



CCC Gibson Weekend Information 2017

For:

Please read through the following information about the weekend. You can access this form at a later time by going into the Document Center.

GIBSON WEEKEND INFORMATION

Gibson Weekend 2017 Dates:

First Session: July 14 - 16

Second Session: August 11 - 13

Gibson Weekend is an opportunity for our campers to share the camp experience with their mother or another woman who is a part of their life such as a grandmother, older sister, aunt or family friend. We hope that all of our camp families have an opportunity to participate. For those families who are unable to attend, camp can provide a 'mentor' for the weekend from our pool of leaders and volunteers.

Those families with a child spending both sessions at camp may pick either one or both the July or August weekends. Families with two daughters may send one visitor who will share their time between the two girls, or may bring another female family member or friend (over 18) to enjoy the weekend. (This person must also have a reservation and pay for the weekend.) If one visitor is splitting her time between two campers, you may want to discuss an equitable way of dividing time in advance of the weekend to avoid conflict and disappointment.

Who's invited? We ask that each CCC camper has just one visitor for Gibson weekend. Visitors may be any female adult who is a part of the camper's life. Often the visitor is the camper's mom but it can also be a grandmother, aunt, older sister or family friend. No children/siblings of any age, other than current campers, may be present for Gibson Weekend before noon on Sunday. Fathers and additional members of the family may visit during the Sunday afternoon of Gibson Weekend.

Arrival

Check-in begins at 1 PM Friday. Be aware that the majority of visitors arrive sometime on Friday afternoon. Saturday arrival is also appropriate if you are not able to come on Friday. Please be sure your camper knows when you will arrive. It is best to give approximate times as campers tend to worry when visitors are late and you could be delayed due to traffic. It is preferable that you call the camp office and we'll inform your camper of changes to your schedule. Do not send last minute changes by email to your camper because we can't guarantee she'll receive it prior to your arrival.

Please enter camp at the main entrance located at the intersection of Route 8 and YMCA Road. **DO NOT ENTER AT HAMILTON ROAD.** Your GPS may tell you to access camp via Hamilton Road but do not go this way as you will miss key arrival information and the road is in very poor condition coming from that direction. You will receive a packet including your name tag, your camper's activity schedule, a map of camp (and where to set up your tent) and an updated final camp schedule for the weekend. If you are arriving anytime after 5 PM on Friday, please go directly to the Chimney Corners Dining Hall to check-in. Check-in on Friday is available until 9 PM. Please note that arrival after 9 PM is discouraged since it is difficult to set up in the dark.

Tenting/Housing

For:

We highly recommend that visitors bring their own tent, borrow one, or invest in a tent for the weekend. There is no lodging charge when you bring a tent. Your camper may sleep with you in your tent, but if you are in camp housing or you stay off-camp, your camper will stay with other campers. One of the biggest suggestions that past visitors give is to invest in a tent and an air mattress. There will be volunteers to help you set up your tent if necessary but we suggest that you try it at home prior to the weekend so you know how to do it and make sure that there are no missing parts. Often visitors help each other too. Sealing the seams of your tent in advance is a good idea. Department store camping departments can help you to prepare.

There is some housing available to visitors but it is extremely limited and rustic. This housing must be reserved in advance and is on a first-come, first-served basis. The housing provides a bed in a room shared with others. You will need to bring your own bedding, towels and pillow. Campers may not come in or sleep in these lodges. There are motels and B&B's in the area, but you will need to make your reservations early as rooms are at a premium in the Berkshires in the summer. The internet is a great way to look for accommodations. Lee is the closest town with a good selection and is about 15-20 minutes from camp. Campers will not be able to leave camp with you.

CCC has a limited supply of tents to rent. They are small and of various qualities. Tents will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Please reserve early to avoid disappointment. *See details below on a chance to win a stay in a deluxe tent with all the amenities which will be set up for you in advance of your arrival.

Dining at Camp

Dining At Camp: At camp, we have nutritious and plentiful food but please do not expect gourmet meals. Meals during the weekend will be a mixture of cook-outs, buffets and sit-down meals. Visitors on Sunday afternoon will be invited to bring a picnic lunch for the family or join the Sunday Buffet. Please indicate additional guests for Sunday lunch on the reservation form.

Sunday Visitor Information - First Session: July 16, Second Session: August 13

For visitors and family members coming to CCC on Sunday of Gibson Weekend, we would like to give you some ideas of what to expect. Visiting begins at noon on Sunday. Plan to meet your family outside the Dining Hall. Your camper will be instructed to meet you in that area after chapel. Please DO NOT bring pets! No pet will be allowed on the camp property. Visitors may join the Sunday lunch buffet but must be signed up and paid in advance with your reservation. The luncheon will begin at noon. If your group would like to picnic you should plan to bring food and necessary items with you. If you would like to order sandwiches at a local store in advance please call just before the weekend and the office can provide you with some phone numbers. After lunch a variety of activities will be available for families.

For those families with campers at both camps, you may choose where to eat lunch on Sunday. There is a question on Gibson Weekend registration to indicate your plans for Sunday lunch. Shuttle service will be available between the two camps on Sunday so you don't have to worry about parking. Please be sure to get your campers back to their camps no later than 4 PM.

Sunday Departure: Family and other visitors should depart by 4 PM on Sunday. If departing prior to 3:45, please drop your camper off with staff at the Art Center. If departing between 3:45 and 4:00, please drop off your camper at the Open Circle Amphitheater. The camp community will all meet together at the Open Circle Amphitheater at 4:00 for a fun activity planned to help campers get back into the camp schedule. Even veteran campers may shed a few tears on Sunday afternoon at departure time. Remember... nothing dries faster than a tear.

