



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



# WELCOME TO CAMP ORKILA

2026 Summer Programs Handbook  
YMCA CAMP ORKILA

arena

# THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING YMCA CAMP ORKILA! WELCOME FROM THE CAMP DIRECTOR

Thank you for choosing YMCA Camp Orkila for your camper(s) this summer. You have given your camper a true gift: the opportunity to build a community of friends and role models, develop skills and passions, and create confidence and memories.

Built on the Y's values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and passion for excellence, and our commitment to equity and justice, at the Y we encourage learning and growing in a supportive environment. Your camper will be guided through this experience by our talented team of staff, who come from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, and take pride in helping kids explore, reflect, and grow.

As you prepare for your camper's summer adventure, please read through this handbook for important information, including specifics about our programs, camper drop-off and pick-up, communication with staff, and more. If you have a question you don't see answered here, give us a call at (206) 382-5009 (Seattle office) or (360) 376-2678 (Orkila office).

We are honored you have chosen the Y for your camper this summer.

In gratitude and community,

Dave Affolter  
Camp Orkila Executive Director  
daffolter@seattleyymca.org



## WHO WE ARE

### YMCA OF GREATER SEATTLE'S MISSION STATEMENT

Building a community where all people, especially the young, are encouraged to develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind and body.

## EQUITY STATEMENT

The Y actively promotes a culture free from bias and injustice. We are dedicated to removing institutional and systemic barriers that result in oppression and racism. We will be accountable to marginalized communities for creating equitable and sustainable environments where social justice is woven into every facet of our programs, and by caring for our communities in a culturally versatile and respectful manner.

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### YMCA CORE VALUES

The YMCA of Greater Seattle has identified the values of **respect, responsibility, honesty, caring, and passion for excellence** as essential in a child's character development. YMCA Camp Orkila programs incorporate these values into the overall camp experience each day. Our approach toward values formation is designed to reinforce the lessons that families strive to teach their children every day. Through staff and camper role modeling and living together at camp, campers depart from YMCA Camp Orkila with a better understanding and recognition of these character traits in themselves and in others:

- **Respect:** Following the golden rule by treating yourself and others with dignity
- **Responsibility:** Accepting accountability for your actions and role in the community
- **Honesty:** Being trustworthy and truthful
- **Caring:** Considering the needs and feelings of others
- **Passion for Excellence:** Striving to be and do your best

### VALUES SESSIONS

Every day, generally in the evening, cabin groups will gather for a short discussion and sharing time. It's a great way to create bonds among campers and let everyone's voice be heard. Staff will choose age-appropriate topics, such as "who inspires you," to help guide the discussion.

### VALUES AWARDS

Values Awards are given to campers who, through words or actions, demonstrate the core values in their camp community. At the end of their session, campers select fellow campers within their cabin who best exemplify each value, and we recognize award recipients each fall.

## **ESPECIALLY FOR FIRST TIME CAMPERS**

Congratulations on choosing an experience that might make both you and your camper excited and maybe a little nervous!

Preparing campers for overnight camp can help them more easily cope with being away from home. It is very normal for symptoms of homesickness to occur over the first few days of camp – often during rest period and/or lights out. Most often with a few conversations with counselors and the security of new friends and activities, the homesickness dissipates. If the leadership team believes that homesickness has reached a point where the experience is no longer beneficial to the participant, or is negatively impacting the experience of others, we have the right to tell caregivers that they must pick up their camper(s).

Here are some tips to help prepare your child for camp and the possibility of homesickness:

### **PRIOR TO CAMP:**

- “Live out of a suitcase” for a few days, and practice carrying it once it’s packed
- Practice taking a shower instead of a bath and washing one’s hair
- Mark a calendar with days until camp starts- HOORAY!!!
- Give gentle encouragement that missing home is “ok”
- Don’t make a “pick-up promise” that you’ll come get them if they are having a hard time (of course this option will be available to you if they don’t get past their homesickness, but it’s best to just offer encouragement prior to camp)
- Practice electronics-free time because there are no electronics at camp

### **DURING CAMP:**

- When writing letters to your child, ask about camp activities, counselors, specific programs, etc. – words of encouragement go a long way
- Avoid using phrases such as “we miss you,” “wish you were here,” or detailed accounts of what the family is doing
- Pack “surprises” or notes of encouragement amongst your camper’s belongings (no food items please)
- Express your confidence in their ability to be away from home and that the counselors are there to assist them if they should need anything

## **IS MY CHILD READY FOR OVERNIGHT CAMP?**

In order to ensure your camper is ready for such an experience, you should be able to answer “yes” to these questions:

1. Does my child consistently identify when they need to use the restroom?
2. Has my child successfully spent at least one night away from home?
3. Is my child willing to eat a variety of foods?
4. Can my child take a shower by themselves?
5. Does my child effectively manage their own behavior around other children?

If the answer to any of these questions is “no,” please contact the Camping & Outdoor Leadership Office - [campinfo@seattlemca.org](mailto:campinfo@seattlemca.org) - to discuss your child’s experience.

# COMMUNICATION

## VISITING CAMP ORKILA

Outside of check-in and pick-up, we ask that families DO NOT visit their camper while camp is in session at Camp Orkila.

## SEND MAIL TO YOUR CAMPER

Please allow enough time for the mail to reach your camper before the end of their session. **Please do not send any food to campers.** Food in cabins invites unwelcome visitors (animals!). Additionally, we do not serve nuts at camp. Any food or candy containing nuts or processed in a facility with nuts will be disposed of by a staff member.

Ideas for things to send to your camper include: books, games, cards, address books, small drawing pads, small stuffed animals, and/or items to share with a group.

## PACKAGES & MAIL MAY BE SENT TO

### for USPS:

Camper's Name  
Session & Program  
YMCA Camp Orkila  
P.O. Box 1149  
Eastsound, WA 98245

### for FedEx/UPS:

Camper's Name  
Session & Program  
YMCA Camp Orkila  
484 Camp Orkila Rd.  
Eastsound, WA 98245

Please be aware, the Orcas Island Post Office is closed on the weekends so there is **NO WEEKEND MAIL DELIVERY.** The last day campers receive mail will be on the day prior to their program end date.

Any packages received after your camper's session has ended will be returned at the sender's expense.

## SEND CAMPERS EMAIL & VIEW PHOTOS

Through your online account in UltraCamp, you may send one-way emails to your camper. Campers will not have access to computers to reply. In an effort to reduce our environmental impact, we will print out emails two times for each week-long

session. Our goal is to conserve resources, if your message is too long we may not be able to print the entire message. We will also have a mailbox available at our check-in locations if you would like to drop a standard letter, greeting card or postcard to be delivered to your camper on the first full day of their camp session.

Our Media Team will post photos throughout the week for you to view on our password protected photo site, SmugMug. This information is distributed via email a few days prior to your camper's session, and is also available at check-in locations. While our media team does its best to capture pictures of as many campers as possible, please know that it is completely normal to not see pictures of your camper right away.

You can also follow us on social media for more photos:

 @YMCACampOrkila

 @camporkila

## CAMPER PHONE USE

The camp experience is a way to develop a greater sense of independence. Therefore, no phone is available for campers\* to routinely make or receive calls. However, should your child need to call home, a director will arrange a time and, together with the camper, they will make the call home. Electronics are NOT allowed and will be confiscated and returned at the end of the session (see packing list for specifics).

