

# YMCA STORER CAMPS

## 2021 Summer Day Camp Parents' Guide

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your child's life this summer!

Your camper's time at Storer Camps will help them grow in the four core values of the YMCA: Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility. We will work diligently to ensure that this camp experience will help develop your child's self-confidence, leadership, initiative and their ability to work with others. They will enjoy sharing stories of their challenges and successes at camp! We hope that this experience is rewarding for your camper!

The information in this guide is essential for ensuring that camp runs smoothly for your camper and all other participants. Please read it carefully and save for future reference.

Smiles and S'Mores,

The Day Camp Staff

### **Before You Come to Camp...have you completed all forms in CampMinder?**

Please complete forms online by June 15. If registering after June 15, please complete forms when you register your child.

**COVID-19 Protocols** will be at the end of this handbook and we ask that you read and discuss with your child them to camp.

### **Camp Health Form**

Please fill the health form out in CampMinder. Please note that a physical examination is not required.

### **Permission for Camper Release:**

List any individual who may be picking up your child. **We cannot release campers to anyone other than those who are listed on this form, including parents. Please don't forget to list parents on the Camper Release Form.** Please remember to bring a photo ID to check-out for verification.

### **Confidential Camper Special Concerns Form:**

Complete this form only if you have concerns to share with our staff. This information sheet is given to your child's counselor to help him/her meet your child's goals and expectations most effectively. These forms are confidential. Only the counselor and camp director will see these forms. Campers are not allowed to see Confidential Camper Special Concerns Form.

### **Statement of Account:**

Full payment for Day Camp was due on Friday, May 28th. Registering after May 28th requires full payment due at the time of registration. If you still have an outstanding balance, you can view this under the "Financial Management" section of your CampMinder account. Payments can be made online or by calling our office at 517-536-8607.

### **What if my child has a disability or special needs?**

YMCA Storer Camps day camp counselors are encouraging and patient and help facilitate successful camp experiences for children who need reasonable accommodations. Parents/guardians are asked to complete a Special Concerns Form to indicate needs and then have a phone conference with the Day Camp Director in advance, to discuss reasonable accommodations. Counselors are trained on ADA requirements and are also made aware of Special Concerns Form information for campers. It is recommended that parents and campers visit camp during an open house, or arrange a time to tour, if they are not familiar with our program or facilities.

## Social Media:

Follow your camper's week at <http://www.facebook.com/ymcastorercamps!>

## What if I need to cancel my child's stay at Camp?

The \$25 per week reservation deposit is non-refundable. Cancellations less than 30 days prior to the start of your child's session will receive no fee remission. Final payment is due by May 28th. Understand that the camp fee does not include accident insurance. **No refunds are given if a child leaves early or is dismissed for disruptive behavior.** Program fees will be refunded on a prorated basis when campers are unable to complete the program due to medical reasons.

## Camp Property Rules

We believe that every child has the right to experience camp and all it has to offer. We believe in setting limits and explaining the boundaries for all participants. When these boundaries are tested, we use specific procedures to help the camper to continue his/her experience at camp. All of our staff receive significant training in these procedures.

On the first day of camp, our camp counselors will go over the expectations and ground rules of camp life so everyone is clear about expectations regarding inappropriate behavior.

### Procedures:

Should inappropriate behavior occur, the camper's counselor will speak with the camper and check whether the camper understands the reason the behavior is unacceptable, as well as the consequences. The counselor will restate the desired behavior, with clear consequences given for not following the desired behavior. Possible consequences include sitting out of an activity, a talk with the camp director, a call home to parents/guardians, and/or dismissal from camp.

If the behavior is repeated, the counselor will let the camper know that this is still unacceptable and will involve the camp leadership. Storer Camps will contact the parent or guardian of the camper to make them aware of the situation and to ask for cooperation and insight.

This discipline policy attempts to let campers know that while they are cared for, certain behaviors are not acceptable in a camp setting. This policy also involves the parents before the problems escalate, and invites them to be a part of the solution.

