



CincyNature Camp Registration, Policies, & Procedures*

Procedures

- At least 2 weeks prior to the start of your child's camp, the parent/guardian:
 - Submits completed health form(s) in UltraCamp account.
 - Submits any family/friend group request(s) in UltraCamp account. (See below for details.)
- At the start of each camp day, the parent/guardian:
 - Assesses their camper's health before coming to camp.
 - Applies bug spray and sunscreen prior to drop off. (Our staff are not permitted to apply these products to campers.)
- At drop off:
 - Campers may arrive no more than 15 minutes before the published start time of camp.
 - Adults should follow the drop-off instructions in camp confirmation letter. Camps have unique drop-off instructions.
 - Adults dropping off children will sign in each camper at the time of drop-off.
- While at camp:
 - Campers must bring a water bottle.
 - Campers must bring a bag lunch each day, except for children in Little Acorns, Natural Discoveries, and Stories & Trails. We encourage the use of reusable lunch bags and food containers.
- At pick up:
 - Campers are to be picked up promptly at the end time of camp each day.
 - **Adults should bring a picture ID to pick-up;** proof of identification is required to pick up a child.
 - Only adults listed on your child's health form will be permitted to pick up.

Registration

Pricing

Parents and grandparents at Cincinnati Nature Center Family Membership level and above receive discounted prices on all camps. Membership must be current at the time of registration and camp to qualify.

How to Register

Registration is only accepted online at www.CincyNature.org. Camp registrations are not accepted by phone or mail. You may also visit the Rowe Visitor Center, and staff will assist you with online registration. For more information, contact the Registrar at (513) 831-1711, ext. 129.

Wait List

Campers registered for the wait list will be contacted by email in the order their registrations were received. Please provide a preferred email address so you can be reached if an opening becomes available. If registration does not take place within 24 hours of the email contact, the next camper on the list will automatically be contacted. If the camp opening is within one week of the camp start date, the 24-hour response policy will not apply.

Other Registration Information

- All camps require preregistration and payment at the time of registration.
- Please provide an email address that is checked frequently to ensure the receipt of important camp correspondence and reminders for CincyNature Camps.
- Health forms are required for all campers (except *Little Acorns* registrants). Your child's health form can be filled out after logging in to your [CincyNature Camp \(UltraCamp\) account](#).

Camp Policies

Cancellation and Transfer Policies

All cancellation requests must be completed online by logging into your camp registration account ([UltraCamp](#)) and canceling your camp reservation. In order to receive a refund, the cancellation must be received online by 9 am two weeks prior to the start of camp.

- All cancellations are subject to a \$50 administrative fee per camp per camper.
- Cancellations made with less than two weeks' notice will not be refunded.
- Transfers are not permitted; transfers from one camp into another are considered a cancellation. It is the registrant's responsibility to re-register the camper online.

If you have questions, please email registrar@cincynature.org.

Drop Off

- Please stop at the gatehouse every time you arrive to let our staff know you are here for camp.
- After stopping at the gatehouse at Rowe Woods or Long Branch, please drive with caution; the speed limit is 15 mph!
- At drop off, campers may arrive no more than 15 minutes before the published start time of camp.

- Adults should follow the drop-off instructions in the camp confirmation letter. Camps have unique drop-off instructions.
- Adults dropping off children will sign in each camper at the time of drop-off.
- If you need accommodations for pick-up or drop-off, please reach out to the Camp Director to discuss options.
- If you know your child will be late or not attending, please text or call the camp cell phone. If your child is attending camp:
 - at our Rowe Woods location, please contact (513) 200-5549
 - at our Long Branch location, please contact (513) 616-2496

Pick Up

- At pick up, campers are required to be picked up promptly at the end time of camp each day.
- **Please bring a picture ID to pick up;** proof of identification is required to pick up a child.
- Only adults listed on your child's health form will be permitted to pick up.
 - Please finalize any authorized pick-up individuals in your [CincyNature Camp \(UltraCamp\) account on](#) the Wednesday before your camp begins.
 - Changes after this date can be communicated to camp staff at drop-off or pick-up for camp. If another adult is to pick up your child or carpool, indicate that person's name on the sign-in sheet.

Other Policies

- All children must be potty-trained.
- Campers are not permitted to use cell phones while at camp. It's best to leave all electronics, including smart watches, at home. If a camper is seen using a phone, the Site Coordinator will put it in a safe space until pick-up time. If your child needs a phone for a health or safety reason, please indicate it on their health form and contact the Camp Director before the start of camp.
 - If you need to reach your child while they're at camp, please call the camp cell phone at (513) 200-5549.
- Staff are not permitted to administer or carry medication for children, except for emergency medications such as EpiPens, Benadryl (for allergic reactions), and Inhalers (for asthma). Please address any medical needs personally with our staff so that we can ensure your camper's safety.
- Our staff cannot apply bug spray or sunscreen to campers; please apply them to your child before they are dropped off at camp.
- Campers and staff members are not permitted to attend camp until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Grouping Policy and Procedure

Children will be separated into preassigned groups for all camps except Early Childhood Camps at our Nature Preschool. The group that your child is assigned to will be your camper's trail group for the week.