\*CITs & OSIs are the exception and are allowed to bring their phones to camp. They will have limited access to their phones, and will not be permitted to use their phones in front of other participants, turning them in to staff when not in use.

## **LOCATION TRACKING DEVICES**

Electronic location tracking devices such as an AirTag, Tile, or SmartTag are not allowed.

## **CAREGIVER COMMUNICATION**

Staff are trained to handle day-to-day situations that might arise during your camper's visit to Camp Orkila in a safe and caring manner. Instances when you might expect to hear from camp staff for consultations or to arrange to pick up your camper may include:

- Medical care outside basic first aid, including fractures and sprains
- Emergencies and evacuations (see above)
- Severe homesickness
- Illness, including vomiting, fever, contagious disease, and/or other health concerns at the discretion of the lead medical provider
- Behavioral issues, including bullying or verbal or physical aggression
- Nits or head lice

We will attempt to contact the family starting with the primary contact, then the emergency contact persons, in that order.

## **CONTACTING YOUR CAMPER IN AN EMERGENCY**

Should you need to contact your camper under emergency circumstances, please do so through the Camp Orkila office at (360) 376-2678. For after-hours emergencies, call the Director-on-Duty at (360) 317-6852. A director will contact you and offer their assistance as to the best way to be in contact with your child. Other contact numbers are on the back page of this Summer Programs Handbook.

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

At Camp Orkila, the safety of participants is our highest concern. Programs always

involve risk. The most important thing we can do is focused training to mitigate risk in our programs and to be certain our staff follow our safety policies and practices. In addition, we have communication systems that provide support for staff. Program policies have been reviewed and accepted for accreditation by the American Camp Association.

For our offsite programs, part of our safety system is our communication with staff while they are in the field. Kayaking programs contact camp by radio or phone each morning and evening as well as when they get on and off the water. During each session, we have a medical team on site and available by radio. In the event there is an emergency, we have developed a comprehensive response system. If a teen is injured, staff are the first to provide emergency care. Staff will provide initial medical care to the level of their training and, if necessary, contact camp, or emergency services for additional care.

## **EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

In the unlikely event that the YMCA decides to evacuate Camp Orkila, the person we make contact with will be given further instructions on how the evacuation will proceed. For this reason, it is truly important that we have accurate contact information for caregivers and emergency contacts during your child's camp experience.

Based on the type of emergency, the YMCA will make a decision on the most prudent way to return campers safely home. Such an emergency may require parents/guardians or emergency contacts to pick up their child at camp. If the need arises, general information regarding evacuation will be listed on the website at [camporkila.org](http://camporkila.org).

Caregivers and emergency contacts should be able to begin traveling to camp within two hours of notification to pick up campers early.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

### IMPORTANT!

The health and safety of your child is our primary concern. To ensure our camp health care providers have the information necessary in advance, the Camp Care Info Packet must be returned to the YMCA Camping & Outdoor Leadership office upon receipt, or immediately upon registration if registering after that point. **Staff cannot accept health forms at Check-In.** It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to provide accident and health insurance. The YMCA does not provide any coverage for members or participants.

### CAMP HYGIENE STANDARDS

Cleanliness is a key component to keeping campers healthy. Campers will be encouraged to wash their hands prior to every meal. Your pre-camp support of this concept is appreciated.

Bathrooms are inspected and sanitized frequently by members of our facilities staff. Directors will check cabins for neatness regularly. To model responsibility for the care of camp, counselors are active participants in helping with these tasks.

### HEAD LICE

Head lice can become an issue anytime you gather children together at school, day care, or camp. It is not indicative of uncleanliness and anyone can get them. Because lice are easily transmitted and require several steps to eliminate, we cannot keep children at camp who are found to have nits or head lice.

To help ensure that all campers have a positive experience at camp, **it is your responsibility to check your camper for head lice before camp begins.** If nits or head lice are found, you must do a thorough treatment of the hair and all personal belongings to remove all nits and lice before camper arrives at check-in. Information on treatment can be found online or via the health department.

**We intend to inspect each camper's hair at all of our check-in locations.** If any nits or lice are found, we will be unable to allow your camper to check in. Based on session availability, we will be happy to move your camper to another session but will not issue a refund.

**If nits or lice appear during your camper's week at camp they will not be able to complete their session, and you will need an authorized pick-up person available to pick them up at Camp Orkila. Again, we will move them to another session based on availability.**

Thank you for helping us keep all kids healthy.

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, FRACTURES & STITCHES

Participants with communicable diseases will not be allowed to attend camp until they are free of the disease, 24 hours without a fever without using fever reducing medication, or no longer contagious, as determined by a doctor. Campers with fractures or stitches must have written permission from their physician to attend camp.

### IMMUNIZATIONS

To reduce the risk of our staff sharing germs, we strongly encourage all staff working in overnight camping programs to have MMR, Varicella, TDap, and Covid-19 vaccinations and boosters when available. We do not currently require campers to have these vaccinations, but being up to date on these will help your child stay healthy when they are at camp. To learn more about recommended vaccination schedules for youth, visit <http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/Immunization/PreteensandTeens>. Washington immunization records can be accessed at [www.wa.myir.net](http://www.wa.myir.net).

## **MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL HEALTH, WELLNESS & SAFETY**

Staff are trained to support the mental, emotional, and social health and safety of participants, and there are some resources at camp available to participants to support their mental, emotional, and social health. If staff become concerned about a participant's mental, emotional, or social health, staff may contact parents or guardians for additional support and may request that they come early and pick up their child from camp. Our goal is for every camper to have a successful experience at camp, and we can best support campers when we have information about their needs. If there are concerns about a camper's success at camp please contact our Admissions Office prior to their session.

## **MEDICATIONS**

### **PREPARING MEDICATION**

All participant medication, supplements, or vitamins, prescribed or over the counter, must be reported on the Camp Care Info packet. Please bring enough medication to last the entire length of your camp stay. **All medications, supplements, and vitamins must be in the original packaging/bottle, and unexpired.** Additionally, prescription medication must include labeling that identifies the prescribing physician, the name of the medication, the dosage, and the frequency of dispensation. Prescription medications must be in the participant's name. **Loose medications in pill organizers, plastic bags or tupperware, etc. will not be accepted.**

All medications must be turned in to staff at check-in, where it will be given to the healthcare team at camp. **Please provide a cooler or insulated bag for any medications requiring refrigeration until arrival at camp.** Participants are not allowed to self-administer medicine. The exception being emergency medication, such as inhalers or epi-pens where campers must carry on their person, and are able to self-administer.

**The Camp Orkila health center has over the counter medication, such as Tylenol, ibuprofen, Benadryl, Dramamine, cough medicine, and decongestents. Please DO NOT send these items with your child to camp.** Indicate your approval to dispense these medications (full list) in the Camp Care Info packet.

A completed Medication Information Form which will arrive with your transportation letter two weeks prior to the start of your session must accompany all medication and/or vitamins being sent to camp. Our staff must follow the dosage directions on the original container. Place the completed form with medications **in their original containers** in a plastic bag and turn them in at the check-in table.

### **“MEDICATION HOLIDAYS”**

We strongly discourage parents/guardians whose children who are on medication throughout the year from putting them on “medication holiday” while they are at camp. It is not always in the child's best interest to take time off from their medication. We will be as accommodating as possible with your physician's recommendation.

### **TRAVEL DAY MEDICATION**

If your camper will require medication during their travel to camp, please complete the En-Route Medication Form at check-in.

