



PARENT HANDBOOK

Revised April 11, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A LETTER TO PARENTS	3
REGISTERING FOR CAMP	4
REQUIRED FORMS FOR CAMPERS.....	4
DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH FORMS.....	4
REFUND POLICY.....	5
ACCOUNT BALANCE.....	5
CAMP STORE.....	5
CABIN ASSIGNMENTS	5
HEALTH AND ALLERGY-RELATED NEEDS.....	6
HEALTH PROCEDURES	6
FOOD ALLERGIES.....	6
GETTING TO CAMP	7
DIRECTIONS TO NORTHERN FRONTIER	7
DROPPING OFF.....	7
PICKING UP	7
CHARTER BUS.....	8
CONTACTING A CAMPER.....	9
CAMPER PACKING LIST	10
WHAT TO BRING	10
WHAT NOT TO BRING.....	10
LOST & FOUND	11
PERSONAL PROPERTY INSPECTION	11
STAFF HIRING PROCEDURES	12
CAMP STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION	12
POLICIES AND POSITIONS.....	13
DISRUPTIVE CAMPER POLICY	13
POSITION ON GENDER IDENTITY	13
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	14
OFF-SEASON CONTACT	14
SUMMER SEASON CONTACT	14

A LETTER TO PARENTS

Let me introduce you to an experience your son will remember forever—a week at Northern Frontier Camp. Nestled in the heart of the Adirondack Park, our camp features many spectacular sites, including a breathtaking waterfall, the headwaters of the Hudson River, gorgeous vistas, serene ponds, captivating caves, and native wildlife.

At Northern Frontier Camp, your son will be challenged to grow in his faith in Christ through adventures in the great outdoors. Campers explore God’s Word throughout the day while learning skills like shooting a bow, rock climbing, sailing, woodworking, wilderness camping, and much more! Our counseling staff exists to ensure your son’s success by providing an environment that is encouraging and supportive.

Your son will hear about God’s truth and see it lived out through his counselors. Our well-trained staff members foster healthy relationships, teach attainable skills, instruct in God’s Word, and model Christian leadership. At Northern Frontier, we maintain a high standard for staff acceptance. There are two counselors for every cabin of eight campers, a 1-to-4 ratio that ensures close supervision and personal counseling.

We support an integrated method of biblical teaching. Campers will hear about God in various ways, including daily Bible Exploration and evening campfires as well as the personal testimonies of our staff. Each activity offers countless teachable moments for your son to see Christ lived out through a counselor’s witness. A day at camp is full of unique experiences, most of which would not be possible anywhere else.

Our Father and Son programs are a significant component of our ministry. The Tree Climber program runs alongside our regular summer camp sessions and is designed for dads with sons ages 6 through 8. We offer special Father and Son Fishing and Canoeing trips throughout the season. Our final week of camp concludes with back-to-back Father and Son retreats. It is part of our vision to see dads build strong bonds with their boys.

We believe you have wisely chosen to send your son to Northern Frontier. We hope that his stay with us will be one of the best experiences of his life.

Sincerely,



Chris Studley
Camp Director

REGISTERING FOR CAMP

STEP 1

Northern Frontier utilizes UltraCamp administration software to manage our camper and staff registration process. Sign in with an existing account, or create one if this is your first time making a reservation. To sign in or create your account, visit our website (www.northernfrontier.org) and click the red “Login” button at the top. You will be redirected to our reservation portal.

STEP 2

Once your user account has been created, you can view our available camp sessions and follow the prompts to register your son for Northern Frontier.

REQUIRED FORMS FOR CAMPERS

Several forms must be filled out as part of our camper registration.

Camper Health History (Parent)

This form is necessary for your son to receive medical care while attending Northern Frontier and medical care. This form is filled out electronically through our online system.

Camper Health History (Physician)

A licensed physician must perform a physical examination within 24 months of a camper’s arrival at camp.

Meningococcal Meningitis Vaccination Response Form

We are required by NY State Public Health Law to maintain a completed Meningococcal Meningitis Vaccination response form for every camper who attends camp for seven or more nights.

A Note From the Parents

This form provides us with essential insights concerning your son. Any information you share remains confidential and is only shared with necessary personnel. Your cooperation in filling out this form indicates some of his interests, needs, and characteristics, which can be helpful details for his counselors.

Acknowledgment of Risk and COVID-19 Liability Waivers

Signing these risk and liability waiver forms permits your son to participate in camp activities.

