



Summer Camp

Parent Handbook

2024



Welcome to Camp Weed - Celebrating 100 Years!

Whether it's your very first time sending your camper to camp or you've done this so many times already and are looking forward to a week of not worrying about teeth brushing and bedtimes, I'm so excited to have your camper join us at Camp Weed this summer! As a staff, your child's experience and well being are our very first priority and we can't thank you enough for putting your trust in us.

This summer is particularly special, as we will be celebrating 100 years of Camp Weed Summer Camp! To go along with this, our theme for Summer 2024 is "Be Strong and Courageous" based on Joshua 1:9: "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Countless campers, staff, CITs, directors, families, and more have walked these and 6 other locations' grounds. It's hard to believe the things this small, humble summer camp has survived over the course of a century: a global depression, wars, a pandemic, and so much more. And here we still stand with traditions alive and well and well on the way to passing our camper number from the previous summer. I am honored beyond words to have been a part of this place for even a fraction of its life, and I hope you and your family are too. I look forward to seeing this place and its people continue to be strong and courageous in the next chapter.

If you have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk camp, please reach out to me by phone or email and I'll be happy to help or chat. We spend the other 10 months out of the year looking forward to camp and I hope you and your camper are just as excited. I hope this handbook answers any questions you may have about the specifics of Camp Weed and if you're still unclear, please get in touch with me with the info listed below. I can't wait to see you all this summer!

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Parent Checklist

Have you...

- Reviewed this packet in its entirety
- Completed all camp forms
- Sent in or uploaded your camper's current physical
- Paid your balance (Due prior to the start of your session)
- Updated all important food allergies and dietary restrictions
- Reviewed the packing list

Packing Notes

- Many of our campers pack in stackable drawers, plastic containers, trunks, or suitcases but anything is fine!
- Label, label, label! Use labels like those from IdentAme (or other online sources) to help make sure you get everything back.
- Avoid packing cell phones, snacks with peanuts, money, weapons, fireworks, items of value, and other electronics.
- Find our full packing list on the last page of this packet.



Arriving at Camp

Check-In: Sunday 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Our Youth Pavilion (YP) doors will open to check in our first campers at 2:00 p.m. We try to make check-in as quick and easy as possible. We'll check your paperwork, let you know what cabin you've been assigned to, have you visit with the nurse, pick up your 2024 camper t-shirt, and have a quick health check.

Step 1: Paperwork & Cabin Assignments

Our staff will finalize any paperwork and outstanding payments here. You will then receive your cabin assignments with directions on how to get there.

Step 2: Health Care & Medications

All parents will then have the opportunity to give their medicine to the nurse and discuss any necessary information. All prescription medicine should be in the original container. Please put all medications into a ziplock bag with your camper's name marked clearly on the outside of the bag. Please send only the amount needed for the week.

Note: Our infirmary stocks basic OTC medications. You do not need to provide additional OTC medications that we keep stocked.

Step 3: T-Shirt Pickup & Camp Store

All campers will receive a Summer 2024 T-Shirt, included in the cost of camp. Other merchandise, including water bottles, will be available for purchase here.

Step 4: Lice Checks

Lice check will be conducted on every camper. Lice that is discovered at camp can be an embarrassment for campers. Please check your child for lice prior to coming to camp. Your camper will not be admitted to camp if there are live lice or nits evident, until they have been eradicated. This process includes eradicating the lice



or nits and washing all clothes and linens in hot water and drying those items and pillows on high heat.

Here is a video to help you know what to look for when checking your child's scalp - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bwwNwzZuv-g>

Steph 5: Mail Drop-Off & Getting Settled

If you have packages or letters you'd rather not send through the mail, you can drop them off at our Parent Table on your way out of the YP and we'll make sure they get to your camper! Please write a day on each piece of mail.

Once you've finished with check in, you can get back in the car and drive over to your cabin. There, you'll meet your cabin counselors, choose your bunk, and unload. After that's done, parents can head on home and our camp session begins!



A Day at Camp

A typical day at camp might look like this!

Morning

7:00 a.m. - Rise and Shine!

8:00 a.m. - Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - Morning Dean's Program

9:30 a.m. - Activity 1

10:45 a.m. - Activity 2

Afternoon

12:00 p.m. - Lunch

1:00 p.m. - Rest Time (this is when campers receive mail)

2:30 p.m. - Dean's Program

3:30 p.m. - Canteen

4:30 p.m. - Optionals

5:30 p.m. - Cabin Time

Evening

6:00 p.m. - Dinner

7:00 p.m. - All Camp Activity

9:00 p.m. - Evening Worship

9:30 p.m. - Cabin Devotion/Get ready for bed

10:30 - 11:00 p.m. - Lights Out

Activities and Optionals may include: Archery, Wall Climbing, Low Ropes, Rool, Kayaking, Arts & Crafts, Indoor Games, Outdoor Games, Kickball, Tie Dye, Leather Working, Gaga Ball, Nature Walks, Hammocking, Ultimate Frisbee, Disc Golf, Fishing, Field Games, Volleyball, Basketball, and so much more!



Departing From Camp

Regular Sessions: Friday 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Mini Camp ONLY: Wednesday at 12p.m.

Family Eucharist

On Friday at 3:00 p.m. (Mini Camp: Wednesday at 11 a.m.), we'll have a closing service we invite all families and friends to attend. Please come celebrate with us as we recap the week and worship the Lord together one more time! **Campers MUST return to their cabins after the service for check-out.**

Pick Up

After Family Eucharist, head straight to your camper's cabin. Anyone picking up a camper must be on his or her pick up list and have a valid photo ID. The camp director and the nurse will be available in the Youth Pavilion and around cabins at this time for any questions or concerns.

