

Parent Information for Resident Camp



We are so glad that your camper will be joining us this summer! This packet is full of information to help prepare your family for camp and to make your camper's experience safe, fun and fulfilling! We look forward to providing you and your camper the PREMIER Girl Scout camp experience that will include care from the highest quality staff, leadership and personal development like no other- all located in three of the best locations to instill a great sense of appreciation for the outdoor world!

Camp is just one way for girls to experience the Girl Scout program. Girl Scouting is girl-driven and girls have the CHOICE of how they want to participate!

In addition to providing the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, we will strive this summer to:

- Promote the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of every girl and adult.
- Develop resourcefulness, initiative, self-reliance and recognition of the worth and dignity of each individual.
- Provide opportunities for practice in democratic living.
- Develop a sense of responsibility, qualities of leadership and an awareness of the capacities of all people.
- Provide an inner satisfaction, a sense of awe and wonder and a deep enjoyment for both girl and staff.
- Provide a sense of accomplishment.
- Develop the individual's sense of responsibility to conserve the natural world.

Even if you have been to one of our camps before, please read this thoroughly as some things may have changed. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please do not hesitate to contact the Outdoor Experience Manager (also known as the Camp Director) of the camp your daughter is attending.

Camper Timeline

Camp is an opportunity for girls to learn responsibility and independence by living away from the family environment. Children can learn about themselves in a safe, supportive atmosphere. However, some children at camp may experience fear, anxiety and worry. Reasons may be homesickness, a problem at home or a feeling of not fitting in with other children.

Two Months Before Camp:

- Help prepare your camper to care for herself by having her spend a weekend with a friend or relative.
- Talk about and practice self-care. Examples of this would be taking a shower by themselves, brushing their teeth, brushing their hair, putting on deodorant, etc.
- Check out the Outdoor Experience blog at www.camplikeagirl.org where we have a number of resources there, including a letter from a first time camper who is returning for their second summer this year.

Just Before Camp:

- Final payment for camp is due June 3rd, 2020. Your final balance will be automatically charged on this date.
- Check to see if your camper requires a physical and, if so, have the physical completed.
- Attend Family Fun Day on June 7th at all three of our camps. This is the perfect day for both you and your camper to meet the staff and see camp before summer starts! You will be able to interact with the staff, play, and see the units around camp. **No visitors are allowed while camp is in session this summer.**
- If your child has special dietary or other needs, please note this on their registration. If your camper has a severe allergy, please contact the Camp Director of your camp ***at least two weeks prior to your arrival.***

***** If you have specific concerns or if there is something we should know (a recent move, serious illness, death, divorce, etc.) please call the Camp Director directly.*****

Arriving To Camp

The time for camp has finally come! Both you and your camper are excited and a little nervous. Have no fear! You will find all the information you need below to have a successful check in at camp!

Check-in for Resident Camp:

- **Check-in** is on the first day of the session from 2-4 p.m.
- All medications must be in its ***original packaging***. This includes all over-the-counter medications, vitamins and topical creams. We also can only dispense it according to the labeled directions unless we receive a note from your physician.
- At check-in, your camper will be screened for lice/nits. Campers will not be allowed to stay if they have lice/nits and parents/guardians are responsible for treatments. No refunds are given for lice/nits. Girls may return to camp after receiving treatment at home and, if found to be lice/nit free, may then join camp.

Please remember all check-in procedures differ at each of our locations due to their layout and staffing, so respect each camp's rules. **For check-in, please keep these general camp rules in mind:**

- No drugs or alcoholic beverages are allowed on the site. Any participant or guest under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be asked to leave immediately. Local law enforcement will be contacted if necessary.
- All our properties are tobacco and smoke free. This includes cigarettes, vaping, chewing, etc. No exceptions.
- Firearms and ammunition are not allowed on the site except for on duty law enforcement officers or other officials as authorized by the council.
- Pets are not allowed on site (unless they are a certified service animal).
- Personal sports gear (climbing harness, archery equipment, etc.) should not be used without staff inspection and approval.
- Vehicles are not allowed past the camp check-in location without permission from the camp staff. A parking lot is available at the entrance of camp for all guests. Absolutely no transportation of persons in non-passenger vehicles is allowed (truck beds, golf carts, etc.).
- You will be contacted via phone in the event of an emergency that would affect the above listed arrangements.

