
OUTDOOR CONNECTIONS

CAMP SEALTH

Parent Handbook – Winter/Spring 2021

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Welcome to Outdoor Connections! Camp Sealth is proud to support our Vashon community by providing a program for outdoor learning and engagement, social connection, skill building, and academic support, especially during this time when kids and families are being impacted by COVID-19.

We encourage all families to read through this confirmation packet to get all the details about how our program works, what to bring, and more.

ABOUT CAMP SEALTH

Camp Sealth is owned by Camp Fire Central Puget Sound. In a typical year, we operate overnight and day camp during the summer, and outdoor education and retreats the rest of the year. Camp Fire also runs traditional club programs for youth, and leadership and service learning for teens. Camp Sealth serves around 7,000 youth and families annually.

Camp Sealth
14500 SW Camp Sealth Road
Vashon, WA 98070
www.campfireseattle.org
206-463-3174

Camp Fire Central Puget Sound
2414 SW Andover Street, Suite D-105
Seattle, WA 98106

Camp Sealth is accredited by the [American Camp Association](#). We meet hundreds of standards in health and safety, risk management, staffing, and program quality, to ensure that we are following the best practices in the camp industry.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Camp Fire strives to continuously provide diverse, inclusive, and equitable environments throughout our organizations and programs. We recognize that both access to and success in our programs requires intentional work, to cultivate respect, eliminate systemic barriers, and address injustice head-on. We at Camp Fire believe that words must be followed by progress, action, and accountability. We recognize that our efforts will be ongoing and evolving as we continue to grow, learn, collaborate, and press for an equitable future.

PROGRAM GOALS

Camp Fire and Camp Sealth believes in empowering youth to grow in confidence, social and emotional skills, leadership, and compassion. We are proud to be a welcoming place for all kids to come together to learn, play, and grow into successful and caring adults. The specific goals in offering the Outdoor Connections program are:

- To provide an opportunity for kids to get outdoors for exercise and free play
- To supplement kids' educational needs with the ability to interact with peers and gain social skills
- To fill a need for childcare for parents who need to work
- To prevent the spread of COVID-19 by implementing the highest possible safety measures, while still allowing kids to have fun and connect with each other

We also understand that the situation around COVID-19 is constantly changing. Our plans and program offerings will be flexible depending on family needs, school district reopening plans, and county/state requirements.

ARRIVAL & CHECK-IN

All staff, youth, and family members must wear a mask during check-in.

Arrival Time

You may arrive anytime during the check-in window for your child's program. Staff will not be able to check in your child before the arrival time. If you are running late, please contact our staff at 206-612-5179.

Check-in window:

- Full Day: 8:15 – 8:30 a.m.
- Pre-K: 8:15 – 8:30 a.m.
- Half-Day: 1:30 – 1:45 p.m.
- Teen Program (Wed): 2:45 – 3:00 p.m. or (Fri): 1:15 – 1:30 p.m.

Health Screening

Daily health screenings can be completed via an online form prior to arriving at camp. The link to the form is below. After completing the form, you'll receive a confirmation email – show this email to the staff at check-in when you arrive. You may alternatively complete the form on paper when you arrive.

[Health Screening Form](#)

Driving Directions

Camp Sealth is located at 14500 SW Camp Sealth Road, Vashon, WA, 98070. After turning onto the camp road, follow the directions below. Please **maintain a speed of 10 mph** on the camp road.

Drop-Off Directions for Half-Day Program Only

From the entrance of the Camp Sealth property on Wax Orchard Road, drive about 0.5 miles, then take the turn-off for the "Wrangler" unit on your right (follow signs). At the end of this road, a staff member will greet you at the car and direct you to check-in. Parents do not need to get out of their vehicle during check-in.

Drop-Off Directions for Full-Day, Pre-K, and Teen Program

From the entrance of the Camp Sealth property on Wax Orchard Road, drive 1.5 miles, all the way down the hill until you see the water. A staff member will greet you at the car and direct you to check-in. For Full-Day and Teen Program, parents do not need to get out of their vehicle during check-in. Pre-K parents should park and meet staff at the check-in table.