### **ILLNESS & ACCIDENTS**

During each camp session, Camp Orkila has a medical team, generally consisting of nurses, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners and/or Doctors living on-site that is available by phone or radio. They hold sick-call daily, and are available 24 hours a day for emergencies. They, an Orcas Island Emergency Medical Technician, or the Orcas Island Medical Clinic handle in-camp situations. Additionally, all staff are trained and certified in CPR and First Aid.

A designated emergency vehicle is on site at

all times. Camp Orkila is accredited by the American Camp Association and adheres to its high quality standards. If medical treatment beyond first aid is required, staff will make every effort to contact the family.

Our camp's health center has a limited capacity to keep campers in extended isolation. In our experience, campers with medical illnesses feel more comfortable recuperating at home. In such situations, the camp staff may contact the primary contact, then the emergency contact and request that they come early and pick up their child from camp. Camp's policy is that caregivers are responsible for transporting sick campers home.

## **COMMUNITY & BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

At the YMCA of Greater Seattle, we are committed to becoming an anti-racist and inclusive gathering space where people of all colors, religions, genders, and backgrounds are welcomed and have the opportunity to succeed, be healthy, and thrive. That means closely examining what we do – our systems, hiring practices, partners, contracting, and programs – to ensure we are learning, adapting, and doing all that we can to build a more equitable, healthy, and just community.

The Y believes in the unique potential of every young person. We strive to provide support to ensure all youth are successful in our programs. From the moment participants arrive, staff work to build an inclusive space with clear expectations. Additionally, we partner with parents and guardians on strategies for working with participant's individual behaviors. Should behavioral support be needed, staff will make every effort to call the family starting with the primary contact, then the emergency contact. We know that certain behaviors can cause lasting harm. We do not tolerate bullying; aggressive behavior that is intentional, is

repeated over time, and involves an imbalance of power or strength, and bigotry: making derogatory comments, including making fun of the individual or their family's national origin, religion, sexuality, ethnicity, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender; threatening bodily harm to the individual or individual's family/friends.

Staff make every effort to ensure each participant has a positive experience. The Y strongly believes that youth programs are an exciting, safe community for youth to explore, build confidence, develop skills, and make lasting friendships and memories so they can grow as individuals and leaders. It's a place where participants can discover who they are and what they can achieve. We strive to help each person develop positive self-esteem while fostering self-direction.

Our Y staff work with each participant to support their development in self-management and self-direction. Some examples are:

- Consistent rules are clearly stated.
- Participants are expected to work and play within known limits.
- Behavior expected of participants is age appropriate and based on development level.
- An atmosphere of trust is established in order for participants to know that they will not be hurt nor allowed to hurt others.
- Participants become acquainted with themselves and their feelings to help them learn to cope with their feelings and control them responsibly.

### **GENERAL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

- No put-downs...no one needs them.
- Be honest with yourself and others.
- Speak for yourself...not for anyone else.
- Listen to others...they will then listen to you.
- Show respect...every person is important.
- Take responsibility for your actions, you are responsible for you.

### **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Refusing to follow the behavior guidelines or program and safety rules.

- Using profanity, vulgarity, or obscenity.
  - Stealing or damaging property (personal, Y, rental, and public property)  
Note: Damage done by a participant to these properties could result in financial responsibility and invoice assessed to the participant's family.
  - Refusing to participate in activities or cooperate with staff resulting in disruption of the program for others.
  - Running away from the group or designated areas.
  - Endangering the health and safety of participants and/or staff.
  - Engaging in physical violence, bullying/teasing, or sexual misconduct or abuse toward another child or staff.
  - The use of exclusionary language or slurs.
  - Public or inappropriate displays of affection.
  - Use or possession of drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco (including vapes)
- taken. Parent/guardian(s) are notified.
  - **Step 3:** If the situation is not resolved and inappropriate behavior continues, staff will schedule time with the participant and their family to develop an action plan for success.
  - **Step 4:** If after working through steps 1–3 the participant is still struggling to meet expectations, staff will work to identify different program types, a different cohort, or a modified attendance schedule to support the participant, and their family.

If needed, the Y reserves the right skip any of these steps and/or to suspend or remove the participant from the program. Parents or guardians may be notified to pick up their participant at their own expense. Travel arrangements will always be made in advance with the parent or guardian. Program fees will be forfeited. In the case of a serious incident, the participants involved will not be invited back for future experiences.

The Y believes in the unique potential of every young person. We strive to provide support to ensure all participants are successful in our programs. To limit instances of bias and to respond in a way which aligns with our organizational values, Camping & Outdoor Leadership is focused on implementing trauma-informed, restorative practices into the curriculum, daily routine, and culture. Our staff teams are trained to add social and emotional learning aspects into all programs, create community, and facilitate conflict resolution. These practices are introduced to and practiced by participants throughout their experience through intentional community building activities like teambuilding and values sessions. We are committed to building strong communities within our programs and assisting participants in dealing with conflict in a healthy and productive manner. We aim to address the root of behavioral issues and conflicts by finding solutions which use restorative practices as the foundation for overcoming conflict and addressing bias.

## WHEN BEHAVIOR RULES ARE BROKEN

Y staff facilitates the development of self-control by using positive guidance techniques such as modeling, encouraging expected behavior, redirecting participants to a more acceptable activity, or setting clear limits. Staff respect each participant's developing capabilities.

## PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

When a participant does not follow the behavior guidelines, Y staff take the following action steps:

- **Step 1:** The Y uses positive guidance methods including reminders, distraction, logical consequences, and redirection.
- **Step 2:** If inappropriate behavior continues, the participant is reminded of behavior guidelines and program rules. The staff member and the participant decide on action steps to correct their behavior. Staff documents the situation, the inappropriate behavior, and action

## STATEMENT FOR PREVENTION OF ABUSE

A principal endeavor of the Y is to provide a healthy atmosphere for the growth and development of youth. Thus, the mistreatment or neglect of youth and the resulting severe effects are of primary concern to the Y. Child abuse is mistreatment or neglect of a child by adults, another child, or others, resulting in injury or harm. Abuse can lead to severe emotional, physical, and behavioral problems. Because of its concern for the welfare of children, the Y has developed policies, standards, guidelines, and training to aid in the detection and prevention of child abuse. In addition, all employees are screened, and background checks are conducted upon hiring or rehiring.

Additionally, employees who have contact with youth receive training in recognizing, reporting, and preventing child abuse, which includes training in recognizing signs that a child is being groomed for abuse. Some of the guidelines employees are expected to follow are:

- Avoid being alone with a single child where you cannot be observed by other staff or adults
- You may not interact with children who participate in Y programs outside of approved Y activities. For example, baby-sitting, weekend trips, foster care, etc. are not permitted. An exception must be approved in advance in consultation with our Risk Management department.
- Giving or receiving personal gifts to/ from program participants or their parents is not allowed
- Program rules and boundaries must be followed, including appropriate touch guidelines
- Children should not be singled out for favored attention
- Dating a program participant under age 18 is not allowed. Some Y programs

may have additional restrictions.