Online Photos and E-mail Service:

This summer every camper's family will have access to our online photo service and one-way e-mail system. All of the details for this will be distributed at check-in at the individual camps. We will not be releasing this information online to protect the safety of our girls.

Camper Mail:

All campers love mail! We recommend sending mail early or dropping it off at check-in so your camper receives a letter in the first few days. If campers would like to send letters home while they are at camp, we suggest you send her with self-addressed, stamped stationary and envelopes. If you wish to have your camper receive a P2P Camp Essentials Kit you are able to do so by logging on to your online camp account.

Telephone and Electronics Policy:

Cell phones and other communication devices are not allowed at camp. Having these devices at camp can create homesickness and other issues in the units amongst the girls. Camp is an opportunity for girls to be unplugged and become an active member of our camp community. Additionally, the environments at camp are not suitable for the safe storage of these devices.

- Campers are not allowed to receive or make phone calls while at camp.
- If there is a problem or if your camper is not adjusting well, a Camp Administrator will contact you.
- We know not speaking with your camper can be very hard. If you have any special circumstances, please call camp a week before your camper attends so you and the Camp Director can make plans on how to manage this.

While Your Camper Is At Camp

Below are policies and procedures to be followed while your Girl Scout attends camp. We have also included some information on how to help your camper have the best week!

- If your daughter is sick for more than 24 hours, has a high fever, gets an injury that requires advanced treatment or if the health supervisor has concerns about her condition, you will be contacted immediately.
- Campers are covered by supplemental insurance for accidents and sickness that may occur while participating in activities. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.
- Homesickness is a very real and natural emotion when anyone leaves a familiar family surrounding. Counselors are trained to deal with homesick campers and help them adjust to camp. Campers are encouraged to try new activities and adjust to camp during the first 48 hours. In cases of extended homesickness, the Camp Director or a member of the Camp Leadership Team will contact parents to discuss steps to help the camper. Should the family decide to pick the camper up early, no refunds will be issued.
- Staff go through 14 days of staff training, and training includes how to deal with sensitive issues that may arise. These include (but are not limited to) self-harm, eating disorders and bullying. If these issues or others come up, the staff are trained to facilitate a conversation and the Camp Director will contact you to discuss it.
- Please note that campers cannot receive phone calls while at camp.

Picking Up Your Camper From Camp

The day has come to pick up your camper from camp. They have had a great time, and we have all the information you will need to pick up your camper.

Checkout Times for Resident Camp:

- **Checkout** is on the last day of the session (Wednesday or Saturday) with the parent program beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- The person picking up your camper will be **required to show a photo ID** and must be listed as an authorized pick-up person on your child's paperwork.
- Please remember checkout procedures differ at each of our locations due to their layout and staffing, so respect each camp's rules.
- Pets are not allowed on site (unless they are a certified service animal).
- You will be contacted via phone in the event of an emergency that would affect the above listed arrangements.
- If you have concerns with check in and check out times, please contact your camp directly.
- *EARLY PICK-UP:* If you need to pick-up your camper early, this is not a problem. Please let camp staff know during check in.

After Camp Care

Your camper has had a great time at camp, and we have some helpful information and tips to help your camper adjust to being back home.

- Checkout and leaving camp can be a very emotional time for campers. They are going to be excited to see you but may also be sad to leave their new friends, camp staff, and the place they called home for the week.
- In the week following your daughter's time at camp, you will receive an e-mail that includes their badge sheet and a link to the camp evaluation.
- Want more of camp? Visit www.camplikeagirl.org to see all our year-long programs available for girls.