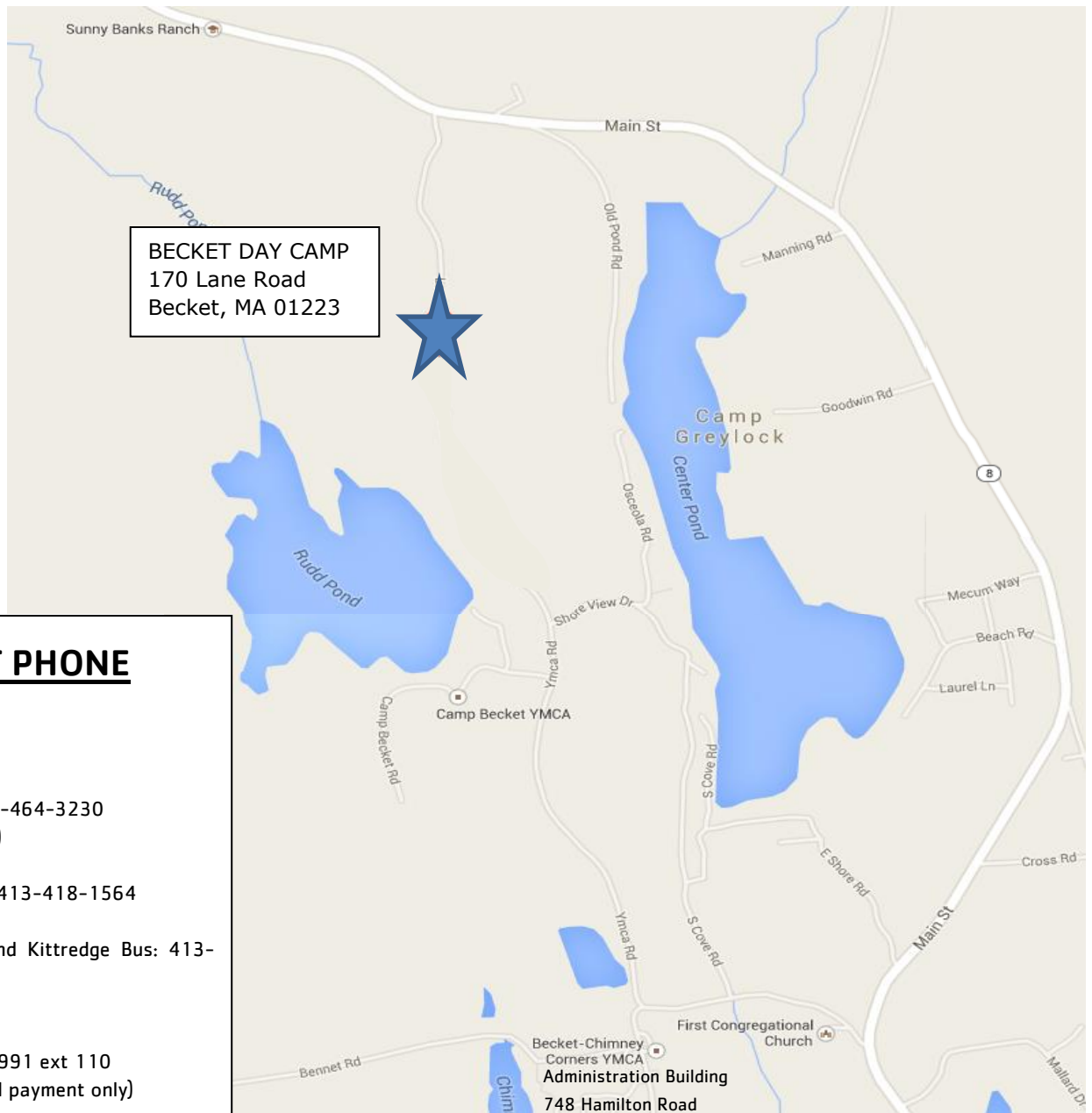




**BECKET-CHIMNEY CORNERS YMCA**

*Becket Day Camp*

# PARENT GUIDE 2016



## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

### **After June 13th:**

Becket Day Camp: 413-464-3230  
(Director's Cell Phone)

