



DAY CAMP PARENT PACKET

Updated: 10/4/2022

Please make sure to read our "Drop Off & Pick Up Times" section for our new policy regarding drop off in the morning!



Welcome to River of Life Camp!

We are so excited to have you here this summer! Thank you for choosing to send your child to River of Life Camp. We have an action-packed Summer planned for our campers that they will be talking about for years to come. To make the process of sending your child to camp as smooth as possible, we have created this document to give you all the information that you will need to know for Day Camp.

River of Life Camp Goals

Here are some of the goals we have for your child this summer. We want them to...

- **Explore nature.** We want every camper to experience the enjoyment of God's creation and to see His handiwork in everything.
- **Engage community.** We want every camper to take part in our temporary community for learning, growth, and friendship within a positive, safe, and encouraging environment.
- **Enjoy participation.** We want every camper to have a fun and interactive experience while participating in our many different activities.
- **Experience the love of Christ and grow in relationship with Him.** Our hope is that every camper will leave River of Life Camp this summer with a greater understanding that they are loved by Jesus Christ, and that He wants to be involved in their daily lives. This idea will be taught in the Bible lessons and will be reinforced through daily Bible reading and relationship building with the supportive River of Life Camp staff.

Forms and Payments

When you signed your child up for camp, you signed up for a CampInTouch account. We would encourage you to sign into your account and get familiar with it.

With CampInTouch, you will be able to:

- Complete the three required camp forms:
 - Health History Form
 - General Release of Liability Form
 - Horse Release of Liability Form
- Update your child's information if needed.
- Update your contact information if needed.
- View your financial statement and make payments.
- Fund your child's snack shack account.

When it comes to the first day of camp, our goal is to get you through the registration line as quickly as possible. **To make that happen, we encourage you to complete all of the necessary forms and payments at least 2 weeks prior to the day that your child's camp starts.** Of the three additional forms, the Health History Form will need to be completed online (just like you did with the application). If your child was at camp last year, you just need to update that Health History Form for this year. The other two forms (the General Release of Liability Form & Horse Release of Liability Form) can be scanned and uploaded onto your account or faxed to the number listed on the bottom of the form after they have been signed. If you are unable to scan or fax them, you can mail them to our physical address no closer than 2 weeks before the start of camp.

Regarding payments, the camp deposit is due when you register your child online. The remaining balance may also be paid at that time or payments can be mailed to our office. If you are mailing cash/check, please do so no closer than 2 weeks before your child's first day of camp. If you would like to utilize our payment plan option, please let us know at the time of registration so that we can arrange a schedule that works best for your family. **All payments that are not made ahead of time are due on your child's first day of camp at drop off.** If further financial arrangements need to be made, please call our office at (802) 754-9600.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

This policy has been established due to the increased demand for available camper space and to ensure fairness to all who wish to attend River of Life Camp.

- River of Life campers that cancel 30 days or more before the day their session begins will be refunded all their tuition except for the deposit.
- River of Life campers that cancel 29 to 15 days before the day their session begins will be refunded half of the tuition minus the deposit.
- River of Life campers that cancel 14 days or less before their session begins will forfeit their entire tuition and deposit.
- In case of family emergencies or camper health problems (with written doctor's orders), the Director of River of Life Camp reserves the right to waive the forfeiture of tuition fees and deposits at his discretion.

Drop Off & Pick Up Times

Drop off *and* breakfast for day campers begins at 7:30AM each day. Our program starts at 8:15AM, so anytime between 7:30AM and 8:00AM is the time to drop off your child. Please make sure you do your best to stay in this time period for drop off—especially if you want your child to have breakfast. **Breakfast will be served between 7:30AM and 8:00AM—once it is 8:00AM, breakfast will be closed** so that we can start to prepare for our overnight campers that will be coming up for breakfast too. We have a large property with many different activities at different locations. Once our day starts at 8:15AM, Day Camp groups could be anywhere throughout the camp property. Not only can it be difficult to get them to their group, we also don't want them to miss out on any of the fun! If you don't want to participate in our breakfast, arriving at 8:00AM will be fine.

Pick up is at 4:00PM. If you need an earlier or later pick up time, please let us know ahead of time so that we can alert our staff. We do offer childcare if for some reason you are unable to pick up your child before 5:00PM. Our childcare cost is \$5.00 per child per hour after 5:00PM. We would love to work out a plan that works best for you and your family!

We understand that events like doctor's appointments and more do come up from time to time. We ask that you please let us know in advance that you will have a late drop off so that we can make sure our staff are ready to assist your camper in getting to their group.

Health Care at Camp

When needed, campers are taken to the Emergency Room at the North Country Hospital in Newport, VT. This is a 20-minute drive from camp. Camp policy is to contact parents/guardians regarding any medical or emergency health care during your child's stay at camp. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, emergency contacts will then be called. Campers that need ongoing medical attention may be asked to recuperate in the comfort of their own home.

Medications: To receive prescription medications while at camp, please list them on the Health History Form. Medications can only be administered exactly as ordered by the doctor. All medication given to the camp nurse must be in original containers with the label matching the camper's name. Please bring the appropriate amount of each medication as well as an extra day of medication for precautionary measures.

