

Summer Camp Parent Guide

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM (Closed Saturday and Sunday)

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

We look forward to having you join us at Camp Shamineau this summer! This parent guide contains information that you need to know to prepare your child for summer camp. Feel free to contact us in the camp office during our regular office hours if you have any questions.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK - We want to hear from parents of campers and even campers themselves as they are a great resource of how we are doing and how we can better serve you in the future. Please call or write us with any concerns, questions or ideas on how to improve.

We get a lot of emails and phone calls from parents with questions concerning their family accounts. One of the best things you can do is get familiar with how to use your family account as often you can answer those questions yourself and get a quicker answer than emailing or phone our offices. Keep track of your username and password as that will get you into your account. If you forget your username and password give us a call and we can help you with that.

"HOW TO" ONLINE – to log into your family account go to www.shamineau.org, Click on My Account and enter your username and password.

To make changes to your camper's health form or medication list click on your camper's name and then click on the 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. You can also make any changes on this page.

- To add a care package, bus transportation, or Trailblazer, Voyager ropes skills class, click on their individual reservation and then the blue EDIT button next to the Options line.
- To add spending money to their Camp Store Account, click on their individual reservation (Traiblazer, Voyager, etc.) In the Reservation Details Box click on the blue 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.

GETTING TO CAMP

Directions to Camp - 2345 Ridge Rd, Motley, MN. Camp Shamineau is located about an hour north of St Cloud (just south of Motley) on Highway 10. Watch for the "Camp Shamineau" or "Ridge Road" signs at mile marker 120. Camp Shamineau is 1 1/2 miles east of Highway 10 on Ridge Road. You can also log into your account and click on "Additional Options" to get Driving Directions.

WHEN IS THE BALANCE DUE ON MY CAMPER'S ACCOUNT?

Your balance is due 2 weeks prior to your camp session.

OPTIONS:

- 1). Log In to your camper's account and pay online.
- 2). OR call the camp office and pay with a credit card over the phone.
- 3). OR mail a check to our office: PO Box 244, Motley, MN 56466.

WHAT TIME IS CHECK IN?

4:00 – 5:00 PM Arrive at Camp and check in at the Parking Lot

Follow the signs for parking. Campers will be given their cabin assignments in the parking lot unless there is a balance on their account.

Go to the Gym ONLY if you need:

- To make a payment
- To drop off mail or packages for your camper.
- To turn in all your medications (prescription and over-the-counter) to the nurse.

The Gym is located next to the parking lot.

5:00 PM - Campers say goodbye to parents and begin their camp tour

5:30 PM – Supper for campers

WHAT TIME IS CHECK OUT?

Check out is at 2:00 on Fridays (Also at 2:00 for those going to the short week of camp ending July 1)

There are optional activities on Friday morning that parents are welcome to come to including lunch and closing chapel.

You will get a schedule of these activities at check in.

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 or at the bus, make sure that you have listed the person picking up your child on your child's record. We will not release your child to someone not listed on their record as an approved pick up person. **PARENTS WHO ARE PICKING UP THEIR CHILD MUST ALSO BE LISTED ON THEIR CAMPER'S RECORD.**

LATE ARRIVAL AT CHECK IN

If you do not think you will make it to camp by the end of check-in (5:00 PM) please notify the camp office.

EARLY DEPARTURE

We do realize that due to schedule conflicts a child might need to be picked up from camp earlier than the usual check out time. However, we would ask, as a general rule, that you do not check out your camper early unless it is absolutely necessary. The camp staff is busy preparing all the details that go into the last day of camp and getting campers ready to leave. If your child needs to be picked up before the scheduled check out time, please contact the camp office at least 2 days ahead of time. Thank you for your consideration.

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

Camper/Staff Ratio

Children are placed in cabin groups of 8-12 campers with 2 counselors to each cabin. Along with these counselors our support staff - made up of wranglers, lifeguards, program staff and kitchen crew - are assigned to a cabin as a "cabin friend" and participate with the campers in many activities throughout the week.