- Children may not be disciplined by use of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care.
- Verbally, physically, sexually, or emotionally abusing or punishing children is not allowed.
- Children may be informed in a timely manner that is age appropriate to the group of their right to set their own "touching" limits for personal safety.
- Children should only be released to authorized persons in programs with controlled pick-up procedures.
- Any information regarding abuse or potential abuse should be documented in writing.
- At the first reasonable cause to believe that any abuse of a child by a Y employee or volunteer has occurred, even if it was not during working hours, should be reported to the Y by calling (206) 749-7590 or emailing [safekids@seattlemca.org](mailto:safekids@seattlemca.org). Additionally, it is the Y's protocol to make a report to the appropriate authorities. Appropriate actions will be taken regarding the employee or volunteer, including suspension or termination from Y employment or volunteer status.
- Confidentiality of information related to child abuse is crucial and should be limited to the immediate supervisor, District Executive, and designated members of the Y Association Office.

The Y uses an online resource for families entitled [Protect Your Child From Abuse](#).

### CHILD SAFETY

As a partner in your child's success, the YMCA of Greater Seattle is committed to providing a safe environment for all participants and staff. We work hard to create an environment that is both physically and emotionally safe for children. If at any time throughout the summer you are concerned about the physical or emotional health of your child, please do not hesitate to speak to a staff member.

## **PERSONAL SAFETY TALKS**

As part of our program, staff engages in discussions designed to increase children's understanding of touching and personal space limits. Y staff will model the use of correct words for body parts and functions, and respond to conversations and questions in age appropriate ways.

## **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING**

Y staff are required to report immediately to Child Protective Services (CPS Intake), licensor, or police any instance when there is reason to suspect the occurrence of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, child neglect, or exploitation. We may NOT notify parents if this occurs except upon the recommendation of Child Protective Services or the police.

## **GENDER IDENTITY**

### **PRONOUNS/NAMES**

Everyone has the right to be addressed by the name and pronouns with which they identify. Inadvertent slips or unintentional honest mistakes in the use of names or pronouns might occur. The Y does not condone the intentional and persistent refusal to respect a person's gender identity, pronouns or name. Staff may talk to participants of all ages about pronouns using age-appropriate language to ensure that all campers, staff, and volunteers are respected.

## **FACILITY ACCESSIBILITY**

### **RESTROOMS**

Camp Orkila has several different configurations of restrooms. Most campers will have access to gendered bathrooms near their cabins which contain sinks, individual stalled showers, private changing areas, and toilets. In addition to gendered bathrooms, camp has multiple single-user toilets.

## **GENDERED SPACES**

At Camp Orkila, gendered spaces (overnight accommodations and may include some restrooms) are differentiated as 'male' and 'female'. In the case of a gendered space, individuals may select the facility that best fits their gender identity or comfortability. Sex assigned at birth, physical genitalia or presentation will not dictate use of gendered space. Cabin assignments in gendered traditional and specialty camps will be made based on gender identity. In the case of non-binary gender identity, participants will be asked to select a cabin in which they will feel most comfortable for that session. For teen expedition & leadership programs, and all-gender traditional or specialty camps, participants will live in all-gender accommodations. We will seek to make facility accommodations, whenever possible, to meet the given needs of individual participants. For example, individuals who have a need or desire for increased privacy will be provided access to an alternative restroom or area to shower or change in privacy whenever possible. The gender identities of cabin staff and volunteers may not be the same as gender identities of participants in the cabin (for example, a female identified staff member may work and live with campers in a male cabin). We have and continue to build all gender facilities at camp.

## **OUR STAFF**

Staff are the heart of our programs. Recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting staff are essential to positive youth development. All program staff who run camp activities have individual areas of expertise to share with campers. Cabin counselors are selected for their experience working with children, judgment, maturity, and caring attitude.

We recruit staff who serve as role models for campers by demonstrating strong leadership skills that reflect the mission, commitment to equity and justice, and the core values of the YMCA of Greater Seattle. Through role modeling

and by creating challenges that foster individual and group development, we provide campers with the opportunity to leave camp with a better understanding in the values of respect, responsibility, honesty, caring, and a passion for excellence.

Staff must complete the application and interview process as outlined by the YMCA of Greater Seattle. Staff must have current First Aid and CPR certifications and pass a national background check. An instructor on expedition courses has a wilderness first aid certification or higher.

Interviews are conducted with at least three references. Cabin counselors generally complete eight days of training, and directors and trip leaders complete an eight-day director's training in addition to all-staff training. Training topics include: cultural humility and restorative practices, child behavior support, age-appropriate programming, emergency procedures, bullying & child abuse prevention, and health and safety management.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

As part of the daily program, camp has volunteers or guests on-site to share their special talents and enhance the value of the campers' experiences. Examples of this might include doctors and nurses, boat drivers, media team members. Volunteers must pass a background check and take child abuse prevention training.

## **TALK BOX**

If your camper is having a problem at camp and having difficulty finding the right person for help, they can write a confidential message and place it in one of the locked talk-boxes. The message will go directly to staff who will follow up as needed.

## **PAYMENTS & REFUNDS**

**Final payment must be received in the YMCA Camping & Outdoor Leadership office no later than MAY 1. After May 1, full payment is required at the time of registration.**

Make checks payable to YMCA Camping & Outdoor Leadership and send to 909 Fourth Avenue, Seattle WA 98104. There will be a \$20 charge for returned checks. We also accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover.

## **REFUND POLICY**

Deposits are non-refundable. If your camper is unable to attend camp, please notify Camping & Outdoor Leadership immediately. To receive a refund, you must notify us by May 1. According to how you originally paid the fees, a check or credit card refund will be issued, less the non-refundable deposit. Please allow two weeks for processing refunds. Any cancellations or refund requests received after May 1 will be at the discretion of the YMCA.

## **LATE ARRIVALS & NO SHOWS**

If your camper will arrive late to camp or will be picked up early, please notify the Camping & Outdoor Leadership office as soon as possible. If a camper does not show up at camp by evening of the opening day, staff will call the primary contact to determine the camper's whereabouts. No refunds are given for late arrivals or no shows.

## **ORKILA STORE**

### **BUYING ITEMS AT THE STORE**

All store purchases are made through your camper's prepaid store account. Please include store money with your final payment check or credit card total. Specify on your invoice stub the amount to be allocated to the store account. Please discuss with your camper the amount in their store account. For more information on items and pricing, visit Parent Corner on [camporkila.org](http://camporkila.org)

## \*NEW\* ONLINE YMCA STORE

We are excited to share that the YMCA has a new online store featuring limited edition Camp Orkila swag! This is not connected to your store account in UltraCamp, and these items are not available onsite at Camp Orkila. Check out our Orkila Collection here: <https://shop.seattlymca.org/pages/camp-orkila-collection>

## STORE MONEY REFUNDS

Upon adding store money to your account, you may choose to have unspent money donated to our campership fund for the following summer, or refunded to your account at the end of your camper's session. If you are unsure what you have selected, or want to change your refund method, please contact our office. A detailed report of your camper's store expenses can also be viewed from your online account.

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

### CABINS

Our youngest campers generally stay in the Wally Fisher Lodge, which is enclosed, heated, and has electricity and in-house bathroom facilities.

Older campers stay in cabins or platform tents, which feature doors and screened windows but no electricity. Single-gender bathrooms and showers are in separate buildings a short walk away.

### CABIN GROUPS

Campers are placed in cabins of others within the same program and similar age or developmental stage, with a typical ratio of 10 campers and 2-3 staff. Counselors live in the cabin with campers and manage the daily living of the group. They act as a guide, role model, and mentor. We work hard to make sure there is a variety of camp experience, talents and geography represented in each cabin group. The gender identities of cabin staff and volunteers may not be the same as gender identities of

Typical Cabin Interior



Individual Toilet & Shower Stalls in Showerhouse Buildings



campers in the cabin. Refer to "gendered spaces" on page 12 for more details of how programs are cabinized.

