



Camp Fire

CAMP KIRBY

Camp Fire Samish & Camp Kirby Summer 2023 Handbook



4734 Samish Point Road • Bow, WA • 98232
Phone: (360) 255-7765 • Fax: (360) 733-5711
kathryn@campfiresamish.org • www.campfiresamish.org

Dear Camp Kirby Families,

Thank you for choosing Camp Kirby this summer! I look forward to welcoming you and your camper(s) at the beginning of their session. This coming year is one that we have been looking forward to for a long time, as it is Camp Kirby's Centennial! We can't wait to celebrate our 100th summer with all of you, and we are as committed as ever to creating a safe, fun, inclusive, and memorable camp experience for every camper that visits Camp Kirby. Whether this is your first summer with us, or your seventh, please take the time to review the following pages. This handbook contains useful information that we want both you and your camper to know so that your camper's time at Camp is as enjoyable as possible.

Details regarding our policies surrounding the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic will be available as we get closer to the start of Camp.

In this handbook you will find:

- Camp Kirby's goals and philosophies
- Packing lists for both Day and Resident Camps
- Camp Kirby's rules and expectations
- Other important reminders, policies, and information

As you review this information, please reach out if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Thank you again for entrusting us with your campers. We are eagerly anticipating the upcoming summer season, and I can't wait to meet you all then!



Kathryn "KitKat" Deshaies
Camp Kirby Camp Director

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	Page 5
Our Mission	
Camp Fire Promise	
Inclusion Statement	
Why a Camp Fire Camp?	
Goals and Philosophies	
Camp Kirby Staff.....	Page 6
Summer Camp Staff	
Camp Director	
Equal Opportunity Employer	
General Camp Kirby Information.....	Page 7
What is Camp Kirby?	
Where is Camp Kirby?	
What is Camp Kirby’s History?	
What are Camp Kirby's Facilities?	
ACA Accreditation	
What activities does Camp Kirby offer?	
What types of camps does Camp Kirby offer?	
Getting to Camp Kirby.....	Page 9
Directions	
Map	
Policies and Information for All Camps.....	Page 11
Cancellation and Refund Policies	
Camperships	
Open House	
Required Forms	
Emergencies	
Lost and Found	
Camper Possessions	
What Not to Bring	
Technology Free and Unplugged	
Birthdays at Camp	

Medical Information..... Page 13
 Health Form
 Medications
 Head Lice
 Health House
 Individualized Camper Success Plan (ICSP)

Camp Kirby Rules and Expectations..... Page 15
 Behavior Management
 Camp Kirby’s Rules for Staying Safe

Camp Kirby Code of Conduct..... Page 16

Day Camp Policies and Information..... Page 17
 Check-in and Pick-up Times
 Meals
 Activities
 Inclusion

Day Camp Packing List..... Page 19

Resident Camp Policies and Information..... Page 20
 Check-in/Drop-off
 Check-out/Pick-up
 Mail at Camp
 Policy on Homesickness and Phone Calls
 Camp Store
 Buddy Requests
 Activities
 Sleeping Cabins
 Meals
 Inclusion

Resident Camp Packing List..... Page 24

Introduction

Our Mission

We inspire and empower all youth to discover their spark, connect with others, develop leadership skills, build character, and thrive in the natural world.

Inclusion Statement

Camp Fire believes in the dignity and the intrinsic worth of every human being. We strive to create safe and inclusive environments that celebrate diversity and foster positive relationships.

Why a Camp Fire Camp?

Camp Fire is a national youth development organization that was founded in 1910. Camp Fire has always recognized that curious youth exploring the world need a secure place to grow up. For over 100 years we've provided that place, through in-school programs, after-school programs, and, last but certainly not least, summer camp. Camp Fire believes when youth get the chance to be outdoors, to work with others in community, and learn to respect nature, they also learn self-awareness and responsibility. We're proud of the role we have played—and continue to play—in guiding young lives to an appreciation of their own lives and the world we all live in.

Goals and Philosophies

The goals of the Camp Kirby program are relatively straightforward: each child has fun, learns new skills (both social and instrumental), faces and (whenever possible) successfully meets challenges, and leaves camp with a sense of accomplishment and good feeling about themselves.

We strive to offer activities that help campers develop their mental, emotional, social, and physical health. Additionally, we want our campers to develop awareness for the natural environment as well as build appreciation and responsibility for it.

We believe that when young people get the chance to be outdoors, to work with others in a community, and learn to respect nature, they also learn self-awareness and responsibility. Our objective is that your child will return home with new skills, new friends, and a greater sense of self-worth

Camp Kirby Staff

Summer Camp Staff

We take pride in our incredible seasonal summer staff. We know that one of the most crucial components of creating a high-quality camp experience is hiring a high-quality staff. Our staff members are carefully selected based on their character, commitment to youth development, and skills. These young adults come from all over the country, and bring with them unique backgrounds and skill sets. All staff go through extensive background checks, reference checks, and over a week of in-person staff training. This training includes topics such as child development, risk management, and so much more. Staff also receive certifications in First Aid/CPR, Camp Mental Health, and Stewards of Children which teaches how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. There is an overall ratio in camp of 1 staff member for every 4 campers. All campers are under the supervision of trained staff 24 hours a day.