Cabin Assignments

Cabin assignments are made 10 days before each camp session and we do not release the cabin name to campers ahead of their arrival. We know it is great fun for large groups to attend camp together, but unfortunately a large group in a cabin is not fun for the other campers in the cabin who are not part of the group.

1. The maximum number of friends that will be housed together in a cabin is 5.
2. Groups larger than 5 friends will need to be divided unless we have extra cabins available for the week to accommodate the group. Parents will be contacted regarding recommendations on how to divide the group.
3. If a group of friends fills a cabin, they can be housed together.

Filling a cabin is:

- 10 campers for Voyager, Trailblazer, Ranch camps
- 8 campers for Island cabins
- 12 campers for Tenderfoot cabins

Do not make Cabin Mate changes online beginning 10 days prior to your camp session. **If you have any Cabin Mate changes to make 3-10 days before your camp session, call our office. We cannot guarantee placement of any last minute cabinmate changes.**

CAMPER'S SPENDING MONEY

How much spending money should I send with my camper? How do they keep track of it? These are typical questions when it comes to spending money at camp.

Most campers have the option of putting their spending money in a camp store account. Putting spending money in the camp store account **IS** required for Tenderfoot and Island campers, but not required for anyone else.

During free time campers have the opportunity to 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! Optional free time activities with an extra fee are: Horse Trail Rides (only available for Voyagers and Trailblazers -\$5), Leather Shop (Most are Free, but a bigger leather project can be up to \$20), wakeboarding or tubing during free time - \$1-\$3. Island Campers do not have access to the extra activities as they are on the Island all week, but they do have snack shop each day. An offering is also received each week. The Camp Store is open at check in on Sunday and pick up on Friday so that would be a good time for parents to stop by and help their camper pick out a t-shirt if they wish.

All camp store spending money needs to be deposited into the camper's camp store account before they arrive at camp. To put money in your camper's store account:

- Log into your family account (My Account) at www.shamineau.org
- Click on your camper's registration – example: Trailblazer
- In the Reservation Details Box click on the **blue Edit** button next to the Store Deposit line.

On Sunday night after check in we transfer all camp store money into a separate file for the week known as our Camp Bank. Campers can stop by the Camp Bank (in front of the Dining Hall) each day during their free time and withdraw money to be spent at the Camp Store. On Thursday all unspent money is returned to the camper as cash.

Please DO NOT add any spending money to the camper's account after check in on Sunday night as it will not be credited to their spending account for the week.

Island Campers are required to use the Camp Store Account. Island Campers will have a chance to buy snacks during their camp week, but there is no money exchanged on the Island. A credit account is kept for each Island Camper during the week and the amount spent is subtracted from the balance in their Camp Store Account. Unspent money will be returned on Friday.

Horse Trip and Climbing Trip Campers are responsible to keep track of their own spending money and will not have Camp Store accounts.

STAFF SELECTION AND TRAINING

All staff are chosen on the basis of 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.

CARE PACKAGES

Shamineau Care Packages are an easy way for your child to receive a treat. A Care Package contains items handy for camp, snacks and Shamineau souvenirs and can be purchased for \$20. You can order these items with your registration or add them at check in and they will be delivered to your child early in the week, Monday or Tuesday.

PHOTO GALLERY, VIDEO OF YOUR CAMPER'S WEEK

While your camper is at camp you can view pictures on our website or facebook page or upload the Camp Shamineau App to your phone. On the website go to "At Camp" and the click on Camp Life Blog. On the app just click on Camp Life Blog. Camp Shamineau also has a **Facebook** page where you can see these pictures posted. Video of your camper's week at camp will be available to download on your electronic device. After the camp session you will receive an email with a link to that week's video for you to access as well as their cabin picture.

WHAT SKILLS CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE?

