

# **Camp Wesley Woods Summer 2023**



## **Big Sky Adventure- Parent Packet**

# Parent Information:

Thank you for registering your child for camp! Congratulations!

We know that sending your child to camp, especially on a trip, is a big deal for both you & your child.

Our goal is for your child to have an amazing experience on the trip while growing closer to God. Thank you for allowing us to partner with you as a part of your child's spiritual and personal development. Read on to find information like what to bring (or not), when to arrive, what to expect, and lots of other things you need to know.

This information is in addition to our 2023 CWW Guide for All Overnight Camps - If you don't find the answers to all your questions in these two documents, please call us at (865) 448-2246!

Ask for Patrice (Trip Leader) or Eva (Program Coordinator)

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## Dates: June 11-23

**Sunday, June 11:** Please Arrive at Camp (329 Wesley Woods Road, Townsend, TN) between 10:00 and 10:15 AM. You will be directed to Check In. We will check everyone in, make sure you have all necessary items, and immediately head out from camp on our adventure! We plan to depart camp by 11:00 AM this day. Please do not arrive before 10:00 AM as our staff will be making last minute preparations and unable to greet or check you into camp.

**Friday, June 23:** We will be flying into the McGhee Tyson Airport in Knoxville, TN where we will end our adventure. When we get closer to June, we will send out the flight time information so you can track the flight and greet your camper at the airport. Staff will be on-hand to check your child out of camp at this location. We expect the flight will land sometime between 5:00 - 11:30 PM on June 23, but this will not be confirmed until a later date.

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## What if I need to contact the staff?

You can always contact the camp office or the staff leading the trip.

Someone will get back to you ASAP.

Lead Staff on the Trip: Patrice Lea Personal Cell Phone: 1-865-469-9371

Camp Office Number: Elizabeth, Office Manager: 1-865-448-2246

After Hours Emergency: Tony Lea, Camp Director Personal Cell Phone: 1-757-585-1929

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## A special note on waivers:

We will be using vendors to provide some activities while on the trip. These vendors include: horseback riding, rafting, caving, and gondola rides. We have vetted these vendors, done appropriate checks of certifications and insurance as outlined by the American Camping Association and our insurance company. We will be emailing waivers from these companies to fill out on your child's behalf in the month leading up to the trip. Please call us with any questions.



# Itinerary:

<i>Day</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>What are We doing?</i>
1	CWW to Mid-Missouri	Big Travel Day. Bring snacks, entertainment, & fun attitude as we get to know each other and pass by iconic locations like Gateway Arch NP!
2	Iowa, Ponca State Park, Nebraska	Pass through several states on our way to the Nebraska/South Dakota border. Tour the iconic Ponca State Park on the Missouri River.
3	Ponca SP to Badlands NP	Arrive at Badlands National Park in South Dakota! Hopefully, we will catch the sunset at this beautiful location!
4	Badlands NP	Explore the Badlands! Cross to the southern side of the park and set up our first campsite!
5	Badlands NP	Spend a full day immersing in this amazing national park.
6	Wind Cave NP, Mount Rushmore, Rapid City	Pack up our campsite, tour Wind Cave National Park, visit Mount Rushmore National Monument, and spend the night in iconic Rapid City!
7	Rapid City to Devils Tower to Cody	Travel to historic Cody, Wyoming with a stop at Devils Tower on the way!
8	Cody, WY and Yellowstone NP	Spend the day horseback riding and exploring iconic Yellowstone National Park.
9	Yellowstone NP	Driving through and touring Yellowstone one more day!
10	Grand Teton NP	Swim / Hiking day in the Grand Tetons National Park!
11	Grand Teton NP	A day on the water! We will spend most of the day on the Snake River. We have two different guided rafting tours.
12	Jackson Hole	A day for souvenirs in Jackson Hole and a Gondola Ride into the mountains.
13	CWW	Fly Home. Pickup is at the airport.

# Packing List:

Please bring clothes that you do not mind your camper getting a little dirty while having a great time! We will be flying home. **Everything you want to fly home must fit in one standard checked bag and one under-the-seat backpack.** The camp van will be driving home - if you'd like to pick up bulky items like a sleeping bag or sleeping pad at a later date at camp, we will happily arrange this for you. **All items are REQUIRED unless noted otherwise.** Please call Camp if you would like help packing.

## Clothing

- T-Shirts (1 per day)
- Shorts (1 for every 2 days)
- Long Pants (at least 2)
- Sleepwear (t-shirt/shorts are standard)
- Swimsuit (2min, 1 pc or tankini, bikinis are not appropriate for this trip)
- Rain Jacket
- Sweatshirt/Fleece/Jacket
- Underwear/Socks
- Bag 4 dirty clothes (pillow case works)
- Water shoes that capture the heel - (old sneakers or chacos work)
- Hiking Boots / Hiking Shoes
- Sturdy Closed-Toe Shoes
- Shower Shoes (i.e. flip flops)
- Hat for the sun

## Toiletries

- **Deodorant - Required**
- Soap, Shampoo, (Conditioner?)
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Hairbrush/ comb/ hair bands
- Spray Sunscreen - lots please
- "Face Stick" Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent - Optional
- Other toiletries for shaving, dry shampoo, skin care, etc... are optional
- Toiletries Carrying Case
- Towels (1 for shower, 1 for swimming)

## Camping Gear

- Pillow for sleeping/Traveling (optional)
- Sleeping Bag rated to 30F. There could be nights as low as freezing
- Sleeping pad - let us know if you need one we have a limited supply
- Sleeping Bag Liner if you tend to be cold sleeping - Optional
- Fitted sheet to put over your sleeping pad - Optional but strongly recommended
- Mess Kit (bowl, plate, spork)
- Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries- having both is preferred

