

SUMMER OF ADVENTURE

Wakefield Parks & Recreation 2024 Parent Packet



Recreation Office Information:

Physical Address: 132 Meadow Street, Sanbornville, NH 03872

Mailing Address: Wakefield Parks & Rec, 2 High Street, Sanbornville, NH 03872

Phone: 603-522-9977

Email: alyssa@wakefieldrec.com

Summer Camp Location:

Camp activities will take place in the Wakefield Town Hall, Paul School, Public Safety Building, Town Beach, and the Town Parks unless otherwise noted.

Camp Eligibility & Hours:

Camp program will run for 8 weeks from Monday, June 24th – Friday, August 23rd

No camp July 1st-5th

Camp hours are from 8am-5pm

50 spaces for children entering 1st – 7th grade

Registration starts April 1st for residents and April 8th for non-residents. Campers that registered for full-time are expected to attend all 8 weeks of camp, 5 days a week. If you register for camp you are required to pay the weekly fee every week, here or not. If you go on vacation or miss a day you are still expected to pay. Please understand that we reserve the right to recommend that your child not attend camp if serious discipline problems occur. The first week of camp is a trial period for all campers. We are not a daycare-your child should want to be here and to participate in activities!

Weekly Fee:

\$135 one child, \$220 two children, \$305 three children due the start of each week

Part time fee: \$35 per day one child, \$60 per day two children, \$85 per day three children

Camper Drop Off & Pick Up: Summer camp runs from 8am-5pm. All campers will be dropped off and picked up at the Parks & Recreation Department, unless expressed otherwise the previous day. If we are to dismiss camp at another location, you will be notified the previous day. Campers **must be signed out by a parent/guardian or person listed as a “pick up person” on their registration form.** Staff members are required to request a **picture ID** from parents or persons they do not recognize. Please make sure anyone listed to pick your child up from camp is aware of this policy. **Summer Camp staff will not allow any child to leave with someone unless they have a picture ID and are on the pickup list.**

Cancellation Policy:

If your child will not be able to attend the summer camp and you have already registered for the program, please call our office as soon as possible so we can open up your space for another child.

Absence Procedures/Vacations:

If your child is going to miss a day of camp please call our office by 8:30 AM. If you get the answering machine, please leave a message with your child’s name and the date they are expected to return to camp. Please notify camp staff of any planned vacations or days you know your child will be absent in advance.

Rainy Day Policy:

Summer camp will be open rain or shine. On rainy days all activities will be held inside the Rec, Paul School, Town Hall, or Public Safety Building. Any outdoor trips could be canceled on rainy days, however, the camp will still run and we generally have backup trips. (Movies, rollerblading, Funspot, bowling, etc) **so please always pack a pair of socks or change of clothes in your child’s backpack.**

Late Pick-Up Policy:

Camp ends at **5pm**. All campers must be picked up on time! We don't have extended hours this year. We have no overtime in our budget and staff must be paid for all hours worked. Any fines must be paid before your child returns to camp. You will be assessed the following fines if we need to stay late:

1st time	warning
After 5:05pm	\$5
After 5:10pm	\$10
After 5:15pm	\$15
\$5 each additional 5 minutes!	

Outrageous, isn't it?! We think so too; however, we cannot be waiting for children to be picked up. The fee is a fine, a fine we do not ever want to collect. We would prefer you to pick your child up on time. This fine will not be assessed in cases of family emergencies or legitimate circumstances. In these cases, please call the Recreation Department at 603-522-9977. As we stated before, we hope never to collect a single fine. Please be on time. Staff will be required to enforce this policy!

What your child should wear to Camp:

Please send your children to camp in play clothes. We will be doing a variety of activities that will require comfortable play clothes. We recommend that you do not send your child in a skirt or dress. Shorts and a T-shirt are suggested. **All campers will receive a camp T-shirt that must be worn on all camp trips. If your child does not have on their trip shirt they will not be allowed to attend the trip.** We generally require our campers to wear their camp shirts in the water on beach days. **Please send along a full change of clothes and a towel to camp EVERYDAY!** We play lots of water games and visit the beach almost every day. Please have your child wear appropriate footwear. (NO FLIP FLOPS, Except on Beach Days) All of our trips are subject to change. **Please always send along socks with your child or in their backpack for last minute trips.** We ask that you label your child's belongings. Clothes, towels, water bottles, backpacks, lunchboxes, etc. You'd be surprised on the amount of items left behind on a daily basis. *On beach days, please send your child to camp with their bathing suit on, under their clothes.*
****Please send your child to camp daily with sunscreen already applied!**

Extra camp shirts will be available for purchase at \$15 per shirt. Extra shirts can be ordered during the registration process. Please be patient as we need to make sure every camper has at least one shirt before we hand out extras.