CHECK-OUT

Check-out will be at the same location as check-in. Stay in your vehicle, and a staff member will greet you. The person picking up your child must be an authorized pick-up person on your account. You can contact us at any time to add a pick-up person to your account. **Photo ID is required at pick-up every day.**

If you are running late to pick-up, please contact our staff at 206-612-5179. If you are more than 15 minutes late, we will call you to pick up your child.

Pick-up window:

- Full-Day: 3:15 – 3:30 p.m.
- Half-Day: 5:00 – 5:15 p.m.
- Pre-K: 12:15 – 12:30 p.m.
- Teen Program (Wed): 5:45 – 6:00 p.m. or (Fri): 4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

WHAT TO BRING

We recommend that every camper wear or bring a backpack with:

- Weather-appropriate clothes to remain warm and dry (campers will be outdoors): coat/jacket, warm layers, hat/hood, rain pants
- Close-toed shoes or boots
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen, if needed

What to bring for Pre-K:

- Extra set of clothes including underwear or Pull-ups, if needed

What to bring for Full-Day campers doing Distance Learning:

- Laptop or tablet with wi-fi connectivity and charger
- Headphones
- Any learning packets or required school supplies

FOOD & SNACKS

For campers who are attending the full-day program, lunch is provided by the Vashon School District for no additional fee. If preferred, you may send a lunch from home. For safety reasons, we do not allow children to swap or share food.

Healthy snacks will be provided for Pre-K in the morning, and for Full Day, Half Day and Teen Program participants in the afternoon. You are also welcome to send additional snacks with your child.

SUPPORTING SPECIAL NEEDS

If your child has a disability or needs any kind of extra support at camp, we encourage you to complete the online [Inclusion Assessment](#) form. This will help give us an overall picture of your child's strengths, challenges, goals, and how we can best support them. This information will remain confidential and shared only with those working most closely with your child. In most cases, children with disabilities do not need or benefit from a 1-1 aide, but we have staff that are able to assist and provide extra attention/support if needed.

MEDICATION

All medication must be checked in with a staff member. This includes emergency medication, like an inhaler or Epi-pen, prescription, and over-the-counter medication. We must have a medication form on file with the correct prescribed dosage and administration instructions. We can only administer medication according to the prescribed dosage. Inhalers and Epi-pens may be carried by the child (with a parent's permission), or by the counselor. Other medications will be kept locked during program hours except when needed. All medication must be in an original pharmacy container with prescription label and may not be expired.

HEALTH CARE

Camp Sealth staff are certified in First Aid and CPR, and can provide basic first aid according to our standing orders, signed by a physician. Before attending camp, parents must provide a full picture of the child's medical history by completing a Health History Form.

In case of a medical emergency, we will procure EMS services, including transporting to a hospital by ambulance if necessary. We will make every effort to contact the parents as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of parents to provide accident and health insurance for their kids while participating in a Camp Sealth program. All medical expenses are the parents' responsibility.

FEES AND PAYMENTS

Program fees are paid in advance and due on the 1st day of each month. Our costs remain the same whether your child attends or not, so we cannot prorate for missed days. However, if your child becomes ill and must miss the program or quarantine for one week or more, we will refund or give a credit for any full missed weeks.

For questions about registration, cancellation, or payments, contact the Member Services Manager at 253 441 0409 or michaelm@campfireseattle.org.

SCHEDULE

Outdoor Connections runs Monday to Friday each week from January 25 to May 28, except the following holiday breaks:

- Mid-Winter Break (February 15-19)
- Spring Break (April 5-9)

Attendance:

When you registered, you selected the days for your child to attend. You may make a change to the days selected at any time by contacting our registration office.

The regular weekly schedule for each program is below.

Full Day	8:30am – 3:30pm	Monday to Friday
Half-Day	1:45 – 5:00pm	Monday to Thursday
Pre-K	8:30am – 12:30pm	Monday to Thursday
Teen Program	3:00 – 6:00pm 1:30 – 5:30pm	Wednesday Friday

CONTACTING CAMP STAFF

If you need to reach someone at camp during the day, call the Camp Sealth on-duty phone at **206-612-5179**. This is the most direct way to notify us about late arrivals, running late to pick-up, or if you need to get in contact with your child.

