2020 Summer Camp
Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What will my child do at camp?
Camp will look different this year due to COVID-19 virus. Campers are typically divided by age. This summer campers will still participate in activities and games, and will stay separated as much as possible and outdoor time will be increased. There will be no field trips or swimming this summer.

Q. Can I add my child to a different age group or request that he/she to be in a group with his/her friend/sibling?
Planned activities are age appropriate. Therefore, we hesitate moving campers from one age group to another. Requests of this nature would need to be discussed with, and approved by the program manager.

Q. If my child does not like an activity (boating, hiking, etc.) can they do an alternative activity?
We realize that not all children will want to participate in all activities. In some cases counselors will offer options for campers to choose from or have your child take on more of a “helper” role during the activity. Children will not be forced to participate in an activity. However, they must remain with the group and within sight and hearing distance of their counselor to ensure proper safety and security.

Q. What is the policy for late pick up?
We understand that circumstances arise that may hinder the parent or guardian’s ability to pick up their child within established timeframes. If this becomes a habitual or repeat occurrence, a late pick up fee will be applied to your account. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for more information.

Q. How do you handle a child who is being disrespectful?
All Parks, Recreation & Tourism programs have a code of conduct in place, as well as disciplinary protocols to follow. When a camper is not meeting the goals outlined in the code of conduct, appropriate steps will be taken by the staff. This includes intervention, assessment, determining the best disciplinary action based on policies, communication with the parent / guardian through one on one meeting or written notes sent home, and establishment of long-term action plans. Continuation of unwanted behavior may result in suspension and/or dismissal from camp programs.

Q. What is your cell phone policy for staff and campers?
Campers are not allowed to use cell phones during the day, and staff are not to use cell phones for personal use. In most cases, counselors are issued radios for communication during camp. Special circumstances that require a camper to have access to their cell phone must be addressed with the camp manager, and prior approval given before camp starts.

Q. What is your policy on allowing parents to stay and observe camp?
Often parents or guardian’s presence during camp can be distracting for some children as well as staff. For this reason, we prefer parents/guardians not stay. However, if there is a specific need to stay and observe your child, please be sure to communicate this with the program manager and obtain prior permission before camp begins.

Q. If my child will be coming late to camp one day or I need to pick them up early, what do I need to do?
Please make every effort to communicate late arrivals or early dismissals with head counselors with as much lead time as you possibly can.
Q. What if I need to cancel my child from camp?
   Staff levels, planned activities, and supplies are based on the number of enrolled participants. Therefore, children who are registered for full day camp who give at least one week notice of cancellation, will be refunded the cost of the camp less the $40 deposit fee. This deposit fee is transferable but not refundable. Participants who register for partial day camps and give a minimum of one week notice of cancellation will be refunded the cost of the camp, minus a $10 administrative fee. This fee is also transferable but not refundable. Failure to give proper notice will result in the forfeiture of all fees paid.

Q. If I only need camp for three days, can my fees be prorated?
   Prorated fees or discounts for partial attendance and/or schedule modifications are not offered.

Q. Can we switch from one camp program/location to another?
   For summer 2020 we will not be permitting transfers to other camp programs, due to the limited spaces available.

Q. Do I need to pay for the total cost of camp now?
   Full Day Camp Programs can be paid in smaller increments. A down payment of $40 per week per child will hold a spot in camp. The balance is due 7 business days prior to the start of camp. For Partial day camps payment must be made in full at the time of registration.

Q. When are the payment due dates for full day camp programs?
   Payment due dates for our Full Day Camp programs are one week (7 days) prior to the start of the specific week of camp.

Q. Do I have to sign up for the entire summer or can I choose specific weeks?
   Committing to a full summer of camp is not required. Participants can choose specific camps or weeks that interest them.

Q. Do you offer Before and After extended care options? What are the fees?
   Extended before and after care is offered for full day camp programs. The hours for extended care are 6a-9a and 5p-7p. Morning or evening extended care costs $20 per week. If both morning and evening care is needed, the cost is $40 per week.

Q. Is there refrigeration for drinks/lunch?
   Camp programs are unable to provide refrigeration or access to a microwave for camper’s lunches/snacks. Please send your camper with appropriate coolers or with food that does not require refrigeration or cooking.
Q. Do you provide meals at camp?
Meals are not provided as a standard during camp programs. At times, there may be a special event scheduled that will include food. In these cases, parents/guardians will be notified and asked to notify staff of potential food allergies. Campers should bring 2 snacks and 2 drinks, lunch, and water bottle to full day camps each day, and 1 snack and water bottle to partial day camps.

Q. What time is lunch?
Lunch time may vary slightly from camp to camp, but generally it is held between 11a-12noon.

Q. What if my child has a disability?
The Department of Parks and Recreation offers inclusion based programming. If your child has a disability, you will need to complete an Inclusion request form found on our web page or contact Veronica Laughman, ADA Coordinator – vlaughman@pwcgov.org. Once a request is made, a meeting is scheduled to complete an inclusion profile and determine next steps on how best to set up your child for success in our camp program.

Q. Who applies Bugs Spray and Suntan lotion?
For those attending partial day camps we ask that parents apply sunscreen/bug spray (if appropriate) prior to sending their child to camp. For full day camp programs, there are designated times throughout the day when sunscreen/bug spray sent from home is applied. These times are supervised by staff. The buddy system is typically used with campers to apply sunscreen and we prefer that parents send spray sunscreen and bug spray, as it makes the application process quicker and easier.

Q. My child will need to take medication while at camp. How do I go about doing this?
Children needing to take medication during camp will have it administered by a camp staff member who has gone through Medication Administration Training. Medication Administration Authorization forms will need to be completed by the parent or guardian prior to the start of camp and will be kept on file at the specific location of camp for the duration of the child's participation. If medication is required for more than a week, a doctor's signature is required. Medication forms can be found online or by contacting staff at your specific camp location.

Q. If I am not registered for before care, how early can I drop my child off?
Campers who are not signed up for extended care should be dropped off between 8:45a-9:00a and pick him/her up between 12p-12:15p for half day camps, and between 5p-5:15p for Full-Day Camps at no extra cost.

Q. Can I meet my child's counselor/head counselor prior to registering for camp?
Due to scheduling constraints and staff changes, designating times for parents/guardians and campers to meet their counselors prior to the start of camp is difficult. Counselors are typically available between 8:30a-9a and 5p-5:15p during camp week to meet with campers and their parent or guardian.

Q. What are your staff ratios?
For summer 2020 our camp program maintains a ratio of 1 counselor for every 8 campers.

Q. What type of qualifications do camp staff have to meet?
Camp staff and/or camp instructors must be at least 18 years of age or older. Head counselors must be 21 or older. They must have at least 6 months experience working in the child care field. All camp staff are CPR/First Aid and AED certified. They also must attend training in Blood-borne pathogens, Sexual Harassment, and Recognizing Illness. All staff must successfully pass a Criminal Background and Central Registry Check. All staff attend preseason training.
Q. Do you offer swim lessons at camp?

For summer 2020 there will be no swimming options offered at any camp.

Q. What do you do for inclement weather (heat and rain)?

All camp locations have inclement weather policies and Emergency Action Plans. Indoor spaces are available at all camp locations. In case of extreme heat, activities are modified, and outdoor time is limited. Field trips may change if inclement weather is a factor.