Trailblazer and Voyager Campers have a skills class each morning as part of their schedule. Classes offered often include: riflery, outdoor survival, archery, shotguns, nature center, canoeing, skateboarding, arts and crafts, swimming, wakeboarding, sailing, outdoor cooking and music. Availability varies by week and age. There is no extra charge for these classes. The classes are introduced to the campers on Sunday night and each morning campers sign up for the skills class of their choice.

- **WHAT IS THE ROPES COURSE SKILLS CLASS?**

One of these class choices is the Ropes Course Skills Class. In this class campers learn teamwork and leadership skills through experience on the Low Ropes Course, High Ropes Course (25 ft up in the trees) and the Rock Climbing Wall. Campers meet each morning and can progress from Beginner to Advanced levels as they learn different climbing techniques and practice on the elements. There is a \$35 fee for this class and it will be the camper's skills class for the week. The Ropes Skills Class is typically signed up for when the camper registers to save them a spot.

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 individually tested. They must pass this test to swim in the deep water. Certified lifeguards supervise all swimmers. All campers can use the Blob or watercrafts (kayaks, paddleboats, canoes) as lifejackets are required for these activities. Lifejackets are provided by Camp Shamineau for all necessary activities.

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO KNOW FOR BUS TRANSPORTATION?

- The bus pick up and drop off is in the Twin Cities at New Hope Church - 4225 Gettysburg Ave N., New Hope, MN 55428 (Cty Rd 9 and Hwy 169)
- Campers taking the bus to camp should be at New Hope Church no later than 1:45 PM on SUNDAY.
- Bus riders are to be picked up from the church at 4:00 on FRIDAY. Be prepared to wait there if traffic delays their arrival.
- On Friday Authorized Pick Up Persons check in with the Camp Shamineau representative at the bus drop off before the camper is released to them.
- No stops are made for bathrooms or food. The bus is equipped with a restroom.
- You must reserve a spot at least 5 days prior to your camp week to ride the bus. Call the camp office to add the bus to your registration. DO NOT call New Hope Church.
- If we do not have enough riders to hire a bus, we will transport campers in a Camp Shamineau van with Camp Shamineau staff drivers.

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 nurses' main concern. Campers are welcome to see them 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. If you use the paper registration 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 as they only take up space and are provided by us.
- Clinics and emergency room care are located within 12 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.
- If you have specific concerns or care instructions, please send those to us in writing.

Medications

When packing, have all medications in a zipper locking bag clearly marked with the camper's name. **Please bring meds in original containers.** All medication (prescriptions, vitamins, over the counter medications, etc) must be turned in to the nurse during check in and will be administered as scheduled. Medications will be returned to campers prior to departure. 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.

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

- **Gluten-Friendly Options:** Camp Shamineau offers gluten-friendly meal options at every meal. Please note gluten-friendly differs from gluten-free. Gluten-friendly meals are prepared in areas that also prepare non-gluten free meals. For example: a gluten-free pizza is cooked in the same oven that cooks a non-gluten free pizza. The only **Gluten-free** options will be individually wrapped products produced by a certified gluten-free company. These include muffins, cookies, and a few desserts.
- **Dairy-Free Options:** Camp Shamineau will provide a dairy-free meal option when necessary. Please let the camp kitchen know in advance.
- **Allergies:** Camp Shamineau does not serve peanut or tree nut products, but some of our products may be manufactured in facilities that also process nuts. Our snack shop does have candy that contains nuts and peanuts.
- **For all other allergies,** please contact the camp kitchen in advance to discuss what options may be available.
- **Guests have the option to bring their own food.** Refrigerated space is available.

If your child has food allergies, please click on this link and fill out the form and submit so our kitchen staff has that information. <https://www.cognitofrms.com/CampShamineau1/FoodAllergyAlert>

Individual special dietary meals arranged in advance will be served from the front counter. Gluten-FRIENDLY items will be labeled on the general buffet line. Gluten-FREE items and lactose free milks will be located on a separate counter near the general buffet line. **For more information contact: kitchen@shamineau.org.**

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. This will neutralize the oils on the skin.

