



BEAR CREEK CAMP

Explore, celebrate & grow in God's creation!



Dear Parents or Guardians,

Thank you for choosing Bear Creek Camp for your family camp this summer. Our summer theme is God Forever, Good Forever based off of Psalm 100:5. We will explore the ways God was faithful to people throughout the bible and the ways God's love impacts our lives today. We can carry God's love into the future. There will be so many exciting and fun activities to keep your family engaged throughout the week!

Summer 2019 was amazing and we know that Summer 2020 is going to be incredible! We have some amazing plans for your family's week here spending time at the amazing space we have here at BCC. God is good and will continue to be the topic of the week as we make memories together throughout your time here!

The following information is intended to help your family prepare for camp and have the best possible experience at Bear Creek Camp. Even if you are a long-time Bear Creek Camp family, please take a few minutes to read through the packet as some things may have changed.

The camp week will start with Check-In from 3-4:30pm on Sunday and conclude after lunch on Friday. Please take a moment to see the "During Camp" and "Post Camp" sections for more information.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions concerning your week at Bear Creek Camp. We can be reached by phone at (570) 472-3741 or email at bccamp@bearcreekcamp.org. Also, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram to see updates from camp!

We need your prayers for this summer. Please pray for our campers, our staff, our property and for God's amazing love to cover all that are here.

In Christ's Name,

Karen Heser

Karen Heser
Program Director

"For the Lord is good and God's love endures forever; God's faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100:5

PREPARING FOR CAMP

PACKING LIST – Families should bring the following items for their use at camp.

- Bibles
- Sleeping Bags
- Pillows
- Towels and Washcloths
- Toothbrushes and Toothpastes
- Comb/Brush
- Sunscreen and Insect Repellent
- Swimsuits
- Clothes for all weather (Shorts, Jeans, T-Shirts, Sweatshirt, socks, etc)
- Old Clothes (things you don't mind getting dirty)
- Sturdy Shoes for Hiking
- Extra pairs of shoes (in case yours get wet)
- Rain Gear
- Flashlights
- Personal Water Bottle
- Camera (if desired)

Please mark all belongings with your family's name. Lost and found items will be displayed throughout the week and will be kept at the office for a while after the week of camp is over. Please contact the camp if you are missing something and we will do our best to locate it. All remaining items will be donated to charity. There is no need to bring any personal sports equipment, but if equipment is brought, Bear Creek Camp assumes no responsibility of lost or damaged items.

ITEMS NOT TO BRING TO CAMP

Possession of weapons or drugs may result in the immediate removal from camp. Your help and assistance on keeping these items home would be greatly appreciated.

- Food (The camp provides good nutritious meals. Food in the cabins & tents only encourages rodents and other animals to invade, which can cause unsafe and unclean conditions.)
- Knives or other weapons
- Fireworks
- Money, jewelry, or other valuables
- Alcohol, tobacco products, other drugs, or any drug paraphernalia

ALLERGIES

Please ensure that all registration information lists all allergies and food restrictions for your camper. Our kitchen works really hard to accommodate food allergies and restriction. We want to meet the same needs campers have met at home. Bear Creek Camp needs your help to get accurate information in advance of their time at camp.

REFUND POLICY

All registrations for Family Camp are subject to a \$25/person non-refundable deposit. Refunds for cancellations will be made according to the following schedule:

No-show or less than 1 week in advance: 50% refund of cost of camp. More than 1 week: refunded minus deposit. Cancellations due to medical reasons: Refunded 100% when we receive a doctor's certification.

DURING CAMP

CHECK-IN

The camp week begins Sunday with Check-In from 3-4:30 pm at our Retreat Center/Dining Hall. Please check in prior to moving your items to your cabin.

Following Check-In you will then be able to move into your cabin/tent and get settled in. At your cabin/tent you will meet your counselor for the week, they are here to help you. All families and counselors will come together for dinner at 5:30 pm, listen for the bell.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Bear Creek Camp has many activities for your family to enjoy. Families will have the opportunity to choose some of the activities that they will experience. Other factors, including weather, scheduling, and staffing, may affect what activities will be available.

OVERNIGHT

All families will have the option to camp overnight on our property for one night. This experience will help families in developing their outdoor living skills and involves carrying personal and group gear, hiking, preparing meals cooked over campfires, setting up a tent, and basic back-country hygiene. There will be the option for one of our counselors to help with the location, set up and cooking at your campsite.

CAMPER BEHAVIOR

Bear Creek Camp strives to create an environment where all individuals are respected and safe. Please also discuss the following rules with your family prior to your arrival to camp.

GENERAL CAMPER RULES:

- Illegal substances (cigarettes, alcohol, drugs, etc) are not permitted. Bear Creek Camp is a smoke free environment.
- Everyone must wear shoes unless you are at the beach or at your cabin/tent site.
- Flashlights should be used for light in cabins and tents; open flames are prohibited.
- All trash and recycling should be put in the appropriate containers.
- Ropes courses are off limit unless accompanied by a trained staff member.
- Swimming and boating is not allowed unless a certified Bear Creek Camp Lifeguard is on duty guarding.
- All families should treat all campers and staff, as well as their belongings, with respect.
- All families should use camp property and supplies in the intended manner, treating them with respect; graffiti and vandalism are not permitted.
- All families should limit their cell phones usage as it is a distraction from the growth and bonding we work hard to cultivate at camp.

ILLNESS OR INJURY

Bear Creek Camp does not carry primary medical insurance for families. Parents are financially responsible for the cost of any medical care needed during a families' stay at Bear Creek Camp.

OUR STAFF

Our summer staff consists of both young adults who have completed at least one year of college and Junior Counselors who have just graduated from High School. Both groups go through training which includes skills in working with youth, the program for the summer, first-aid and CPR, responding to emergencies, common issues that arise at camp, and many other areas. All of our counselors are trained to help campers grow through their camp experience and they have the support of other staff to help them if needed. All Junior Counselors are paired with our college-aged counselors and will be assisting them throughout the day. Visiting pastors serve as camp chaplains and we also have a Healthcare Manager on-site who is certified as an EMT or nurse.

TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE

8 – Breakfast
9 – Chapel
9:45 – Kid Time/ Adult Time
12 – Lunch
1 – Free Time
3 – Family Activity Time
5:30 – Dinner
6:30 – All-Camp Activity
8 – Evening All Camp Activity

POST CAMP

FRIDAY DEPARTURES

The camp week concludes on Friday after lunch, although your family is welcome to leave at any time prior if your schedule requires it.

NEEDS LIST

- Gift Cards to purchase Office and Program Supplies (Amazon, Wal-Mart, Michaels, Home Depot, etc.)
- Reams of 8.5"x11" copier paper
- Basketballs
- Volleyballs
- Footballs
- Soccer Balls
- Rubber Kickballs
- 4-Wheeler (for the use of trail clearing)
- 15 Passenger Van
- Mini-Van/Sedan
- Mini Excavator
- Bobcat Machine
- Branch Clippers (Lopper)
- New Chain Saw
- DVD-R's
- Pool/Billiard Balls
- Topfin Large Filter Cartridges for Fish
- Repto Filter - Medium Disposable Filter Cartridges for Turtles
- Birdseed
- Suet
- Your time and/or talents (many volunteer opportunities available)
- Audio Equipment or Donations for:
 - Microphones
 - Amplifier
 - Speakers/Powered Speakers
 - Mixing Board
- Donations for the purchase of:
 - Harnesses
 - Helmets
 - Backpack