If the behavior persists, the camp director will determine if the camper should remain at camp or be sent home. Parents will need to make transportation arrangements, and there are no refunds for campers sent home for behavior reasons.

Some actions may warrant immediate removal from camp. These actions include, but are not limited to: smoking or using tobacco products, using alcohol or illegal drugs, physical contact to other children, wandering away from the group or endangering their own safety or the safety of staff or campers. If parents are traveling, they should have a pre-selected individual who will follow through with these rules.

## What do I bring to camp?

Use the 'What to Bring to Storer Day Camp Checklist' at the end of this guide. As you get ready each day, make note of what your child takes to camp. Check again upon returning home. Since practicing personal responsibility is part of the camp experience, please discuss with your child the importance of keeping track of all personal items. To help recover lost items, **please have full names on all belongings.**

## Does Storer Camps have guidelines for clothing?

In striving to provide an environment of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility we ask that you help with the choices of clothing your child brings to camp. We request that sayings/pictures on clothing be in good taste. Camp reserves the right to prohibit the wearing of clothing the Camp Director deems inappropriate.

Campers should bring clothing that can get wet and dirty without concern. A spare set of clothes each day is also highly encouraged. All clothing should be marked with the camper's full name.

**Swim Attire:** To help maintain an atmosphere of modesty, we respectfully ask that boys only bring board short style swim trunks and girls wear one-piece swimsuits that provide adequate coverage. Final authority of dress appropriateness lies with camp administration.

## Are there any items my child should NOT BRING to Camp?

Being a natural environment designed for children to get a break from the pressures of the world, camp will continue with, and enforce, the policy of no electronic equipment. Campers may not bring cell phones, ipads, radios, electronic games, laptop computers, etc. If it is discovered that your child does have any of these items after you leave, the items will be locked in the office until the camper checks out. We want to encourage wholesome outdoor recreation in the beauty of the natural world.

While this has never been a problem for day campers, we need to share that the possession of illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, tobacco, alcohol, knives, guns, or any acts of violence or sexual misconduct will be grounds for immediate dismissal from camp.

**For health and safety reasons, no pets are allowed, even at check-in/out.**

## Check-In Times and Locations:

- Our main program runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Check in will take place at Denman Lodge on the South Center of YMCA Storer Camps from **8:45-9:00 a.m.** Please sign your camper in on our roster each day (do not drop off your child without signing in).
- If you are dropping your child off for Extended Care, please notify the Day Camp Director 24 hours in advance. Early Care activities run from 7:30 am to 9:00 am in the morning, and After Care from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm in the evening. All check in and check out for Early and After Care will be at Denman Lodge.
- If your child is sick or will not be coming to camp on a particular day, please call the Day Camp cell at **(517) 416-6015** and leave a message before 9 a.m. **Camp can make no reimbursements for sick days or absences.**
- Some campers may have a challenging time saying goodbye to you on the first day. They might be overwhelmed and/or excited and have some anxiety about separating from you. Don't worry! Talk to them about how much fun they will have with the other kids and counselors while at camp.
- During check-in, parents and campers receive group assignments, finalize any paperwork and/or

payments. Parents and campers with prescription or over the counter medications, or health related questions will meet with the Camp Director. Once completed, you and your camper are off to meet their counselor!

After your camper is checked in, please feel free to ask questions of any camp staff as we wish to make your camper's stay as pleasant as possible. Note: Counselors will check campers for head lice prior to meeting fellow campers. Campers with head lice or any nits will not be allowed to stay at camp.

### **Check-Out Times and Locations:**

- Please pick up your camper at the same place you dropped them off. For the safety of all campers, you will be required to show a picture ID in order to check your child out. Check out will take place from 4:00 to 4:15 pm.
- If you are planning to have your child stay for After Care, please inform the director 24 hours in advance.
- Adults picking up a camper at check-out must be on the list on the camper release form.
- If you will be late to pick up your camper, please call in advance to avoid any anxiety for your child.

