

# Summer Camp Parent Guide 2024

Summer Camp Office Hours – Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM, Closed Saturday, Open Sunday 1:00- 7:00 PM

It is our mission to share the Gospel of Jesus with children and youth through relationships and fun camp experiences.

## WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT AT CHECK-IN?

**Sunday from 5:30 – 7:00 PM Arrive at camp and check in.**

As you arrive, our enthusiastic summer staff will welcome you and guide you to our designated parking area. Just follow the signs, and our team will be there to assist you and ensure you reach your cabin without any trouble.

There are only two stops along the way:

1. If your child requires medication, you will hand it over to our health staff, located in the gym.
2. If you have mail to drop off for your camper, our mail tent at the ballfield is the place to do so.

### NOTE:

\* If you do not think you will make it to the camp by the end of check-in, please notify us by calling 218-575-2240.

\* No supper will be served on the night of check-in, please have your camper eat before they arrive.

## WHAT ABOUT CHECK OUT?!

**Check out is at 11:30am on the last day of camp.** Meet your campers in the ballfield by the gym.

Campers' luggage will be at the gym, sorted by cabins. Campers will only be released to someone listed on their account as an approved person to pick up the child. If you are not personally picking up your child at camp, make sure that you have listed the person picking up your child on your child's record. PARENTS WHO ARE PICKING UP THEIR CHILD MUST ALSO BE LISTED ON THEIR CAMPER'S RECORD.

### **Need to leave early?**

We would ask that you do not check out your camper early unless it is absolutely necessary. If your child needs to be picked up early, please contact the camp office to make arrangements.

## Typical Daily Schedule

7:30 Morning Devotions

8:00 Breakfast

9:00 Skills Activity

10:30 Cabin Time Activity

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Memory Verses

1:00 Amphitheatre

1:30 Rest Time

2:00 Free Time

3:30 Bible Exploration with Cabin

5:00 Supper

6:30 Chapel

8:00 Evening Activity

9:30 Evening Devotions

10:30 Lights Out

## HOW MANY CAMPERS WILL BE IN THE CABIN WITH MY CHILD? HOW MANY COUNSELORS?

### Camper/Staff Ratio

Children are typically placed in cabin groups of up to 10 campers with 1-2 counselors for each cabin dependent on the age group.

### Cabin Assignments

Cabin assignments are made 10 days before each camp session, and we don't disclose cabin names to campers beforehand. Please refrain from making online cabin mate changes within 10 days of your camp session. If needed, call for last-minute changes; however, these changes are not guaranteed.

- The maximum number of friends that will be housed together in a cabin is 5. Groups larger than 5 friends will need to be divided. Parents will be contacted regarding how to divide the group.
- If a group of friends fills a cabin, they can be housed together. Filling a cabin is 10 campers.

## HOW DO I SEE MY CAMPER THROUGH THE WEEK?

Our staff posts daily photos on Facebook and our photo blog. With 600 campers each week, not every camper will be featured. These pictures offer a glimpse of camp life. After the session, you'll get an email with the week's video link and cabin picture.

## WHAT IS THE CAMP STORE AND CAMPER SPENDING ACCOUNTS?

During the week campers can go to the camp store and buy snacks or Camp Shamineau souvenirs and clothing items. The store features T-shirts (from \$10-\$15), sweatshirts (from \$25-\$40) and much more! The camp store will be open for you during both check-in and check-out times.

Trailblazer and Cowpoke campers have the option of using the camp bank/camp store account or keeping their own spending money. Our older camps: Voyager, Island, Ranch Hand, and Encounter campers will be responsible for keeping their own spending money and will not have a camp bank/camp store account.

On Sunday night after check-in, we transfer all camp store money into a separate file for the week. Campers can stop by the Camp Bank and withdraw money each day to be spent at the Camp Store. At the conclusion of the week, all campers are given the remaining balance as a cash refund. Please DO NOT add any spending money to the camper's account after check-in on Sunday night.

### **\*\*NEW\*\* Shamineau Gear - Optional**

Purchasing our specialty Shamineau gear is an easy way for your child to receive an item gifted from you early in the week. We have a couple of options to choose from:

Shamineau Blanket- \$40

40 oz Stainless Travel Mug- \$25

Snapback Ball Cap- \$20

You can add these items to your child's registration any time before your arrival on your online account.

## Camper T-Shirts

Campers will get their camp t-shirt during the week they come. Please indicate the size shirt you would like them to receive during registration.

