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YMCA CAMP TEPEE 2024 Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

Where is Camp Tepee located?

204 Stanley Rd, Monroe CT 06468

What is the contact number to reach someone?

203-445-9633, Main Branch or 203-261-2566 Camp Office

Is there an office location where I can talk to a person face to face?

Yes, it located at 20 Trefoil Drive in Trumbull, once the camp season has begun, we are at 204 Stanley Rd. in Monroe.

What are the operating hours for this location?

Monday through Friday. Camp day runs 9:00am-3:30pm, extended day 7:15am-6:00pm

How old does my child need to be to attend camp?

Campers must be between the ages of 3-15 years old to attend camp. Our youngest campers must be potty trained.

What should my child bring to camp?

- Backpack with towel, bathing suit, extra clothing, closed toed shoes, raingear, sunscreen, insect repellent, reusable water bottle, goggles (if desired for pool). Please label all items with last name, first initial.
- Ziploc or brown paper bag for your child's nut free lunch with name and group number on it, and a daytime nut free snack (that will not spoil in the heat as it will stay in backpack), an extra nut free snack if child attends post care (that will not spoil in the heat as it will stay in backpack). NO GLASS, THERMOS or lunch boxes! Ice packs are not necessary as all lunches are refrigerated.

What should I leave at home?

All electronics, cell phones, toys (stuffed animals, LEGO's, cards, etc). The Y is not responsible for lost or broken items.

How are campers broken up into groups?

Campers are divided into the following groups depending on their grade in the fall.

- Discovery: Preschool (3-5 years old)
- Greenhorns: K-1
- Explorers: 2-3
- Pioneers: 4-6
- Adventurers: 7-8
- CIT's: 9-10

Should I pack my child a lunch?

Campers should bring a nut-free lunch to camp daily. After arrival, camper lunches will be gathered by counselor group and placed in the refrigerator at camp. Please label lunches with name and group number.



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What happens on rainy days at camp?

Camp is held rain or shine! On rainy days, activities will be held in sheltered structures. Children will travel to and from activity areas and should be dressed appropriately for the weather conditions. We recommend packing rain gear, towels, umbrella and additional footwear and clothing. We also swim, rain or shine, weather permitting!

Who should I contact if I have any questions about camp?

We strongly believe that parent involvement is a key ingredient in a quality camp program. We have an open door policy and you are welcomed and encouraged to visit the program at any time your child is enrolled. Parents and visitors are required to sign-in at the office prior to visiting their child. In order to understand each child better, the staff welcomes any opportunity to talk with parents about their children. It is critical that the lines of communication stay open. If communication is frequent, together we can provide security and continuity for your children. Any time during a child's participation in the program a parent may request a meeting with the staff to discuss the child's needs. The meeting will be set at a time that is convenient for both the parent and staff. Others can be invited to attend the meeting at the request of the parent or staff.

- Registration/enrollment questions can be emailed to Kathleen Riley at Kriley@cccymca.org and Patty Fogle at pfogle@cccymca.org
- Care 4 Kids and financial aid questions can be directed to Patty Fogle, Pfogle@cccymca.org
- Aquatic and swim camp inquiries can best be answered by Kathleen Riley, kriley@cccymca.org
- Individualized Care Plans, medication authorization forms, and medications, please contact Kathleen Riley, Kriley@cccymca.org and Patty Fogle, pfogle@cccymca.org
- Day to day questions about camp happenings, Kathleen Riley, Kriley@cccymca.org and Patty Fogle, pfogle@cccymca.org.
- Social/Emotional coaches that help support campers. The Y works with children of all abilities. If your child requires special accommodations (social, behavioral, medical). Please reach out to Kathleen Riley, kriley@cccymca.org

How do I sign my child up for camp?

Early Bird Registration is January 15 – 20, 2024. Please check our website to learn if you qualify and to obtain register directions and links. Registration starts on February 1 for everyone. Although the Y will accept paper registration forms, we encourage everyone to take advantage of our online registration. Spaces do fill up quickly.

Are there specific requirements for registration?

At time of registration, the following items will need to be submitted:

- Summer camp registration packet
 - Registration and Release Form
 - Camp Payment Authorization Form
 - Current Medical Health Assessment Form
 - Camper Behavior Contract
 - Transportation/Swimming Permission Slip



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- Additional forms specific to your child and/or the camp your child attends may be required such as:
 - Field Trip permission form
 - Medication Administration Form (if needed) with an Individual Plan of Care for a Child
 - Individual Plan of Care for a Child
 - Third party organizations must complete and return the Third Party Agreement Form one week prior to the camper's start date.
- Health Forms: State of Connecticut regulations require that a fully completed and signed health form must be on file in the Camp Office one week before the first day of camp. No camper will be allowed to attend camp without a current, complete form. A physical within the past two years is required with this year's date and signature from the physician. Health forms can be requested from the school nurse prior to the end of the school year. Families must submit a health form annually at time of registration. A signed CT Department of Public Health Medical Exemption Certification Statement is required for children without proof of immunization.
- Care 4 Kids paperwork (Initial application, Parent Provider Agreement, and supporting documentation), if applying for financial assistance
- Financial assistance application materials, along with the completed application, if applying for financial assistance

What is the process for medication authorization forms and medications be handed in for camp?

