



Day Camp Parent Packet 2011

Trails West YMCA Camp

Contact Information:

Camp Office: 308-632-5705

Camp Cell: 308-641-4582

Director's Cell: 307-399-1049

E-mail: trailswestcamp@hotmail.com

Included in this packet you will find information about our Day Camp program. Please make note of the changes from last year's schedule and policies.

Schedule

Following is our standard daily schedule. On field trip days this schedule may be altered in order to facilitate travel time and special activities.

7:30am – 8:30am	Drop Off
8:30am – 9:00am	Chapel/Gathering
9:00am – 10:30am	Activity Period 1
	Snack
10:30 – 12:00pm	Activity Period 2
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch and Rest Period
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Activity Period 3
	Snack
2:30pm – 4:00pm	Activity Period 4
4:00pm – 4:30pm	Closing
4:30pm – 5:30pm	Pick Up

Behavior Policy

In response to a nationwide increase in childhood bullying Trail West YMCA Camp has adopted a No Tolerance Policy for bullying and malicious behavior. If a camper is found to be bullying, fighting, picking on, or in any way involved in malicious behavior directed towards another camper or staff, that camper will be suspended for one week from the program. After one week the camper may be allowed to return to the program after a conference between the Camp Director, Camper, and Parents/Guardians. If the camper is involved in a second incident, they will be expelled from the program for the rest of the summer.

This policy is not intended to chase campers away. As children grow in spirit, mind, and body it is inevitable that mistakes and accidents occur. Day Camp Staff will counsel any negative behavior with all parties involved. It is up to the discretion of the Camp Director and Staff to decide if the behavior was bullying or malicious. A copy of the behavior incident form is included in this packet.

Adventure Groups

Campers will be placed in an Adventure Group of approximately 20 children of the same age with two Day Camp Staff. As a group they will rotate through daily activities. This ensures that age appropriate programming can be implemented. The staff for each Adventure Group will remain the same for the entire week. In the morning you will check your child in and then they will join their adventure group.

Camper's Belongings

Be sure to write your camper's name on all of their belongings. Lost and Found gets full very quickly during Day Camp. Having your child's name written on everything they bring to camp will help us get those items back to them. There will be plastic tubs set out during Check-In and Check-Out times for Lost and Found to be collected in. If you think your child misplaced something at Camp, please check the tubs before leaving.

Things to Bring to Camp

Sunscreen bugspray sandals sack lunch tennis shoes swim trunks
towel backpack water bottle hat good attitude pants (when advised)

Things to Leave at Home

Pocketknives toys mp3 players cell phones video games
fireworks bad attitudes trading cards pokemon cards

Drop Off Procedures

Drop off procedures will be similar to the previous summer. Your child will be dropped off directly to the check-in staff in the morning. If you have multiple children you will be required to check in each child individually to the check-in staff. While this will take extra time in the morning we hope that you will understand the reasons for checking in each child. Your child will then join the specific adventure group and staff who will be supervising them that week. If you have any information to convey to the staff or concerns about your child, this can be given to the specific staff member at the beginning of the day. If there is different authorized person scheduled to pick up the child at the end of the day, please inform the check-in staff on who the person is, and their relationship with the child.

Pick Up Procedures

Pick up will be similar to the morning drop off. At the end of the day you will pick up each child from the check-out staff. Please remember to have your photo ID ready to present to staff. **EVERYONE IS REQUIRED TO PRESENT A PHOTO ID WHEN PICKING UP A CHILD.** This is for the safety of your child and others. No one who is not listed on the registration form will be allowed to pick up a child. If there is an emergency where another person will be picking up your child, you must contact the Camp before Pick Up.

Medications For Your Child

If your child will be taking medication at camp be sure that all dosage information is filled out on their medical form. All medication must arrive at Camp in a prescription bottle marked for that medicine. Medication will be stored in a locked container until time to dispense. Campers are not allowed to carry any over-the-counter or prescription medications.

