

Youth Conference Check List

Conference _____ Dates _____

As soon as possible...

- Registration form Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
 - Deposit (\$75 per participant)/Payment Completed credit card / mailed
- Youth Conference Group Name template Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
- Sponsor Background Check form Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
- Adult Sponsor paperwork
 - Background Check, Self-Certification & Authorization
 - After paperwork is submitted, two emails from Mo-Ranch and Ministry Safe will be sent directly to sponsor's email address prior to the conference.
 - Child Protection
 - Participant Covenant
 - Release of Liability
 - Health Information
 - Male Sponsor(s) Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
 - Female Sponsor(s) Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
- Youth Participant paperwork
 - Participant Covenant
 - Release of Liability
 - Health Information
 - Male Youth Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
 - Female Youth Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
- Scholarship requests Submitted

60 days prior to conference start

- Final payment Completed credit card / mailed
- Any changes to number of participants? Updated with Mo-Ranch

30 days prior to conference start

- Updated Youth Conference Group Name template Submitted emailed / faxed / mailed
 - Any changes to number of participants? Updated with Mo-Ranch
 - Any changes in male/female participants? Updated with Mo-Ranch
- Cancellations? Updated with Mo-Ranch
 - Last day for full refund (minus \$75 administrative fee per person)

Things to know (on or after 30 days prior to conference start):

- There will be no refunds for cancellations received on or after 30 days prior to the start of the event nor will the deposit be applied towards other charges or future deposits.
- Adult Sponsors must complete Ministry Safe training.
- Scholarship requests must be submitted 30 days prior, **please** note:
 - Scholarships are nontransferable.
 - Funds will not be credited to participants without confirmation and/or not yet registered for the conference of which their scholarship has been awarded.
 - Once the participant is registered and the deposit has been paid, we will credit the scholarship accordingly (after confirmation).

General Information

Before the conference:

- Adult to youth ratio
 - 1:5; the number of adult sponsors must correspond to the gender numbers in the group they are bringing. 6 boys and 4 girls would mean at least 2 sponsors to meet the qualifications, preference is 1 male, 1 female sponsor for housing situations. If you do not have one sponsor of each gender, it is your responsibility to link up with another church sponsor of the needed gender.
 - Adult sponsors must also register and pay for the conference.
- Adult "youth" participants
 - Youth 18 years of age are legally considered adult in the state of Texas. However, if they are attending a Mo-Ranch conference as a youth participant, we require a parent/guardian's signature on the youth's paperwork. The reason for this is because they are allowed to attend and participate fully as a youth. If you have any questions about this policy, please feel free to contact the Program office at 800-460-4401 ext. 246 or programs@moranch.org
- Appropriate dress
 - As noted in the Youth Conference Participant Covenant that each participant signs...
"I promise to participate in the building and caring for community by:
Dressing appropriately by wearing clothing that allows me to participate fully in the activity at hand, keeping in mind that I am attending a church youth conference and that I represent my family, congregation and community at all times by what I say, do, and wear. I will not bring clothing that advertises alcohol, tobacco or other illegal substances; nor which contain language/pictures that demean or ridicule someone's gender, sexuality or ethnic origin."
 - Swim suits must fit in such a way that they stay on my body. Swim trunks should be worn at the waistline and not be shorter than mid-length (6"-7" inseam).
 - Water activities/recreation events: All participants are expected to wear t-shirts covering the torso/with sides.
- Packing list
 - Each person is encouraged to bring a Bible and notebook for small groups.
 - Comfortable walking shoes (close-toed are required for the high ropes course)
 - Sunscreen/sunglasses/hat
 - Casual Clothing (refer to appropriate dress above)
 - Modest swim suits (please refer to water activities and recreation events above)
 - Toiletries: toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo and conditioner.
 - Hair dryer, straighteners, curlers, etc.
 - Insect repellent
 - Flashlight
 - Camera
 - Spending money
 - Sheets, pillows, blankets and room towels are provided in each housing unit.
 - Swim towels are provided at the river and the pool.
- Cell phones service (and other electronic devices)
 - Service is limited once you get past Hunt, TX.
 - All the hotel buildings and most of the main buildings have Wi-Fi available.
 - The front desk folks can help set-up "Wi-Fi calling" if your cell phone has that capability
- Housing check-in is at 4 p.m.
- Housing check-out is at 11 a.m.
- Copies of all requested paperwork can be found at:
<https://www.moranch.org/attend-a-conference/conferences-for-youth/>

