



Bethelwoods

CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER

Explorer Camper
Handbook

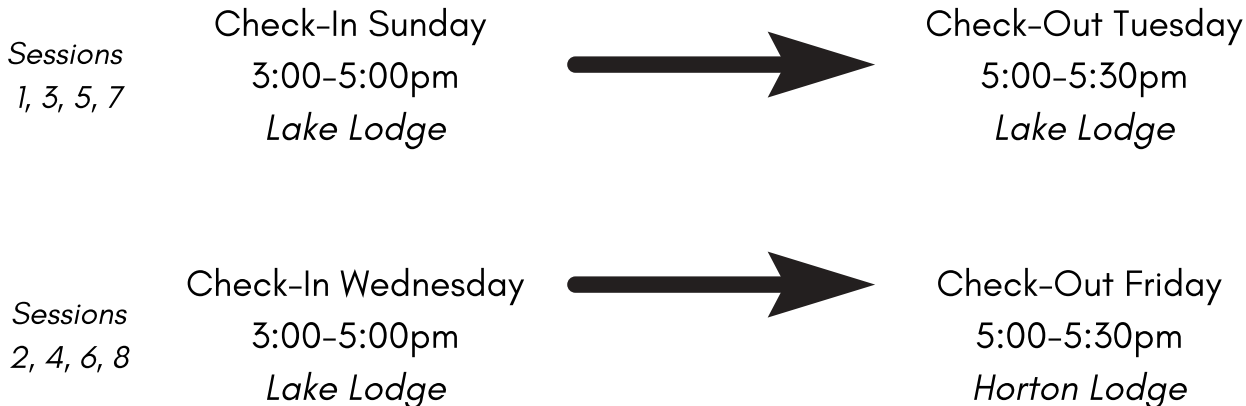
PACKING LIST

- Long Pants/Shorts
- Swim Suit
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Socks
- Undergarments
- Shirts
- Sleepwear
- Rain Jacket/Poncho
- Hat
- Bath Towel/Washcloth
- Beach Towel
- Toiletries
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- Dirty Clothes Bag
- Pillow/Pillowcase
- Bedding (Twin XL) OR Sleeping Bag
- Water Bottle
- Bible
- Flashlight
- Small Bag/Backpack
- Medication
- Writing Materials
- Books/Coloring Items

Bethelwoods does NOT allow the following items:

- Portable Electronic Devices (Kindle, Nook, iPad, Switch)
- Cell Phones
- Alcohol
- Illicit Drugs
- Weapons/Knives
- Fireworks
- Pets
- Cash
- Jewelry/Other Valuables

CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT



During Check-In, we'll check camp store deposits, have everyone review medical forms with the Camp Nurse, and then meet the counselors! Campers leave their luggage at Lake Lodge and will have assistance transporting them to the cabins later in the evening.

Check-Out occurs at either Lake Lodge (Tuesday) or Horton (Friday). Campers will pick up their luggage, any medications, and leftover camp store money at this time. We will check photo identification at check-out and match to the approved list created during registration.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND POLICIES

- How can I **communicate** with my camper? Campers can receive snail mail at our address (922 W Mt Gallant Rd, York, SC, 29745) or e-mails at campermail@bethelwoods.org. Visitors during camp session are highly discouraged, as this interrupts the development and group formation that's core to the camp experience.
- What are the **behavioral expectations** of campers? Campers are part of "family groups" based on their age/camp they registered for. These groups do all activities together, from meals to worship to canoes. Counselors rely on positive encouragement as a first tool, to encourage the camper to join in the group. Examples of further discipline could be some time out from a given activity to cool down, or a processing conversation with a member of leadership staff. Repeated behavior will result in calls home and possible dismissal from camp for the remainder of the session. Bullying, in any form, will result in immediate contact to parent or guardian and possible dismissal from the session. Physical violence (throwing, hitting, etc.) will likewise be grounds for immediate parent or guardian contact and dismissal for the remainder of the session.
- What can my camper get from the **camp store**? Every camper receives a t-shirt with the cost of registration to camp. Explorer campers usually visit the store once, to purchase snacks, water bottles, decals, or apparel. We put a \$20 maximum that can be loaded either online or check-in. Our Camp Store does not accept cash from campers.
- What if my camper takes **medication**? We have a Camp Nurse who is present at Check-In and each day at camp. All medication must be given to the Camp Nurse, who will oversee and ensure its proper administration. In addition, each counselor is First Aid/CPR certified.
- What training does the **summer staff** receive? Our counselors undergo two weeks of intensive training. We have a number of experts who cover topics from Child Development to Bible Study (and Archery, Canoeing, Arts & Crafts...) We stand by our extensive training program, which is among the longest and in-depth you'll find anywhere.
- What sort of **food** is served at camp? Our kitchen provides child-friendly meals with plenty of nutritious options. We do know how to cater to picky eaters! We are able to meet most dietary needs (i.e. Vegetarian or Gluten-Free) and review Health Forms to ensure we're aware of any allergies.
- How does your camp deal with **homesickness**? Our staff are trained to recognize the signs and process of homesickness. Studies show that the vast majority of campers experience these moments (regardless of age). The counselor's role is to support the camper through this journey with compassion and encouragement. We may ask what rituals happen at home during meal or bedtimes to help the camper feel at home. We may offer them a stuffed animal to take care of. Every child is unique.

**MORE QUESTIONS?
WE'VE GOT ANSWERS!**

1. Check out the website:

<https://www.bethelwoods.org/explorers.html>

2. E-mail Cameron Pruette, Program Coordinator:

cameron@bethelwoods.org

3. Call the Office:

(803) 366-3722

4. Follow/Message us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BethelwoodsSummerCamp

5. Follow us on Instagram:

@bethelwoodscamp

6. Read the latest news on the Camp Blog:

<https://www.bethelwoods.org/camp-blog>