



VILLAGE KIDS

For questions before, during, or after your camper's stay, please contact us at (507) 346-2494 or info@goodearthvillage.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Exploring God in Creation, Growing Faith in Community, and Engaging the World as Followers of Jesus

OUR VALUES

Faith • Community • Friendship
Fun • Openness • Peace • Service

WHAT TO BRING

- School appropriate attire (dress for the weather)
- Hiking shoes
- Water shoes (no flip flops)
- Swimsuit (secure fitting)
- Swim towel
- Toiletries (shampoo, comb etc.)
- Medications (in original containers)
- Water bottle
- Rain gear
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Face mask
- Completed GEV health form
- Completed waivers
- Money for camp store on Friday

WELCOME TO VILLAGE KIDS

The Village Kids program is a week-long day-camp experience for your child. They will get a taste of some typical Good Earth Village camp activities, including worship, Bible Study, hiking, and water activities. The schedule may be adjusted to fit other camp programs and weather. A note will be sent home at the beginning of the week with specific information for each day.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Check-in will be at **Family Camp Picnic Shelter** each morning between **9:00AM – 9:15AM**. Please contact us in advance if you will be arriving after the check-in time. **Closing worship** will be held at **Outdoor Chapel**, located across the road from Log Lodge, beginning at **3:30PM Monday - Thursday**. Each day will conclude around 4:00PM after which campers are free to leave once the parent/guardian signs them out with their counselor. Pets are requested to be left at home, but may be brought only to check-out, and must remain outside and on a leash. Please clean up after your pet. The **CAMP STORE** will be open during check-in on Friday in the lower level of Log Lodge. Please send money with your camper if they are signed up for transportation.

LEAVING CAMP

If your camper needs to leave camp during the day for any reason, prior notification is required. Please bring or send written documentation of who will be picking up your camper, the time they will be leaving and the time they will be returning to camp. If someone other than you will be picking your camper up from camp, we encourage you to notify us in writing. This ensures that we are releasing your camper to the appropriate person.

COVID-19 POLICIES & GUIDELINES

We are **not requiring masks** to be worn at this time. This policy is subject to change throughout the summer based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), state, and local guidelines. We will maintain our website with current controls and procedures.

WELCOMING STATEMENT *(adapted from Lutheran Outdoor Ministries)*

In all of our programs and activities, Good Earth Village is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment which reflects the lessons Jesus taught us: To love one another, even as I have loved you. (John 13:34)

Good Earth Village values diversity, opposes discrimination, and promotes equal opportunity for all people, regardless of age, disabilities, race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or others who are often marginalized. Good Earth Village will strive to provide an environment where all people are valued as unique individuals. We will work to ensure that participants in all our programs and activities can reach their full potential by living and working in a community of inclusivity and mutual respect.

PHOTOS & UPDATES

Photos from activities throughout the program will be available on our website through a private webpage. An email will be sent after your camper arrives that includes a link and password to access them. Follow GEV for highlights throughout summer camp season by visiting [facebook.com/goodearthvillage](https://www.facebook.com/goodearthvillage) and [instagram.com/gevillage](https://www.instagram.com/gevillage). You do not need to have a Facebook or Instagram account to access these photos.

TELEPHONE

A valuable experience at camp is uninterrupted time away from one's home and normal routine. Campers use of Good Earth Village's phones for incoming or outgoing calls is strongly discouraged. If you have concerns, our staff will be glad to discuss your child's experience with you and can relay messages to your child. Good Earth Village will contact parents and guardians in the case of an emergency or if there are any questions or concerns. We will ensure camper access to a phone in the case of an emergency.

MEDICATIONS

All prescribed and over-the-counter medications must be turned in at check-in to our Health Officer. All medications must be in the original packaging clearly marked with the camper's name and the dosage instructions.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Cell phone
- Electronics (iPads, hand held games etc.)
- Food, candy, and pop
- Knives, weapons, fireworks, etc.
- Expensive items (clothing, jewelry, smart watches etc.)

FOR THE WELLBEING OF ALL

CAMPER BEHAVIOR & DISMISSAL

Our goal for each camper attending a program is to provide an experience of Christian community within a safe environment that promotes spiritual and social growth. Because of this goal, campers are encouraged to participate in all camp activities to their ability. Likewise, campers are encouraged to treat one another and the staff with mutual respect. We expect campers to:

- Abide by the rules and regulations of camp.
- Use language that is affirming and uplifting.
- Respect the rights, privacy, and property of others.
- Respect the property and facilities of the camp.
- Refrain from engaging or threatening acts of physical, sexual, or verbal abuse.

Good Earth Village reserves the right to dismiss any camper. In this rare and unlikely event, registration fees may or may not be returned at the sole discretion of the camp director. If a camper is destructive to camp property (ex. discharging fire extinguisher in a non-emergency situation, graffiti etc.) the parent will be contacted for appropriate reimbursement and/or dismissal from camp. In the event that a camper is displaying hurtful and harmful language or actions, parents will be contacted immediately and the camper will be dismissed from camp.

DRUG & WEAPON FREE

Good Earth Village is a drug and weapon-free environment. In the event that a camper brings drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, knives, weapons, or explosive devices (including fire crackers) to camp, parents will be contacted immediately and the camper will be dismissed from camp. Good Earth Village also reserves the right to store camper's contraband items that may not be appropriate for their stay. Items will be returned at the end of the program.

HOMESICKNESS

Homesickness is a natural reaction to separation from familiar surroundings and routines. While our staff is prepared to work with campers who become homesick, there are a few very important tips you can do to help before your child comes to camp:

- Help your camper understand that feeling homesick is natural!
- Language makes a difference. Emphasize that your camper is "going" to camp; try to avoid saying you are "sending" them away to camp.
- Avoid statements like "I'm going to miss you so much. I can't wait for you to come home." Why? Camp will be a terrific experience so be careful not to make your camper feel bad about going away. Instead, say things like "I'm so excited for you! You'll have a great time!"
- Share your own positive camp experiences!
- Please avoid statements like "If you don't like camp, you can come home." Campers who experience difficulties adjusting to camp would then compound the situation by not giving it a fair chance. Instead, your camper then is only focused on going home.

By preparing yourself, you can help your camper avoid homesickness and enjoy a fun, successful and wonderful experience with caring friends and staff members at camp.