



YMCA Camp Mohawk

Policies & Procedures
In response to COVID-19
Summer 2020

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Why open this summer?

The mission of YMCA Camp Mohawk states that the purpose of Camp Mohawk is “to provide rich and diverse group outdoor experiences for children in pursuit of developing character, leadership and values in accordance with traditional YMCA principles.” We have been asked to open our doors this summer to provide support to our local community, and continue our mission through outdoor recreation.

The restrictions and guidelines put forth by the State of Connecticut have made it clear that it is possible that day camps are capable of opening this summer, while safely adhering to the new protocols.

We know that your campers need time to be outside, spend time with other children, have fun, and just be kids. That’s why we have elected to open this summer as a day camp for boys & girls aged 6-15.

We have not made this decision lightly, and have listened to and consulted with the American Camping Association, The YMCA of the USA, CDC, the Office of Early Childhood of CT, and other youth camps to make this summer possible. In this handbook, we will provide information on our procedures for this summer. We will have a more detailed manual available upon request along with our crisis manual. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to give us a call at (860) 672-6655.

Prior to Camp

Forms: All forms are available online, and are due June 20th at the latest. More information on forms is available on Page 3 of this handbook.

Temperature Taking: Your child's temperature must be taken and recorded for **seven days** prior to coming to camp. This is crucial to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19. On the first day of camp, we will require that parents show your 7-day chart to the counselor checking you in. Any type of chart will suffice as long as the counselor checking you in can read it.

Social Distancing: Campers will be in groups of ten throughout the summer. It is so important that **you remain quarantined prior to and throughout the time** your child is at camp. There is a lot of trust with this system and we will all be responsible for creating a safe environment for our campers.

Zoom Calls: We will be offering calls with the Directors here at YMCA Camp Mohawk twice a week leading up to the first session. Please attend Zoom calls and ask questions!

Note: If one child in a group tests positive for COVID-19, the entire group of 10 campers will be required to leave camp for 2 weeks.

Thank you for helping us create a safe environment for Mohawk campers this summer!

Important Forms & Dates

All Camper Forms Due June 20th

The required camper forms are now available online through your CampInTouch portal. The first icon once you sign in will be a yellow box labeled 'Forms and Documents.' From here, you will see there are multiple forms to complete:

1. Health History (online form): This form gives our nurses a little extra medical background information on your child. There is a page that gives nurse authorization to provide common medications to your child, please review carefully.

2. Letter to My Counselor: Must be completed by the camper(s). This will be given to their counselors so that they can have a better understanding of their camper before they arrives.

3. Parent Letter to My Counselor: Must be completed by you, the parent or guardian. This will give us a better idea of what your expectations are, as well as any other information we may need for your child's time with us.

4. Physician's Exam: This will need to be completed by a doctor. You are more than welcome to use the form we provided, but your physician's own form will also be accepted. We understand there can be a delay right now in getting this form completed, and we will gladly accept forms up to 3 years old.

5. Informed Consent: This form gives Camp Mohawk your consent to have your child join us this summer, with the understanding there are possible implications concerning COVID-19.

6. Medication Authorization: This form is NOT required. However, if your child is bringing ANY kind of medication (topical, over the counter, prescription, etc.) we will need this form completed and signed by a doctor. You will need to complete one form per medication. Please check to make sure we do not already have common medications through the Health History form.

Once you have completed the forms, you will upload them back on to your CampInTouch portal. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out and we will be happy to help.

Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

Drop-Off- 8:40am-9:10am

FIRST MONDAY OF CAMP: Please present the chart of your child's temperatures to the staff member checking campers in.

Everyday you will take your child's temperature before you come to camp. If it is above 100 degrees do not bring your child to camp, and isolate your child for 24 hours while continuously checking their temperature.

Upon arrival to camp your child's temperature will be taken again to check them in. We ask that you bring your own thermometer from home, and take their temperature in the car and show the staff member checking them in. However, we will also have thermal thermometers on hand as well.

We will also be visually screening your child for flushed cheeks, shortness of breathe, rapid breath, and fatigue.

On that first Monday you can expect typical screening questions like

"Have you been sick in the last month?"

"Have you been out of the country recently?"

"To the best of your knowledge have you been in close proximity to any individual who tested positive for COVID-19?"

Once your child's temperature is taken and it comes back within the average degrees they will join their group. Here they will wash their hands, put their stuff in their cabin for the day, and participate in a morning cabin activity with the counselors and groupmates.