### FRIEND REQUESTS

If your camper has a friend attending the same session, we ask that you limit the number of cabin mate requests to 1 to help ensure that camp is a welcoming place where every camper feels included and can make new friends.

Please note: this must be a mutual request to be honored. If a request is made to place campers of greater age spans together in a cabin, the older camper will be placed in the younger cabin.

### MEALS

Camp serves nutritious, well-balanced meals, and can accommodate most dietary needs and restrictions, which we ask you to notate on the Camp Care Info packet. Vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, and dairy-free options are available at every meal for participants. Healthy snacks consisting of fruit and another item are served in the afternoon. Water consumption is encouraged throughout the day.

## A TYPICAL DAY AT CAMP

TIME	YOUNGER TRADITIONAL	TIME	OLDER TRADITIONAL & SPECIALTY
7:00	Wake Up	7:45	Wake up
7:45	Breakfast,	8:45	Breakfast
9:00	Activity #1	10:00	Activity #1 / Specialty #1
10:00	Activity #2	11:15	Activity #2 / Specialty #2
11:45	Lunch	12:45	Lunch
1:00	Siesta	2:00	Activity #3 / Activity 1
2:00	Activity #3	3:15	Snack
3:15	Snack	3:30	Activity #4 / Activity 2
3:30	Activity #4	5:00	Siesta, Cabin time
5:15	Dinner	6:15	Dinner
6:30	Evening Activity / Values Session	7:30	Evening Activity / Values Session
9:30	Lights Out, Bedtime	10:30	Lights Out, Bedtime

### ACTIVITIES & SCHEDULES

The YMCA of Greater Seattle is committed to providing developmentally and culturally appropriate programming that respect, reflect, and support children and families and cultivate an understanding among children and staff.

Y youth programs stimulate a child’s physical, social, intellectual, and emotional development. Using small group experiences that are developmentally appropriate, children will:

- Develop physically, emotionally, and socially through a variety of safe, developmentally appropriate, and challenging experiences
- Expand awareness and appreciation for the world around them
- Learn and display the five core values of the Y: Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility, and a Passion for Excellence
- Increase appreciation for their own family, friends, and surrounding community

Within each group’s schedule we offer a variety of age-appropriate activities, corresponding to each individual program. For example, younger campers often participate in the Giant Swing, while our older campers may participate in the Zipline. Due to the size of camp, and the

number of activities we offer, campers will not have the opportunity to participate in all programs at camp. Additionally, programming may change each week due to a variety of circumstances. Some aquatic activities require a swim check that will be administered within the first two days of programming. Below are some examples of activities common at camp:

**Arts and Science:** Participants are encouraged to explore their inner creativity and the world around them through activities that help them connect with themselves and the natural landscape at Camp Orkila. During Arts and Crafts activities, campers can create an art project of their own, or follow instructions to create a themed project, and perform skits and songs at Campfire and Talent Show programs. While visiting the Marine Center, going on a beach walk, playing ‘Life in the Forest’ or participating in other science-based activities, campers will practice observing, identifying, and making connections on our beaches or tidepools, curated touch and fish tanks, salmon pond, and our lush temperate rainforests.

**Aquatic and Sports:** Participants can play some of their favorite sports or try something new. Campers can swim and play in our chlorinated swimming pool, or experience the Salish Sea

through dock jump, polar bear plunge, or funyaking. Our aquatics staff are certified lifeguards and supervise all aquatics activities. To participate in some aquatic activities, or to swim in the deep end of the pool, campers must pass a swim check which consists of: swimming the length of a 75-foot pool with face in the water, deep end plunge and level off, and treading water for 30 seconds. Campers can play sports such as basketball, gaga ball, volleyball, soccer, or other field games, as well as practice archery. Throughout the camp experience, campers will play a variety of camp and circle games with their cabin or activity group.

**Challenge Course and Teambuilding:**

Participants will have the opportunity to experience at least one challenge course activity, depending on their age or program, and weather permitting. Camp Orkila features a 1,000-foot zipline, giant swings, rock climbing and bouldering walls, as well as high- and low-ropes courses.

**Offsite Exploration:** Campers may have an overnight experience or travel outside of the main Camp Orkila property, depending on their program and weather permitting. Overnight trips are a time for campers to experience a different level of connection to the outdoors while sleeping outside, eating meals cooked on a camping stove, and spending time making s'mores around a campfire.

On **Satellite Island**, campers can play and explore during the day and sleep under tarp or wooden shelters at night, and travel to and from camp and Satellite Island on a passenger boat.

At our **Twin Lakes campsite**, campers will travel by bus through Moran State Park and hike to the campsite, where they can play games, hike around Twin Lakes, and sleep under tarp or wooden shelters.

At the **Enchanted Forest**, campers will walk from the main area of Camp Orkila to the upper camp area, where they may play field games, experience the giant swing, or explore our pond and garden. Campers may also get a special visit from our 'forest elves', who will play games and lead activities with them.

Campers in Day Camp, Specialty Camp, or Teen Leadership and Expedition programs may take field trips to a variety of locations on Orcas or San Juan Island, such as farms, markets, museums, the fire station, and more.

**Reflection and Choice:** Campers can unwind and choose quiet activities during cabin time each day, or choose between high- or low- energy activities during Open Recreation. Through evening Values Sessions, group discussions, activity debriefs, and daily conversations, campers will have the chance to share their own feelings, ideas, and perspectives, and practice listening and understanding others.

**Teen Leadership programs** will also have specific leadership programming including workshops/trainings, working with younger campers, and community service.

## TRADITIONAL & SPECIALTY CAMP PACKING LIST

### SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR A 1-WEEK SESSION

- 40 degree or warmer sleeping bags with pillow/pillow case
  - 1 bath towel & washcloth
  - 1 beach towel
  - 1-2 pairs of pants
  - 2-4 pairs of shorts
  - 5-6 shirts
  - Sweatshirt or jacket
  - Raincoat or poncho with hood
  - Pajamas or sleepwear
  - Sunhat or baseball cap
  - Swimsuit
  - 10 pairs of underwear & socks
  - 2 pairs of comfortable walking shoes – closed toe
  - Comb/Hairbrush & Shampoo
  - Toothbrush & Toothpaste
  - Soap or Bodywash
  - Deodorant
  - Sunscreen – SPF 15 or higher
  - Flashlight
  - Water bottle
  - Backpack/CinchSack to carry belongings
- ### HELPFUL EXTRAS
- Sunglasses
  - Swim Goggles
  - Shower shoes (flip flops ok)
  - Laundry Bag
  - Book or playing cards
  - Writing paper, pens, self-addressed/stamped envelopes for letters home
  - Disposable camera with name on it
  - Insect repellent
  - Lip Balm
  - Fancy and/or silly clothes for special events

**\*NOTE: Please label all belongings with your camper's first and last name.**

## PACKING TIPS

### KEEP IN MIND

- Campers should be able to carry their own luggage to their cabins. Avoid overpacking.
- Label all belongings with your camper's first and last name, including bedding.
- Clothing should be tolerant of water, mud, and fun – nothing new or expensive!
- All items on the clothing list are important at camp, especially the rain gear and warm layers.
- Closed-toe shoes are required to use some activities, including the challenge course.
- Please reach out to [campinfo@seattlemca.org](mailto:campinfo@seattlemca.org) if you are not able to bring any of these items.

