

Welcome to Family Camp



Friday, Sept 13th- Sunday, Sept 15th
Camp Twin Lakes- Winder, GA

On behalf of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, our staff, and our volunteers, welcome to Thal Pals family camp! We are so excited for your family to join us for a fun and memorable weekend experience. We hope that you'll enjoy the time with your family, meet new friends, and take advantage of all our camp adventures! Please take the time to read through this packet carefully, as it contains very important information you and your family will need in order to prepare for camp!

After reading through this packet, if you have any questions that were not addressed, feel free to contact Camp Director, Anna Steers, at anna.steers@choa.org or 404-785-0631.

We are looking forward to an amazing weekend with you and your family!

Weekend Information

What activities will be available to my family?

Thal Pals Family Camp will offer a fun-filled, family-oriented schedule. We will have a weekend packed with both drop-in activities and special programs so your family can have fun on YOUR timeline! Activities may include boating, fishing, archery, horseback riding, the climbing wall, and more! At check in, you'll receive a full schedule that outlines all the opportunities available to you for the weekend, so you don't miss a thing.

Where and what will we be eating?

All meals are served out of our dining hall. Mealtimes will be outlined on our camp schedule. There will be several options at each meal, so every family member is sure to find something they'll enjoy. The dining hall staff is trained in accommodating for allergies and dietary restrictions, so please let us know if a member of your family has a concern that was not listed on your application. Snacks will be available at all times during the weekend.

What We Need to Know Before Camp

Does anybody in your group have a birthday while at camp?

If so, contact the Camp Director, Anna Steers at 404-785-0631 or e-mail anna.steers@choa.org before camp. We can provide a treat to celebrate if we know before camp begins!

Does anyone in your family have any special dietary needs, such as vegetarian or gluten-free?

These should have been included in your application but let us know of **any changes** since you applied. If we know ahead of time, we can cater to these needs.

Is there a change in the number of participants attending camp?

Housing assignments are made based on the number of applicants that was registered for. If this number changes, please let the camp director know before arriving to camp. Please limit family members to only those who reside in the household with the camper.

Thal Pals Family Camp Goals

During this weekend we want to...

- Provide a fun, educational, and activity centered experience to help promote unity within the family.
- Facilitate networking opportunities between families.
- Build a social network to help campers with developing their social skills.
- Develop more self-confidence and have better self-esteem.
- Have fun, safe and exciting camping adventures!

Your Family's Medical Needs

Medication:

- Family members will be responsible for keeping and dispensing their own medications.
- All parents or guardians will be responsible for providing their child's medications.
- Supply any medications that your family may need at camp.
- There will be a physician or nurse on staff for emergency cases only.
- If you have a medication that needs to be refrigerated, please let us know at check-in.

Other Medical Needs:

- If someone in your group has a wheelchair or other assistive device, please bring it to camp, even if they do not use it regularly. People may be more tired than usual due to activities and may need a break.
- Bring all assistive devices your camper may need while at camp.

Contacting Camp

BEFORE CAMP:

Contact Anna Steers, Camp Director, at 404-785-0631 or anna.steers@choa.org if you have any questions or concerns prior to camp.

DURING CAMP:

Call 404-805-3943 (Director's Cell Phone) or 770-867-6123 (Camp Twin Lakes Office). You may leave a voicemail and your call will be returned as soon as possible. Please only use this number in the case of emergencies or if you are late.

Packing List

- **CLOTHING**
 - Closed-toe shoes, such as sneakers
 - Shower shoes, such as flip flops
 - Pajamas
 - Rain Jacket and sweatshirt
 - Shirt for each day, plus 1 extra
 - Pair of shorts for each day, plus 1 extra
 - Pair of long pants (required for horseback)
 - Socks for each day, plus 1 extra
 - Pair of underwear for each day, plus 1 extra
 - Swimsuit
- **BEDDING/LINEN**
 - Beach towels
 - Laundry Bag or garbage bag for dirty clothing
 - Pillow and pillow case
 - Sleeping bag or set of twin sheets (top and bottom) with a blanket for each member
 - There is one double bed on each side of the cabin. You may also want to pack a pair of double bed sheets.
 - Bath towels and washcloths
- **TOILETRIES**
 - Brush or Comb
 - Shampoo & Conditioner
 - Body Soap
 - Deodorant
 - Toothpaste & toothbrush
- **MISCILLANEOUS**
 - Bug spray
 - Sunscreen
 - Flashlight
 - Water Bottle
 - Medications
 - Any items your camper likes to have with them (book, fidget toys, headphones, etc.).

Please do not bring clothing with objectionable or offensive messages, weapons (including pocketknives), and/or matches. Please note that cabins do not lock, and while camp is a safe place, we recommend leaving valuables at home.

Arrival and Departure

Arriving at camp

Families are welcome to arrive at camp between 4:00pm-8:00pm on Friday, September 13th. Please do not arrive an earlier than 4pm as we will be busy making our last-minute preparations for the week. If you will be arriving after 8:00 p.m., please let us know so we can be expecting you. See directions to Camp Twin Lakes-Will-A-Way below.

Departing from camp

Camp will wrap up around 2pm on Sunday. Families can leave earlier if needed. We will ask for your help with some quick tidying of your cabin before you leave (gathering trash, returning borrowed items, etc.)

Driving Directions

**Camp Twin Lakes, Will-A-Way
210 S. Broad Street
Winder, GA 30680**

If you are using a GPS- Try using Fort Yargo State Park as your destination. There are multiple Camp Twin Lakes Locations-make sure you are going to the **Winder location*

From Atlanta (approx. one hour)

- Take I-85 North to exit #106: Hwy 316 East toward Athens/Lawrenceville.
- Travel 21 miles and Travel 21 miles take the exit for GA-81 (new exit on the right).
- Travel 3.1 miles and the entrance to Fort Yargo State Park will be on the right.
- Once through the main gate, take the first left at the guard station.
- Then take the first right onto Will-A-Way Road which will lead you into Camp Will-A-Way and parking.

From Athens (approx. 30 minutes)

- Take Epps Bridge Parkway to GA-316 W/US-29 N.
- Travel 9.3 miles and turn right onto Hog Mountain Road/US-29/GA-53.
- Travel 4.6 miles and turn left on S. Broad Street/GA-81.
- Travel 0.6 miles and the entrance to Fort Yargo State Park will be on the left.
- Once through the main gate, take the first left at the guard station. Then take the first right onto Will-A-Way Road which will lead you into Camp Will-A-Way and parking.