

## **Teens applying now for Outward Bound leadership adventure**

Pike County's teens who'll be 14-18 this summer can apply now for the North Carolina Outward Bound ([www.NCOBS.org](http://www.NCOBS.org)) leadership adventure program. They must be a high school student next school year.

Originally developed for young sailors during WWII, to be "outward bound" literally means to leave the shelter of the harbor for the open sea; figuratively it means leaving comfort zones, putting fears aside and discovering new possibilities. Through completing a wilderness course, students are brought into the outdoors to discover their strength of character, ability to lead and desire to serve. Utilizing the outdoors as a classroom, a team is formed where the students have rotating, assigned roles. In addition, there is a "solo" experience and a Personal Challenge Event (PCE) that allows the student to explore and enhance his/her individual strengths.

The program is sponsored by The Tracy Family Foundation as part of its West Central Illinois Region youth leadership initiative. The Foundation is paying the cost of the program for those teens who are selected.

At least 5 applicants will be selected from Pike County. Those selected will be announced in May.

The only cost to the participants will be the application fee, airfare and supplies. They and their families will fundraise to cover their costs.

Applications must be received by April 15. A \$75 application fee is required, and will be refunded if the applicant is not selected.

Student leaders can choose between 13 course dates in June, July and August. Courses are 9 days long departing from Asheville, North Carolina to the Blue Ridge Mountains for either backpacking and rock climbing or backpacking and whitewater canoeing. Participants will be grouped into crews of teenagers based on age and grade level then led by Outward Bound wilderness experts.

For an application or more information, please contact Jacklyn Feldpausch at [jpfeldpausch@gmail.com](mailto:jpfeldpausch@gmail.com) or William Durall at [William.durall@me.com](mailto:William.durall@me.com)