State regulation requires compliance with the following guidelines with any medications: A completed Individual Plan of Care for a Child and a Medical Authorization Form must be signed by a physician stating name of medication, time to be administered, and prescribed dose to be given. The parent must bring the proper prescription bottle (with exact amount needed for the time the child will be in camp.) No controlled medication is allowed to be sent in with a camper. Medication may be dropped off before the child's camp session. All medication needs to be picked up at end of camp session. Any medication not picked up within one week of last day of camp session will be properly disposed of.

- Parents must bring in an Individual Plan of Care for a Child and Authorization for the Administration of Medication by Day Care/Camp Personnel Form completed by a Connecticut licensed physician/dentist and by the parent
- The medication must be in a safety cap container with the original prescription label
- The device for measuring and administering the medication must accompany the medication Children must be given the first dose of medication by a parent before the YMCA may administer subsequent doses. Parents must pick up all unused medication within one week following the termination of the order or the medication will be destroyed. Please see the Camp Director or Nurse for a copy of the entire Medication Administration Policy if your child is in need of medication to be administered while at the camp.

Do you accept Care 4 Kids?

The Y's Financial Assistance program deadline is May 1st. Financial Aid is limited, please apply early. Families applying for Care 4 Kids, both current recipients and new applicants, may be required to pay up to 100% of the total cost of the first session of camp upon registration. Once Care 4 Kids makes a determination of acceptance or denial of funds and provides the Y with reimbursement, the Y will provide families with the total remaining fees that they will be responsible for per session.



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What are your fees & refund policies?

Camp fees are due, in full, the Monday, two weeks prior to the session start date. Deposit fees and registration fees are nonrefundable and non-transferrable. Session refund requests must be done in writing on a Refund Request Form. Refunds will not be granted less than 2 weeks before the start of a session. Refunds may be issued for medical emergencies. Physician notes will be required. There is a \$10 administration fee for all refunds.

What is the Counselor in Training Program?

At the Y, we build leaders. Camp Tepee campers who have aged out, are encourage to apply for our Camper in Training (CIT) program (campers entering 9th and 10th grade). CIT's will be mentored by YMCA staff who will help foster independence and self-confidence in a secure environment. Hands-on experience working with young campers gives CIT's the opportunity to cultivate their skills in a camp setting. A CIT Application, Reference Forms, and Registration Packet must be submitted and completed to the Y to be considered for this program. Applicants must complete a practice interview to be chosen to participate in our CIT Program.

What is the camp motto?

The CENTRAL CONNECTICUT COAST YMCA believes all kids have great potential and deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. At CAMP Tepee day camp kids and teens can develop skills, self-confidence, new friendships and a sense of belonging – all while having tons of fun.

When will information be shared with families about each week of camp?

The Friday before your scheduled week an email will be sent out to all families sharing details for the following week. In this email you will find out your campers' counselor, group number, weekly theme, Wacky Wednesday attire, and any additional notes that are important for the following week. Please note that group numbers can change from week to week depending on the number of campers at camp. We do our best to keep campers with the same counselor/campers each week.

Is there a lost and found at camp?

Our Lost and found is located near the camp office. Please feel free to check it regularly, and please put your name on everything you send to camp. We do our best to get all items with names on it back to the correct person.

Should I send my child in their camp shirt every day?

You are welcome to wear your camp shirt whenever you want! Campers do not have to wear them daily. You will receive your camper shirt upon registration if in person, or during their first week of camp if you have registered online.

What should I do if my child is sick and not going to attend camp?

The Y staff wants your child to enjoy his/her time at camp. It is in the best interest of your child and the other campers that everyone at camp be healthy. If your child does not feel well the night before or the morning of camp, or has an injury or fever, we suggest that your child stay home from camp that day. Having your child come to camp while ill can prolong the illness, as well as, spread the illness to other campers. This is very important if your child is exhibiting symptoms of chicken pox, the flu, strep throat or any other contagious illness. If your child becomes ill or is injured during camp, the camp first aider



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will decide if it is severe enough to contact you. If your child is going to be absent from camp, please email kriley@cccymca.org to let us know.

Who should I call if my child will be late for camp?

For late arrivals, please come straight to the camp office. We will be able to put your child's lunch in the fridge, and find your group. This is important for attendance reasons too! For early pick-ups, please email Kathleen Riley, kriley@cccymca.org and Patty Fogle, pfogle@cccymca.org so we can have your child ready and waiting in the camp office. We ask early pick-ups to be done by 2:50pm so that it doesn't overlap with the end of the camp day.

How will I know if my child moves off the waitlist?

Camp staff will reach out to you if there is an opening and you can be removed from the waitlist.

What type of activities will my child do during the day?

Each day your child will be able to participate in different outdoor activities. We have specialists that lead special programming in Archery, High and Low Ropes Course, Zipline and the Climbing Wall. Our Specialists lead the group in Nature Exploration, Music, Sports and STEAM. We also spend the day fishing, boating, minigolf, playing GAGA or 9 Square in the Air! Our little ones can be found in our truck pit, mud kitchen, or biking around with our trikes. All campers get to participate in daily swim lessons, with free swim on Friday's. Your child will be engaged all day long, and we promise to send them home with smiles and maybe a tad dirty!