



# Sacred Earth Foundation

*Ekone Ranch... a place for children of all ages*

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Greetings!

January 2015

We hope that you're having a wonderful school year. At Ekone Ranch we're looking forward to our 30<sup>th</sup> season of summer camp magic in our 1,060-acre classroom, teaching stewardship and life lessons through horses, land, art, nature crafts, gardening, cooking, community, and ranch projects of all kinds. We are writing to invite you to learn more about the fun and educational programs Ekone Ranch has to offer for children of all ages, and encourage you to **let us design a program especially for your school.**

Since 1985, Ekone Ranch has offered unique opportunities and an unparalleled setting for children to deepen their connection with the natural world, learn about sustainable lifestyles and foster positive peer relationships.

During the summer we offer overnight camps for children, primarily focused on homestead skills and a positive work ethic, crafting with reused materials, developing ecological literacy and learning horsemanship with our herd of beautiful and gentle children's horses. **In the spring and fall we host events and school groups,** including the Portland Waldorf School, Cedarwood Waldorf School, the Portland Village School, and Hyla Middle School on Bainbridge Island, WA, as well as scout troops, private retreats, workshops for adults and families, and family gatherings. Our experienced staff and this special place will create an educational, participatory, and unforgettable experience for your group.

We provide wholesome, home-cooked vegetarian meals and accommodations in our A-frame longhouse and strawbale roundhouse, in tipis, tents, or under the stars. Activities may include hiking, swimming, lessons in sustainability and ecology, working in the garden, cooking projects, herbal medicine and salve making, canning and food preservation, recycled art and craft projects, peace education, campfires and horse activities. **A curriculum will be created specifically for your group, according to your individual needs, objectives, and budget.**

Ekone's facilities are set in a beautiful valley in **south-central Washington**, 2.5 hours from Portland, 3 hours from Seattle. Ekone is managed by Sacred Earth Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with a mission to hold this land in trust, steward with reverence and teach sustainable living to children of all ages.

**Fees range from \$10-100 per person per night depending on your needs** (see reverse for more details). Please contact us for more information or to make a reservation.

Thank you for considering Ekone Ranch for your class!

Sincerely,

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# **Ekone Ranch School Programs**

## **Group Size**

Ekone's facilities are best suited to groups of 20-25. We can accommodate 30 with a squeeze and much larger groups when the weather is nice and you're willing to camp!

## **Facilities**

Ekone's facilities are rustic and unique, largely built from wood harvested from the land and milled on site. (Please see [www.ekone.org](http://www.ekone.org) for photos.) Facilities used for program activities include:

**Longhouse/Roundhouse:** This A-frame structure is our primary bunkhouse, with 6 large sleeping platforms on the ground floor, sleeping two adults or sometimes three children, plus 4 lofts that accommodate an additional 8-12 people (more if you are small). The Roundhouse, built of straw bales, adjoins the Longhouse and sleeps 3+; a good space for chaperones and children needing extra support.

**Tipsis:** We currently have 3 seasonal tipis of various sizes that can sleep from 2-10 people each.

**Bathroom:** Includes two flush toilets, sink and one shower. Portapotties can be brought in for larger groups.

**Kitchen:** The "Yummy Tummy Café" is a fully stocked rustic commercial kitchen and dining room. We have abundant outdoor seating as well. Our fresh, from-scratch meals are always a highlight.

**Lodge:** The spacious Lodge serves as a gathering place, fire circle, stage, craft center, and game area. The Lodge also offers three comfortable upstairs guest rooms, sometimes used as adult quarters, with a bathroom and kitchen on ground floor.

## **Rates & Programming Options**

Ekone's rates vary with the needs of each group, but are based on the guidelines below. When you contact us to make arrangements and reserve your dates, we will discuss the needs of your program and set rates accordingly.

### **Standard School Program, \$70/child/day, \$45/chaperone/day**

Our most common school program, this arrangement includes two activity periods per day offered by Ekone staff, and delicious from-scratch meals. Activities may include recycled art, nature hikes, gardening and kitchen activities, herbal medicine, woodworking, or other projects in service to the land, as they fit into your class curriculum and group preferences. This arrangement assumes chaperone supervision of the children, allows time for chaperones to offer additional activities or educational elements as appropriate.

### **Plus Program, \$100/child/day, \$65/chaperone/day**

This option is for groups that prefer more supervision and guidance from Ekone staff, and resembles our summer camp program more closely (horse activities are an additional option, see below). This arrangement assumes that the children will be primarily under the supervision of Ekone staff 24 hours a day, and that Ekone staff will set and conduct the full menu of activities for each day.

### **Facilities Only**

You may also bring a group to Ekone and simply use the facilities or camp on the land and provide your own programming. Rates begin at \$10/night/person. Please contact us for details on this option.

### **Horse Activities, \$25-70/person/day**

Our horses are exceptional, and they have so much to teach children; about compassion, courage, gentleness, respect, determination, balance, clarity, intention, perseverance, and so much more. We can offer your group lessons in the round pen, training sessions in the barrel field, and trail rides for beginners or more experienced riders. Please contact us for more details.

**We look forward to designing a program to fit your group's needs and creating an unforgettable experience on the land!**