What your child should bring to Camp:

Snacks, Lunch, & WATER: Please send a *nutritious* lunch with your child daily. We ask that you remember campers are here from 8am-5pm, which is longer than a typical school day. Plus, they are much more active throughout the day playing sports, swimming, and having fun. The kids get extremely hungry and thirsty! **Every day we expect a camper to have a water bottle.** Please send a reusable water bottle to camp (no glass) that can be re-filled. We recommend that you purchase a larger sized water bottle and fill that with lots of ice and water every morning before camp. Campers are required to carry it with them at all times. A juice box or small Gatorade is a great lunch time drink but please, don't forget the water bottle!



Sunscreen:

Our camp policy asks that you apply sunscreen to your child **before** they come to camp. Please pack a bottle of sunscreen (with your child's name on it) in your child's backpack for a second application after lunch. Staff members will remind the group to reapply sunscreen at least 2 times a day. We also recommend sending a hat to camp. ***Note: Staff members will help your child apply sunscreen if needed. If you would prefer our staff members not assist your child please note it on the registration form.**

Backpacks: All of your child's belongings should be able to fit into one bag. We recommend sending a backpack so that each child is able to carry his or her own possessions. Our counselors are not able to carry items for your child. They often have their own backpacks along with first aid kits, binders, and other camp supplies. We recommend labeling your child's backpack with their name on it.

Field Trips:

We will be taking up to 3 trips per week to area attractions. The cost of all trips is included in your weekly camp fee. **Camp shirts must be worn on all trips! It is the parent's responsibility to send children to camp ready for each trip! Extra camp shirts are available for purchase for \$15 each.** While on trips, all campers go off in groups with a staff member. Campers are expected to be on their **best behavior** on trips. If a behavior problem occurs on a trip, parents will be notified and the camper will miss the next trip. **Trips are a privilege and misbehavior on a trip is a serious offense in our 3-strike policy.** When you review our discipline policy you will notice that trips are taken away for unacceptable behavior during camp. Please review the discipline policy and be sure to review it with your child.

What not to bring to Camp:

We recommend no cell phones, gaming systems, or other valuable items unless for use on the bus. Counselors reserve the right to confiscate any electronic devices until the end of the day at camp if these items become a problem. Squirt guns, toy guns, stuffed animals, and all personal toys should be left at home. On occasion, we will have a special event and ask children to bring items from home (Parents will be notified in advance). On beach days campers are welcome to bring along boogie boards, beach toys, or goggles as long as they do not become a problem. Please no floats. Please do not send your child to camp with large sums of money. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items! **We also ask that campers leave their cell phones at home.** If you prefer your child to carry a cell phone to communicate with you then we will need the campers to follow all the rules regarding the use of cell phones during camp. No cell phones are to be out and about during the camp day. If the phone becomes a problem our counselors reserve the right to confiscate the device until the end of the day.

Lost & Found:

If your child loses something please check the lost & found box located inside the Recreation Department building. **All** clothes and items left in the box at the end of the summer will be taken to Good Will.

Sick Child Policy: If your child is sick at camp, you will be responsible to come and get your child or send someone else to take them home. We do not have a place for sick children at camp. If your child is not feeling well the day of camp or a trip, **PLEASE** do not send them as we have no way to get sick children home once we are on a trip. If a child at any point during the day feels ill the staff will separate them from their group to an isolated location and call their parent for immediate pick-up.

Head Lice "No Nit" Policy:

The Wakefield Parks & Recreation Department has a "No Nit Policy." This means that if your child has head lice, they **will not** be permitted back to camp until all the nits are removed from their hair. Please let us know immediately if your child has a case of head lice so that we can check other campers as well. If a case of head lice is reported at camp, parents will be notified and we will do a head check on all campers.

Medication Policy

Campers are not allowed to bring medication with them or in their belongings to camp. Parents must administer any necessary medication to their camper before arriving at camp. If a camper requires medication during the camp day, parents/guardians or the adults listed as Parent/Guardian and Authorized Pick up/Emergency Contact must come to camp to administer their camper their medication. Emergency medications like EpiPens and inhalers will be allowed but must be labeled with the camper's first and last name. Parents must indicate their camper's need for emergency medication on their camp registration form.

Special Note to Parents regarding our Camp Counselors Often times, as parents, we tend to forget the age and nature of a c

amp counselor. Summer camp is NOT as STRUCTURED as a school environment. Please remember that these counselors are with your children from 8am to 5pm each day with no breaks! We strongly believe it takes a special kind of person to be a camp counselor. And in realizing this, you'll understand why we have so many procedures and policies in place. The following poem pretty much sums up a typical day for one of our wonderful camp counselors... we thought you would enjoy reading it.