Inhalers: If your camper needs to carry an inhaler, please bring a doctor's note giving permission to carry the inhaler and bring two inhalers—one for the camper and one for the nurse or counselor.

Meals: We do our best to make sure every camper is fed well at camp! We serve breakfast, lunch, and a snack. If your child is allergic to any type of food, please make us aware of that on the health form. If it is a severe allergy, feel free to give us an extra warning by phone or email!

Behavior Management Policy

River of Life Camp's program is designed to help create a safe and caring community. We utilize several behavior management techniques to provide this kind of community. These techniques include:

1. Time outs
2. Conflict resolution
3. Encouragement of good behavior
4. An environment that promotes forgiveness

River of Life Camp does not use any methods of physical or humiliating discipline. Misbehavior is handled on an individual basis, first by the counselor, then the Supervisor, and if needed, the Director. Parents/Guardians will be notified of any serious occurrence. Occasionally campers are sent home in extreme cases (for example: disregard for authority, fighting, bullying, or the possession of any banned substance). In these cases, parents are responsible for providing transportation and there is no refund.

General Camp Rules

1. Hands are for helping. Hands should be used to glorify God and should never be used with the intent to harm someone.
2. Respect everyone and their property.
 - a. Respect everyone's need for personal space.
 - b. Ask before using someone's belongings.
3. Make sure our speech is God glorifying.
 - a. No bullying. No put-downs, ridicule, or verbal threats. Report any observed bullying to a counselor or the director.
 - b. No profanity or inappropriate language.
4. No public display of affection (PDA) such as kissing, holding hands, front hugs, etc.
5. Respect the boundaries.
 - a. Campers should not be in the woods except for planned camp events with a counselor or instructor present.
 - b. Campers should not be in the pond without a lifeguard.
 - c. Day Campers should not be going in the cabins.
6. Respect the environment.
 - a. No graffiti of any type (writing or carving).
 - b. No climbing trees.
 - c. No littering. Pick up any trash you see.
 - d. No running, jumping or climbing on the bridge.
7. Campers should be modestly dressed at all times. The director or a head counselor may require a camper or staff member to change clothes any time inappropriate clothing is worn.
 - a. Shoes should be worn at all times except when at the pond and during certain camp games specified by the program director.
 - b. Male campers and staff should wear shirts at all times except when entering the pond, in the cabin, or select water games approved by the program director.
 - c. Shorts should be fingertip length.
 - d. Only one-piece bathing suits are permitted for female campers and staff. A shirt may be worn to meet this requirement.
8. No contraband.
 - a. Electronic devices, books (other than the Bible), pocketknives, weapons, drugs, and fireworks are not allowed at camp. Contraband will be stored in the camp office and returned at the end of the week.
 - b. Medicine should be turned in to the nurse. Money should be placed in the office or snack shack.

Swimming Evaluations

All campers wishing to swim for any part of the camp session must complete a swimming evaluation on the first day of camp. This is not a test, but an evaluation to place campers in the appropriate swimming areas. Safety is our primary concern when assigning swim areas. A certified lifeguard will be present during all swimming activities. We not only have an evaluation on swimming capabilities, but also for the proper use of our “blob”. The “blob” is only available for campers who are 10 years old and older.

Lost and Found Policy

All lost and found items are placed on a table and can be claimed throughout the week. They are kept for two weeks after each session. After two weeks, items are donated to a local thrift shop. Items will need to be collected from River of Life as the camp cannot mail any items. River of Life Camp cannot be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property. **Please mark all items with a permanent marker so we know who to call if we find a missing item.**

Day Camp Packing List

What to bring to camp:

- Bible (if you have one!)
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Rain gear
- Medicines (in original bottles in a zip lock bag with your child’s name on it)
- Bathing suit (1-piece modest suit or t-shirt cover-up)
- Beach towel
- Jacket
- A change of clothes
- A backpack or other zipped bag to hold everything
- Sneakers
- Water bottle (optional)

What NOT to bring to camp:

- No tight-fitting clothes
- No clothes with inappropriate or offensive slogans
- No electronics (cell phones, tablets, mp3 players, etc.)
- No guns, knives or weapons of any kind
- No chemical substances (drugs, alcohol, etc.)
- No valuable jewelry
- No money that is intended to stay with the camper. Money for our Snack Shack days (once a week) can be dropped off at registration that morning.

Final Reminders

Thank you for taking the time to read through all of this information. Our desire is to make the process of sending your child to camp as easy as possible. We would like to leave you with a check list of things to do before you come to camp.

- Complete the three required camp forms in your CampInTouch account
 - Health History Form
 - General Release of Liability Form
 - Horse Release of Liability Form
- Pay your camp balance.
- Use our packing list to prepare for camp (**mark everything you can with your child's name**).
- Review camp rules and policies with your camper as appropriate.
- Optional: Fund your child's snack shack account (you can do this when you get here as well).

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call us anytime! Thank you for choosing River of Life Camp for your child. We can't wait to see you this summer!