Raffle

For:

Raffle: Chimney Corners Camp Association will run a raffle on Saturday & Sunday of the weekend to raise funds for camperships as well as other projects to support the camp. Visitors are encouraged to donate raffle items to help with this cause. The items can be dropped off at the CCC office on opening day or on Friday upon arrival for Gibson Weekend. Please donate only new items. Ideas for the raffle are gift certificates, themed gift baskets (Movie Night, Spa Day, Coffees and teas, etc), electronics (iPods, BlueRay Disc Players, Digital Cameras, iPad), toys, concert tickets, theater tickets anything that you think would appeal to girls ages 8-15 and their families. More information about this event and fundraising on the weekend will be in a later mailing. All donations are tax deductible - please ask for a receipt.

Tent Raffle: You may enter for your chance to win a 2 night, 3 day stay in a deluxe tent fully furnished with a queen-size air mattress, a lantern, 2 arm chairs and table, a cooler filled with bottled water and ice, and a basket of camp essentials. The tent will be completely set up for you before you arrive at camp and will be taken down by staff at the end of the weekend. The mattress will be set up with basic linens but we encourage you to bring your own blanket, sleeping bag, etc. You can request a specific location for the tent as well. Only \$10 for each entry! You can purchase entries for the tent raffle right while registering for the weekend. Money raised goes to fund financial aid, projects and supplies for CCC. Watch for deadlines--we pick the raffle winner about one week prior to each Gibson Weekend.* Winner gets the use of the above equipment for the moms' weekend, the service of the tent being prepared in advance of the weekend and the contents of the camp essentials basket. The tent, mattress, lantern, arm chairs, table and cooler will remain at camp for the next lucky winner.

Tee-Shirts

T-Shirt Orders & Weekend Theme: Every year there is a unique theme to Gibson Weekend. We have designed a wonderful t-shirt that is available for sale both as a fund raiser and as a great memento of the weekend. You can preorder t-shirts for you and your camper on your reservation in advance of the weekend and the shirts will be waiting for you when you check-in. A limited number of t-shirts will also be available at the weekend but it is best to purchase the shirts in advance to avoid disappointment.

Frequently Asked Questions

I can't come for Gibson Weekend. Is there another time for a visit?

Yes, Chimney Corners has 'open visiting' which means that you can come one time from the second weekend of the session on. It can be a week day or a weekend. You can bring other members of the family (if it is any time other than from Friday through Saturday of Gibson Weekend). More details about visiting are in the Summer Guide.

How will I find my daughter?

When you check in upon arrival for the weekend, you will be given your daughter's activity schedule and a map as well as a schedule for the whole camp for the weekend. If you need help finding your way, stop in at the camp office for assistance.

May I bring my cell phone?

We ask that you limit cell phone use to free periods during the day in your car or tent so calls don't disrupt the scheduled activities. Reception is unpredictable on camp property. If you're sleeping in a tent, remember that ringing phones and loud conversations can be disruptive and noise should be kept to a minimum after cabin chat. We suggest that you put your name on your cell phone as well as any other valuable items. Ideally, we wish for you to be unplugged like the campers and to not use your phone. Your phone should not be used by your camper or other campers at any time.

For:

What happens during chapel on Sunday?

In addition to being part of a typical chapel service, this is a time for Chimney Corners Camp Association to tell you a bit about the important work they do. The meeting will include an opportunity for you to make a donation or pledge to the 2017 Annual Fund. Your support allows CCC to provide assistance (camperships) to families who cannot pay the full camp tuition. Funds are also used to improve the CCC facilities and equipment.

Is there any opportunity to take my daughter out of camp on the weekend?

Our policy is that campers do not leave camp property from the time that they arrive on opening day until they depart on closing day. We are responsible for your child throughout that time. If you feel you must go run an errand off camp, your camper must stay on camp while you are gone.

Who should I contact if I have any questions before Gibson Weekend?

Feel free to call or email any member of the committee or call the camp office. Committee members ALL have had the experience of being a 'first-timer.' Please review Gibson Weekend section on our website for information on contacting committee members.

My camper is asking that I bring snacks, is this OK?

Many visitors do bring food up for the weekend and this is OK. However, we do see many campers suffering from overindulgence on junk food from the weekend, which can complicate Sunday good-byes. Moderation is the key. Also, no food should be stored overnight in tents as it attracts animals. Store food in your car or ask the camp staff to secure it inside a camp building.

Will I have bathroom facilities near?

Visitors will have access to the camper's washhouses with outdoor or indoor showers. Bring a bathrobe or some sort of cover as well as a tote to carry your toiletries. It can be a bit of a walk to the washhouse.

Does it rain every Gibson Weekend?

It has been known to! You should be prepared with appropriate footwear and rain gear. A sense of humor is an absolute must in this particular situation. If you're tenting, you can prepare by bringing a fly cover and ground cloth/tarp for your tent. Also, it is important to seal the seams of your tent. Outdoor stores can tell you more about what is the best product for this and if it is necessary for your type of tent. A supply of large plastic bags will help keep things dry as well.

When can the others arrive at camp?

Other family members and friends are invited (and encouraged) to join you starting at noon on Sunday. Please plan ahead to meet any and all visitors at the Dining Hall on Sunday. No pets are allowed. All visitors should depart by 4 PM.

For additional information, please visit our website.