### **What if my camper is missing some of his/her belongings?**

Lost and found items are collected and displayed at check-out at the end of the day. Our counselors make every effort to ensure that your child will return with everything s/he brought to camp, including a lost and found sweep at the end of the day, but your child is responsible to ensure that nothing is lost. **Please be sure all items brought to camp are plainly marked with your child's first and last name** and please counsel your child to keep close track of all items. If you discover something is missing upon your return home, please call as soon as possible. The more time that passes, the less likely it can be found. Lost and found items will be held for three weeks and taken to a local charity after that time.

### **Other Important Information:**

#### **What happens if my child becomes ill while at camp?**

If a child stays in the health center or has any unusual injury, bruising or discomfort, or in the case of serious illness or other situations that require seeing a physician, the camp director or camp health officer will notify the parent/guardian. Parents are invited to talk with the Camp Director, or the counselors about individual camper needs when you arrive at camp. Remember all medications, prescriptions or over the counter medications must be turned in to the Camp Director at Check-In. They **must be** in their original containers.

#### **Can I contact my camper in the event of a home emergency?**

Phone calls to or from campers are discouraged. In the event of an emergency, parents should contact the camp at (517) 536-8607, or the Day Camp Director at (517) 416-6015. The Camp Director will then work with the parent to determine the best way to notify the camper.

### **Activities**

Campers will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities. All activities and schedules will be determined by the group's counselor and may include, but not limited to:

## **Nature**

Campers get up close and personal with all things nature! Have you ever wondered what lives in pond or lake water? Have you asked yourself how many different ecosystems can be found here at YMCA Storer Camps? Learn about the flora and fauna that is located on the 1200-acres at camp through games, activities, and explorations. Get hands on with animals and plants while discovering what you can do to help the natural environment that surrounds us every day.

## **Target Sports**

Improving accuracy with target practice as well as learning responsible care for equipment. Target sports may include archery or disc golf.

## **Arts & Crafts**

Campers will develop artistic skills through a wide variety of projects including natural art and exploring pioneer crafts and more. They will explore different modes as they learn art concepts and skills.

## **Pontoon Boat Rides**

Take a ride out on Stoney Lake with your friends and counselors. Camp will provide life jackets and staff will ensure they are fit properly to the campers before enjoying our beautiful, private lake.

## **Pony Rides**

Under the supervision of our equine staff, campers can get the opportunity to take a short ride on one of our camp's many horses.

## **Themed Activities**

Theme weeks are what drive programs and culture at YMCA Storer Day Camp. Each week will provide different opportunities and experiences for your camper and is completely driven by our qualified counselors and directors.

## **Health and Wellness at Storer Camps**

Your child's health and safety at camp are of great importance to our staff. Please check that all information on the health form is current, accurate, and complete, so that in case of an emergency we can provide proper treatment for your child. This includes specific information on how to reach YOU at a moment's notice, if necessary. Please also note that for Diabetes, Asthma, and Anaphylaxis, there are additional addendum forms that must be filled out. All of these forms can be filled out through your CampMinder account at [ymcastorer.campintouch.com](http://ymcastorer.campintouch.com).

All medication must be given to the health officers at check in. This includes over-the-counter medication as well as vitamins or alternative/homeopathic medications. Pack their medication in a zip lock bag, in the original container, separate from the camper's belongings. Please label clearly with the camper's name.

**Campers are not allowed to have any medication in their possession while at camp with the exception of: rescue asthma inhalers, EPI-Pens and diabetic supplies. We recommend that your child's ADD/ADHD medication not be interrupted during their camp stay.**

\*Inhalers must come with the prescription information. We will accept the box or a copy of the label from the pharmacy.

If the dose of medication the camper is receiving is different than the pharmacy or container label states, a new prescription stating the current dosage, signed by the camper's physician must be included. This applies to over-the-counter meds as well if the dosage or age (i.e. melatonin) is different from what's stated on the label.