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. Campers will also not be allowed to keep cell phones. Parents are requested to call for campers only in the case of an emergency. After 5:00 PM an answering machine will provide an emergency number. A Camp Shamineau staff member will answer this phone after hours. This after-hours phone is a limited use phone for emergencies.

Visitors

Due to the brief stay the campers have at camp there are no scheduled visiting days during the week. For security purposes visitors are not encouraged.

Camper Emails!

To send an email to your camper go to the website www.shamineau.org. then “click to email a camper”. Emails will be printed off each morning at 9:00 AM and delivered to campers during mail call. 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 would request that you don't send multiple emails each day. With 400-450 campers here each week we just don't have the staffing to print off hundreds of emails each day. Keep your emails positive and encouraging as that will help keep your camper from feeling homesick.

Mail/Packages

Campers love to receive letters and packages while at camp. If you are sending mail or a package be sure to allow at least 3-4 days for the mail to arrive.

Address your mail: Camp Shamineau
 Camper's Name
 PO Box 244
 Motley, MN 56466

For letters or packages going through the US Post Office please use our PO Box number, NOT the street address. We pick up our mail each morning at the post office and they prefer our box number.

If you are sending a package through FedEx or UPS you will need to use our location address: 2345 Ridge Rd.

Many parents bring their camper packages and letters with them when they drop their camper off at camp. We will keep your camper's letters and packages in our office and deliver them during the week. Be sure they are well marked with your child's name and drop them off at check in.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD GETS HOMESICK?

Preventing homesickness starts at home with you! Homesickness is an affliction that can affect a child's camping experience. Once at camp we do our best to help campers work through the feelings, but here are some suggestions that can make things easier for your child.

- Send your child with a good friend. Good supportive friends are a great prevention.
- Discuss what camp will be like. Talk about the fun activities, and the adventure of it all.
- Plan an overnight for your child before camp. This will help you evaluate if your child is ready for camp.
- Write them often while they are at camp. Keep your letters cheerful!
- If your child is significantly struggling with homesickness a staff member will call you 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 using nametags or permanent ink.** Keep in mind that no laundry service is available.

When it comes to clothing, pack items that are modest. To us this means that swimwear adequately covers a camper's body, pants stay up, and we don't see their underwear. All girls should pack a one-piece swimsuit or modest tankini since most camp water activities are very active. Clothing that advertises alcohol or tobacco products is not allowed. If you don't think something will be right for camp, you should leave it at home. If a camper is wearing something that is inappropriate camp staff will ask them to change.

Be sure to pack typical camp clothes - the kind you could afford to lose and don't mind getting really dirty! Due to the active nature of camp, all campers must have at least one pair of athletic/tennis shoes. Campers planning to ride horses must wear long pants with boots or lace-tied shoes. Please make sure your bag for dirty clothes is marked "DIRTY CLOTHES" and labeled with your child's name so it is not mistaken for trash.

- Jeans/Shorts
- Water Bottle
- Swimsuits (for girls - one-piece or modest tankini only, for boys – no speedos)
- T-shirts
- Sweatshirt/Jacket
- Pajamas/underwear/socks
- Boots or hard sole shoes if riding horses (riding boots not necessary, athletic shoes ok)
- Athletic/running Shoes
- Dirty Clothes Bag
- Sleeping Bag/Pillow/ OR Bedding that will fit a bunk or twin-size bed. Ranch Hand and Cowboy campers should bring a sleeping bag as they will be spending one over night in a tent.
- Towels/Toiletries
- Bible/Notebook/Pens
- Stamps/Envelopes/Postcards for letters home
- Optional items: camera, fishing equipment, sun block, flashlight, bug spray

Island Campers: DO NOT BRING NICE CLOTHES! Showers are a jump in the lake.

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. Ranch Hand and Cowboy campers should bring a sleeping bag as they will spend one night in a tent.