## THINGS TO KEEP AT HOME

DO NOT bring the following items to camp! Prohibited items will be returned, if appropriate, on the last day of the camp session:

- Electronics: cell phones, smart watches, smart glasses, laptop computers, e-readers, tablets, music players (anything with a screen), AirTags, etc. We maintain an unplugged, screen-free environment.
- Food of any kind, including candy or chewing gum (all snacks are provided)
- Money, jewelry, or expensive items
- Any item considered dangerous (knives, guns, weapons, fireworks, matches, lighters, etc.)
- Alcohol or illegal drugs of any kind
- Tobacco products, in any form (including e-cigarettes & vapes)
- Animals or pets of any kind
- Skateboards, bicycles, scooters, rollerblades, roller skates, and other personal sports equipment
- Vehicles (teen campers are not allowed to drive themselves to/from camp, and must be checked-in by a parent or guardian. Exceptions may be made for CIT and OSI participants.

## TEEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

### PROGRAMS

- High Altitude Leadership 2.0
- Leadership Development Institute
- Leadership Development Institute 2.0
- Counselors in Training

### PACKING SUGGESTIONS:

We suggest adjusting the packing list on page 17 to reflect however many weeks participants are at camp (see Laundry section for more information)

Participants in Leadership Development Institute (LDI) and Leadership Development Institute 2.0 (LDI 2.0) will also have a kayaking portion of their program. Please be sure to read the kayaking program information on pages 19–21. Participants will need to pack for both (see Storage on page 19).

Note: All challenge course activities require closed-toe shoes, so High Altitude Leadership participants **MUST** bring appropriate footwear (socks and shoes).

### **Additional things we highly recommend for all to bring as a part of teen leadership programs:**

- backpack (teens live further way from main camp)
- notebook
- watch

### LAUNDRY AT CAMP

Participants in LDI 2.0 and CIT programs will have access to laundry - laundry bags and detergent will be provided.

### PHONES

CITs may bring cell phones to camp. Refer to Camper Phone Use section on page 5 for more details.

### SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

While at Camp Orkila, teens sleep in all gender cabins in Tracy Strong Village. Participants in the LDI and HAL 2.0 programs will generally sleep in the Tracy Strong Village while on site at Orkila. While on expedition, teens sleep under A-frame tarps, and staff sleep under a separate tarp close by.

CITs live in CIT village and will select their own cabins and cabinmates upon arrival as a group. Housing may be female, male, or all-gender.

# KAYAKING PROGRAMS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### PROGRAMS

- San Juan Kayaking
- San Juan Kayaking 2.0
- Leadership Development Institute
- Leadership Development Institute 2.0

### CAMPSITES

While on expedition trips, groups stay at developed campsites using advance reservations whenever possible. Most camp sites that kayaking trips stay at can only be accessed by foot or boat.

### MEALS

On trips, teens prepare healthy, well-balanced, and nutritious meals over camp stoves. Staff teach each teen to use the stove safely and to assist with cooking meals for the group.

### SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

While at Camp Orkila, teens sleep in all gender cabins in Tracy Strong Village. While on expedition, teens sleep under A-frame tarps, and staff sleep under a separate tarp close by.

### SHOWERS

When out on trips, showers are not available. Teens will have an opportunity to rinse via dipping in the Salish Sea, and can shower on-site at camp before and after the experience.

### LAUNDRY FACILITIES

Laundry service is not available to teens on expedition trips (including single or multi-week courses and/or consecutive trips) due to the remote nature of the campsites.

### STORAGE

While on trips, teens can leave some personal items stored in a locked storage area at camp. Space is limited, so please bring only necessary items.

### SWIM CHECK & SEA KAYAK WET EXITS

All teens who participate in an overnight kayaking experience are required to complete a basic swim check (swimming one length of the pool without stopping and treading water for 30 seconds), and a wet exit that requires a team of two to flip, exit and re-enter a double kayak. Teens receive full training prior to the drill to ensure success. It is required of all participants before teens can participate in overnight kayak trips.

### REST DAYS

Teens on longer courses are able to rest up from the rigorous adventure activities, prepare for the next leg of the trip, or wait out inclement weather conditions. These days are spent taking day hikes, visiting local museums, playing organized games, or learning to cook over camp stoves.

### PERMITS

The YMCA of Greater Seattle and Camp Orkila are permit holders for the areas in which we will travel. All groups operate within the rules of the permits.



## KAYAKING PROGRAMS

### GENERAL PACKING LIST

All participants are responsible for bringing the items on the following list with them to camp. Please take time to confirm that every item is actually going into their pack before leaving home. The quality of equipment can have an enormous impact on the health and happiness of participants. When selecting equipment, size and weight can be important.\*

\*Orkila can provide many of these items; please call with any questions.

### PACKING

Since participants will be carrying their own equipment as well as a portion of the group's food and gear, choose personal gear that is lightweight, warm and easily packed. All items should be packed in a duffel bag or backpack.

### CLOTHING

Synthetics and wool are warmer, more comfortable, and **highly recommended**. Cotton clothing holds water, dries slowly, and **will not** provide insulation when wet.

### FOOTWEAR

Participants should bring shoes or sports sandals (Tevas, Crocs, water shoes, Chacos,

or lightweight sneakers). These shoes will be worn while swimming and in boats, so they need to be securely fastened with a heel strap. **NO FLIP FLOPS!**

### SLEEPING BAGS

A quality sleeping bag is extremely important for comfort on trips. Small, warm, lightweight bags are essential because participants will carry their bags for the duration of the trip. A nylon-shelled synthetic sleeping bag, with a stuff sack, is preferred. **Do not bring cotton or down sleeping bags.** Once wet, they tend to stay wet.

### GROUP GEAR & EQUIPMENT

Camp Orkila provides kayaks (primarily Northwest SeaScape 2 double kayaks), paddles, tarps, stoves, cooking and eating utensils, and dry bags.

### GEAR CHECK

Our instructors will help check all participant gear. They may ask participants not to bring something that they've packed or provide an alternative to what was brought. This is done for efficiency, to minimize pack weight, and to ensure that everyone has the appropriate gear. Anything we ask to be left behind will be stored securely.



## KAYAKING PROGRAMS

### TEEN TRIPS PACKING LIST:

#### REQUIRED ITEMS:

- 1 pair of comfortable shoes (such as tennis shoes) to wear at camp sites
- Baselayer: 1 pair of long underwear, top and bottom, (wool, capilene or polypropylene)
- Midlayer: 2 pairs of long pants (1 pair non-cotton, synthetic, quick-drying)
- Midlayer: 1 long-sleeved synthetic/wool top
- Top layer: 1 warm fleece, sweater, or jacket (wool or synthetic)
- Rain jacket and rain pants (no ponchos)
- 4 pairs of socks (wool or synthetic preferred)
- Underwear (enough to last through the length of the program)
- 2 pairs of shorts
- 4 T-shirts (at least 1-2 non-cotton, synthetic)
- 1 swimsuit
- 1 brimmed hat
- 1 warm hat
- 1 pair of warm, lightweight gloves
- Personal toiletries (in small containers)
- 1 towel for showering
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses with a retainer strap (Chums, Croakies)
- Flashlight or head lamp
- Personal water bottle
- Watch
- Sleeping pad (foam or inflatable)
- Sleeping bag (an easily packable, synthetic bag is preferred)

#### OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- Camera (labeled with camper's name)
- Windbreaker
- Insect Repellent
- Books, cards, journals, art supplies
- Small hand towel
- Bandanas
- Stadium chair
- Binoculars
- Postcards

#### DO NOT BRING:

- Cell phones/electronic devices
- iPods/MP3 players/radios
- E-Readers/handheld gaming devices
- Matches/lighters
- Alcohol/drugs/tobacco products/e-cigarettes/vaping devices
- Candy/food
- Valuable clothing or make-up
- Animals
- Personal sports equipment
- Fireworks
- Weapons
- Vehicles

#### ADDITIONAL PACKING ITEMS FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE:

All required items listed, as well as additional clothing and shoes for time in camp. Please refer to the leadership packing information on page 18.



