

Camp Westwind 2024 Mini Camp Handbook



Your Guide to a Safe
and Enjoyable
Experience at Westwind

We are excited to welcome you to Westwind this summer!

As you know, Westwind is a special place. Situated within the larger Cascade Head Biosphere Reserve, Westwind's 529 acres contain each iconic landscape of the Oregon Coast: headland meadows, dense Sitka Spruce and Hemlock rainforest, a dynamic estuary, and the unparalleled beach and rocky coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The Westwind Stewardship Group is charged with protecting Westwind's ecosystems and facilitating educational and inspirational experiences for children, families and private groups.

Stroll more than a mile of unspoiled ocean beach. Observe the abundant wildlife of the Salmon River estuary. Play in the sand. Explore deep rainforest ecosystems. Meander through upland meadows. Study marine life in coastal tide pools. Discover hidden lakes and babbling streams. This and more await you during a stay at Westwind.



About Westwind

Westwind is a 529-acre camp, farm, and wilderness area set in the middle of the Cascade Head UN Biosphere Reserve in Oregon. Owned and operated by the Westwind Stewardship Group, Westwind is home to Camp Westwind, Outdoor School, workshops, events, and volunteer programs.

Our Vision

Westwind will always welcome people to these wild shores and green hills to discover that caring for the land is caring for ourselves and our communities.

Our Mission

The Westwind Stewardship Group inspires people to be stewards of the environment and their communities by conserving Westwind's diverse ecosystems in perpetuity and fostering life-changing experiences for children, families, individuals, and groups.

General Information

Health Guidance

If your child is sick or presenting with any symptoms, please keep them home. We are happy to assist in rescheduling or refunding your reservation. Please consider testing your camper for Covid-19 before attending camp.

If a camper presents symptoms while at camp, they will be asked to test for Covid-19. If the test is positive, campers will be expected to return home. If the test is negative, they may remain at camp and continue to test and/or mask as needed.

For more information about our health policies, refer to our website or email us at info@westwind.org.

Important Information About Your Camper's Health History Form

All health history information is captured in our online registration system. We DO NOT REQUIRE ANY PAPER FORMS. If you registered for camp in the past, you merely need to verify the information is still up-to-date. While it is possible to skip the form and complete it at another time, we still require completion prior to your camper's session. This form is very important and ensures your camper is set up for a successful camp experience. Our online system will remind you automatically if you have any incomplete forms. If your camper arrives to camp with an incomplete form, they will be unable to participate in activities until their health history information is complete.

Please note that all this information is held with confidence and is shared only with the on-site medical volunteer, the Camp Director, and camp counselor as needed.

Transfers and Cancellations

We understand that plans change and you may have to cancel or transfer your reservation. If your camper is sick and cannot come to their session, we will provide a full refund, less the non-refundable deposit, with proof of a doctor's note or positive test. If Westwind has to cancel its programs, we will offer refunds or credit. Please review the complete policies at: <http://westwind.org/camps/general-information/>

Camp Payment

Camp Westwind offers flexible payment options. You may make payments in whatever fashion suits your budget be that weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. We do need to have camp paid for prior to attending. If you are in need of any financial assistance – even just partial fees – campership applications are available online.

Camp Store

We will have a limited selection of sweatshirts, t-shirts, and souvenirs such as hats, bandanas, sunglasses, etc. We recommend families pre-order on our website before coming to camp. To purchase items on site at our camp store, campers must have store money put in their account in advance. When you register for a summer session, you may include an amount that they are able to spend at the store. **Campers may not use cash during youth camps.**

To order from our online store, please visit: <http://otgpromoshop.com/westwind>

Mail

Campers love to receive mail, but before you drop that note or package in the mailbox please understand it often takes 4-5 days to reach camp. If you would like to send mail we encourage you to give it to the staff person checking campers in at the bus or Knight Park and we will make sure it gets to your camper. If you choose this option, please mark envelopes with a piece of paper with which day you would like it delivered (if you have a preference). Mail will be delivered at lunch on Thursday and Friday.

Please DO NOT send food of any kind to your camper – our furry critters can't keep their paws out of it and it will be confiscated until the end of the week. We also ask that you refrain from sending toys, small plastic items that may become microtrash, or glitter. These items are not aligned with the mission of the Westwind Stewardship Group and often lead to increased litter on our beautiful site. Mail containing these items will be withheld during the week and given to children on Friday

If mailing please include a return address.