Water Bottle Rule

All campers and staff are required to have a 20 oz or greater water bottle at Camp this summer. Please make sure to send a water bottle with your child everyday. Dehydration can ruin a fun day at camp, as well as having health risks to you child. Camp will have water bottles for sale for \$5 each. If your child arrives at camp without a water bottle they will be given one from the camp store and the charge applied to your bill.

First Aid

All of our staff receives training in First Aid and CPR. Our staff is prepared to handle minor First Aid incidents with First Aid kits placed throughout Camp. If your child becomes ill and needs to go home, you will be called on your primary contact number. If you cannot be reached on your primary or secondary numbers, other contacts listed on your registration and medical forms will be contacted. In the event that a major accident occurs our staff will contact Emergency Medical Services and you will be notified of the status of your child.

Lunch

Be sure to send a sack lunch with your child every day. Your child is very active during Day Camp. They will be burning more calories than they did in school. As a result, they will get hungry. Making sure that your camper has a good breakfast will go a long way to helping them enjoy their day. A healthy, well balanced, lunch will provide much more energy for you child throughout the day.

Please do not send your child a lunch that requires a microwave. While we do have a microwave on site, this creates logistical problems and slows down lunch time.

Snack Time

A morning and afternoon snack will be provided. The snack will be given between activity periods by the staff. Snacks will be chosen for their nutritional and thematic value. Some examples of snacks are: apple wedges, granola bars, potato chips, carrots, raisins, and fruit leathers (Fruit Roll-up). Please make sure that your child arrives at camp having had breakfast. The morning snack is not intended to be a substitute for a morning meal.

Questions To Ask Your Child

Day Camp is full of exciting and wonderful experiences for your child. It can be hard at times to get children to be specific in telling you what they did on any particular day. “What did you do at Camp today?” asks Mom. “Stuff,” replies Day Camper. Following are some suggested questions to help you get a better idea of what your Camper did at Camp today:

1. What are your counselor’s names?
2. Do you have a friend in your Adventure Group?
3. What did they talk about in Chapel/Gathering this morning?
4. What was your favorite activity today?
5. Can you teach me how to sing a Camp song?
6. What are you going to do tomorrow?

What Will My Child Do At Camp?

We are planning for a large variety of activities at Camp this summer. Some activities will be repeated daily, such as swimming. While some activities will be dependant on the theme of the week, such a face painting. While still other activities, like the camp garden and compost center, will last the entire summer. Following is a general list of our Day Camp activities:

Archery, swimming, canoeing, fire building, crafts, nature hikes, theatre, tracking, gardening, basketball, soccer, volleyball, Frisbee golf, atlatl, climbing wall, kickball, fishing, solar cooking, music, poetry, face painting, zipline, ropes course, dance, And much more!

New Activities for 2011!

The 2011 Trails West Camp will be taking advantage of our beautiful local State Parks, historical sites, National Monuments, and historic museums, by traveling on weekly field trips. This year at camp we will be pursuing more outdoor activities, such as rock, plant, soil, tree, insect, and animal identification. We will be building car, plane, and rocket models, while teaching the physics of different transportations. The 2011 camp will also be incorporating much more music, skits, and role-playing.



Trails West YMCA Camp Behavior Incident Form

Date: _____

Trails West YMCA Camp is working hard to achieve a safe and healthy environment for all campers. We try to eliminate any behaviors that can endanger the health and safety of campers, staff, and YMCA property. We make every effort to prevent unwanted behaviors through programming and close supervision by staff. The camp has also adopted a No-Tolerance Policy for Bullying and Malicious Behavior.

Camper: _____

Was involved in the following incident:

This behavior is not permitted in our YMCA program. Please talk with your child about his or her behavior before they are allowed to return to Summer Camp.

- + 1st Incident—One week suspension from program, may return only after discussion with Camp Director.
- + 2nd Incident—Expulsion from the Summer Day Camp Program.

Day Camp Counselor

Parent/Guardian

Day Camp Director

Date