Morris, Lee, Otis Bus: 413-418-1564

Williams, Craneville and Kittredge Bus: 413-418-1631

### **Year round:**

Registrar: 413-623-8991 ext 110  
(registration and payment only)



**Becket Day Camp**  
**Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA**  
748 Hamilton Road, Becket, MA 01223  
P 413-623-8991 F 413-623-5890 bccymca.org

## BECKET DAY CAMP HAS A NEW DIRECTOR!

Aimee Coburn will be joining Becket Day Camp this summer as our new Director. Aimee graduated from the University of Vermont in 2013 with a degree in Community and International Development. Since then, she has pursued her love for travel and adventure by backpacking around southern Africa, Nepal and India. In between her travels, she has worked for various outdoor education companies in the US and abroad. Most recently, she lived and worked in Australia for a year, taking groups of kids backpacking, canoeing and exploring down under. She first worked as an instructor for the Berkshire Outdoor Center in the fall of 2014. What makes Aimee excited about working with youth outside is seeing them discover new things about themselves, learn to work and play with others in an outdoor setting and interact with nature in one of the most beautiful parts of New England. When not at work, Aimee enjoys hiking with friends, downhill skiing, and travelling to new parts of the world. She is looking forward to spending a summer in the Berkshires with you!

## PROGRAM GOALS

Becket Day Camp encourages children to grow socially, physically and intellectually. Our programs are 'camper-centered' and focus on the small group interactions that occur as counselors and campers work together to plan and participate in fun activities. The emphasis at Becket Day Camp is on having fun in a safe environment. It's not a competitive place; it's just good old-fashioned summer fun for kids. There is a significant amount of skill development through organized activities, and character development through group play.

## GROWING UP AT BECKET DAY CAMP

Becket Day Camp is about trying new things, and taking risks by trying something new in a safe and nurturing environment. As campers grow, our program adapts to their physical, mental and emotional needs, offering appropriate levels of comfort and challenge at every turn.

Campers who will be in pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade are our **Red Squirrels**

Campers who will be in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade are **Black Bears**

Campers who will be in 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are our **Coyotes**

Campers who will be in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade are our wildest animals: **Teens**

This system will make Becket Day Camp a place where each summer will hold new adventures as campers age through our distinct groups. Just wait until you hear the songs, chants and pride these age groups generate!

## DAILY SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Becket Day Camp's daily schedule will be different for each camper group. A sample schedule is as follows:

### Full Day Programs

7:30am Free Before Camp Care  
8:45am Camper Drop-off Time  
**9:00am Opening Circle**  
9:30am Group Activities\*  
11:30am Lunch  
12:00pm Waterfront Time  
1:00pm Camper Choice Activities  
2:15pm Snack  
2:30pm Camper Choice Activities  
3:45pm All-Camp Closing Circle  
**4:00pm Camper Pick-up Time**  
4:15-5:30pm Free After Camp Care

### ½ Day Red Squirrels' Program

7:30am Free Before Camp Care  
8:45am Camper Drop-off Time  
9:00am Opening Circle  
9:30am Morning Activity  
10:15am Morning Snack  
10:30am Waterfront Time  
12:00pm Lunch  
1:00pm Pick-up Time

## ACTIVITIES

Activities may include hiking, swimming, nature, sports, performance games, boating, team building, hands-on science, and more. Older campers may have the opportunity to experience more advanced activities, such as archery (Black Bears and up), climbing tower (Black Bears and up), and high ropes (Coyotes and Teens). These activities vary from week to week.



## LUNCH AND SNACKS

Please send your child to camp with a healthy lunch and a drink in a bag or lunchbox with his/her full name clearly written on the bag. Please try to send non-perishable items, as refrigeration space is limited.

We provide a morning snack with milk for ½ Day campers and an afternoon snack with milk for Full Day Campers. Please notify us of any food allergies. We provide a healthy snack for each camper.

## SWIMMING AND BOATING

Becket Day campers visit the Iroquois waterfront every day for swimming or boating. Trained and certified American Red Cross Lifeguards are on duty each day. Our waterfront Buddy System requires “buddy checks” every 5 minutes for campers in the swim area. In order for day campers to swim beyond the designated shallow end, they are required to pass a swim test designed to evaluate swimming ability and endurance.