Camp Leadership

Our summer seasonal staff is led by our Camp Director, Kathryn Deshaies.



Kathryn, otherwise known as “KitKat”, has more than fourteen years of experience working at Camp Kirby. She attended as a second-generation camper and as a counselor before being hired as the Camp Director in 2014. Kathryn, her husband, Aaron (“Olaf”), and children Keith (“Wiggles”) and Kelly (Camp name still to be decided) live in the Gatehouse at Camp Kirby. Kathryn has a BAE in Exceptionality and Disability from Western Washington University, and loves working for an inclusive organization. Kathryn loves that “every moment spent at Camp Kirby is a treasured memory; a chance for campers and staff alike to build a new friendship, learn a new skill, challenge their limits, or witness a miracle.”

Equal Opportunity Employer

Camp Fire Samish/Camp Kirby is an equal opportunity employer. Employment with Camp Fire Samish is available to all people without regard to race, gender, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, economic status, or mental or physical disabilities. We are committed to diversity.

General Camp Kirby Information

What is Camp Kirby?

Camp Kirby is a traditional youth camp that has been operating for 100 years, and is owned by Camp Fire Samish. Over 800 children experience our Camp each summer.

Where is Camp Kirby?

Camp Kirby is located on Samish Island in Bow, Washington. It is 1½ hours northwest of Seattle, and 45 minutes southwest of Bellingham. Samish Island is a drive-on island which is connected to the mainland.

What is Camp Kirby's History?

Camp Kirby was founded by Carrie Kirby as a Camp Fire Girl's Camp in 1923. In 1975, Camp Fire expanded to include boys, so Camp Kirby did as well. Today, we are a fully inclusive organization serving a diverse population of campers.

What are Camp Kirby's Facilities?

Kirby's facilities are rustic and complement the natural setting of 47 acres that includes 1½ miles of saltwater waterfront and over 20 acres of forest. Cabins are not heated but do mostly have limited electricity. Central bathroom facilities are shared by everyone. Kirby's emphasis is strongly placed on outdoor activities and focused on the natural environment. Camp Kirby is a drug, alcohol, and tobacco free atmosphere and site.

ACA Accreditation

ACA Accreditation means that the camp you are considering for your child cares enough to undergo a thorough (up to 290 standards) review of its operation — from staff qualifications and training to emergency management. American Camp Association® collaborates with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth-serving agencies to assure that current practices at the camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. Camps and ACA form a partnership that promotes summers of growth and fun in an environment committed to safety.

What activities does Camp Kirby offer?

Activities at camp are all about trying new things, challenging yourself, and having fun outdoors. We stress camper planning and choice, so kids have a chance to be in control of their week. Each week, campers will get to experience all of the activities that are open to their age group. Activities include archery, arts and crafts, music and drama, outdoor living skills, science and nature, waterfront, and our 40-foot climbing wall.

What types of camps does Camp Kirby offer?

Day Camp

We offer day camps throughout the summer for campers entering Kindergarten through 6th grade. Camper groups are determined by registration numbers and buddy requests. For more specific information on this year's Day Camps, please review the Day Camp section of this handbook.

Resident (Overnight) Camp

We also offer six weeks of Resident Camp in addition to one mini camp session. These camps are offered to campers entering 1st-12th grade (every grade level is not offered every week). For more specific information, please review the Resident Camp section of this handbook.

Campers are housed in the following units based on the grade the camper is entering the following Fall:

- **Crickets/Beachcombers** are 1st-3rd graders that live in our beachfront cabins. At this age, campers are introduced to basic camp activities.
- **Adventurers** are 4th-5th graders who also live in the beachfront cabins. More advanced programs, such as archery and canoeing, are introduced at this level.
- **HiTors** are 6th-7th graders who typically live in our elevated cabins, or "tree houses." They are challenged with activities such as our climbing wall, and funyaking.
- **MuaMis** are 8th-9th graders that generally live in either cabins in main camp OR our platform tent unit. They get to experience such activities as night archery, advanced canoeing, and advanced outdoor living skills.
- **Tanikas** are 10th-12th graders, and their program focuses on camper skills, leadership, and outdoor programs. These campers can also participate in night kayaking. Tanikas generally live in either cabins in main camp OR our platform tent unit.
- Our **CIT (Counselor-in-training)** program is for campers who are entering 11th and 12th grades and at least 16 years old. These campers are interested in building leadership skills, and possibly working at camp one day. The six-week course is split over two years and participation is determined through an application process each winter.

Getting to Camp Kirby

Most map apps will get you to Camp, but cell service can be spotty as you get close to Camp. Our address is 4734 Samish Point Rd. Bow, WA 98232.

