

Emergency FAQ's
Rocky River Ranch, October 2025

Where are your cabins located in relation to the Blanco River? Are any of your cabins in a floodplain?

All of our cabins are outside of the floodplain, based on updated [FEMA maps](#). Two cabins, Bar K and Circle B, sit on a bluff above the river. None of our cabins have ever had floodwaters reach them. Even during the historic 2015 Memorial Day flood in Wimberley, these cabins remained well above the water. The cabin closest to the river was 40 feet above the floodwaters. The other four cabins are not located near the river or a floodplain. If you have never been to Rocky River, we encourage you to sign up for a tour and see the layout for yourself.

Will you be complying with the new Camp Safety Act, and what does that mean?

Yes, we will fully comply with the new laws and support every effort to make camps safer. After the fatal flash flood in July 2025, the Texas Legislature passed a package of three bills—collectively known as the Texas Camp Safety Act—to establish new safety requirements for youth camps and campgrounds. The bills were signed into law by Governor Greg Abbott in September 2025 and will take effect in early 2026.

The new laws include, among many things, a requirement that camps have their Emergency Plans approved by the state and provide access to these plans to camp families as part of the licensing process. We anticipate publishing our Emergency Plans in mid-April, once they are approved by the state. Reading through those plans will likely answer many of your specific questions.

How do you monitor weather and water levels? Under what circumstances would you evacuate the campers, and where would you evacuate to?

We are registered with Hays County and receive weather alerts specific to our area through [Warn Central Texas](#). We also monitor river levels at multiple locations upstream on the Blanco River using [USGS sites](#), and we receive automatic alerts when levels change.

In addition, we are located just five minutes from downtown Wimberley and maintain close relationships with our local EMS, fire station, and sheriff's office. They know we have campers onsite and communicate with us directly when concerns arise.

The way our camp is laid out, we never need to cross the river when evacuating our cabins. We can move quickly to higher ground from any point on camp. If needed we would relocate to the 49er (our main meeting building in the center of camp) or to other cabins further away from the river. We monitor the weather very closely and if evacuation

Emergency FAQ's
Rocky River Ranch, October 2025

is necessary the staff are trained to do so thoughtfully, efficiently and before the weather is extreme. For example, if there are high winds or a severe thunderstorm, we could move the girls sleeping in the wagons to the 49er. Or if the river were on a rise, we could move the girls from Bar K and Circle B to the 49er. If you have spent time on the campsite, you can visualize how this could be done quickly and easily if needed. More specifics will be outlined in our Emergency Plans, which we will send once approved by the state.

Will a flood expert evaluate the camp before next season?

We plan to use all resources available as we review our current Emergency Action Plans and prepare for Summer 2026. As long-time members of, and accredited by, the [American Camp Association](#), Rocky River has always been committed to following best practices and going above and beyond to keep campers safe.

Do you have Emergency Action Plans for events other than weather, and how do you train your staff to follow these procedures?

Yes. The ACA requires that we have plans in place for a wide variety of situations: weather events such as floods, thunderstorms, and tornadoes; fires; intruders; accidents and serious injuries; illness and outbreaks; and more.

We do extensive training with our staff on following written emergency action procedures that are included in the staff notebook and rehearsed during our in person training sessions. They learn their roles in each of these scenarios including using walkie talkies, moving groups to safe locations, and responding appropriately to different emergencies.

Can you guarantee my camper will be safe if we choose to send them to your camp?

While there are inherent risks in any camp experience, our goal is to provide a safe camp experience and to give you enough information to weigh those risks against the many benefits of camp. Ultimately, the choice is yours, and we want you to feel confident, informed, and supported in making it. Our campsite is open for tours, and we encourage you to reach out to the camp directors anytime with specific questions.