For questions about registration, cancellation, or payments, contact the Member Services Manager at 253 441 0409 or michaelm@campfireseattle.org.

To speak with a camp administrator with questions or concerns about the camp program, contact one of the following:

Megan Muma
meganm@campfireseattle.org

Dani Gruenberg
danielleg@campfireseattle.org

Meaghan Baumgartner
meaghanb@campfireseattle.org
206-463-3174 ext. 44

Carrie Lawson
carriek@campfireseattle.org
206-463-3174 ext. 35

PROGRAM POLICIES

Cell Phones: We discourage youth from bringing cell phones to our program. If they must bring a phone, it must remain off and out of sight during the program. If cell phones are misused, they will be held by staff and returned at the end of the day.

Electronics: No other electronic devices are allowed at camp, with the exception of computers, tablets, or headphones needed for distance learning. After academic work is completed, electronics will be put away and safely stored until the end of the camp day.

Pets: Animals/pets are not allowed at camp, with the exception of service animals. We also ask that families refrain from bringing pets to check-in and check-out.

Medication, drugs, alcohol & tobacco: All medications must be turned in and stored with the camp staff, including emergency and over-the-counter medication. Legal and illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are not allowed.

Shoes: Due to the nature of outdoor activity and the many hiking trails on our property, we require campers to wear close-toed shoes at camp.

Weapons: Guns and weapons are prohibited at camp, including toy/squirt guns or anything resembling a gun.

Sport Equipment: Generally, campers should not bring personal sports equipment including bikes, boats, archery bows, etc. to camp. If there is something you wish to bring, please discuss it with a camp staff member in advance.

Photos: Any photos taken at camp are for personal use only. Do not post photos of others online without their explicit permission.

Communication with Staff: We do not allow staff and campers to exchange contact information, or to communicate outside of camp, including on social media. Our staff cannot babysit or care for your child outside of camp hours.

Vehicles: Campers may not bring personal vehicles to camp, except in rare cases with explicit written permission. Parents must maintain the **10 mph** speed limit on the camp road, and drive and park only in designated areas.

Money/Valuables: We strongly recommend that campers do not bring valuable items or money to camp. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

We strive to make camp an inclusive and positive environment for everyone. Counselors will review the Code of Conduct with campers at the start of the program.

Code of Conduct

- Be a responsible member of the camp community
- Be considerate and respectful of others' feelings
- Think in advance about the consequences of my actions
- Resolve differences in a respectful manner
- Protect the natural environment
- Commit to honesty
- Commit to try

Counselors will use positive reinforcement to help campers adhere to the Code of Conduct. In the case of continued behavior problems, the camp staff may implement the following consequences, depending on severity:

- Time out or quiet time away from the group
- Loss of a privilege or special treat
- Phone call to the parent(s)
- Written behavior agreement
- Camper will be sent home for the day
- Suspension from the program

Behaviors which may result in suspension or dismissal from the program including violence or harm to self or others, repeated disregard for camp rules, destruction of property, and bullying.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Children attending the Full-Day program will spend each morning attending their Distance Learning classes. Staff will help getting devices connected and logging in to their online classes. In between classes, staff can help students complete other work assignments, as well as facilitate learning breaks by playing games and spending time in physical activity.

Please note: It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that all work is completed and submitted on time.

Some ways that you can help facilitate your child's distance learning at camp are:

- Providing a written schedule and list of instructions for accessing your child's classes, including any specialty classes or meetings that your child attends
- Sending any take-home work that can be done at camp, between classes
- Ensuring that your child's teacher knows they will be participating in distance learning at Camp Sealth
- Review the class schedule with your child so they know what to expect

Any participants who will be participating in Distance Learning while participating in our program must have a signed form on file to allow Camp Sealth staff to communicate directly with the school district about your child. If needed, we will work with the school district and your child's teacher to ensure that they are fully participating and progressing with their education.

THE CAMP STAFF

All Camp Sealth staff are at least 18 years old, have full background and sex offender registry checks, first aid and CPR certified, and have completed a full week of training. We hire staff for their values, good judgment, and passion for working with youth. Staff receive additional training and feedback throughout their employment.