Directions

COMING FROM THE NORTH:

- I-5 South to Bow Hill, Exit 236. Turn right on Bow Hill Road.
- Follow this road several miles through the towns of Bow and Edison. The road turns south and becomes Farm to Market Road.
- Just south of Edison, turn right on Bayview-Edison Road.
- Continue for several miles, crossing the Samish River and going through a large S-curve. As you come out of the curve, there is a road heading south toward Bayview. Continue straight, proceeding to the west (the road becomes Samish Island Road).
- Follow this road onto Samish Island. Proceed to *** below

COMING FROM THE SOUTH:

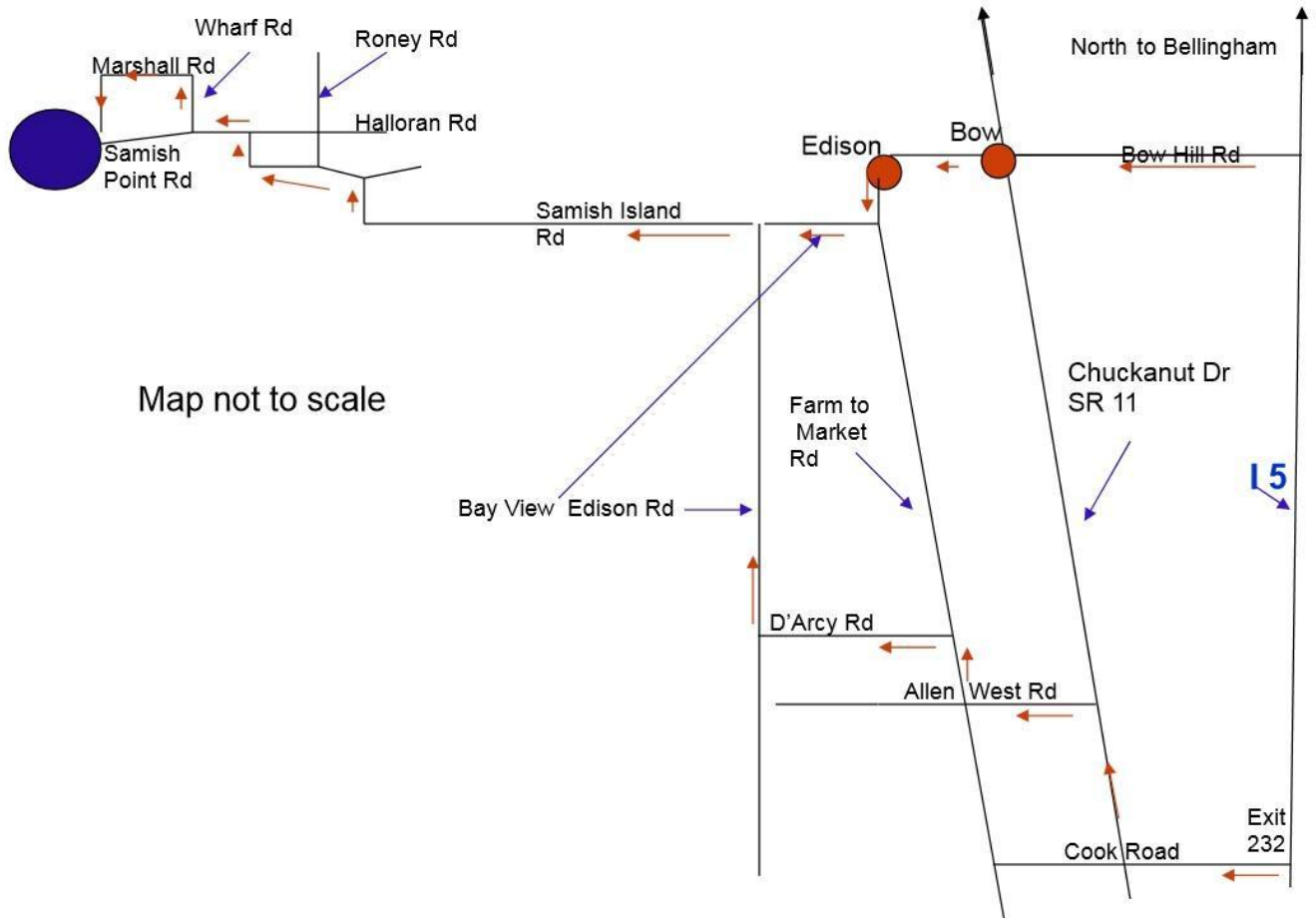
- I-5 North to Cook Road, Exit 232. Turn left on Cook Road.
- Right on SR-11 (Chuckanut Drive)
- Left on Allen West Road
- Right on Farm to Market Road
- Left on D'Arcy Road
- Right on Bayview-Edison Road
- Left on Samish Island Road
- Follow this road onto Samish Island. Proceed to *** below

*** ONCE ON SAMISH ISLAND:

- You will see the Samish Island Garden Club sign and bulletin board.
- Continue on Samish Island Road until you reach a 4-way stop (you will start seeing signs and arrows for Camp Kirby).
- Turn left at the stop sign (you will still be on Samish Island Road).
- Turn right at the next stop sign (Wharf Street).
- Go one block and turn left on Marshall Road.
- Follow Marshall Road until it dead ends at Samish Point Road.
- Turn left on Samish Point Road. When the road curves to the left; the Camp Kirby gate is on your right.

We have also attached a map on the next page. (Map is not to scale)

Map



Lining up for drop-off/pick-up

Please make sure to keep all roadways passable when lining up for drop-off/pick-up. This includes the driveway into camp. Pull off to the side of the road as much as you can, and do not block any intersections. If the line on Samish Point Road has reached Marshall Road, the next car should stop at the stop sign at the end of Marshall road.

Our neighbors are incredibly good to us, so please respect them by obeying speed limits in our community and following our directions to get to Camp. Thank you!