Please be sure your child is “Sun Smart”. Your child must have adequate sun protection every day. Sun protection should include a full-brim hat, SPF30+ water-resistant sunscreen, a long-sleeve swim-shirt and a shirt to wear on the beach. A child’s skin is more vulnerable to the harmful effects of excessive sun exposure. Campers may be prohibited from specific activities if sun protection is inadequate.

## RAINY DAYS

Sometimes it rains in Becket. In the event of rain, we try to keep the schedule running; however sometimes the rain causes us to run indoor activities. Certainly the welfare of our campers and staff is paramount, and everyone at Becket Day Camp remains inside during the event of a thunderstorm. Please be sure that your child carries waterproof clothes, such as a rain coat.

## WHAT TO BRING

Becket Day Campers get dirty! Please do not dress your child in clothing that you do not want to get dirty or stained. Plus, kids often lose things! Please make sure everything is labeled with the child’s name.

Please do not send anything of significant value to camp. Don’t bring money, phones, sports equipment, electronics, pets, games or jewelry. BCCYMCA is not responsible for these valuables.

Sneakers must be worn at camp. Socks must be worn at camp.

Make sure you bring:

- Non-perishable lunch (labeled with name)
- Water bottle (**required**)
- Day pack
- Dry change of clothes
- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Rain coat
- Sun hat
- Sunscreen SPF30+ (**required**)
- Sun shirt
- Insect repellent
- Water shoes (optional, recommended for wading in the swim areas. It is a natural lake and has rocky areas)

## ½ DAY CAMPERS PACKING LIST

- Please wear bathing suits to camp and bring underwear to change into after swimming. 2 piece suits for the girls are preferable for ease of going to the bathroom.
- Pack a plastic bag for wet clothes (A grocery bag is fine)
- Campers will be hiking to the waterfront so closed-toe shoes or socks and sneakers are required.
- Bring a water bottle and towel in a back-pack with 2 shoulder straps. The campers will be carrying these bags themselves to the waterfront. Please keep them as light as possible and make sure they can be carried comfortably by the camper.
- Lunches should be easily separated from back-pack for counselors to transport.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

We do not want campers' things to get lost, and with up to 100 kids every week, stuff can end up everywhere! It is best to label all of your child's things with the child's name. If items are found that are labeled, they are returned to the rightful owner. If items are found that are not labeled, they are placed in the "Lost Items" box at the Becket Day Camp check-in station. Unclaimed and unlabeled items are donated to Goodwill in early September.

## **RESTRICTED ITEMS**

As part of our American Camp Association accreditation, we must inform you that no one (including campers, parents and staff) may bring the following items to camp: pets, illicit drugs, alcohol, tobacco, firearms, ammunition, fireworks, weapons, and sports equipment. Campers are not allowed to drive vehicles to camp or leave cars parked on camp property. Travel in a non-passenger vehicle (eg. the back of a pick up truck) is prohibited.

## **DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP**

Drop-off time for all day campers is from 7:30am to 8:45am. ½ Day campers may be picked up at 1pm at Becket Day Camp. All other campers must be picked up between 4pm and 5:30 pm.

Please limit your speed on Lane Road. The speed limit is 25mph. Campers are present during these arrival and departure times and we want everyone to be safe and happy at Becket Day Camp. You may use the "Express" service and sign your camper in and out with the staff in the cul-de-sac. Alternatively, you may park in the designated spaces and walk with your child to the tent to sign them in and out or to speak with Becket Day Camp staff. There will be school buses arriving at 9am and 4pm. Please leave plenty of room for the buses to turn around in the cul-de-sac.

## **BEFORE AND AFTER CAMP CARE**

Before and After Camp Care is available for parents who can't make the regular drop-off and pick-up times. Before and After Camp Care is free. Before Camp Care begins at 7:30am. After Camp Care ends at 5:30pm. All regular camper release policies apply. After Camp Care is only available for Full-Day Campers.

