.

## IDEAS, HINTS AND TIPS

### COMPRESSED SCHEDULE TRIED IN JULY 2016

2016 was the first year we tried a compressed schedule with just one day for dye and one day for rinse. The new schedule was well received by the community and I got positive comments on using fewer resources. Campers were limited to 2 items each.

#### **SUNDAY**

- No dye; tie-dye workshop was held at 4:00.
- Mix up UREA water and colors.

#### **MONDAY**

- Dye bottles were prepared in the afternoon. 1 large and 2 small bottles for most popular colors. 2 small bottles for less used colors.
- Advanced Tie-Dye Workshop was held in the evening at 7:00 PM

#### **TUESDAY**

- Big Dye Day– Hours were extended from 1:00 until 5:00 PM. (Recommended to continue.) One 1 jar of concentrated dye per color was enough for each of the 18 colors.

#### **WEDNESDAY**

- Big rinse day–The new washing machines have a longer cycle than the old machines, so be careful to ensure you have a full load in the machines before starting. The second rinse cycle on the washing machine yields a good result in getting the whites, white.

**THURSDAY** - Be sure to publicize when people should remove their items. In case of rain, remove items.

### **AUGUST 2016**

Message from one August organizer: I can't imagine someone doing this as a newbie, using written instructions, no matter how brave they were! I think it has become a camp event that requires people with some experience of tie-dye at Seabeck, since it is one of the core activities that brings so many people together. What follows are some of the things that need to be done plus time it took.

**BEFORE CAMP:** We order dyes and most dyeables from Dharma Trading (online), have them delivered to Seabeck so they are there when we arrive, and usually get chemicals and supplies (gloves, pins, tape, sharpies) from Office Depot and Costco in Silverdale or Seattle.

#### **SUNDAY**

- Go through dyeables, including t-shirts, supplies like gloves, tags, sharpies, plastic wrap.
- Make note of what still needs to be purchased. Go to Silverdale to purchase missing items.
- Mix soda ash for early birds soaking,
- Hang lines for pre-soak.
- Mix Urea with water and alginate. Calculate enough urea to mix all the dye that is prepared.

**MONDAY AFTERNOON** - Mix dye concentrates.

#### **MONDAY EVENING** -

- Help early birds tie label and soak.
- Replenish soda ash buckets. 3 is optimal.

#### **TUESDAY MORNING**

- Mix dyes with urea
- One volunteer wearing proper rubber gloves to help wring out soda ash
- One volunteer helping wrap finished items and supervising rinsing of trays
- One volunteer helping label and tie
- One volunteer helping keep dyes replenished and tables clean

- One volunteer selling dyeables
- Tie-dye with MAGs

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON**

- Tie-dye Tuesday! Same volunteers as Tuesday morning. rotate in 1.5-2-hour shifts.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING**

- Rinse-out, for the past few years with a group of helpful youth.
- Unwrap and lay items on grass,
- Spray with hose, wring out lay other side up
- Spray again with hose, wring out again (until they wring out clearish)
- Leave flat on grass until time to put in washing machine.

### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON UNTIL COMPLETE:**

- Wash all dyed items, using hot water, color catchers, and synthrapol (or substitute) (no soap) and second rinse cycle.
- Hang articles up on rope between Cedars and Maples, behind Colman, beside Huckleberry.
- Clean up bottles, plastic sheets, sponges

### **THURSDAY**

- Finish clean up
- Take inventory of dyes, supplies, dyeables
- Write report

### **FRIDAY**

- Take down lines and clothespins pack bins for cupboard
- Take remaining unclaimed items to Inn porch railings

### **HOURS SPENT**

Breakdown of 50 hours spent executing tie-dye: (each day is one person's hours, but two people spent this much time each)

- Saturday checking inventory, submitting receipts - 1 hour
- Sunday going through discovering missing t-shirts, gloves. Mixing soda ash for early birds soaking, hanging lines for pre-soak. - 2 hours
- Alternately: Going to Silverdale to purchase missing items (gloves, tags, t-shirts, etc.) 2 hours
- Monday afternoon-evening mixing dye concentrates, helping early birds tie label and soak. - 4 hours
- Tuesday morning mixing dyes with urea, tie-dye with MAGs, - 3 hours
- afternoon tie-dye - 5 hours
- some cleanup - 1 hour
- Wednesday morning rinsing with youth, troubleshooting broken washing machine - 3 hrs.
- washing all dyed items, hanging them up, cleaning up bottles plastic sheets, sponges - 4 hrs
- Thursday cleanup, inventory, report Colman - 2 hours
- Friday take down lines and clothespins pack cupboard - 1.5 hours
- Saturday Check inventory Submit receipts

### **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

- Rinsing on lawn behind Colman, but still need one more hose. One could be used from Huckleberry and two could reach from Colman down and we could rinse out more things sooner after being unwrapped.
- Would prefer to have 2 or 4 more poles installed down in the fields above Huckleberry and in front of Salal.

[Created Fall 2016]