Policies and Information for All Camps

Cancellation and Refund Policies

The \$100 deposit per resident camp reservation is a non-refundable registration fee, as is the \$50 deposit per day camp reservation. Final payment is due, in full, by June 1st for all summer sessions. After June 1st, reservations may be made by paying in full. Any payments made beyond the deposit will be refundable until June 1st, or later in case of a medical cancellation. Financial aid recipients may be exempt from some of these policies.

If a camper leaves Camp early due to illness or injury, they may be able to transfer to a later session. If there is not a later season that will work, we will issue a non-transferrable pro-rated voucher that can be used in future years. If a camper leaves camp early or arrives late due to homesickness, code of conduct violations, or for any other reason, there will be no refund or pro-rated fees.

Camperships

Campership (Camp Scholarship/Financial Aid) funds are finite and will be funded on a first come, first served basis. Please email kathryn@campfiresamish.org or call the Camp Fire Office at (360) 255-7765 to request an application.

Open House

Our annual Camp Kirby Open House will be held on Sunday, April 23rd from 2PM-5PM. Our annual Spaghetti Feed will follow at 5PM for a \$10 suggested donation. Some camp activities (such as arts & crafts) will be open, and staff members will be available to give tours and answer any questions you or your camper may have. We hope to see you there!

Required Forms

Your camper(s) Health Form(s) and Waiver(s) need to be completed before your child attends camp. You may have filled this out during registration, or you could have chosen to skip it to complete later. Either way is fine, as long as a current form is received by **June 1st**. If you believe that your child would benefit from an Individualized Camper Success Plan (ICSP) to address any additional accommodations or needs while at Camp, please email Kathryn@campfiresamish.org.

Emergencies

All staff members are carefully trained in emergency procedures, first aid and CPR. In the event that your child becomes ill or injured to the point where they are no longer able to fully enjoy their time at Camp, we will make every effort to contact you and seek advanced medical help. If you need to contact us in case of an emergency, our Emergency phone number is (360) 389-3542. Please keep in mind that we are mostly outside monitoring camp activities, so this line is reserved for emergencies only. In a non-emergent situation, you may email the Camp Director at Kathryn@campfiresamish.org OR call the Camp office at (360) 255-7765.

Lost and Found

Lost and Found will be on display during camper pick-up, and will be held at our Bellingham Camp Fire office for one month after the summer season ends. Please label all of your camper's items so that they make it home with you!

Camper Possessions

In an attempt to protect campers' possessions, we have some policies regarding what is and is not allowed at Camp. Kids and clothes will get dirty. Please do not send new, expensive, or sentimental items to camp. We are not responsible for lost or damaged items. Camper clothing should be suitable for both sunny and rainy days. Be sure to bring enough clothing to stay warm and dry for the entire session. Additionally, it is a great idea to label everything with your child's full name – this helps us return the item to your child if it becomes Lost & Found. In order to keep everyone as comfortable as possible, we ask that clothing be free from political or offensive images or messages, as well as references to tobacco, drugs, or alcohol.

What Not to Bring

Please help us ensure that the following items are not brought to camp by checking what your child has packed. All bags will be checked upon arrival at Camp, and if any prohibited items are found they will be returned to the adult checking the camper in, or held by Camp Administration until check-out.

Please leave at home:

- All electronics including cell phones, music players, video games, tablets, laptops, and e-readers
- Personal sports and camping equipment
- Any item that may be considered a weapon, including firearms, knives, multi-tools, swords, etc.
- Matches, lighters, and fireworks
- Food (snacks, gum, candy, and drinks)
- Tobacco, alcoholic beverages, and illegal drugs
- Pets or other animals

Technology-Free and Unplugged

Camp Kirby is a technology-free site, and all of our Camp programs are completely unplugged. This policy directly relates to our goals and outcomes, as we strive to get children outside and experience as much of their natural surroundings as possible. Staff members carry two-way radios for inter-staff communication, and Camp administration have computers and phones for emergencies and parent communication.

Birthdays at Camp

We love celebrating our campers' birthdays! You are welcome to leave a gift at check-in to be delivered on your camper's birthday, as long as it does not contain any of our prohibited items (food, electronics, etc). We will make sure to celebrate your camper's birthday at a meal with a special treat from the kitchen and a card from our staff.

Medical Information

Health Form and Waiver

Your camper's health form and waiver must be completed by **June 1st**. You may have completed these during the registration process, or may have chosen to skip them to complete later. You can log back in to your UltraCamp account at any time to complete this form.

Medications

We understand that the proper administration of medications plays a vital role in the health and safety of our campers. Our staff handles the administration of all medication with professionalism and confidentiality. As indicated on our health form, the following over-the-counter medications are stocked at camp. You have an opportunity on your camper's health form to give permission for which medications we may give your camper as needed.