## HOW DO YOU HANDLE MY CHILD'S HEALTH NEEDS?

We take every precaution to ensure the health and safety of each camper. Your child's health is our staff's main concern. Campers are welcome to see a nurse at any time. We want to keep campers healthy and happy, so they can have a great week of camp! Should your child require off-camp care, every attempt will be made to contact you first.

- Each camper is required to submit the completed medical information form. If you register online this form is part of your registration process. For paper registrations you will need to fill out the paper form.
- A well-equipped Health Center is located on site and staffed by medical personnel. We do have “over the counter” meds in stock so please do not send any ibuprofen, acetaminophen, Benadryl type products with your camper.
- Clinics and emergency room care are located within 10 miles of camp and many of our staff are Emergency Medical Technicians and First Responders.
- Camp Shamineau carries secondary medical coverage on campers. Medical bills resulting from injury while at camp must first be submitted to the camper's personal medical insurer.

## Medications

Please bring meds in original containers. All medication (prescriptions, vitamins) must be turned in to the nurse during check-in and will be administered as scheduled. Campers with inhalers should bring two, one to keep in their cabin and one to leave with the Camp Nurse. Bring an anaphylactic kit for severe allergies. Medications can be picked up in the ballfield on check out day at the Health Center table.

## Special Dietary Needs – Camp Shamineau caters to the following dietary needs:

- **Gluten Allergies:** The Camp Shamineau kitchen offers gluten-friendly options at every meal. Please note, gluten friendly meals are prepared in areas that also prepare non-gluten free meals. (For example: A gluten-free pizza will be cooked in the same oven as a non-gluten free pizza.)
- A limited selection of gluten-free options (individually wrapped products produced by a certified gluten free company) will also be available at the kitchen service counter. These may include muffins, cookies, and dessert bars.
- **Nut Allergies:** The kitchen does not serve peanut or tree nut products. However, some products may be manufactured in facilities that also process nuts.
- **Other Food Allergies:** Lactose-free milk will be available at the kitchen service counter. For all other allergies, please contact the kitchen to discuss available options at [foodservice@shamineau.org](mailto:foodservice@shamineau.org).
- **Other Notes:** We have a salad bar at lunch and dinner. Food storage space and a microwave are available for guests who wish to bring their own food. Unfortunately, the kitchen may not be able to accommodate all special diets or a full vegetarian diet.

## **Poison Ivy**

Let your campers know that poison ivy grows abundantly in our area. Help them learn to identify it and encourage them to stay on well-traveled paths. Campers should always wash well after being in areas of possible poison ivy contact or use an alcohol-based waterless hand sanitizer.

## **Severe Weather**

With summertime always comes the possibility of severe weather. Our directors monitor the weather constantly during any weather alerts, and the Morrison County Sheriff's department is always in direct contact with us at those times as well. Counselors are trained in procedures of safety in case of severe weather. Island campers shelter in the lodge on the Island.

## **Waterfront**

Our waterfront has a dock system that divides the shallow part of the swim area from the deeper part. All campers are allowed to swim in the shallow areas and those who wish to swim in the deeper sections will be required to wear life jackets. Voyager and Encounter campers will have the option of being individually tested to enter the deeper section without a life jacket, Trailblazers are required to always wear life jackets in the deeper section. Certified lifeguards supervise all swimmers and waterfront activities. Life jackets are provided by Camp Shamineau for all necessary activities.

Tubing and various other boating activities are meticulously organized and conducted under the supervision of certified lifeguards and highly trained personnel.

## **HOW DO I CONTACT MY CAMPER DURING THE WEEK?**

### **Phones**

At Camp Shamineau campers are only permitted to make or receive phone calls in emergency situations. Please do not send cell phones to camp. Campers will not be allowed to keep cell phones. If your camper brings a cell phone, we will kindly ask to store it securely during their stay and return it at the end of the week. Parents are requested to call for campers only in case of an emergency. After 5:00 PM an answering machine will provide an emergency number.

### **Visitors**

For security reasons visitors are not allowed during the camp week.

### **Camper Emails**

To send an email to your camper go to the website [www.shamineau.org](http://www.shamineau.org). then click "send an email to a summer camper". Emails will be printed off each morning at 9:00 AM. Due to system constraints campers will not be able to respond to your emails and the office staff will not be able to reply to emails directed to your camper. We also request that you don't send multiple emails each day.