Pick Up- 5:00pm-5:20pm

When you come to pick up your child please make sure you have a photo I.D. ready. You will tell the staff member which child you are picking up and group they are in, and they will direct your car to where to go.

You will need you show your I.D. to your child's counselor once you get to where your child's group is being picked up.

Your child will have their Daily Dose of Day Camp form and any reminders for the following day in their camp folder.

The Day Camp Program

Our main goal is to provide your child with an exciting and safe summer. Most of our activities are hosted outside, and will be active. This is to provide them not only with a fun experience, but a safe one as well.

We will be following the guidelines below to keep campers safe and socially distanced:

- Per Office of Early Childhood (OEC) regulations, group size will be at 10 children maximum.
- Groups will remain separated from each other and will not intermingle throughout the day.
- We will have daily health screenings of campers and staff as described on our drop off and pick up page.
- There will be enhanced cleaning and sanitization of activities and equipment throughout the day.
- Some program activities will be limited in order to clean and sanitize properly in between camper use.
- According to OEC guidelines staff are permitted to move about groups while practicing proper social distancing, sanitization methods, and while wearing masks. Staff members are responsible for supervising children as well as teaching activity periods.
- There will be multiple handwashing stations around camp, as well as hand sanitizer. It is imperative that all staff and children are regularly washing their hands this summer, and staff will be reminding the children when they should be doing so.
- Children are not required to wear masks, but if you'd like your child to wear one please send your child to camp with a mask and let their counselor know upon arrival. There is also question on your "Letter to my Counselor" form where you can indicate that you'd like your child to wear his or her mask throughout the camp day.

What You and Your Child Can Expect This Summer

Daily Schedule

- 9:00-Arrival & Cabin Activity Time
- 9:40-Activity Period 1
- 10:30-Activity Period 2
- 11:20-Activity Period 3
- 12:10-Lunch (Lunch will be provided)
- 1:00-Activity Period 4
- 1:50-Activity Period 5
- 2:40- Activity Period 6
- 3:30-Snack (Snack will be provided)
- 3:50-Elective period or all camp activity
- 4:45-Closing Circle
- 5:00-Back to Cabins for Pick Up
- 5:20-End of pick-up

*Every day each cabin will have a free swim period and boating/fishing during their activity periods. Lunch and snack will be provided. Campers who have severe allergies, dietary restrictions or choose not to eat the provided meals are welcome to pack a lunch.

Activities Offered This Summer

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Free Swim | Badminton |
| Boating | Slack-lining |
| Fishing | Tennis |
| Log Rolling | Basketball |
| Volleyball | Nature (Includes Hikes) |
| Field Sports | |
| Arts and Crafts | |

Our Staff

Who are Camp Mohawk counselors?

The majority of our day camp staff are long-time Mohawk campers, who have worked their way up as campers, Counselors-in-Training (CITs), Junior Counselors, Counselors, and even Unit Leaders! These talented young women have committed their summers to Mohawk and its campers for years, and couldn't imagine not giving another year to camp.

We have also hired a number of local staff from other camps & youth programs. We are excited to have so many experienced, skilled counselors to help your campers have the summer of a lifetime, while keeping them safe and healthy.

All staff will be wearing recognizable staff shirts when you arrive, as well as a lanyard with their nametag and a photo of their unmasked face. We hope this will help campers connect with their counselors, and provide a sense of normalcy for your children.

Day Camp Packing List

Please be sure that your child has the following items each day for camp. Campers may leave any belongings they'd like in their cabin for the week.

- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Water bottle
- Sneakers
- Flip flops (for waterfront only)
- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Lunch if severe allergy or If they don't want provided lunch
- Raincoat
- Backpack
- Optional: PPE/mask
- FIRST MONDAY OF CAMP:** You must bring your child's temperature chart on their first day of camp. Campers will not be permitted to stay at camp without this chart. Thank you!

On your child's first day at camp, he or she will receive a zipped folder. This will have information about their day, any reminders for the following day, and any incident reports or notes if necessary. You may send notes to your child's counselor if necessary via this folder as well. Please be sure that your child has their folder each day. Thank you.

Camp Mohawk Contact Information

Mailing Address:

YMCA Camp Mohawk
PO Box 1209
Litchfield, CT 06759

Physical Address:

YMCA Camp Mohawk
246 Great Hill Road
Litchfield, CT 06759

Phone: (860) 672-6655

Fax: (860) 482-3878

Email: info@campmohawk.org

Website: campmohawk.org

**Thank you for choosing YMCA Camp Mohawk this summer!
We look forward to getting to know you and your camper.**



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