Acetaminophen (Tylenol)	Diphenhydramine antihistamine/allergy medicine (Benadryl)	Hydrocortisone cream
Loratidine		Aloe
Phenylephrine decongestant (Sudafed PE)	Dextromethorphan cough syrup (Robitussin DM)	Laxatives for constipation (Ex-Lax)
Pseudoephedrine decongestant (Sudafed)	Sore throat spray	Bismuth subsalicylate for diarrhea (Pepto-Bismol)
Antihistamine/allergy medicine	Generic cough drops	Ibuprofen (Advil; Motrin)
Guaifenesin cough syrup (Robitussin)	Calamine lotion	
	Antibiotic cream	

All other medications that your camper may need while at Camp must be brought in their original bottle, and delivered to the nurse on duty during camper drop-off. To expedite this process, please have your camper's current medications listed in your UltraCamp account. If your child takes medication for the treatment of hyperactivity, impulsivity, ADHD, etc. we highly recommend that you do not discontinue their medication while at camp.

Head Lice

We understand the difficulties of head lice in a camp setting and are very cautious about preventing and doing all we can to keep lice out of our community. It's important to remember that head lice do not carry or spread disease – they're just a nuisance. Each camper will go through a head check by a trained staff member, as part of their wellness check upon arrival to Camp. If active head lice are found, the camper will not be admitted to Camp and will need to go home for treatment.

Health House

Our health care facility is staffed 24/7 and is under the supervision of a Registered Nurse (RN). Here, campers can receive treatment for injuries that involve minimal care and have medications administered. Local EMS services have a less than 10-minute response time in case of an emergency.

We will contact you about your child's health at camp, if:

- Your camper has an injury or illness that removes them from activities for a prolonged period of time.
- Your camper has an injury or illness that requires them to stay in Health House overnight.

You will be notified immediately if:

- It is determined that your camper needs additional medical care away from camp. You will be provided updates as we are able to do so.
- Your camper's illness, injury, or emotional health present concerns for their ability to have a positive experience at camp.
- We feel there is a concern for your camper's mental health state.

Individualized Camper Success Plan (ICSP)

If your camper would benefit from any accommodations or extra help while at Camp, please contact Kathryn to fill out an ICSP for them. Our inclusion team works hard to ensure that each and every camper has a successful Camp week. Equity and inclusion are two of the key values behind Camp Kirby's programming.

Camp Kirby Rules and Expectations for Campers

Behavior Management

The Camp Fire philosophy of behavior management builds on a child's need to develop a sense of self-worth. Our program has been carefully planned to foster positive behavior. To accomplish this, the staff encourages children to learn to solve problems and settle differences among themselves. The site and the activities are set up to promote positive interactions among children.

All campers will be expected to:

- Be safe
- Abide by all health and safety rules.
- Respect people and property

When campers arrive at Camp, they will be taught Camp Kirby's site-specific rules (see below) that are required for all groups. Within their own cabin group, they will also develop a set of norms for their week at Camp.

Camp Kirby's Rules for Staying Safe

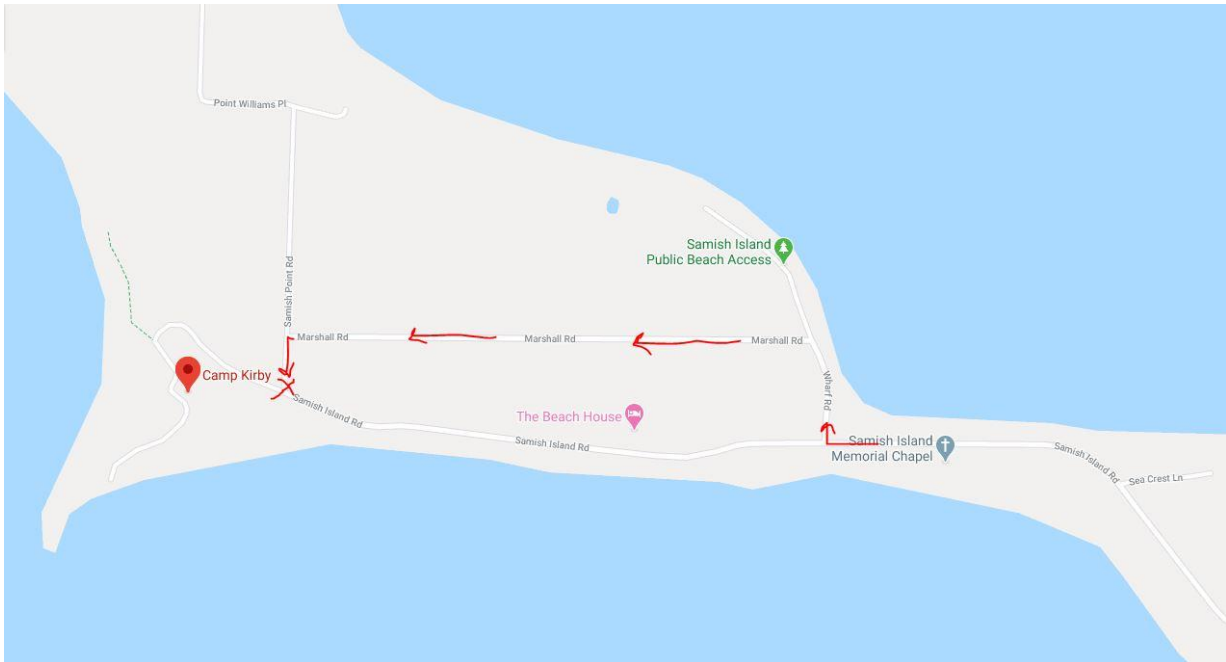
- At Camp we use the buddy system at all times.
- Camp is on a septic system, and toilets must be treated with care.
- At Camp we wear sturdy shoes, AT ALL TIMES, that are appropriate for the activity (closed-toed shoes are preferred). All sandals must have a heel strap.
- When on the beach or in the woods, campers must be accompanied by a counselor.
- There are certain areas at Camp that we do not walk in or climb on (septic areas, the story pole, etc.). These will be pointed out during your camper's camp tour on their first day.
- For safety, we only run when on grass. Inside of buildings and on gravel we walk.
- At Camp we value the privacy of others. For this reason we have a no public changing policy, and take extra care in respecting each other during vulnerable moments (changing, showering, etc).
- Respect yourself, others, and Camp Kirby.

