

Camp Mary Orton
Discovery Day Camp
Parent Information
(Ver 1.9)
Rev. 01/15/2026



Welcome to Discovery Day Camp

Discovery Day Camp offers a fun, structured outdoor experience where campers explore nature, build friendships, and try new activities in a safe and supportive environment. Our goal is to create a positive summer experience that includes swimming, hiking, character development, career exploration, creeking, crafts, and nature experiences. On Fridays, your campers will also have the chance to enjoy our Ravine Crossing Zipline, weather dependent.

Schedule

Drop-off is at 8:30 AM & Pick-up is at 3:30 PM

Our approximate daily schedule:

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Group Game
- 9:00 – 10:00 AM Activity 1
- 10:00 AM Snack
- 10:15 – 11:15 AM Activity 2
- 11:30 – 12:00 PM Lunch
- 12:00 – 1:00 PM Swimming
- 1:00 – 2:00 PM Activity 3
- 2:00 PM Snack
- 2:00 – 3:00 PM Activity 4
- 3:00 – 3:30 PM Closing Activity

Weeks of Operation

Week 1	June 15 – 18, 2026 – (Closed Friday, June 19th)
Week 2	June 22 – June 26, 2026
Week 3	June 29 – July 2, 2026 – (Closed Friday, July 3rd)
Week 4	July 6 – July 10, 2026
Week 5	July 13 – July 17, 2026
Week 6	July 20 – July 24, 2026
Week 7	July 27 – July 31, 2026
Week 8	Aug 3 – Aug. 7, 2026

What To Bring

- Reusable/refillable water bottle
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Swim gear, goggles & towel
- Flexible, comfortable footwear. They must be closed-toed, no Crocs. Tennis shoes/sneakers are preferred.
- Casual, layered clothing appropriate for the weather. Jacket or rain gear when necessary.
- Face mask (if desired)

What to Leave at Home

- Cell phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices
- Soda, juice, gum, candy
- Pocket or camping knives (or other weapons)
- Flip-flops, Chacos (or other open-toe shoes), Crocs
- Anything you are not willing to see get dirty / damaged such as shoes, clothes, personal belongings

“Leave at home” items that make it to camp will be secured and held until the end of the day, no exceptions. Godman Guild and Camp Mary Orton are NOT responsible for reimbursement or replacement of personal property that is brought to CMO.

Lunch and Snacks

Camp will provide all campers with lunch supplied by Blue Bow Tie catering. Campers will also be provided with a morning and afternoon snack. If your camper generally has more than one snack in the morning or afternoon, additional snacks will need to be supplied from home.

Discovery Day Camp curb-side drop-off & pick-up

Discovery Day Camp drop-off, and pickup will occur in the main Camp Mary Orton lot. We will have signs and staff in place to help you get to this location and traffic cones for car lines.

Discovery Day Camp will begin signing campers in at 8:30 am and out at 3:30 pm. Our staff begins each day with a team meeting and are not available for earlier drop off. If you have a sibling at Adventure Academy Camp, please drop off/pickup your Discovery Day Camp Camper in the right most lane and remain there until the Adventure Academy carline begins (9:00 am / 4:00 pm). Adventure Academy Campers will need to stay with you until their camp begins so we recommend arriving closer to the end of the Discovery Day Camp carline periods.

During drop-off and pick-up, *please stay inside your vehicle*. CMO staff will meet you at your vehicle to check your camper in or out for the day. *For everyone's safety, campers should not exit or enter their vehicle until they are directed by CMO staff to do so.*

At pick-up, staff will ask for a valid ID to check if the individual is on the authorized pick-up list. **EITHER A PARENT OR AN AUTHORIZED ADULT LISTED IN ULTRACAMP MUST SIGN EACH CAMPER OUT EACH DAY!** We will only release a camper to someone listed on your pick-up form. An attempted pick-up by an individual not listed will result in a member of the camp leadership team calling the primary or secondary phone number on file for confirmation. If you are not picking up your camper, please have your phone on and accessible in case of a call.

Frequently Asked Camp Questions

My camper has special dietary needs; how do you accommodate them?

Campers are served lunch and snacks daily. If your child has any special dietary needs (allergies or restrictions), please include that when you register through Ultracamp (our camper registration program). We work to provide suitable substitutions for allergies, dairy or gluten sensitivity, vegetarian, vegan, and other dietary restrictions. There are limitations to what we can offer, and campers may not like the options provided, so please consult program staff if you have questions.

I am running late for pick-up. What should I do?

We ask that you honor the scheduled times of 8:30 AM and 3:30 PM as closely as possible. We recognize that work and traffic can affect everyone's best efforts to be on time, so we have built a 15-minute grace period into the end of our daily schedule for late pickups. If you are running late, please call the Camp Mary Orton Summer Camp phone number listed at the end of this handbook.

After the 15-minute grace period, a \$15.00 fee will be charged every 15 minutes, or portion thereof, that your camper remains at camp. This fee will be applied to your UltraCamp account and automatically charged to any payment method on file.

Are campers outside all day? What about water breaks, sunscreen, or heat index?

YES! Your child will spend the entire day outside unless the weather is severe. On hotter days, we use our natural shade, take plenty of water breaks, and maybe even throw in some water games. We will remind campers to fill water bottles and apply sunscreen regularly. We ask that campers can apply their own sunscreen. Spray sunscreen is the best for camp! When Mother Nature provides us with some rain, or what we call "liquid sunshine," our camp day proceeds as usual. Please pack rain gear!

All campers are moved to covered or indoor areas when there are thunder and lightning. In the summer, these occurrences are usually brief, but if campers spend a prolonged period indoors, we will provide alternative indoor games and activities if the weather is severe enough to move the entire camp indoors.