DIRECTIONS FOR HEALTH FORMS

1. Complete Form 1 Camper Health History (Parent/Guardian) online through our UltraCamp system.
2. Download and print Form 2 Camper Health History (Physician) by going into your UltraCamp account. From the top menu, go to Additional Options, then select Document Center and download.
3. Bring Form 2 to the camper’s healthcare provider for review and completion.
4. Upload the completed form to UltraCamp before arriving at camp. You may also update Form 1 at any time.

REFUND POLICY

Your deposit is non-refundable except for a family death or serious accident/illness. Notification must be made as soon as practicable. If cancellation for any other reason is made 7 days or less before a camper's planned arrival, the remainder of the camp fees will not be refunded. If you believe that you have circumstances that deserve special consideration, please contact the Camp Director, who has discretion in these affairs.

ACCOUNT BALANCE

Any balance of your camp cost is due June 15. You may pay your balance by credit card at our website (northernfrontier.org). If you pay by check or money order, please mail your balance to the Registrar so that it arrives by June 15. If you need to make other arrangements, contact the Registrar (kstudley@northernfrontier.org).

CAMP STORE

A camp store is operated where snacks, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats, and other items can be purchased. The most common amount deposited in the store is \$30.00 per week for snacks plus additional funds for clothing items. Money spent is deducted from this amount, and the balance is returned at the end of the camp stay.

You can add funds to a camper's account through the UltraCamp online system. For more details, go to www.northernfrontier.org/add-funds. Please notify our camp office if additional funds are added during a camper's stay. You may deposit funds by cash or check while the camper is being dropped off.

Campers can submit an offering from their camp store during the Chapel Service on Sunday. Offertory is given to our alumni who have answered God's call toward missions.

CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

The Program Directors make cabin assignments for Stockade and Battalion a few days before each session begins. Boys are put in cabins by age. One cabin mate request per camper is usually honored if the boys are within 12 months of age and registering for the same program.

HEALTH AND ALLERGY-RELATED NEEDS

HEALTH PROCEDURES

- Your son will be checked upon arrival by our camp health professional. Any camper who arrives ill will be sent home after consulting with parents.
- All medications must be given to the health professional upon admission. The exceptions to this are inhalers and “epi-pens” for asthma, other respiratory conditions, or bee stings.
- All medications the Health Professional administers require a written order from your physician. This includes over-the-counter medications and vitamins.
- All medications must be in the original bottle. Prescription medications must be in their original bottle with clearly labeled instructions (dosage, frequency, etc.) from your physician.
- Our Health Hut stocks over-the-counter (OTC) medications anyone might need. Since all medications must be kept in the Health Hut, we request that you not send OTC medications to camp with your son. This includes non-prescription vitamins.
- Northern Frontier’s menu is reviewed and approved by a Licensed Nutritionist each year to ensure it provides for the camper’s complete physical needs.
- Should your son become ill or injured so that he must stay in the Health Hut overnight or see medical personnel outside of camp, you will be notified by phone as early as possible in the decision-making process.

FOOD ALLERGIES

If your son has a food allergy, carefully note the specifics on his medical form and the “A Note from the Parents” form. In addition, to ensure our food service staff can provide for his special needs, we request that you call our Food Service Director (Kelly Studley, kstudley@northernfrontier.org) well before your son is scheduled to arrive at camp to discuss your son’s situation. Northern Frontier is not a diet-specialty camp, but we will work with you as possible to allow your son to come to camp.

GETTING TO CAMP

DIRECTIONS TO NORTHERN FRONTIER

1. New York State Thruway to Exit 24 (Route 87 Northway)
2. Route 87 Northway to Exit 23 (Warrensburg)
3. At the end of the ramp, take a left and travel .1 mile to the traffic light.
4. Take a right onto Route 9N.
5. Follow Route 9N for 4.1 miles.
6. Take a left onto Route 28N.
7. Follow Route 28N for 24.5 miles. The Northern Frontier Camp sign identifies our driveway on the right side of the road.

DROPPING OFF

On Saturdays, staff members are assigned to welcome you at the Welcome Center, camp, and the camp office.

Saturday is a VERY busy day at Northern Frontier, with campers moving in and out of camp. The camp road is staffed at both ends and runs one way at a time, so there may be a wait as our vans, parents, and campers are coming and going.