Day Camp Policies and Information

Check-in and Pick-up

Day Camp Drop-off is from 9:00-9:15AM, and pick-up is at 4:00PM. Drop-off and pick-up will be organized at the top of the hill in order to keep two-way traffic off of the hill. Photo ID will be required and checked for camper pick-up. Anyone who will be picking up your child will need to be listed as an "authorized pick-up" on their account. You may have entered some names during registration, but can log in and edit this at any time.

Please follow the below route to get to Camp Kirby (there are also signs and arrows once you get close to Camp). The roads near camp are narrow, with occasional blind curves, so we keep traffic going one-way as you approach and leave Camp. Please note that speed limits as you come and go from Camp are 20-25MPH, and respect our wonderful community by not speeding. Following these guidelines will help keep our campers and neighbors safe!



Meals

You are responsible for packing a lunch and snack for your camper each day. We recommend that you pack extras as well to keep your camper energized for a full day of fun. Please also send your camper with a water bottle.

Activities

Camp Kirby Day Camp activities include arts & crafts, themed activities, outdoor living skills, nature exploration, games, songs, and much more! Please note that waterfront activities are not offered for our Day Campers, but we will make sure to stay cool through sprinkler play and other water games.

Inclusion

Inclusion is one of our core values, and we believe that every camper should have the opportunity to experience camp, and be their true and authentic self. We seek to include anyone and everyone including (but not limited to), LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, individuals with disabilities, medical conditions, dietary restrictions and families experiencing poverty or homelessness.

At Camp Kirby we welcome and affirm LGBTQIA2S+ campers and staff, and we support the ability of campers to use pronouns that align with their gender identity.

We seek to create a positive camp culture where everyone feels welcome and safe to express themselves free from judgment. We intentionally provide training to staff about the importance of inclusive practices to better suit the diverse needs of each camper. During camp, the Inclusion Specialist and Wellness Coordinator work directly with counselors to provide resources and support for campers and communicate with parents during the camp session as needed.

Camp Kirby actively collaborates with families to create an Individualized Camper Success Plan (ICSP) for those who may require additional support during their time at camp. These forms help us preemptively accommodate and make any necessary modifications prior to the camper's arrival.

CAMP KIRBY DAY CAMP PACKING LIST

Each camper will need to bring the following each day (packed in a small backpack is preferred)

- Sweatshirt or jacket
- Sunscreen
- Closed-toe shoes or sandals (Ex: Hiking boots, tennis shoes, Keens)
- Long pants (recommended, or brought in backpack)
- Spare change of clothes
- Sack Lunch and snacks
- Water Bottle

Clothing

Mornings can be cool and breezy so be sure your child wears/brings a sweatshirt or jacket. Dressing in layers so your camper can peel down as the temperature warms up is best. Remember to apply sunscreen at home. Send sunscreen with your campers so they can reapply it if necessary. All campers must wear socks and sturdy shoes with CLOSED heels and toes. For your child's protection, long pants are recommended for some activities.

DO NOT BRING TO CAMP

The following items are not allowed at camp. These items, if found, will be confiscated and returned to the parents/guardians. Some items, such as weapons or drugs, will result in the camper being sent home immediately.

- ALL electronics including: Cell phones, music players, video games, tablets, laptops, smart watches, and e-readers
- Firearms, Fireworks, or Weapons (including pocket knives)
- Alcohol, Drugs, or Tobacco
- Pets/animals

Resident Camp Policies and Information

Check-in/Drop-off

Camper check-in/drop-off is staggered on Sunday afternoons for all sessions. If a family has more than one camper attending a session, please arrive during the earliest camper's designated time. You'll be able to check all of your children in then.

Check-in arrival windows:

CITs - 2:00-2:30PM

Beachcomber/Tanika Units – 2:30-3:00PM

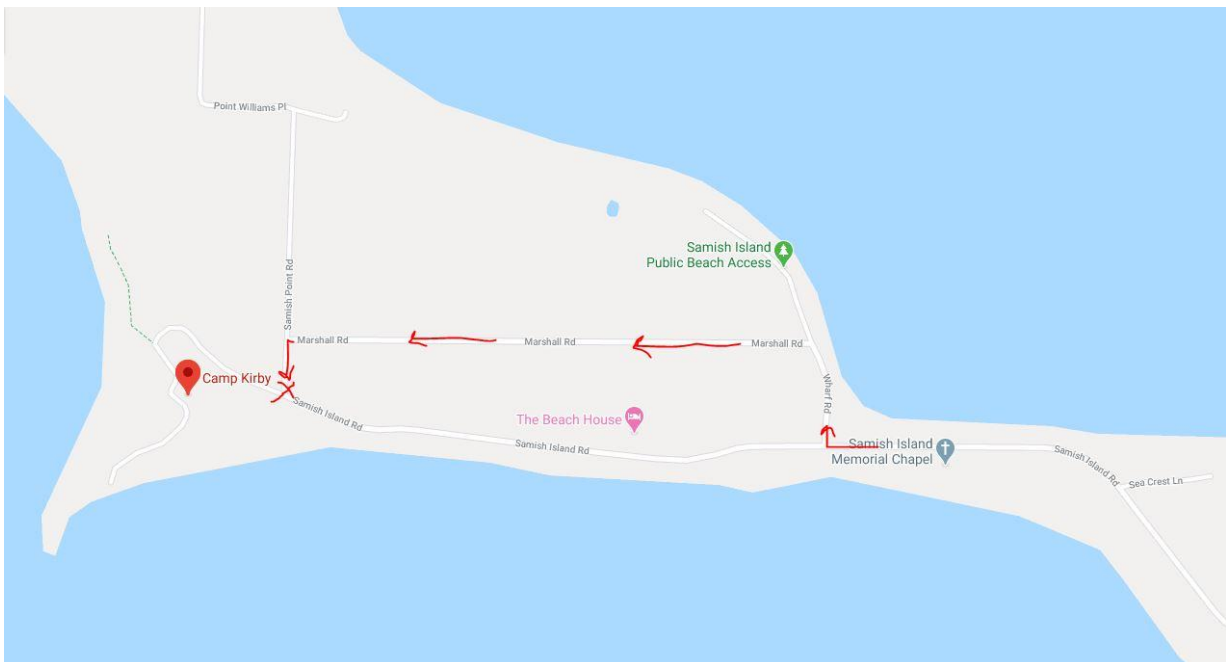
Adventurer Unit – 3:00-3:30PM

HiTor Unit - 3:30-4:00PM

MuaMi Unit – 4:00-4:30PM

If you arrive early, a line will form at the gate at the top of the hill. Once the gate opens, you will be directed by Camp Kirby staff members. A wellness check, bag check, and trip to the Kirby Store are all part of the check-in process. Please plan on check-in taking 30-60 minutes. The speed limit on Camp property is 5 MPH. Please, **no pets** at camp.

Please follow the below route to get to Camp Kirby (there are also signs and arrows once you get close to Camp). The roads near camp are narrow, with occasional blind curves, so we keep traffic going one-way as you approach and leave Camp. Please note that speed limits as you come and go from Camp are 20-25MPH, and respect our wonderful community by not speeding. Following these guidelines will help keep our campers and neighbors safe!



Check-out/Pick-up

Camper pick-up is 10:00-11:00AM on Saturday for all 1-week sessions. For our mini camp session, pick up is 10:00-11:00AM on Wednesday. Please do not arrive early for pick-up! If you do arrive early, a line will form at the gate at the top of the hill. Once the gate opens, promptly at 10:00AM, you will be directed by Camp Kirby staff. Whoever is picking up your camper, including yourself, will need to show photo ID to staff at the check-out table in the lodge. These individuals will also need to be listed as "authorized pick-ups" in your child's UltraCamp account. The speed limit on Camp property is 5 MPH. Please **no pets** at camp.

Mail at Camp

Mail at camp is very important! Campers are encouraged to write home, and our campers LOVE to receive mail during their session. Mail can be dropped off at the check-in table on Sunday for delivery during the week. This is a great option because it saves you on postage, and ensures that your child's mail will arrive on time. **Please do NOT send food or candy** as this brings critters into the cabins and creates many extra problems. All packages will be opened under the supervision of a staff member, and any food or candy will be held by the Camp Director until pick-up at the end of the week. You can also mail letters and packages addressed to Camper's name, Camp Kirby, 4734 Samish Point Rd, Bow, WA 98232. **Allow at least 4-7 days** for your mail to reach Camp Kirby. If a camper's mail arrives at Camp before they do, it WILL be held and delivered once they arrive. Any mail received after a child has left Camp Kirby will be marked "Return to Sender".

Policy on Homesickness and Phone Calls

Our staff is extensively trained in how to handle homesickness; however, should a camper persist in homesickness, we will call you for advice on how you would like us to handle the situation. Our director is happy to talk to parents who want to "check" on their campers, but campers will not be called to the phone unless it is an emergency. In a non-emergent situation, you may contact the Camp Director at Kathryn@campfiresamish.org OR (360) 255-7765.

Camp Store

The camp store will be open on opening and closing days and throughout the week for the campers. **All money brought to camp must be checked in at the camp store during the check-in process**, and an account will be kept for these campers. Money can also be added through your UltraCamp account. The store sells Kirby sweatshirts (\$30) and t-shirts (\$15), camp souvenirs, postcards and stamps, flashlights and batteries, and so much more. The Kirby store does **not** stock any food or candy. All account balances over \$10.00 will be refunded at the end of the summer season, unless you have chosen to donate the remainder. Any account balance of \$10.00 or less will NOT be refunded, and will instead be donated to benefit Camp Kirby.