### **Mail**

Campers enjoy receiving letters! If you're sending mail, allow 3-4 days for delivery and send to PO Box 244 Motley MN, 56466. Many parents bring letters during camper drop-off; we'll store and deliver them.

Sorry, but we can't accept packages due to high camper volume. Please don't bring or send packages. If you have a special treat, pack it in your child's suitcase before arrival.

### **Stay Connected**

During your camper's stay with us, we will send out emails and texts. It's a good idea to check your junk or spam folder for our messages, just in case, so you don't miss any important information.

### **Homesickness**

Preventing homesickness begins at home with you! While at camp, we'll support campers through any feelings, but here are some helpful tips:

- Encourage your child to bring a good friend; supportive friends can be a great help.
- Consider an overnight stay before camp to gauge readiness.
- Send cheerful, frequent letters to keep their spirits up.
- If your child experiences significant homesickness, a staff member will reach out to discuss the situation.

### **WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO PACK FOR CAMP?**

Bringing what your child needs can help to ensure a good camp experience. Remember to mark all clothing and gear with the camper's name. Keep in mind that no laundry service is available. Keep in mind that campers, parents, and staff will be hauling luggage to and from cabins.

### **Lost and Found**

All items are discarded after 10 days. It is your responsibility to call camp and give us a detailed description of your lost items. If the reported items are found, we will call to make arrangements for your payment of the packing and shipping costs. Any towels, socks, undergarments, pillows, toiletries and wet or foul-smelling items will be discarded immediately.

### **Packing List**

Choose modest clothing: Ensure swimwear covers well, pants stay up, and underwear isn't visible. For girls, a one-piece swimsuit or modest tankini is ideal for active water activities. Please avoid clothing with alcohol or tobacco branding. Prioritize durable, rugged camp attire that can get dirty. Every camper must bring at least one pair of athletic/tennis shoes. Remember to label the bag for dirty clothes as 'DIRTY CLOTHES' and include your child's name to avoid confusion.

- Jeans/Shorts
- Water Bottle
- Swimsuits (for girls - one-piece or modest tankini, for boys – no speedos)
- Sweatshirt/Jacket/T-shirts
- Pajamas/underwear/socks

- Athletic/running Shoes
- Dirty Clothes Bag
- Sleeping Bag/Pillow/ OR Bedding that will fit a bunk or twin-size bed.
- Towels/Soap/Personal Care Items
- Bible – we do have extra Bibles available on site to use if you don't have one
- Sunscreen
- Optional Items: Flashlight, bug spray, Stamps/Envelopes/Postcards for letters home

Horse Campers: Bring long pants and hard soled boots, shoes or tennis shoes for riding. Riding helmets are provided and are mandatory during horse activities.

### **Do Not Bring**

Excessive snacks, music devices, cell phones, electronic games, immodest clothing, weapons of any kind, alcohol, fireworks, expensive items/clothing, drones, or excessive amounts of cash. If they are brought, they may be collected, stored, and if appropriate, returned at the end of the week. Camp Shamineau is not responsible for lost, broken or stolen items brought by campers.

### **HOW ARE STAFF SELECTED AND TRAINED?**

All staff are chosen based on their personal commitment to Jesus Christ, maturity, character, and love for kids. Staff attend a minimum of a week-long training session and are regularly evaluated. Interviews, references, and background checks are part of our hiring process as well as all staff must go through the Ministry Safe sexual abuse awareness course.

### **HOW DO I USE MY YOUR FAMILY ACCOUNT?**

To log into your family account go to [www.shamineau.org](http://www.shamineau.org), Click on "My Account" and enter your username and password. If you forget your username and password give us a call.

To make changes to your camper's health form or medication list click on your camper's name then scroll down and click on the My Forms or Medications options and make any changes.

To make changes to your reservation click on the actual reservation. That will bring you to a page that lists all your reservation details.

- To add spending money to their Camp Store Account, (Tenderfoot, Trailblazer, Cowpoke only) click on their individual reservation and then the EDIT button next to the Store Deposit line.
- To add a cabin mate or check on the cabinmates listed click on their reservation and then click on Additional Information – cabin mates.
- To add an approved pickup person, click on Pickup Authorization and make your changes.
- Balance is due 2 weeks prior to your camp session and can be taken care of on your account under "Make a Payment".

Cancellation Policy: If you cancel, you'll receive a full refund. Please call us promptly as we may have a waiting list.