## **CAMPER RELEASE PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS**

Campers must be signed out each day by a parent/guardian or authorized adult as listed on that camper's registration form. The following procedures are in place for campers' safety:

1. Until staff members know designated adults, all adults responsible for picking up campers may be asked for photo identification by the staff member signing out campers.
2. Parents must notify the camp in writing if any changes occur pertaining to the release of their child, including adults authorized to pick up a child, or special circumstances such as early pick-up.
3. In the event that an individual not named in writing by parents attempts to pick-up a child, the parent(s) or emergency contact will be called immediately to determine if the child can be released.
4. If a child appears distressed or does not know an individual listed on the registration form, he/she will be offered the opportunity to call his/her parent to see if all is "normal" and the individual should indeed be picking him/her up.
5. Please notify us if there is a restraining order in place.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY OF DAY CAMPERS**

**Medication** - All medication, including non-prescription medication, must be in its original container and must be labeled with the child's name, correct dosage, and the name of the drug. The Camp Director or designated staff member will administer the medication. If your child rides the bus, please send one container with enough medication for the entire week. This will help ensure that there is the correct dosage at camp each day. Please hand all labeled medication directly to Becket Day Camp staff member who is supervising the bus. Please do not leave medications with your child.

**Health Form** - State law requires that we have a completed up-to-date health form including immunization history for your child. Day campers must have had a physical examination within one year of coming to camp. This form

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does **not** need to be signed by a health care professional; however, your physician, if necessary can forward immunization history to us. In order to attend Becket Day Camp we must receive immunization history prior to your child's session.

**Health Policy** - If a camper goes home sick - or is sick when not at Becket Day Camp - then the camp requires the child to stay home from Becket Day Camp for at least 24 hours. This will reduce the chance of infection to other campers.

Please do not send your child to camp if he/she is sick and/or has a fever. A camper will be sent home if they are too sick to stay at camp. Symptoms may include vomiting, having a fever over 100, diarrhea, or any other signs of serious illness. If a child becomes ill or is injured and needs to leave camp, the Camp Director will contact the parents or emergency contact to pick up the child. If a child sustains a minor injury during the day, the parent or guardian will be notified at pick-up unless it is an emergency that requires an ambulance. (HW-10.1)

**Special Medical Needs**- While we can accommodate a wide range of special needs, we recommend speaking with our Registrar or Camp Director prior to enrollment if you have any concerns. We have a nurse that visits camp regularly, but the majority of our staff are only first aid and CPR trained. Campers need to be able to follow safety directions given by our staff. Our program may need to be modified for campers with mobility issues. Campers who attend school with a one-to-one aide must also attend camp with a one-to-one aide.

The State of Massachusetts mandates that we distribute the following information.

## **Meningococcal Disease and Camp Attendees: Commonly Asked Questions**

### **What is meningococcal disease?**

Meningococcal disease is caused by infection with bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*. These bacteria can infect the tissue (the "meninges") that surrounds the brain and spinal cord and cause meningitis, or they may infect the blood or other organs of the body. In the US, about 1,000-1,200 people get meningococcal disease each year and 10-15% die despite receiving antibiotic treatment. Of those who survive, about 11-19% may lose limbs, become hard of hearing or deaf, have problems with their nervous system, including long term neurologic problems, or have seizures or strokes.

### **How is meningococcal disease spread?**

These bacteria are passed from person-to-person through saliva (spit). You must be in close contact with an infected person's saliva in order for the bacteria to spread. Close contact includes activities such as kissing, sharing water bottles, sharing eating/drinking utensils or sharing cigarettes with someone who is infected; or being within 3-6 feet of someone who is infected and is coughing and sneezing.

### **Who is most at risk for getting meningococcal disease?**

People who travel to certain parts of the world where the disease is very common, microbiologists, people with HIV infection and those exposed to meningococcal disease during an outbreak are at risk for meningococcal disease. Children and adults with damaged or removed spleens or persistent complement component deficiency (an inherited immune disorder) are at risk. People who live in certain settings such as college freshmen living in dormitories and military recruits are at greater risk of disease from some of the serotypes.

### **Are camp attendees at increased risk for meningococcal disease?**

Children attending day or residential camps are not considered to be at an increased risk for meningococcal disease because of their participation.

### **Is there a vaccine against meningococcal disease?**

Yes, quadrivalent meningococcal polysaccharide (Menomune) and meningococcal conjugate vaccines (Menactra and Menveo) protect against 4 serotypes (subgroups), A, C, W, and Y, of meningococcal disease. Meningococcal serogroup B vaccines (Bexsero and Trumenba) protect against serogroup B meningococcal disease.