The Health & Wellness Center does carry a limited number of over-the-counter medications to treat minor conditions such as headache, nausea, constipation, and allergic reactions. These products will be given per manufacturer's instructions. If you do **not** want your camper to receive these, please list them as indicated on your child's health form.

**Sunscreen and insect repellent are important.**

Campers may keep these items with them. An SPF of 30 or above is recommended. Campers are encouraged to apply sunscreen and insect repellent prior to starting an activity.

We look forward to serving your child, however, we reserve the right to refuse admission to any camper with a communicable disease. Please be advised that we expect campers with chronic health problems to be capable of self-management while at camp.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Health & Wellness Center and your child's specific needs, please give us a call our office at (517) 536-8607 Monday –Friday between 9:00am and 5:00pm, or the Day Camp Director at (517) 262-0981. We look forward to meeting you and your camper this summer.

In the interest of security, we kindly ask that there are no visits by parents or family members while your children are at camp. Visits create homesickness for campers and hinder the growth and independence that campers are able to achieve. **Please call camp, rather than show up unannounced, if you have any concerns.**

**Transportation To and From Camp:**

Campers are brought to and from camp by their parents/guardians.

**When using a GPS device for directions, please use the following address:**

**South Center Entrance:** 7260 S. Stoney Lake Road, Jackson, MI 49201

For more information, call our office at (517) 536-8607, the Day Camp Director at (517) 416-6015 or check our web site [www.ymcastorerccamps.org/daycamp](http://www.ymcastorerccamps.org/daycamp)

**What to Bring:**

- Backpack
- Water Bottle
- Close-Toed Shoes
- Sunscreen (non-aerosol)
- Insect Repellant (non-aerosol)
- Swimsuit (one piece/trunks)
- Towel
- Beach shoes/sandals
- Change of clothes (i.e. t-shirt and shorts)
- Camera (optional)
- Masks

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### Day Camp Specific COVID-19 Practices

We are looking forward to having your children here this summer. We wanted to provide you with a few logistical items concerning Day Camp and COVID-19.

**Camp Pick-up and Drop-off:** Day Camp will be held on the South Side of Storer Camps with Denman Lodge as the home base for the program. The address is 7260 S. Stony Lake Road, Jackson, MI 49201. You will drive through the green gate and then Denman Lodge will be the first building on the right. Masking will be required at check in and check out and don't forget your driver's license as ID for check-out.

**Pre Camp:** Families will be asked to self-monitor and conduct the following pre-screening activities for 14 days before arrival to camp;

- Self-screen for the presence of COVID-19 symptoms: fever of at least 99.0°F, Dry cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.
- Inform Storer Camps if the camper has been in close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with, tested for, or quarantined as a result of COVID-19.

**COVID-19 Testing:** Pre-Camp testing will not be part of the day camp check-in regimen for campers.

**Possible Illness:** If a camper becomes ill during camp they will be isolated and you will be asked to make arrangements for immediate pick-up. With your permission, our camp has the ability to conduct an antigen test for COVID-19 for your camper. Camp staff will follow the Storer Policies and Procedures manual for communications, quarantine and when it's safe for your campers to return to day camp.

**Program/Facilities:** Cleaning and sanitizing of day camp supplies/equipment will happen throughout the day. Camp restrooms are cleaned daily. The Denman Lodge Facility will be disinfected if a child presents COVID symptoms.

#### Masking

##### No Masking Required

- No masks required Outdoors with 3' distancing within day camp group
- No masks required while eating, swimming, or boating

##### Masking Required

- Masks will be worn when doing indoor activities at camp
- Masks will be worn outdoors when near other groups and 6' distancing is not possible
- Masking for check -in and check-out please!

#### Handwashing/Hand Sanitizing

- Before lunch
- After restroom use
- When entering buildings

**All practices subject to change as deemed by the health department or licensing!**