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Welcome to

SUMMER 2023!

The **MISSION** of Camp Susan Curtis is to provide a transformative camp experience that nurtures self-confidence and a sense of belonging in Maine children facing economic hardship.

**THE CAMP SUSAN CURTIS STORY**

Since 1974, Maine children facing economic hardship have been invited to attend Camp Susan Curtis on Trout Lake in Stoneham to develop character and strengthen skills through play, laughter, friendships, and fun outdoor activities.

In the words of Governor Curtis:

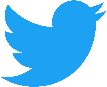
“When my daughter Susan died, as governor I was visible, and we had lots of memorial gifts sent to us. We got the idea that we could use our visibility – our tragedy – to make life better for other kids. Not to memorialize our daughter, but – to make her tragedy more meaningful. I was governor, but ours (loss) wasn’t any different from a lot of other families who suffer every day of the year.”

“One thing we found is that kids at camp wanted to know who Susan Curtis was. So we put a picture of her in the dining area, and they saw she was a child, like they are.

You know, there is nothing you can do to replace any human being in a family, but if you can help other people, well that’s good. And we probably have got one of the nicest summer camps in the whole state. It’s a tribute to the deserving kids of Maine and to the caring of the people.”

The began when Governor Ken Curtis and his wife Polly lost a daughter, Susan, to Cystic Fibrosis. They gathered a group of friends to research the needs of children within the state and discovered that many were unable to enjoy a camp experience due to the high-cost. The development of Camp Susan Curtis included opportunities for social and recreational skill development, positive role models to guide campers, and experiential education to promote learning and future aspirations. Nearly 18,000 campers have played, laughed, strengthened habits and skills, developed character, enjoyed friendships, and spent valuable time in the great outdoors while honoring Susan’s legacy.







**SOCIAL MEDIA**

A great way to be part of camp all year long is to join us on social media.

All pictures will be uploaded after the session ends.

Friends of Camp Susan Curtis

@campsusancurtis

camp\_susan\_curtis

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Terri Mulks, Camp Director

terri@susancurtis.org

**Susan Curtis Foundation Office**

**(October-April)**

1321 Washington Avenue, Suite 104, Portland, ME 04103

207-774-1552

**Camp Susan Curtis (May-September)**

236 Allen Road, Stoneham, ME 04231

207-928-2955

**www.susancurtis.org**

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**Accreditation & Licensing**

Camp Susan Curtis is licensed by the Maine Department of Health & Human Services, a member of Maine Summer Camps, and nationally accredited by the American Camp Association.

**CAMP CHECK IN/OUT** *Please plan 15-45 minutes from arrival to departure.*

**ASSIGNED SESSION DATES ARE IN THE EMAIL YOU RECEIVED WITH THIS INFORMATION.**

**Our friendly staff will guide you through the process!**

**Check In**: Sunday **Time**: 3:30-5:00 p.m. **Check Out**: Wednesday **Time**: 1:00 p.m.

All GPS/Mapping Tools will bring you to our front gate at **236 Allen Road, Stoneham**

**CHECK IN**

**Health:** All medications (over the counter/prescription) must be in the *original* *container* to hand to our Staff, who will also check in with your child about their recent health.

**Head Lice:** 10 days before Camp, please check your child for Head Lice and treat-2 applications, 7 days apart are required. If found while checking at camp, we will treat during the session.

**Gas Cards**: This year we will offer a $25 gas card to all vehicle drivers at Check In.

**CHECK OUT**

Please take a quick look to make sure camper has the items they started with!

**CAMPERS WILL ONLY BE RELEASED TO AN ADULT LISTED AS** **AN AUTHORIZED PICK UP**. *You may make changes to this list in UltraCamp until noon on Monday before Check Out.*

**The person picking up the camper (Authorized Adult)**

**MUST BE ON THE CAMPER LIST & HAVE PHOTO ID!**

*Driver’s License, Passport, State Issued ID, Work ID, School ID.*

**SAFETY FIRST. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

**BUS TRANSPORTATION** is offered free of charge. You can sign up by sending an email. Campers must take the bus in both directions. Times will be available before the session.