### **Should my child receive meningococcal vaccine?**

Meningococcal vaccine is not recommended for attendance at camps. However, these vaccines may be recommended for children with certain high-risk health conditions, such as those described above. Parents of children who are at higher risk of

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infection, because of certain medical conditions or other circumstances (see above, "Who is most at risk?"), should discuss vaccination with their child's healthcare provider.

### **How can I protect my child from getting meningococcal disease?**

The best protection against meningococcal disease and many other infectious diseases is thorough and frequent handwashing, respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Individuals should:

1. wash their hands often, especially after using the toilet and before eating or preparing food (hands should be washed with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand gel or rub may be used if hands are not visibly dirty);
2. cover their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and discard the tissue in a trash can; or if they don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into their upper sleeve.
3. not share food, drinks or eating utensils with other people, especially if they are ill.

If your child is exposed to someone with meningococcal disease, antibiotics may be recommended to keep your child from getting sick. You can obtain more information about meningococcal disease or vaccination from your healthcare provider, your local Board of Health (listed in the phone book under government), or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at (617) 983-6800 or toll-free at (888) 658-2850 or on the MDPH website at [www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph).

Provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in accordance with M.G.L. c.111, s.219.

## **CAMPER CONDUCT**

Each of our campers will enter into a verbal Full Value Contract with our staff on Monday. The Contract is simply an agreement to do the right thing, treat each other well and have a ton of fun while they are at camp. Ultimately however, the Contract encompasses the following behavior guidelines.

- Campers must be cooperative and helpful
- Campers must follow all the camp rules
- Campers must stay within the physical boundaries set by staff
- Campers must respect the camp and the environment
- Campers must wear shoes and socks

So what exactly are the "camp rules?" The camp rules are simply things that make sure that all of our campers are healthy and safe, and that our camp and its environment is protected from harm. Campers must follow all camp rules in order to remain a camper at Becket Day Camp.

- Be respectful
- Stay within eyesight/earshot of staff at all times
- Follow instructions from staff members
- Use appropriate language and be polite
- Do not bring restricted items to camp
- Solve issues diplomatically, without fighting
- Show care for the buildings and property

## **EXTENDED DAY – WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

Each Wednesday the Senior Black Bears and Coyotes are invited to stay for an extended day. Skip the pick-up time or bus ride and take part in another activity period, have dinner at camp, sit around the campfire and explore the woods at dusk. Pick up at camp at 8 PM or bus service to Lee High School and Williams Elementary.

## **FAMILY NIGHT- EVERY THURSDAY**

All camper parents and guardians are invited to our Family Nights – hosted at Becket Day Camp every Thursday evening.

Family Nights will be held from 5:30 to 7PM. Our community of day campers and parents can enjoy each other's company, barbecue, dessert and skits and songs. The kids get to show their parents around camp, get the parents involved in some of the activities, and just hang out together. But it is a wonderful chance to spend a couple of hours with the kids at a fantastic, fun-filled pace.

After Care is available on Thursday nights to make it easier for families to attend Family Night. However, during Family Night, parents should monitor their campers, as many of our staff members have gone to work on their evening duties. While we still have staff around, ***your children will be under your direct supervision.***

Becket Day Camp provides hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, water and lemonade, but parents can contribute by bringing a pot luck for up to six people. The pot luck can be either salads, side dishes or desserts. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair or blanket, but please leave your pets at home. Don't forget your dishes from the pot luck and to check for lost & found before you leave!

## **LEAVING MESSAGES AND CONTACTING CAMP**

You may phone Becket Day Camp on the Camp Director's Cell Phone 413-464-3230. Inquiries about fees and registration should be directed to the Administration Center at (413) 623 8991.

## **ABSENTEES**

If your child is going to be late or absent, please notify the staff by 8:30 AM by calling Becket Day Camp on (413) 464-3230. If a child does not arrive by 9:30AM, a Becket Day Camp staff member will attempt to contact the parents via the phone numbers provided on the original registration form.

## **FEES, PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS**

Fees must be paid in full by the due date, prior to the start of every session. We will refuse to accept campers who still owe a balance for the current week.