# KAYAKING PROGRAMS

## \*SAMPLE ITINERARIES\*

The itineraries given are intended to be a sample schedule of each trip. These may change due to circumstances such as weather and the skill level of participants.

## ALL KAYAKING TRIPS

### SAN JUAN KAYAKING

#### DAILY TRAVEL TIME

Kayak 1 to 6 hours

#### \*SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Day 1: Arrive at Camp Orkila, swim check
- Day 2: Day paddle and skills instruction at Camp Orkila, camp at Pt. Doughty
- Day 3: Paddle to Jones Island, camp on south end
- Day 4: Paddle to Blind Island
- Day 5: Paddle to Jones Island, camp on north end
- Day 6: Paddle to Camp Orkila
- Day 7: Closing and return home

### SAN JUAN KAYAKING 2.0

#### DAILY TRAVEL TIME

Kayak 1 to 6 hours

#### \*SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Day 1: Arrive at Camp Orkila, swim check
- Day 2: Day paddle & skills instruction at Camp Orkila
- Day 3: Paddle to Jones Island
- Day 4: Paddle to Blind Island
- Day 5: Paddle to Shaw or Lopez Island
- Day 6: Day Paddles
- Day 7: Paddle to Obstruction Pass – resupply
- Day 8: Paddle to Lopez Island
- Day 9: Paddle to Pelican Beach
- Day 10: Rest day on Pelican Beach
- Day 11: Paddle to Clark Island
- Day 12: Paddle to Matia Island
- Day 13: Paddle to Sucia Island
- Day 14: Paddle to Camp Orkila
- Day 15: Closing and return home

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (LDI)\*\*

Teens spend 2 weeks learning to develop their leadership and communication styles, working with youth and exploring the San Juan Islands on a multi-day sea kayaking adventure. Participants generally spend 4-5 nights on expedition and the rest of their session at Camp Orkila.

#### DAILY TRAVEL TIME

1 to 6 hours

#### \*SAMPLE ITINERARY

- Day 1: Camp Orkila to Jones Island
- Day 2: Stay on Jones island, day paddle in Wasp Islands
- Day 3: Jones Island to Turn Island
- Day 4: Turn Island to Orcas Island
- Day 5: Paddle to pick up area, return to Orkila

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (LDI 2.0)\*\*

Over the course of 3 weeks, teens build on their leadership skills learning facilitation techniques, exploring the importance of storytelling, community building, service and taking on more youth work challenges. They will also embark on a seven-day sea kayak expedition with the goal of circumnavigating Orcas Island.

#### DAILY TRAVEL TIME

1 to 7 hours

#### \*KAYAKING

- Day 1: Camp Orkila to Jones Island
- Day 2: Jones Island to Blind Island
- Day 3: Blind Island to Doe Island
- Day 4: Doe Island to Clark Island
- Day 5: Clark Island to Matia Island
- Day 6: Matia Island to Sucia Island
- Day 7: Sucia Island back to camp

## GETTING TO CAMP

### THREE WAYS TO GET TO CAMP

For your convenience, Camp Orkila provides three transportation options to and from camp (you may mix and match to meet your personal transportation needs):

#### 1. CHARTER BUS FROM SHORELINE

Transportation to/from Shoreline on tour buses that are equipped with air conditioning and bathrooms. *This is the only Seattle-based transportation.* (\$65 charge each way)

#### 2. ANACORTES CHECK-IN

You may check in your camper at the Anacortes ferry landing. Accompanied by staff, the group will walk-on to the ferry and be met by the Camp Orkila bus at the Orcas ferry landing. Campers must be able to manage their own luggage on and off the ferry. (\$15 charge each way)

#### 3. CAMP CHECK-IN

Parents may choose to drive their camper directly to Camp Orkila. Refer to the Washington State Ferry website for drive-on fees and schedules.

Based on your choice, we assign your camper to a bus or expect you to drive your camper directly to Camp Orkila or the Anacortes ferry landing.

We know that planning for camp can be exciting, and that travel plans can change along the way. If you need to make a change to your transportation options, please complete our [Transportation Change Webform](#). When possible, we ask that all changes be finalized 2 weeks prior to your participant's start date. Last minute changes may not be accommodated.

## FERRY RESERVATIONS & FEES

Personal vehicle reservations for travel to and from the San Juan Islands are available online at [www.wsdot.com/ferries](http://www.wsdot.com/ferries) or by calling (888) 808-7977 between 4am and 8:30pm, 7 days a week. If you are planning to drive to camp **we strongly encourage you to make reservations.**

**\*NOTE: As of March 1, 2026, a card payment processing fee of 3% will be applied to all card transactions.** Fares, no-show fees, and carpool and vanpool permits will be subject to the 3% fee.

## A NOTE ABOUT FERRIES

On the Anacortes/San Juan Islands routes during normal operations, 75% of the space on each vessel is available to reserve, and the remaining 25% of vehicle deck space is held open for emergency and stand-by vehicles. Additional stand-by space may also be available due to no shows. In the event of a service disruption, new reservations may be unavailable, and existing reservation holders will be prioritized over stand-by traffic.

Space is released as follows:

**2 MONTHS before the season start date at 10:00 a.m. PST:**

- 25% of standard vehicle space
- All 75% of tall, non-standard vehicle space

**2 WEEKS before each sailing date at 7:00 a.m. PST:**

- Additional 25% of all standard vehicle space

**2 DAYS before each sailing date at 7:00 a.m. PST**

- Final 25% of standard vehicle space

## PLEASE BRING A LUNCH!

Campers taking the bus to camp, or being dropped off at Anacortes, will need to have a sack lunch to eat on the ferry. **PLEASE NO glass OR nut products.** Campers will not be allowed to purchase food on the ferry. Lunches will be provided by camp for the return trip.

## CHECK-IN & PICK-UP LOCATIONS

### SHORELINE BUS

Shorewood High School  
17300 Fremont Ave N.  
Shoreline, WA 98133

**Driving Directions:** From I-5, take exit 176 and proceed west on NE 175th Street. At Fremont Avenue North, turn left to head south. Proceed approx. 100 feet to the school parking lot entrance on the left.

**Bus Check-In Time: 7:00am**

**Do not arrive late to check-in.** Buses will leave as soon as campers are on board. It's very important buses make their scheduled ferry.