ODE TO A CAMP COUNSELOR

Somewhere between adolescence and adulthood there occurs in human development an age which is physically and psychologically impossible. It is that unfathomable stage known as the camp counselor, a creature undefined by psychologists, misunderstood by camp directors, worshipped by campers, either admired or doubted by parents, and unheard of by the rest of society.

A camp counselor is a rare combination of Doctor, Lawyer, and Indian Chief. They are a babysitter with neither television nor a refrigerator. They are a strict disciplinarian with a twinkle in their eye; a minister to all faiths with questions about their own. They are a referee, a coach, a teacher, and an advisor. They are the example of adulthood in worn out tennis shoes, a sweatshirt two sizes too big, and a hat two sizes too small. They are a humorist in a crisis, a doctor in an emergency, a song leader, an entertainer, and a play director. They are a teacher of outdoors.

Counselors dislike meetings, waiting in lines, bathroom runs, and rainy days.

They are fond of sunbathing, exploring, teaching new games, their old car, and days off. They are handy at patching up friendships, bloody noses, and torn jeans. They are good at locating missing bathing suits, fixing equipment, singing songs, and comforting a child. They are poor at being on time, remembering to sign in, and getting to bed at a reasonable hour.

Who but a counselor can cure homesickness, get as wet as the children, play sixteen games of Bingo in succession, carry everyone's lunches, do a back flip, sing "Reese's Pieces", and eat more than all the kids put together?

A counselor is expected to repair ten years of damage to Tommy in ten days, make Danny into a man, rehabilitate Susan, allow Katherine to be an individual, and help Peter adjust to the group. They are expected to lead the most prized possessions of 20 adults much older than he. He is expected to lead them in fun and adventure—even when their head hurts; to teach ingenuous activities—even when they haven't reached the voting age; to ensure safety and health—even with a sunburned nose, a band aid on their thumb, and a blister on their heel. For all this, they are paid enough to buy the second text in Psychology, some Aspirin, some new socks, two tires for the old car, and some new tennis shoes. You wonder how they can stand the pace and the pressure. You wonder if they really know how much they are worth, and somehow, you realize you can never pay them enough when, as they leave in August, they wave good-bye and say, "See you next year!"

Summer Camp Discipline Policy:

Please take a few moments to review the following discipline policy with your child.

Summer Camp is offered so that children can have fun in a safe and secure environment. With that idea in mind, we expect your child and all children to respect our staff, each other, and the property of others. Good camper behavior allows all campers to have a positive summer camp experience. We have instituted a 3-strike policy for all serious problems and a card system for **minor problems**.

Parents/Guardians- please remember that the 1st week of camp is a trial week for all campers.

We reserve the right to remove any child from camp if we feel we cannot adequately handle the behavioral needs of your child. We also have the right to remove a child from camp at any time during the summer if behavior becomes a serious issue. If your child is removed from summer camp or any recreation program due to behavior, they will be permitted back into the program on a trial basis the following year.

Serious Offenses: including, but not limited to:

1. Endangering the safety of another camper or staff
2. Fighting
3. Verbal abuse of another camper or staff
4. Stealing or destruction of property
5. Misbehavior on a field trip. *Misbehavior on field trips is considered serious. If a serious problem occurs on a trip, parents will be notified and the camper will miss the next trip.
6. Any other issue that occurs that is considered serious by the Camp/Recreation Director

Serious Offense 3 Strike Policy Consequences:

1. Written warning sent to parent explaining problem & miss next day of camp.
2. Parent conference & miss the next 2 days of camp
3. Removal from summer camp program.

If minor offenses continuously occur they will count as cards in our three strike policy.

Minor Offenses:

1. Pushing or swearing
2. Talking back to staff
3. Not following directions
4. Leaving an activity area without permission
5. Any other negative behaviors that may occur during the day

Card System Consequences: We will be using a card system to track weekly behavior. Three cards within a one week period will result in a strike and the loss of the next trip.

#1 Card: 5-minute time out & warning

#2 Card: 10-minute time out, speak with parent

#3 Card: Miss trip & counts as a strike in our 3 strike serious offense policy

*If a camper behavior continues to be a problem, a parent conference will be arranged and child's participation may be in jeopardy. We reserve the right to remove any child from our camp if behavior is continuously a problem.

SUMMER CAMP DAILY CHECKLIST

Please make sure your child is coming to camp with these items EVERY DAY.

- Lunch/Snacks
- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Bathing suit
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Socks

****All of these items should fit into one backpack.****