Please make checks payable to *Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA*. Invoices showing a balance due will be sent out before the session starts. Your child's space may be canceled and given to a child on the waiting list if the balance is not received by the due date. **Please do not send payments with your camper on the bus or give payments to the staff at Becket Day Camp.** Payments should be mailed or delivered to the Administration Center at 748 Hamilton Road, Becket, MA 01223 or made online at [bccymca.org](http://bccymca.org).

Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable. Refunds of camp fees (except the \$50 deposit per session) will be given up to 2 weeks prior to the session you wish to cancel.

Cancellations less than 2 weeks prior to the start of the session will result in a credit minus the \$50 deposit. This credit is good for 1 year and may be applied toward any Becket Day Camp Program.

In the case of illness or injury which occurs before the child's session begins, all paid fees (except the \$50 deposit per session) will be refunded upon receipt of a written notice from the child's physician.

There is no pro-rating of fees for days missed during a session, or substituting days in another session for any reason. If the camper is a no-show (camp was not contacted prior to noon on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the session), all fees are non-refundable.

## **ACCREDITATION AND LICENSING**

Becket Day Camp is accredited by the American Camp Association and licensed by the MA Department of Public Health. Parents have the right to review upon request Becket Day Camp policies including background check procedures, health care and discipline policies, and grievance procedures (MA State regulation).

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## **DIRECTIONS TO BECKET DAY CAMP (170 Lane Road, Becket)**

Becket Day Camp is at Lane Farm, on the end of Lane Road in Becket. It is approximately 3 miles from our main Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA Campus and Administration Center. It is approximately 2.3 miles from the Washington/Becket town line and 4 miles from Route 20.

### ***From Route 20***

Turn onto Route 8 North and continue for 3.5 miles and begin to look for our sign on the left.

Watch for **Lane Road** (our sign is on the left). Becket Day Camp is located at the top of the road. Follow signs for parking. If you reach Sunny Banks Ranch you have gone too far.

### **From Dalton/Hinsdale Area**

Follow Route 8 South through Dalton, Hinsdale, Washington, and into Becket. After crossing the Becket town line, continue for 2.9 miles.

Just past Sunny Banks Ranch, watch for **Lane Road** (our sign is on the right). Becket Day Camp is located at the top of the road. Follow signs for parking.

## **BUS PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF SERVICES**

Bus service costs \$65 per camper, per week. Campers must pre-register for this bus service.

Becket Day Camp staff will travel with the campers between the Pick-up/Drop-off locations and will require a signature from an approved adult in order to release a child. Any camper not met by an approved adult will be transported back to Becket Day Camp and will need to be collected by a parent or guardian. Staff will enforce all safety rules including the requirement to remain seated, use seat belts when available, not distract the driver, and remain in the vehicle until a staff member says they can exit. If a camper does not obey all safety rules, their parents will be contacted.

Please stay with your child until you have signed them in with Becket Day Camp Staff and your child has boarded the bus or van. Help your child to be aware of other vehicles in the parking lot and use caution moving between vehicles.

If the bus will be more than 20 minutes late, staff will contact parents/guardians using the numbers listed on the registration form.

#### **Route #1**

**Phone:** 413-418-1564

#### **Morris Elem. School**

129 West St  
Lenox, MA 01240

**Pick-up: 7:55am**

**Drop-off: 4:55pm**

#### **Lee High School**

300 Greylock Street  
Lee, MA 01238

**Pick-up: 8:10am**

**Drop-off: 4:40pm**

#### **Farmington River**

555 N Main Street  
Otis, MA 01253

**Pick-up: 8:30am**

**Drop-off: 4:20pm**

#### **Route #2**

**Phone:** 413-418-1631

#### **Williams Elem. School**

50 Bushey Rd  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

**Pick-up: 7:45am**

**Drop-off: 5:05pm**

#### **Craneville Elem. School**

71 Park Avenue  
Dalton, MA 01226

**Pick-up: 8:05am**

**Drop-off: 4:45pm**

#### **Kittredge Elem. School**

80 Maple Street  
Hinsdale, MA 01235

**Pick-up: 8:25am**

**Drop-off: 4:30pm**

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