**Session 1**: Biddeford Park & Ride (32), Westbrook High School, Naples Public Library

**Session 2**: Presque Isle Boys & Girls Club, Bangor Park & Ride (182), Waterville-Mitchell School

**Session 3**: Waldoboro-Miller School, Topsham-Mt. Ararat High, Lewiston Park & Ride (80)

**Session 4**: Farmington-Cascade Brook School, Oxford-Rowe Elementary

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Where will my camper live?** In our beautiful lakeside cabins with plumbing (toilets, sinks, showers) and electricity. Each cabin has 8-10 same grade campers and at least 2 staff.

**Who are the campers?** 4th-11th graders from across Maine. 70% of our campers return each year to strengthen friendships, life skills, and healthy habits. All campers are referred through a school or community organization.

**Who are the staff?** They are compassionate, knowledgeable, and fun!  All have participated in intensive training worth 3 college credits that includes Behavior Management and Program Planning with an emphasis on the Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Social Health of campers.  Staff are in late high school, college, or career professionals.

**What are the activities at camp?** We have 6 Program Areas: Creative Arts, Emotional & Social Health, Science & Nature, Sports & Games, Teambuilding, and Waterfront. Evening Activities include campfires and Lip Sync Battle. Campers can choose from many things including Mountain Biking, Ropes Course, Pottery, Archery, Canoeing, Hiking, Basketball, Soccer, and much more! Swim Lessons are scheduled for Red and Yellow Level Traditional Campers.

**What will the campers eat?** The Dining Hall serves 3 balanced, nutritious, kid-friendly meals each day at 8:15 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.  There is a 3:00 p.m. snack.  Food from home is not allowed and will be stored in the office and returned at Check-Out.

**What if my camper is injured or ill?** Our Registered Nurse dispenses medications and takes care of routine illness and injury. Should a camper need further attention, we will call you to schedule an appointment with their regular health care provider.  We will contact a family member at the soonest opportunity in case of contagious illness or an emergency situation.

**What if I need to talk to my camper?** Mail time is special-write letters or send postcards and we will deliver! Have an emergency? Please call the office and we will work with you on the situation. It is important for our campers to adjust to camp without outside distractions to help them grow in their independence, build strong relationships, and make positive personal choices. Homesickness is common and we will call you if it moves beyond the first few days. It is often more difficult for the caregiver than for the camper as they are immersed in new experiences and having a lot of fun. We do encourage them to write to you! You can also call and our friendly and knowledgeable staff will check on them and get right back to you. With over 100 campers and 1 phone line, we ask that you don’t do this more than once.

**Will I see camp at Check In?** Campers stay at the field above camp until everyone has arrived so there is no opportunity to see camp on this busy day. We would love to have you attend our **Open House on Sunday, June 4 from 1:00 to 3:00** or contact us for an individual tour in May.

**BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS** The culture of CSC is one of joy and acceptance and includes a strengths-based collaborative behavior management model allowing our campers to experience meaningful success at camp.

We treat campers, staff, and families with these values and expect the same in return.

**Caring Citizenship Fairness**

**Respect Responsibility Trustworthiness**

Campers and staff are educated on these values and all interactions are positive and meet the child where they are in a particular moment.

We believe that all children deserve to have a fun and empowering camp experience that promotes discipline over punishment and extends second and third chances to show improvement and recover gracefully from mistakes.

We consider **interfering behavior** as words or actions that are not an immediate threat or danger to the mental, emotional, social, or physical health of an individual or group.