General Information

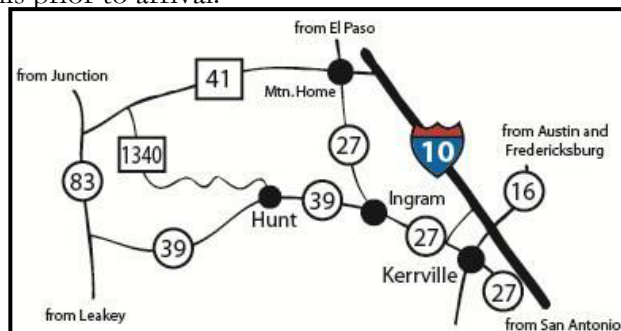
Arrival

- For every conference, check-in begins at 4 p.m.
 - Housing facilities are not available any earlier than 4 p.m.
- **Church sponsors** when you arrive:
 - Check-in your groups with program/conference staff
 - Confirm/finalize any group paperwork concerns
 - Get housing keys, schedules and other conference items
 - Go to housing and unload belongings
 - Go to swim check!
- Swim check
 - Every youth participant must check-in at swim check.
 - Swim check is a scheduled event, please use your best efforts to have the whole group there and within the time frame given.
 - A “make-up” swim check will be given the following day if it is required. This swim check is not guaranteed at the pool, and may be done in the river.
 - At this time, youth will be given the option to participate in the swim check or opt-out.
 - What to expect: this is an opportunity for a Mo-Ranch lifeguard to categorize the youth’s swimming ability according to our standards. A few requests such as treading water and swimming the length of the pool (at a comfortable pace for each swimmer) without touching the bottom or stopping, etc. will be asked of each youth.
 - Once this is complete, the youth will receive one of two wristbands, to serve as a sign for other lifeguards and Mo-Ranch staff to know when a life jacket needs to be worn in different water activities.
 - Youth who choose to opt-out of the swim check will be given a wristband in the category that requires a life jacket.
 - Please note this is not a swim test and should not be viewed as a pass/fail situation. This is safety procedure to protect each youth during water activities.
 - Youth participants 18 years of age are required to take (or opt-out) the swim check, adult sponsors are not.
- The time between swim check and dinner is time to use at your group’s discretion.
 - Dinner is from 5:30-7 p.m.
 - Be sure to check your conference schedule to note when the first schedule event begins and aim to be on time for the fun!
- Electronics
 - The use of personal electronic devices affects not only the person using the device but others around them. Using an electronic device for activities unrelated to the conference can be disruptive and disrespectful. Mo-Ranch encourages groups to leave personal electronics at home.
 - We ask that any electronic devices brought to the conference be kept on silent or turned off during all scheduled events (especially keynote, small group, worship and vespers)
 - Distracting personal electronics may be collected by conference staff and turned in to a sponsor. Mo-Ranch or its representatives will not assume responsibility for devices that are lost, stolen, damaged and/or confiscated.

General Information

Departure

- Housing check-out is at 11 a.m. If the last scheduled event is during this time, please prepare ahead of time.
 - What to do during check-out:
 - Keys: please return to the front desk or in a main location (i.e. dining table, near entrance).
 - Towels/Linens: please leave wet towels and dry items separate.
 - Please make sure all trash is properly disposed.
- Lunch is not provided on closing day, please consider this prior to arrival.
 - From Mo-Ranch
 - Junction is 50 minutes
 - Fredericksburg is 60 minutes
 - Kerrville is 35-40 minutes



Directions to Mo-Ranch

- From **Houston** (~295 miles):
 - West on Interstate Highway 10 to San Antonio. See “From San Antonio” below
- From **San Antonio** (~90 Miles):
 - West on Interstate Highway 10 to Kerrville; take exit 508 to Texas State Highway 16 south into town; turn right at the Courthouse on Texas State Highway 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take Texas State Highway 39 west from Ingram for six miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.
- From **Dallas/Fort Worth** (~325 miles):
 - South on U.S. Route 281 to Johnson City; turn right on U.S. Route 290 west to Fredericksburg; turn left on Texas State Highway 16 south to Kerrville; turn right at the Courthouse on Texas State Highway 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take Texas State Highway 39 west for six miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.
- From **Austin** (~130 miles):
 - West on U.S. Route 290 through Johnson City; turn right on U.S. Route 290 west to Fredericksburg; turn left on Texas State Highway 16 south to Kerrville; turn right at the Courthouse on Texas State Highway 27 west to Ingram; stay to the left and take Texas State Highway 39 west for six miles to Hunt; turn right in Hunt on FM 1340 west for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the left and the entrance gate on the right.
- From **El Paso** (~530 miles):
 - East on I-10 to exit 490, exit and turn right on Texas State Highway 41 west for about 16.5 miles; turn left on FM 1340 east for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the right and the entrance gate on the left.

In case of flooding or to avoid all local towns:

Stay on I-10 to exit 490, Mountain Home/ Rocksprings. Exit and turn right on Texas State Highway 41 west for about 16.5 miles; turn left on FM 1340 east for 11 miles; look for the Mo-Ranch sign on the right and the entrance gate on the left. This route is longer, but avoids the towns, low water crossings and twisty roads.

Caution Notes:

- While it is a beautiful drive to Mo-Ranch, please take care, be aware of your surroundings and drive safely. The roads have severe curves in many places, so be ready and take them slowly.
- You will drive over many low water crossings. If there is water on the road, “Turn around, don’t drown.” (Use the above stated alternate route to Mo-Ranch.)
- Watch for wildlife along the sides of the road and in the fields next to the road. Be prepared to slow down, but never swerve. You have less risk of severe accident or injury from hitting wildlife than from swerving to avoid it. Always watch where the wildlife came from, not where it is going. Where there is one, there will usually be more coming across the road and you want to be ready.