



BECKET-CHIMNEY CORNERS YMCA

FAMILY CAMP - PROGRAM GUIDE 2023

Accreditation

The American Camp Association (acacamps.org) accredits Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA. Our organization complies with all regulations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is licensed by the Becket Health Department.

Arrival Information and Parking

Please arrive at **Camp Becket** sometime between **3pm** and **5:30pm** on Monday, August 21st, 2023. Staff will meet you at Moose Field (just inside the entrance of Camp Becket) and direct you to your lodging. Please do not drive on the grass when bringing your belongings to your lodging. After moving in, please move your car back to the designated parking area by Moose Field. If you need any assistance, please notify the staff member meeting you at Moose Field. If you are expecting to arrive late or should need directions, please call our Administration Center on (413) 623 8991. Please proceed to the **Business Office** at Camp Becket to complete check-in procedures and receive a schedule for the duration of your stay.

Housing

Housing assignments have been made. You can be assured that our staff have worked very hard and taken all housing requests into consideration and have attempted to satisfy all our Family Camp guests. Assignments will be given at check-in at camp.

Program/Schedule

Upon check-in at the Becket Business Office, you will receive a final schedule of the programs and activities offered for the week. We know many of our Family Camp guests have their own skills and activities they may like to share with the camp community. If you have ideas for a class, or would like to run your own workshop or activity, please let us know and we may be able to accommodate you. Remember, we will need to make decisions of what activities we will allow our guests to run based upon safety standards, ACA standards and the Massachusetts Department of Health codes.

Daily Schedule

7:15 - 8:00am	Polar Bear Swim
8:00am	Table setters to Dining Hall
8:15am	Breakfast
9:30am	Flag Raising at Frontier Village
9:40 - 11:15am	Morning activities
11:15am	Free Time
11:50am	Table setters to Dining Hall
12:00pm	Lunch
12:45 - 1:30pm	Siesta
1:35 - 4:35pm	Afternoon Activities
4:35 - 5:30pm	Special Event & free time
5:45pm	Table setters to Dining Hall
6:00pm	Dinner
7:30pm	Evening Programs
8:30pm	Snack at the Dining Hall
10:00pm	Quiet hours

Activity Offerings

There are always different activities, and these are just some of the activities we may be able to offer:

- Nature Hikes
- Creative Arts
- Archery
- Woodshop
- Canoeing
- 440 Swim
- Bouldering
- Bog Walk
- Pond Ecology
- Square Dance
- Bingo
- Kayaking
- Sailing
- Fishing
- Rope Swing
- Low Ropes
- Climbing Tower
- Ping-pong
- Four Square
- The Talent Show
- Swimming
- Sunset Sauna
- Campfire
- Carnival
- Disc Golf
- Beach Volleyball

Waterfront & Yacht Club

Swimming and boating activities will be offered throughout the week. Swimming or boating is not permitted at any time without a qualified BCCYMCA Lifeguard present. The only area of Rudd Pond designated for swimming is at the Main Waterfront. Families are asked to swim in an area suited to their ability. Please ask an on-duty staff member if you have any questions about the zoning of swim areas. You will be required to check in and out of the swim areas, and we will need to test the swim ability of guests who wish to participate at the waterfront.

- Please listen carefully to waterfront staff and their instructions while at the waterfront. Waterfront staff have the right to close the waterfront to one or all Family Camp guests depending on weather, behavior, or any other circumstance.
- Canoes, kayaks and some boats are available to Family Camp guests at times indicated on the schedule. Boating activities may only occur at times indicated on the schedule. All boating participants must wear PFDs (life jackets) at all times.
- The Rope Swing may only be used under the supervision of a BCCYMCA Lifeguard.
- The Sauna will be open at times indicated on the schedule. Please observe the rules posted before using the sauna. Children under 12 must be supervised by an adult. Children under 6 are not permitted to use the sauna. Children may not add wood to the fire at any time. If you require a quick dip in the lake when using the sauna, a qualified BCCYMCA Lifeguard must be present. One will be scheduled at the times indicated on the schedule.

Adventure Activities – Climbing Tower, and Bouldering Room

Various activities utilizing the challenge courses will be offered throughout the week. Entry to the Challenge Course area is only permitted with the accompaniment of an authorized BCCYMCA Staff Member.

You must be **8+ years** or older to participate in any of our adventure activities. There are no exceptions.