Camp Westwind Session Name

Camper's Name

PO Box 408

Otis, Oregon 97368

We also offer an email service that you can pay for. One-way emails cost \$12 for the session and allow you to send emails to your camper that are delivered daily. You can add this to your camper's reservation online.

Bus and Transportation

We are happy to offer transportation in 2024. Buses are departing from the Multnomah Education Service District (MESD) located at:
11611 NE Ainsworth Cir, Portland, OR 97220

Please go to the back of the building and look for staff who will provide further instruction. To view check-in and check-out times for each schedule, please regard the schedule below.

Please indicate whether your camper will be arriving by bus or car. To do this, please follow these steps:

- Login to your UltraCamp account
- Click on "My Reservations"
- Select the applicable reservation
- Select "Edit" next to "Options"
- Choose the appropriate transportation option (bus or no bus)

At check-in for bus or car on the first day of camp, please find a staff member to check-in with and follow instructions.

The person who picks up your camper after camp **MUST** have a photo ID and be on the Authorized Pick- Up List. If you need to verify this list please email us at info@westwind.org.

Please verify you have your camper's bag as many bags look alike. We recommend labeling everything.

We highly recommend packing a lunch for your camper for the bus ride on Wednesday. Food is not provided on the bus for the ride to camp and the first meal children will be served is dinner at 6pm. Please plan accordingly for your camper.



Arrival and Departure

Bus Schedule

Check-in at MESD	July 31	11:30am	Pick-up at MESD	August 3	3:30pm
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Car Schedule

Check-in at Knight Park	July 31	1:30pm	Pick-up at Knight Park	August 3	11:30am
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Westwind uses Knight County Park and its boat ramp all summer long for dropping off and picking up campers. This is a public space and we ask that you help us keep it clean by using trash cans and limiting your stay. Please drive slowly and carefully on 3 Rocks Road. Westwind is one of many neighbors, and we want to keep our neighborhood safe for everyone.

Emergency Contact

In the case of an emergency please call the camp office at **541.994.2383**. We are also available by email. Should there be any incident or major injury at camp, parents/guardians will be contacted. Please ensure all camper emergency contact information is up-to-date in your UltraCamp account.



Packing List & Tips

Clothing

- Jeans, pants or sweatpants (1-2 pair)
- Shorts (1-2 pair)
- T-shirts, long sleeved shirts
- Sweatshirts, warm sweater
- Warm jacket
- Underwear
- Socks
- Pajamas
- Waterproof rain gear (jacket/poncho)
- Swimsuit
- A set of shorts, t-shirt, shoes that can get really muddy - "mud mucking clothes"
- Sturdy shoes or boots for hiking
- Sturdy shoes for sand & water (flip flops are not recommended)

Sleeping

- Warm sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Twin sheet to cover mattress (optional, but recommended)
- Extra blanket for warmth

Toiletries

- Bath towel
- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Soap
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Comb/brush
- Sunscreen-VERY IMPORTANT
- Insect repellent
- Medications (in original containers, marked, with instructions - must be turned in at Check In)

Other

- Water bottle
- Flashlight/Headlamp and extra batteries
- Hat for the sun
- Camera

Lost and Found!

Email info@westwind.org to schedule a time to find your belongings. We will open our office in September for you to retrieve your lost and found if you do not contact us during the summer.

Packing Tips

- Please label ALL belongings with your camper's full name - this helps facilitate the lost & found process.
- Please pack with your camper to familiarize themselves with the items that they will be responsible for bringing home
- Pack items in bags you can easily carry up a steep, sandy hill. Wheeled bags are not recommended.
- Remember coastal weather- it is typically 10+ degrees cooler than Portland. Please pack accordingly.

A Note about Personal Care Products

Westwind is on a septic system and we need your help to keep it running properly. Please DO NOT use antibacterial soaps (the septic system relies on healthy bacteria to run properly), body washes, and other products high in fats and proteins. There are biodegradable, castile, and other environmentally-friendly products available at most grocery stores.

Please DO NOT bring these items to camp:

- Electronics other than cameras (phones, tablets, music devices, etc.)
- Weapons
- Any illegal substance - including vapes
- Pets
- Food (other than meals for the bus)

*Devices brought to camp or on the bus for entertainment will be checked in on the first day and checked out on the last.

Westwind is not responsible for items that are lost, stolen or damaged. Do not bring items that cannot be easily replaced or that you consider to be expensive.