## Other Items

- Day pack/backpack (for use daily in van, hiking & in-flight bag - must fit under seat)
- Bible/Journal/Pen - required
- Sunglasses - Optional but recommended
- Water Bottle x 2 - **Required**
- Entertainment for van rides: Book, ipod, gameboy, switch, cards, etc. - Optional
- Headphones for the van - Optional
- Cell Phone / Camera - Optional
- Cell Phone power bank charger - Required if you bring electronics
- Snacks to share - Optional

## **Packing List Common Questions / Clarifications for the Big Sky Trip:**

### **Clothing**

- T-Shirts - we will provide 3 t-shirts for your campers to wear when we are out in public or working with a vendor to assist in quick identification and to keep our group together.
- Anything your child forgets to pack, and ends up needing on the trip, we will arrange to have the items purchased and charged to their spending money
- Shoes: here is what Patrice is bringing to help narrow this down for you - I will bring: sneaker type water shoes, hiking boots, a study, casual pair sneakers and my chacos for showering/hanging around the campsite. I might throw a pair of flipflops into my shower bag so my chacos can stay dry. So that's 4 or 5 pairs of footwear, which is appropriate for this type of trip. (but can seem like a lot)

### **Toiletries**

- A quick note about Deodorant - if your child does not use deodorant at this time, we suggest considering having a discussion pre-trip with them. We will be participating in strenuous activities, sweating and then riding in a van together daily for 2 weeks. We want to protect your child from any awkward and / or smelly social situations.
- Anything your child forgets to pack, and ends up needing on the trip, we will arrange to have the items purchased and charged to their spending money
- Sunblock - please include plenty of sunblock. Being outside everyday - your child will need several bottles.
- Toiletries Carrying Case - Patrice uses a waterproof reusable shopping bag.

- Towels - Patrice likes the packable, quick-dry type, the lighter the better. Large, bulky cotton towels are hard to pack and never dry once wet. Avoid these.

### **Camping Gear**

- Pillow for sleeping/Traveling (optional)- Patrice likes a packable pillow that's about half the size of a regular pillow - but a lot of people like regular pillows.
- Sleeping Bag rated to 30F. Please take bag ratings seriously. If you are not sure, please call Patrice and clarify.
- Mess Kit (bowl, plate, spork) - Most of the campers in the past, and the staff, use UCO Mess Kits - easy to find of Amazon

### **Other Notes:**

- Cell Phone power bank charger - You will need to charge your other devices with this power bank. Some campgrounds do not have power - so you won't be able to charge this everyday - make sure you have enough power for your devices. - **Required Item**
- As we are representing CWW out in the world, we ask that our campers do not have in their possession, or wear clothing that advertises the following: tobacco, alcohol, drugs, fireworks, firearms, weapons, or anti-christian sentiments.
- We ask that campers wear modest clothes for the sensitivity of the group. We ask that underwear stay safely concealed under the clothes you wear. (so we shouldn't see bra straps or underpants, or places underclothes usually cover)



# Parent Information:

## **Reverse Homesickness: S.A.D. Parents: A Special Note for Trips**

The reality of camp is that your child will be busy and engaged while at camp & may “forget” to call or send you pictures. Some campers on trips feel awkward calling parents in the near vicinity of other campers or staff. We do our best to find a place & time that everyone can space out a bit to make private calls. This is typically around dinner time at our campsites. We do our best to make time and space and ask that every camper contact home daily & send lots of photos home. They will have their phones & most days there will be places where we have reliable signal. Hopefully, this will help to alleviate the feeling of being a S.A.D parent. If you still feel concerned feel free to call the trip leader or camp.

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## **Healthcare at Camp: A Special Note for Trips**

A camper health assessment is part of the check-in procedure. All medications will be received and logged by a camp personnel during check-in. On our trip your campers medication will be locked in a locked box and administered by the staff at the appropriate time. Dispensing of prescribed medication, basic first aid, and health monitoring are provided while at camp and offsite. The leaders of the trip are trained in CPR and First Aid. You will be notified if your camper vomits, has a persistent condition such as a headache, nosebleed, fever, homesickness, or needs to be taken to the doctor or emergency room.

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## **Cell Phones: A Special Note for Trips**

We will be traveling across the country, and we understand that being able to communicate with your campers is important. With your permission, your camper will be able to bring their cell phone on the trip. There will be times when there is limited cell phone service available, but we will work to have an opportunity to contact home each day. Please make sure you have a plan that covers the areas we will be visiting. Please note that many of the parks we will visit will not have cell service, so there will be times we are out-of-contact.

NEW for 2023: We would like your child to be able to contact you, take photos and possibly use parent approved entertainment on their phones at any appropriate time. There will be times that we ask all campers to put their phones away, just like at school, church or sports, but we will not collect personal cell phones unless there is a specific reason. We do ask that parents work with our staff in the case that a cell phone is impeding your child, or another child on the trip, from maximizing their experience at camp.

We do recommend our campers bring cell phones, but this is not a requirement. If they do not bring a phone, they will still be able to contact home each day. If your camper does bring their phone, CWW is not responsible for the cell phone while we are on the trip.

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Thank you for choosing to partner with us and send your camper to camp. We are excited about the incredible adventure we will be going on and growing in our faith along the way. If you have any questions, please reach out to us! We can't wait for this summer.

Email: [patrice@campwesleywoods.com](mailto:patrice@campwesleywoods.com)

Phone: 865-448-2246