**Bus Pick-Up Time: 5:00pm\***

\*Due to the nature of ferry delays, this is the time campers should return on the bus; thank you for your patience if delays take place;

**PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR PICK UP.**

### ANACORTES FERRY

The Anacortes ferry terminal is approximately a 1.5 hour drive north of Seattle. Take I-5 North or South to Highway 20. Head west and follow signs to the Anacortes ferry landing. Park your car and proceed to the ferry terminal building. Camp staff will meet you and your camper at the picnic table outside the terminal. Campers will walk on to the ferry carrying their luggage. For pick-up, you will meet your camper at the picnic tables outside the ferry terminal.

**Anacortes Check-In Time: 9:00am**

**Anacortes Pick-Up Time: 3:15pm\***

\*Due to the nature of ferry delays, this is the time campers should return to Anacortes; thank you for your patience if delays take place;

**PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR PICK UP.**

### CAMP ORKILA

Follow the directions to the Anacortes ferry landing and board the ferry to Orcas Island. Ferry schedules can be obtained from the Washington State Ferries. Camp Orkila is approximately a 20 minute drive once you arrive on Orcas. Driving directions can be obtained by calling the Camping & Outdoor Leadership office at (206) 382-5009 or at [camporkila.org](http://camporkila.org) under the Parent Corner section.

**Camp Check-In Time: 12:00pm\***

**Camp Pick-Up Time: 12:00pm\***

\*Due to the nature of ferry delays, this is the time check-in/pick-up will begin; thank you for your patience if delays take place, and know that we will be watching the ferries so there's no need to notify us of delays.

### HOLDOVER OPTION

Participants who are registered for specific consecutive sessions have the option to stay at camp over the weekend between their sessions, for an additional fee.

### TRANSPORTATION LETTER

Two weeks prior to your session start date you will receive a **welcome letter via email** confirming the transportation choices you selected, and will also include the following information:

- Check-in and pick-up locations & times
- Travel Day Medication Form
- Brief Health Screening Form

So we can ensure a smooth check-in, please call the Camping & Outdoor Leadership Office immediately at (206) 382-5009 if the information in your transportation letter is not how you are planning to check-in and/or pick-up your camper.

Luggage tags will be distributed at your check-in location, and are color coordinated with your camper's departure method and location.

## CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

In your transportation email we will provide additional detail on check-in and check-out procedures. Check-in procedures will include at least the following:

- Complete a brief health screening form.
- Turn in all medications in original containers (do not pack medications in your camper's luggage)
- Undergo lice check
- Upon your camper completing the lice check, you will receive a camper pick-up ticket with your child's name on it. **You need this physical ticket for pick-up.**

## PICK-UP PROCEDURES

### CHECKING TO SEE IF WE ARE ON TIME

**AFTER 3:30PM:** There are two ways you can check to see whether busses will arrive at Shoreline on schedule:

- Check **camporkila.org** for updates
- Call our check-in/pick-up day number to speak with a staff member: (206) 255-3517

The office at Camp Orkila is also available at (360) 376-2678 if you have questions about picking your camper up at Orkila. For the safety of your camper and the smooth operation of camp, **PLEASE BE ON TIME FOR PICK-UPS!**



## PICK-UP TICKETS & AUTHORIZED PICK-UPS

For the safety of your camper, you will receive a pick-up ticket when your camper checks in.

**On pick-up day, you must present this physical pick-up ticket before we can release your camper.** Without the pick-up ticket, you or your authorized pick-up person will be asked to present a photo ID to the staff in charge to receive a replacement pick-up ticket before your camper will be released. Individuals authorized to pick-up your camper must be listed in the Authorized Pick Up section of your UltraCamp account. Your camper will not be released to anyone who does not have a pick-up ticket or is not on the authorized pick-up list.

## BUS SAFETY

- Buses will travel in convoy to and from camp, remaining together at all times.
- Campers must remain seated.
- No eating on the bus.
- Campers should use inside voices while traveling on the bus.
- Head counts are required each time the group boards and disembarks the bus. If campers must disembark buses in emergency situations, campers will remain on the safest side of the bus as determined by the supervisor.



## TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

- Check-in areas are blocked off and secure from vehicle traffic.
- All camper medications are turned in with staff at the check-in table.
- First aid kits are available at check-in and on all buses that transport campers.
- Parents or guardians should accompany campers to the check-in area and remain with them until they board the bus to camp.
- Parents release their camper to camp staff when they board the bus for camp.
- At check-in, each parent is given a pick-up ticket which they will present at pick-up to identify themselves as an authorized pick-up person. Without the pick-up ticket, the pick-up person must present a photo ID and be listed on the camper's authorized pick-up list to receive a replacement pick-up ticket.
- Each bus group will be supervised by a minimum of two adults, not including the bus driver.
- Each bus will have a cell phone and emergency numbers.
- All accidents/incidents will be documented and phoned in to the transportation director as soon as possible during transit or immediately upon arrival at the destination.

## LOST & FOUND

Please remember to label each piece of your child's camp gear and clothing with their first and last name. YMCA Camping & Outdoor Leadership & Camp Orkila are not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items. We will attempt to reunite lost items with owners if they are labeled.

**Please remember to check that your camper has picked up their luggage, sleeping bag and pillow when you pick them up.**

### ITEMS LEFT AT CAMP

Items with no identification are kept at Camp Orkila and donated two weeks after their session end. Call (360) 376-2678 for inquiries. After September 15, all items will be donated to charity.

### ITEMS LEFT IN TRANSIT

Items with no identification are kept at the Camping & Outdoor Leadership Office at the Downtown YMCA. Call (206) 382-5009 or email [campinfo@seattleyymca.org](mailto:campinfo@seattleyymca.org) for inquiries. After September 15, all items will be donated to charity.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### CAMPING & OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP OFFICE – SEATTLE

#### ADMISSIONS & BILLING

Phone: (206) 382-5009, option 4, then 3

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

[campinfo@seattleyymca.org](mailto:campinfo@seattleyymca.org)

### CAMP ORKILA

Office: (360) 376-2678

Hours: Daily, 9am-5pm, (June 29-Aug 28)

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

### NEED TO REACH OUR TRANSPORTATION FOLKS ON TRAVEL DAYS?

June 29-August 28

(206) 255-3517

### DIRECTOR-ON-DUTY CELL: (360) 317-6852

For emergencies only, call this cell phone to reach the Director-on-Duty. If you do not get an answer, please leave a detailed message with your name, area code and phone number. We will call you back as soon as possible.

### SUMMER PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Taylor Ladd

(206) 749-7587

[tladd@seattleyymca.org](mailto:tladd@seattleyymca.org)

Emily Schechtman

(206) 839-8903

[eschechtman@seattleyymca.org](mailto:eschechtman@seattleyymca.org)

### FOOD SERVICE DIRECTOR

Celia Nesper

(425) 496-8100

[cnesper@seattleyymca.org](mailto:cnesper@seattleyymca.org)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dave Affolter

(360) 376-2678

[daffolter@seattleyymca.org](mailto:daffolter@seattleyymca.org)

### SENIOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAMPING & OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

Jason Lane

(206) 382-4363

[jasonlane@seattleyymca.org](mailto:jasonlane@seattleyymca.org)

### CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION CONTACT

[safekids@seattleyymca.org](mailto:safekids@seattleyymca.org)

(206) 749-7590



YMCA Camp Orkila is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). For more information on their safety standards, please refer to [acacamps.org](http://acacamps.org).

Everyone is welcome. The YMCA of Greater Seattle strengthens communities in King and south Snohomish counties through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. **Financial assistance is available.**