Our camp road is a very rough road for most cars. It is 3 miles long, very scenic, and ideally one-way traffic. You must navigate blind corners (please honk your horn), rocks, steep hills, loose stones, and mud. We recommend vehicles with good clearance, all-wheel or 4-wheel drive, 5-12 miles per hour, and low gear. At about 1.7 miles (just after the swamp), the state hiking trail to OK Slip Falls uses our road for 30 yards, PLEASE drive 5 mph here.

If you prefer not to drive your car, not a problem! Park near the welcome center, and we will drive you and your camper(s) into camp. Our vans run trips in and out of camp starting at 10:00 am on Saturdays. Let the camp office know if you'd like to pick up at the end of the camp road when you return for your camper.

Upon arrival, every camper must first meet with the camp nurse. Entering through the Stockade side of the dining hall, campers will check in and hand over ALL medications (including over-the-counter). Exiting through the Battalion porch, campers must immediately meet with the Camp Registrar to get their cabin assignment. This is also an opportunity to deposit funds into the camp store account. From there, campers will bring their gear to the cabin. Plenty of friendly staff members are available to help with luggage if needed.

Parents should plan their time in camp wisely. You are welcome to see your camper at his cabin and briefly walk around the property. When exiting camp, we encourage parents to re-enter our road system by 11:45. Any later, vehicles will likely be held up to accommodate our charter bus's arrival.

PICKING UP

During the check-in process, you will be allowed to indicate how your camper will be picked up. If your camper is to be picked up by someone other than their legal custodial parent or guardian, you must indicate that during drop off. Please contact us during the week if anything changes with your pickup plans.

Each camper must be signed out by the adult designated during drop-off. Pick-up starts at 10:00 AM on Saturday. It is recommended to plan your departure before 11:00 AM.

CHARTER BUS

The Charter Bus makes two stops, one at Hawthorne Gospel Church and the second at the Newburg Shortline Bus Stop. Northern Frontier provides an adult bus counselor for each trip to and from camp.

All luggage must be labeled with your camper’s name, address, and phone number. The Bus Company requires that foot lockers or trunks cannot be larger than 30x15x12 inches.

	<u>Departure To Camp</u>	<u>Arrival From Camp</u>
Hawthorne Gospel Church	8:30 AM	5:00 PM
Shortline Bus Stop (Newburgh)	9:30 AM	4:00 PM

Note: There are no incoming campers on the last Saturday of Camper Camp (Week 6). The bus that takes campers home will leave earlier and arrive at the Shortline Bus Stop in Newburgh at 12:30 PM, then the Hawthorne Gospel Church at 1:30 PM.

CONTACTING A CAMPER

TELEPHONE

The camp phone is for camp business only. Calls to or from campers are not permitted except for emergencies and must be pre-approved by the Camp Director.

USPS MAIL

Parents are encouraged to write to their sons while they are at camp. On the lower left corner of the envelope, please write the program your son is in, his cabin number (if known), and the dates he is at camp (i.e., Stockade Cabin 5, July 2-9). Address your envelope as follows:

Your Son's Name
C/O Northern Frontier Camp
PO Box 295
North River, NY 12856

EMAIL

Your son may receive one e-mail per day. No pictures or attachments are permitted. We will print and deliver only the first page of any e-mail (including headers). Please remember that, by its nature, e-mail at camp is not confidential.

The easiest way to email your camper or staff member is through the NF website. Go to www.northernfrontier.org/email-form. It's that simple. Your son will not have the opportunity to send e-mails from camp.

WHAT TO WRITE

When you write or e-mail your son, ask him what he is doing and tell him what you are doing. Refrain from statements like, "I miss you so much," "I can't wait for you to come home," or "The dog sure misses you." As well-meant as these statements are, they can cause a camper to feel homesick.

VISITOR POLICY

There are no times when campers can be visited during camper sessions. Call the office to schedule a suitable time to visit the camp for other purposes.