Dining

- At Family Camp, meals are served at 8:15am, 12:00pm, and 6:00pm. All meals are served Family Style, families eat together and mingle in the Dining Hall, seating eight people at each table. We will welcome guests before each meal and have announcements at the end of each meal.
- A table setter for each table should arrive 15 minutes before each meal. (The Dining Hall bell will ring as a reminder.)
- We prepare vegetarian alternatives for those who indicated that they were vegetarians on their original registration form. Guests who did not indicate on their registration form should refrain from taking the vegetarian alternative.
- If you have any special dietary concerns or allergies that you wish to discuss, please call us more than two weeks prior to the program. We may not be able to accommodate certain dietary needs. We may not be able to accommodate requests within two weeks of Family Camp.
- Snacks will be offered in the Dining Hall each evening at 8:30pm. Remember to bring additional snacks if anyone in your family might need something to eat between meals. Fruit will be available in the dining hall throughout the day to grab.

Housekeeping

Our staff will clean the automats (wash houses) and restock them as needed. It would be helpful if Family Camp guests could assist in keeping these and other “common areas” clean throughout the week. Cabins are not cleaned by BCCYMCA staff during your stay, but dustpans and brooms should be found inside each one. If, throughout your stay, something is not satisfactorily clean, please bring this to our attention right away.

Smoking (Tobacco and Marijuana)

Smoking, vaping, and e-cigarettes are not permitted on the grounds of BCCYMCA. We are a smoke free campus.

Alcohol

Guests 21+ may consume alcohol in your lodging or the immediate vicinity of your cabin/lodge. Family Camp guests must clean up after themselves and monitor their consumption. Showing up impaired to an activity is not allowed and staff may ask you to sit out for the safety of you and all guests.

Communications and Technology

Family Camp guests should instruct people to call (413) 623-8991 during the day to get a message to them. If it is after hours, they may leave a message on the general voice mailbox at this number. Unfortunately, computers are not available for Family Camp guests. Wireless Internet is available in the Dining Hall. We urge you to try and unplug during your stay.

The Camp Store

The store is located in the lower Paul Dudley White Hall and hours of operation will be listed in your schedule. The store has clothing items, souvenirs, snacks, toiletries and batteries.

In the Area

When you arrive at camp we will provide you with directions to the emergency room at Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield (25 minute drive). Please visit berkshires.org to learn more about local area attractions, such as the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, the Lee Outlets, the Berkshire Botanical Garden, Tanglewood or Mass MoCA if you would like to make a day trip excursion.

Packing for Family Camp

Family Camp is largely an outdoor experience. Therefore, being prepared is vital for a comfortable and successful visit. Don't bring your best clothing, bring old garments which are suitable for the season.

- Even though it is late August, it is still the Berkshires! It can be hot or cool. Please plan to bring a jacket and warm clothing for the evening.
- Remember that our cabins have no electricity, therefore a good flashlight is recommended.
- BCCYMCA provides only basic first aid supplies such as Band-Aids. We cannot and do not dispense medication.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Warm clothing (fleece jacket) | <input type="checkbox"/> Towels | <input type="checkbox"/> Toys/games for young children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cool clothing (tee shirt, shorts) | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn chair(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun Hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen | <input type="checkbox"/> Shirt for tie-dying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag and/or sheets and several blankets | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks (pack in plastic box with a lid if you plan to keep in your cabin) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks & undergarments | <input type="checkbox"/> Pillow | <input type="checkbox"/> Battery Operated Reading Light (or Headlamp) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sneakers & boots | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight with extra batteries | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Windbreaker | <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletries | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raincoat | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flip Flops or Sandals | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading material | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day pack | <input type="checkbox"/> Games & cards | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle | <input type="checkbox"/> High chair or booster seat | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimsuit | | |

Please bring your own acetaminophen or ibuprofen if you anticipate needing it. Another common request that we cannot fulfill is for Benadryl.

- Labeling your belongings with your name is a wonderful idea.

Recommended Packing List

Items to leave at home

Bicycles

Firearms, Knives, weapons

Boats - Only camp watercraft may be put into Rudd Pond

Travel Directions - Put into your GPS or Phone **Camp Becket Road, Becket, MA 01223**

Once you reach the YMCA property -

1. After turning at the YMCA sign at the top of Route 8, proceed down the hill until you reach the fork in the road (the Brewster House is directly in front of you) Bear right onto YMCA road
2. Continue on YMCA Road until you see the large sign for Camp Becket (your second left)
3. Turn left at the Camp Becket sign and proceed straight ahead until you see Moose Field on your left. At the flagpole a staff member will greet you and let you know where to check-in.