Check Out Sheet

A checkout sheet will be given for each camper by your cabin counselor for you to sign and hand back to the counselor. This is to ensure we know who picked up the camper and that an ID was checked to make sure it matches a name on the check out sheet. This is for your camper's safety. We appreciate your patience and cooperation.

Lost and Found

Our main Lost and Found pile will be available during checkout at Mandi's Chapel, so please look through! After you're done, head back to the cabin, and be sure to look in the bathroom and under the bed for misplaced belongings! We'll keep everything until two weeks after each session.



Things to Know

Mail

We distribute mail daily after lunchtime, and a letter from home always makes a camper's day! Check our first page for the address, or drop your mail off with us at our parent table at check in. It's a good idea to send pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes with your camper so they can write back!

Emails

You can also send your camper an email that will be printed out daily around 11 a.m. and handed out with regular mail.

Email: campermail@campweed.org

Subject: Camper's Name - Cabin Name

*Please note: With up to 120 campers each week, we're not equipped for campers to respond via email. Please send pre-addressed and pre-stamped envelopes and writing utensils so they can respond via regular USPS. We will have an outgoing mailbox by the Juhan Dining Hall where campers can send their letters off.

Electronics

Time spent at Camp Weed is incredibly special. We give campers a chance to "unplug" from technology. **Cell phones, tablets, Apple watches, laptops and any other electronics are NOT allowed at camp.** We ask that parents help us with this by ensuring their camper's electronics are left in the car.

If campers are found with phones or other devices, a staff member will take the device to the camp office, where it will be stored in a lockbox until a parent or designated pick up person picks it up at the end of the session. Camp Weed is not responsible for any phones or electronics brought to camp.

Canteen

Canteen is an afternoon snack. It is included in the camp fee



Money

The camp store with our merchandise is open only during check in and checkout, so there's no need for any money at camp! Camp Weed is not responsible for any money brought to camp.

Meals

Our meals consist of a healthy variety, and lunch and dinner will always be served with a salad bar to provide an alternative option.

If your child has any allergies or dietary restrictions, please make sure it's reflected in your camper's medical paperwork in CampBrain or talk with a member of leadership staff at check-in. We are happy to accommodate, but can't do so in a timely manner if we aren't aware of the allergy/restriction!

Health

We have a fully-stocked infirmary and a nurse on-site 24/7. Our nurse will administer daily medication left by parents and provide health care to any camper or staff member who may need it. If your child becomes sick (fever, vomiting, etc.), is seriously injured, or needs emergency medical care, we will contact you. We require that all medicine (except inhalers and EpiPens) stay in the infirmary and not your camper's cabin. Our nurse will make sure the medicine is available at all times.

Behavior

Our staff members undergo training to understand and to deal with different types of camper behavior. We emphasize positive, age-appropriate behavior management techniques that guide and encourage campers. If significant behavior issues arise and persist, parents will be consulted on how to move forward. We will explore all avenues to help campers be as successful as possible at camp.

Unfortunately, some items require immediate dismissal from camp. These actions include, but are not limited to:

- Smoking or use of tobacco products
- Consumption of alcohol or drugs



- Lewd behavior
- Endangerment of self or others
- Threats of endangerment of self or others

Campers sent home because of behavior issues will not be entitled to refund of funds.

Homesickness

For many of our campers, the time they spend at Camp Weed might be the longest they've been away from home. To make this experience the best it can be for everyone involved, we ask that you have conversations about camp with your camper beforehand to help ease any apprehension and homesickness they may have.

If homesickness does occur, our counselors are trained to combat it by helping campers feel more connected with camp and by reminding campers that their parents sent them for a reason. If homesickness persists or worsens, the camp director will get involved.

In the event of above average homesickness, the camp director will discreetly call parents and give them the option to talk with their camper. This allows parents, who know their children best, to make decisions about what's best of their individual children.

Don't Forget

- Submit required forms (medical, physical, etc.) prior to camp.
- Pay your balance before the start of your camp session.
- Arrive at check in between 2 and 3 p.m. on Sunday.
- Mail letters before your camper arrives or bring them with you to check in.
- Check the packing list to make sure nothing is missing!



2024 Packing List

Clothing

- Shorts
- T-Shirts (plan for two a day!)
- Shoes (one pair must be closed toe)
- Long Pants for hiking
- Shower shoes
- Underwear
- Socks
- Bathing suit (modest)
- Set of clothes to get dirty
- Senior Session ONLY: semi formal outfit for Bishop's Ball

Bedding

- Sleeping bag or sheets
- Blanket
- Pillow

Toiletries

- Soap, shampoo, conditioner
- Towels (for the pool and shower)
- Toothbrush and toothpaste

- Brush

Other personal needs

- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Laundry bag
- Backpack
- Bible
- Hand sanitizer

Optional

- Guitar (Beginning Guitar may be offered as an optional activity)
- Stationery and stamps
- Journal
- Flashlight
- Water Bottle*
- Hammock (We do have a few)
- Crazy costume for Crazy Clothes Lunch
- Items to make you feel at home

*Water bottles can be purchased at check in for \$20.

With so many campers around, things sometimes get lost, misplaced, or put in the wrong bag. You can help prevent items being lost forever by labeling them.

All clothing packed should be camp appropriate: no political or offensive slogans or profanity on any clothing or hats, all clothing and bathing suits should entirely cover private parts, close-toed shoes will be required for certain activities (wall climbing, low ropes, etc.).

Please remember that Camp Weed is an unplugged environment so it is important to remember phones and other electronics are not allowed.