Camp Mary Orton Day Camps are outdoor camp programs, so all our activities are weather-dependent. We do our best to flex activities around thunder and lightning, but we can't guarantee that we will fit in every scheduled activity in the event of a thunderstorm.

My camper isn't a strong swimmer. How deep is your pool & do you have Lifeguards?

Our pool is 3.5' to 7.5' deep. Campers must pass a swimming test to swim in the pool's deep end. We have two (2) or more guards on duty during swim time along with our counselors. Campers will swim daily (except Adventure Academy on Friday), so please pack a bathing suit, goggles, and towel.

My camper has friends also coming to camp. Can I request they are in the same group?

We no longer accept friend requests for camp placement. Campers are grouped intentionally by age, developmental level, and staffing ratios to support safety, inclusion, and positive group dynamics. This approach helps campers: meet new friends, build social skills, and have a more inclusive camp experience. Our staff are trained to support campers socially and help them adjust.

CMO Policies

Late Drop-off & Pick-up

Please honor the scheduled program times. For any camper not picked up by 3:45 pm for Discovery Day Camp and 4:15 pm for Adventure Academy (12:15 PM on Friday), a \$15.00 fee will be charged every 15 minutes or portion thereof that your camper remains at camp. This fee will be applied to your UltraCamp account and automatically charged to the payment method on file.

Refunds

Deposits are never refunded except when a program is canceled by Camp Mary Orton. Registration fees minus the deposit can be refunded when cancellation occurs at least 14 days prior to the start of your child's camp session. Participants assume risk and responsibility for changes in personal schedule or health.

Cancellations

To cancel registration, please contact the Enrollment Coordinator at 614.706.2233. You must speak with Camp Mary Orton administrative staff to cancel. A voicemail message will not be considered proper notification of cancellation for refund purposes. Please note that your \$75 deposit is non-refundable if you cancel your registration.

Changing Weeks

Because of the additional cost of processing a change request, a \$15 fee will be assessed for changing your campers' week once you have registered.

Forms

Camp Mary Orton uses UltraCamp to collect camp forms electronically, including waivers, pickup authorizations, and medical and emergency contact information.

Health forms are due no later than 14 days prior to the beginning of your camper's session. A late \$15 late fee will be charged to the payment method on file for forms not submitted by this point. Campers will not be permitted to be at camp with incomplete forms.

Communicable Disease Policy

Being outdoors in small groups, regular hand washing, sanitizing of surfaces, and ongoing health monitoring by camp staff are our primary defense against the spread of communicable diseases at camp. We ask that families do their part by keeping campers at home if they are showing signs of illness within a 24-hour period prior to coming to camp. Campers will be isolated, and parents will be notified to pick them up if they show signs of illness, such as:

- A temperature of at least 100.4 in combination with at least one other symptom of illness
- Diarrhea
- Severe coughing
- Difficulty breathing
- Evidence of untreated lice
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Vomiting more than one time or when accompanied by any other symptom of illness

If youth come to camp with symptoms of illness or a suspected contagious issue, they will be removed from their group, and parent/legal guardian will be called to pick them up from the program site and follow the above instructions regarding their care.

Confirmed contagious issue or illness (lice, pinkeye, COVID-19, chicken pox, etc.) may require a quarantine period and/or Doctor's note for proof of treatment before participants can return to program.

Asthma & Allergies

Camp Mary Orton takes place in an outdoor environment that contains many possible environmental triggers for a respiratory or allergic condition. If youth have asthma requiring a prescribed inhaler or an allergy requiring an EpiPen, these medications must be at the program site for youth to participate in program. Failure to provide doctor prescribed inhalers and/or EpiPens for your enrolled participant's access during program hours could result in your participant being asked to stay home until their medication is available at the program site.

Mandated Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

Godman Guild and Camp Mary Orton are mandated reporters under Ohio law. If there is concern of possible child abuse or neglect, we are required to notify Franklin County Children Services (FCCS). Our focus is always on keeping children safe and supported.

Removal from program

Godman Guild and Camp Mary Orton are committed to creating a safe, positive, and supportive environment for all campers. We never want to remove a camper from the program, and whenever possible, we will partner with families to address concerns through communication and corrective steps.

However, a camper may be removed from Camp Mary Orton programming if behavior becomes unsafe, disruptive, or prevents staff from maintaining a safe environment for all participants.

Reasons for removal may include (but are not limited to):

- Repeated failure to follow camp safety rules and expectations
- Disrespectful or non-compliant behavior toward staff
- Bullying, harassment, verbal threats, physical aggression, or violence toward self or others
- Ongoing behaviors that significantly disrupt the camp experience for others
- Leaving supervision or running away from staff or program areas
- Possession or use of tobacco (including vapes), alcohol, or illegal drugs
- Sexually inappropriate behavior or sexual harassment of campers or staff
- Possession of a weapon or threatening use of a weapon
- Threats of self-harm, self-harming behaviors, or suicidal ideation
- Parent/guardian or family representative displaying threatening or abusive behavior toward staff or participants

In Closing

It is important to us that your child has a safe, successful, and fun experience at summer camp. We are honored that you chose Camp Mary Orton to be part of your camper's summer.

If you have any questions or concerns after reviewing this Parent Handbook, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of our camp leadership team.

Thank you for choosing Camp Mary Orton—we can't wait for an amazing summer!

Important Contact Information

Registration	registration@campmaryorton.org
Brad Parker, Youth Camps Supervisor	bradley.parker@campmaryorton.org
Camp Mary Orton Summer Camp Phone Number (phone calls ONLY, no texts)	614-706-2233

The Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services (ODJFS) requires that registered day camps provide these numbers to families:

Franklin County Department of Health	614-525-3160
Franklin County Children's Services	614-229-7000

Camp Mary Orton Federal Tax ID# 31-437978