- If your child has a friend or relative registered in their camp and you wish to place them in the same trail group, please indicate this on your online health form in your [CincyNature Camp \(UltraCamp\) account](#) under the "Additional Information" section; we will do our best to accommodate as long as you indicate this **two weeks prior** to the start of camp.
- If you wish for your child to be placed with a friend or a family member whose ages are not within one year of one another, our policy is to place the older camper with the younger camper's trail group.
- Groups will be preassigned according to age and registration.

***Please note that our policies are subject to change based on conditions at the time of the program. Please see our website at www.CincyNature.org for updates.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What makes CincyNature Camp special?

A: All camps at Cincinnati Nature Center are designed with the goal of providing fun, hands-on, educational experiences in nature for children ages 3 to 15 years. Our camps challenge kids to be active and creative while developing confidence and social skills in a natural setting. Our small camper-to-staff ratio allows for increased personalized attention for our campers. Our camp instructors make camps engaging and joyful for kids while promoting inclusiveness, safety, age-appropriateness, and passion for nature.

Q: What safety measures are you taking at Camp?

A: Camp counselors know that camper safety is the first priority. We have worked hard to provide for the safety of your child by using consideration of recommendations made by the Centers for Disease Control and local health agencies. Staff members are trained in first aid and CPR prior to the start of camp. Water safety protocol demands that campers and staff wear life jackets when canoeing and during more challenging stream hikes.

Q: I've never been to Long Branch Farm & Trails; is it going to be out of my way?

A: Long Branch is only about 10 miles north of Rowe Woods, located just off OH-28 and close to Loveland. The beauty of Long Branch Farm & Trails is in its remoteness; fewer members hike there daily, allowing campers more space and freedom to explore.

Q: The description says this camp includes a wide range of ages. How will you maintain age-appropriate experiences for my camper?

A: Each camp has something special to offer to all children within the designated age range. Camps with a wide mixed-age audience are separated into smaller, age-appropriate groups.

Q: Can I ensure that my child will be in the same group as their friend when campers are divided into groups?

A: Groups will be preassigned, and children will be separated into groups on the first day of camp according to age. If your child has a friend or relative registered in their camp and you wish to place them in the same trail group, please indicate this on your online health form under the "Additional Information" section, and we will do our best to do so as long as you indicate this **two weeks prior** to the start of camp in UltraCamp. If you wish for your child to be placed with a friend or a family member whose ages are not within one year of one another, our policy is to place the older camper with the younger camper's trail group. The group that your child is assigned to will be your camper's trail group for the week.

Q: My young child is outside of the age range for a certain camp; can they still attend? They're advanced for their age.

A: We do not allow children outside of the designated age range to join in camp. Camps are carefully designed for specific age groups and, within most of our camps, children are further separated into smaller, similarly aged groups to ensure the best quality experience at camp.

Q: Can my child bring a phone or smartwatch?

A: No. Campers are not permitted to use cell phones or smartwatches at any CincyNature camp. In an increasingly virtual world, being tech-free during camp is essential for the development of campers. Keeping cell phones and smartwatches at home allows campers to develop their social skills with face-to-face communication and practice of empathy. Without a cell phone, campers can immerse themselves in the beauty of nature, stimulating an appreciation for it. If a camper is seen using a phone, the Site Coordinator will put it in a safe space until pick-up time. If your child needs a phone for a health or safety reason, please indicate it on their health form and contact the Camp Director before the start of camp.

Q: Do you provide accommodations for campers with disabilities or specific support needs?

A: We're committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for all children. We work with families to provide reasonable accommodations that ensure every camper can participate safely and fully in our programs. Please contact us at camps@cincynature.org to set up a time to discuss your camper's specific situation and how we can best support your family.

Q: My child has food allergies. How do you accommodate?

A: Over the years, we have had many campers with food allergies. The action we take depends upon the severity of the allergy. Children with strong allergies eat away from members of the group with those products. (For example, a whole table of campers and staff who do not have peanut products in their lunches will sit together at a table or use a designated nut-free picnic blanket.)

Q: May I attend camp with my child?

A: Our well-trained counselors provide experiences that help increase your child's confidence in an inclusive, age-appropriate environment. Little Acorns is the only camp at Cincinnati Nature Center in which a parent/guardian will attend with their child.

Q: Do I need to register my child for all four sessions of Creek Week Camp?

A: No. In order to meet the high demand for our camps, we sometimes offer the same theme and activities of one camp (such as Creek Week or H2Whoa!) for multiple weeks. This allows greater numbers of children to enjoy these camps. Although children can attend multiple weeks of the same camp theme if they desire, the activities and content will not change week-to-week for each theme, so they would find themselves repeating the same activities in which they already participated.

Q: Why are some camps at the same location priced differently?

A: Our camps are carefully priced based on the unique experience provided. Some themes include a meal, extra materials, special presentations from outside organizations, and/or additional staffing expenses.

QUESTIONS? If you have questions regarding camp content, structure, staffing, or camper accommodations, please contact us directly:

CincyNature Camps for campers ages 5-15:

- Reach out to **Anne Horne** at ahorne@cincynature.org or (513) 831-1711, ext. 150.

Early Childhood Camps for campers ages 3-young 5:

- Reach out to **Tisha Luthy** at tluthy@cincynature.org or (513) 831-1711, ext. 123.

Camper Registration Queries:

- Reach out to our **Registrar** at registrar@cincynature.org or (513) 831-1711, ext. 129.