

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Try this quick brainstorm activity:

Write down all the elements of an ideal retreat site in the space below:

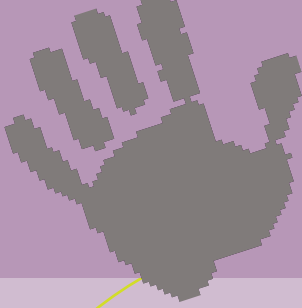
Ideal Retreat Site

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

Now - go back and reconsider the items in your "ideal list". Consider alternatives for the elements in your ideal list that are not possible because of physical or financial limitations. For example: a lake instead of a swimming pool, a flip chart instead of a write on/wipe off board, cabins with bunk beds instead of hotel rooms, etc. Re-write your retreat site needs here:

<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<hr/>

Take your preparatory work one step further . . .



NEEDS ASSESSMENT

**Now that you have a retreat planning wish list
- answer the following questions to solidify the planning process:**

1. Will you need overnight accommodations or will this be a "day only" retreat?
2. How far are you willing to travel?
3. Do you need kitchen access or will the site cook meals for you?
4. Can you bring in your own food/snacks/beverages?
5. Are there indoor facilities (showers, bathrooms, etc.)
6. What other amenities are provided by the site: campfire pit, ropes course, training facilitators, indoor and outdoor recreation (canoes, swimming, winter sports, hiking, billiards, fireplace, etc.)?
7. Will the site be able to accommodate meeting needs (flip charts, video/audio needs, large indoor meeting room, computer access, etc.

Hint: Don't overlook the power of group members cooking meals.