* **Examples**: not listening, inappropriate language, exaggerated stories or injuries, disrupting an activity, not participating
* **Intervention**: conversation between camper and staff with specific action steps to improve individual participation and group dynamic

We consider **aggressive behavior** as words or actions that are an immediate threat or danger to the mental, emotional, social, or physical health of an individual or group

* **Examples**: physical violence or self-harm, verbally abusive language, escalation of interfering behaviors, bullying, sexual overtures, possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or weaponry
* **Intervention:** discussion with a Leadership Team member, contact with a primary caregiver, and dismissal from camp for the session

**Our FIRST PRIORITY IS THE** *Mental, Emotional, Social, and Physical safety* of every camper and staff. We do not deprive anyone of basic comforts, punish, or humiliate. Whenever possible, behavior guidance will occur privately. Campers may sit in a designated area (porches, picnic tables, office) until they are ready to participate in a discussion or while they wait to go home.

**Confidentiality** protects our campers and families. Staff will not release information about campers to anyone that is not a recognized, authorized adult.

**Restraint**may become necessary to prevent harm or injury and will be used **ONLY** if a camper is an immediate threat or danger to themselves or another individual. The RN will be summoned to monitor the situation and provide medical expertise as necessary.

**Minor Participant Waiver, Release, Indemnification of All Claims & Covenant Not to Sue**

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. THIS DOCUMENT AFFECTS YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND IS LEGALLY BINDING. BY READING THIS AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING UNDERSTANDING IN THE REGISTRATION FORM YOU ARE RELEASING CAMP SUSAN CURTIS FROM ALL LIABILITY AND FOREVER GIVING UP ANY CLAIMS THEREFORE**

**Assumption of Risk**

I, in my legal capacity as parent/guardian of the minor named below (“Minor”), acknowledge and agree that any use of CAMP SUSAN CURTIS facilities, services, equipment and premises (“Facilities”) and any participation in CAMP SUSAN CURTIS programs and activities (“Programs”) comes with inherent risks including, but in no way limited to: (1) moderate and severe personal injury, (2) property damage, (3) disability, (4) death, and (5) sickness or disease including, without limitation, COVID-19. I voluntarily, for myself and Minor, accept and assume full responsibility for these risks as well as any and all other risks of the use of Facilities and participation in Programs. I agree that I have full knowledge of the nature and extent of all such risks and am not relying on all such risks being described in this document.

**Waiver, Release, Indemnification & Covenant Not to Sue**

In consideration of Minor’s use of Facilities and participation in Programs I, in my legal capacity as parent/guardian of Minor, agree on behalf of myself and Minor that CAMP SUSAN CURTIS, its officers, directors, agents, employees, volunteers, insurers and representatives (“Releasees”) will not be liable for any personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness or disease incurred by Minor, however occurring including, but not limited to, the negligence of Releasees. I understand that Minor and I will be solely responsible for any loss or damage, including personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness or disease sustained from the use of Facilities and participation in Programs.

I further agree, in my legal capacity as the parent/guardian of Minor, on behalf of Minor, myself, and any and all legal successors and proxies, to release and **HEREBY DO RELEASE, WAIVE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE** Releasees from any causes of action, claims, suits, liabilities or demands of any nature whatsoever including, but in no way limited to, claims of negligence, which Minor, myself, and any and all legal successors and proxies may have, now or in the future, against Releasees on account of personal injury, property damage, disability, death, sickness, disease or accident of any kind, arising out of or in any way related to the use of Facilities or participation in Programs, whether that participation is supervised or unsupervised, however the injury or damage occurs, including, but not limited to, the negligence of Releasees.

In further consideration of the use of Facilities and participation in Programs, I, in my legal capacity as parent/guardian of Minor, agree on behalf of myself and Minor to **INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS** Releasees from any and all causes of action, claims, demands, losses, suits, liabilities or costs of any nature whatsoever, including claims of negligence, arising out of or in any way related to the use of Facilities and participation in Programs.

**Acknowledgement for this document is on the Authorization Form in UltraCamp and part of the Registration Process.**