Buddy Requests

We do our best to accommodate any buddy requests that your camper may have. With that being said, some cabins only sleep so many campers (for example, in our HiTor unit, the treehouses sleep four campers each) so large friend groups may need to be split between two cabins. If your camper has a friend in a different grade, please contact our Camp Director to see if your request can be accommodated.

Activities

Activities at camp are all about trying new things, challenging yourself, and having fun outdoors. We stress camper planning and choice, so kids have a chance to be in control of their week. Each week, campers will get to experience all of the activities that are open to their age group. During a typical week-long session, campers can expect to do each activity at least once, with options to do activities more than once if time and scheduling allows.

All Ages: Arts & Crafts, Music & Drama, Outdoor Living Skills, Science & Nature, Swimming, Waterplay, and Row Boats

4th Grade and up: Archery and Canoeing

6th Grade and up: Kayaking and 40-foot Climbing Tower

8th Grade and up: Night Canoeing and Night Archery

10th Grade and up: Night Kayaking

Groups/Sleeping Cabins

Depending on their unit, campers may sleep in a cabin, treehouse, or platform tent. In most cases, campers are assigned to single-gender cabins based on their grade. For campers whose identified gender does not match their assigned sex, we invite you to select the cabin option that best suits you. Private bathrooms, showers, and changing areas are available to all campers.

In most cases, campers are assigned to a Cabin Counselor of the same gender. In some cases, counselors are selected to work with children of a different gender. Staff members are situated in bedrooms within the cabin, or in a tent just beside the camper's tent, but do not reside in the same enclosed space as campers. Staff members are still easily accessible, and can immediately hear if a camper needs assistance. This policy gives both campers and staff a reasonable amount of privacy for changing and sleeping.

We want to be inclusive of the needs of all campers and parents, so please let us know in your registration if you have any strong preferences regarding your child's housing or counselor assignment.

Meals

All meals are served family-style in our main lodge, and campers eat at a table with their cabin group. Campers have many choices, and our menu is “kid friendly” offering all of the components separately (ex: on spaghetti night, the noodles, sauce, and meatballs are all in separate serving containers). At both lunch and dinner, we offer a salad bar for anyone who chooses to visit it. Our kitchen staff also prepares meals to meet any dietary needs that we know of ahead of time (gluten-free, vegetarian, vegan, dairy-free, etc). Please make sure to note this on your camper’s health form, and during the registration process. Please also let us know at check-in if your camper’s dietary needs have changed since you completed your paperwork.

Inclusion

Inclusion is one of our core values, and we believe that every camper should have the opportunity to experience camp, and be their true and authentic self. We seek to include anyone and everyone including (but not limited to), LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, individuals with disabilities, medical conditions, dietary restrictions and families experiencing poverty or houselessness.

At Camp Kirby we welcome and affirm LGBTQIA2S+ campers and staff, and we support the ability of campers to use pronouns that align with their gender identity.

We seek to create a positive camp culture where everyone feels welcome and safe to express themselves free from judgment. We intentionally provide training to staff about the importance of inclusive practices to better suit the diverse needs of each camper. During camp, the Inclusion Specialist and Wellness Coordinator work directly with counselors to provide resources and support for campers and communicate with parents during the camp session as needed.

Camp Kirby actively collaborates with families to create an Individualized Camper Success Plan (ICSP) for those who may require additional support during their time at camp. These forms help us preemptively accommodate and make any necessary modifications prior to the camper’s arrival.

CAMP KIRBY RESIDENT CAMP PACKING LIST

All Campers will need the following items

- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Water Bottle
- Toiletries
- Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Shampoo and Soap
- Deodorant
- Feminine product supplies
- Sunscreen and Chapstick
- Insect Repellent
- Washcloth and large towels for showers/swims
- Flashlight with batteries
- Socks and Underwear for the week
- T-shirts and Shorts
- Long pants and jeans (long pants are required for some activities)
- Sweatshirt (even during a warm week, nights can get chilly)
- Warm jacket
- Athletic swimsuit appropriate for boating activities (2 are a good idea)
- Warm sleepwear (Monday is pajama breakfast!)
- Water shoes: Your child will need shoes they can wear in the water and on the beach to protect them from injury. Examples: Keens, Tevas, aqua socks, or old tennis shoes with laces. If using a sandal, it must have a heel strap.
- Two pairs of sturdy shoes for playing, running, and hiking
 - At least one pair must be closed-toe
 - Sandals MUST have a heel strap
- Nice, clean outfit for Candle light dinner

Optional or Suggested Items

- Disposable camera with name on it
- Extra blanket
- Pre-addressed/stamped envelopes for writing letters home
- Rain gear (jacket, boots, etc)
- Bedtime books and/or stuffed animals for sleeping
- Journal and pen/pencil
- Sunglasses

DO NOT BRING TO CAMP

The following items are not allowed at camp. These items, if found, will be taken at check-in or confiscated and returned to the parents/guardians. Some items, such as weapons or drugs, will result in the camper being sent home immediately.

- ALL electronics including: Cell phones, music players, video games, tablets, laptops, smart watches, video cameras, and e-readers.
- Firearms, Fireworks, or Weapons (including pocket knives)
- Alcohol, Drugs, or Tobacco
- Pets/animals
- Please do not bring or send any snack food, gum, or candy to camp. Snacks are provided each day as well as 3 meals a day.