CAMPER PACKING LIST

WHAT TO BRING

GEAR

- Bible, journal, and pen
- Flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries
- Hat
- Water bottle
- (Optional) Camera, Fishing gear, Hiking backpack

TOILETRIES

- Comb or brush
- Body soap and shampoo
- Showering towel and washcloth
- Swimming towel
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent

CLOTHES

- Underwear (daily change)
- Cotton socks (daily change)
- Wool blend socks (1-2 pair, for hiking)
- Shorts (3-4 pair)
- Jean or hiking pants (2-3 pair)
- Sweat pants
- Bathing suit (2 pair)
- Rain jacket
- Sweatshirt (2 pair)
- Sneakers
- Hiking shoes or boots
- Water shoes or sandals (for swimming and showering)

SLEEPING

- Pillow
- Sleeping back or sheets and blankets (for a bunk in the cabin)
- Additional sleeping bag (for overnight camping)

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Northern Frontier is designed to be a wilderness summer camp experience. Electronic devices, including two-way radios, games, audio or video recorders or players, radios, computers, tablets, or cell phones, are prohibited. Also, since Northern Frontier provides whatever knives are needed for our activities, no knives are to be brought by Battalion and Stockade campers. If your son is in a special program or on a trip, a separate packing list is accessible on our website www.northernfrontier.org.

LOST & FOUND

Please mark belongings with indelible ink or labels. Impress your camper's need for responsibility in caring for his personal belongings. We make a diligent effort to return lost items to campers before they go home. Items left at camp can be returned only if marked, requested by mail, and estimated return postage is included. After August 31st unclaimed items will be discarded.

PERSONAL PROPERTY INSPECTION

We take the well-being of your son and all other campers in our charge very seriously. Therefore, should the Camp Director determine the sufficient cause, we reserve the right to inspect a camper's belongings for anything dangerous to that camper or others or detract from Northern Frontier's ministry.

STAFF HIRING PROCEDURES

We seek to hire competent young men committed to serving Jesus Christ at Northern Frontier. For your information, here is an outline of our hiring procedures when considering potential staff.

All staff applicants must:

1. Complete a staff application.
2. Submit three references (Adult acquaintance, Pastor, and Supervisor references).
3. Submit themselves to a background check which includes the National and NY State Sex Offender Registry.
4. Conduct a phone interview with Assistant Camp Director or Camp Director.
5. Sign and agree to our Statement of Faith and Standard of Christian Living.
6. Attend our mandatory Pre-camp staff training sessions.

CAMP STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION

We adhere to the NYS Department of Health and its regulations to receive our operating permit.

Northern Frontier meets rigorous standards the ACA sets yearly.



We are also a Christian Camp & Conference Association member, a network of like-minded camp ministries that creates partnerships regionally and nationally.



POLICIES AND POSITIONS

DISRUPTIVE CAMPER POLICY

When a camper is significantly disruptive to other campers and the Northern Frontier program (use of tobacco, drugs, abusive behavior, language, bullying and harassment of others, etc.), such behavior is unfair to campers who come to camp to be away from those things. The Northern Frontier staff will immediately stop such behavior to ensure the safety of our campers.

The issue will be discussed with the disruptive camper and those affected by the behavior, the Program Director, and the Camp Director. Everything will be documented, and parents will be called of all involved. Upon the discretion of the Camp Director and depending on the circumstances, local authorities (police, lawyers, DYFS) may be called for further resolution and support. The problem will be resolved quickly, and arrangements will be made to have the disruptive camper return home. All of this will be done with discernment, through prayer and supplication to God, seeking His wisdom.

POSITION ON GENDER IDENTITY

As a non-profit religious organization, Northern Frontier reserves the right to allow only a boy or man assigned as male at birth and identified as a boy or man to attend camp and participate in boy or man-only residential and short-term programs. We are a single-gender boys/men-only camp and do not have proper programming and housing for females (those identifying as girls or born assigned as female at birth). Northern Frontier's position is that a camper not identifying as a boy or man will not be able to participate in our programs and will be sent home or asked not to register for camp. We love them as God loves them, but we cannot provide the right atmosphere, counseling, and attention they need as they wrestle with their gender identification (or identity). If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Camp Director to discuss and answer your questions.

To read our entire Statement of Faith, please visit our website:
www.northernfrontier.org/about-us.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions regarding camp.

OFF-SEASON CONTACT

Northern Frontier Camp
38 Cadwallader Ct.
Yardley, PA 19067
Phone: 215-493-2995

SUMMER SEASON CONTACT

Northern Frontier Camp
PO Box 295
North River, NY 12856
Phone: 518-251-2322
Fax: 518-251-5527

Chris Studley, Camp Director
cstudley@northernfrontier.org

Kelly Studley, Camp Registrar
kstudley@northernfrontier.org

Pete Westerman, Assistant Camp Director
pwesterman@northernfrontier.org

Camp Office & Secretary
office@northernfrontier.org

Because boys will be ~~boys~~ ^{MEN!}...