LOST AND FOUND

IMPORTANT - Mark all items with your child's full name with permanent ink. 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.

DO NOT BRING

Excessive snacks, music devices, cell phones, electronic games, immodest clothing, weapons of any kind, alcohol, fireworks, expensive items/clothing, drones. 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.

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 and we have a number of buildings on site with basements that campers are sent to. Island campers shelter in the lodge on the Island.

CAMP ACCREDITATION

Shamineau Ministries is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America, but campers of all beliefs and denominations are welcome. Christ and a personal relationship with Him are the core beliefs communicated. Camp Shamineau is accredited by CCCA, Christian Camp and Conference Association. Key staff members have certifications within their area of expertise. Many of our staff are Emergency Medical Technicians, certified First Responders and Fire Fighters.

Trailblazers Typical Schedule

8:00am	Breakfast
8:30	Cabin Clean Up
9:00	Skills Classes
10:00	Group Activity, Ballfield Games
12:00pm	Lunch
1:00	Amphitheatre - mail call, announcements
1:30	Rest Time
2:00	Free Time- waterfront, snack shop, open gym, zip line, trail rides, beach, climbing wall
3:30	Bible Exploration - Devotions with your cabin
5:00	Supper
6:30	Chapel
8:30	Evening Activity
10:30	Lights Out

Intermediate Island Camp would have a similar schedule geared more toward island life. They spend the entire week on Shamineau Island, so they do not have a chance to ride horses or other mainland activities.

Voyagers Typical Schedule

8:00am	Cabin Clean Up
8:30	Breakfast
9:00	Group Activity, Ballfield Games
11:00	Skills Classes
12:30pm	Lunch
1:00	Mail call, Announcements
2:00	Bible Exploration - Devotions with your cabin
3:30	Free Time - swimming, trail rides, zip line, paintball, beach activities, climbing wall, snack shop
5:30	Supper
6:30	Evening Activity
8:30	Chapel
10:30	Lights Out (some nights there is a late night activity)

Jr High Island Camp would have a similar schedule geared more toward island life. They spend the entire week on Shamineau Island, so they will not have a chance to ride horses or other mainland activities.

Cowpoke Camp Typical Schedule

7:00AM	Campers to Ranch to saddle horses
8:00	Breakfast
8:30	Cabin Clean Up
9:00-10:30	Ranch Time - Lessons, horse care, activities with the horses
11:00	Ball Field - Cabin does an event with another cabin
12:00 PM	Lunch
12:30	Memory Verse
1:00	Mail Call, Announcements
1:30	Rest Time
2:00	Free Time - waterfront, snack shop, open gym, zip line (trail ride one day during free time)
3:30	Bible Exploration - Devotions with your cabin
5:00	Supper
6:30	Chapel
8:30	Evening Activity (Outdoor Game) One of the nights will be a Ranch Hayride
10:30	Lights Out

Ranch Hand Typical Schedule

7:00am	Campers to Ranch to saddle horses
8:00	Cabin Clean Up
8:30	Breakfast
9:00	Ranch Time
12:00pm	Memory Verse
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Mail Call, Announcements
2:00	Bible Exploration - Devotions with your cabin
3:30	Ranch Time (some days this is free time for waterfront, snack shop, open gym, zip line.)
5:30	Supper
6:30	Evening Activity
8:30	Chapel
10:30	Lights Out

Ranch Campers will also participate in a Trail Ride one time during free time.

Cowboy Typical Schedule

7:00am	Campers to Ranch to saddle horses
8:00	Cabin Clean Up
8:30	Breakfast
9:00	Ranch Time
12:00pm	Memory Verse
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Mail Call, Announcements
2:00	Bible Exploration- Devotions with your cabin
2:30	Cowboy Ride (different cabin each day, ride goes until supper)
3:30	Free Time - waterfront, snack shop, open gym, zip line
5:30	Supper
6:30	Evening Activity
8:30	Chapel
10:30	Lights Out