



MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES

SUMMER DAY CAMP

2018 Parent Handbook

Welcome to Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp! This camp is made possible through the continued support of WAMY Community Action, Inc., Watauga County Schools, and the N.C. Department of Public Instruction.

We are excited for you to be here and look forward to an incredible summer. Please take the time to read the details pertaining to the camp and get in touch with us if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Please read even if your child is a returning camper, as some policies have changed.

OPERATING HOURS:

Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp will operate Monday-Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp participants may be dropped off at the Cove Creek Elementary School from 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. Any child dropped off past 9:00am will not be able to participate in morning field trips or breakfast and will be assigned a different group for the morning. Please make sure your child is on time so that they can be a part of all activities!

When campers are being dropped off in the mornings and picked up in the afternoons, there will be a variety of activities for them to participate in while we wait for the arrival of other campers. Free breakfast will also be served during the morning drop-off period.

Activities, field trips, & programs will begin at 9:00am and end by 4:30pm each day. If we are on field trip and running behind schedule, parents will be contacted by camp staff. Please do not try to pick up your child from their field trip unless it is approved prior to the day of by the camp director. Picking up children randomly throughout the day makes it harder for camp staff to keep role on track throughout the day.

Participants may be picked up only by those on the pick-up list from 4:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. IDs will be checked until staff becomes familiar with family members designated to pick up your camper. If there is a change in the camper's pick up list - please let a staff member know as soon as possible.

Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp will begin on Monday June 11th, 2018 and conclude on Friday, August 17th, 2018. Start date is subject to change depending on Watauga County's school release date. We will not have camp on Wed. July 4th due to the Holiday.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp is designed to ensure that the whole child is provided with tools to reach his or her full potential. Your camper will enjoy all the fun learning opportunities that are planned for the duration of the summer. The program strives to make learning more fun and experiential!



WAMY Community Action, Inc.
225 Birch St. Suite 2
Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-2421

Questions or Concerns? Feel free to contact us!
Emily Greer, Camp Director
(828) 773-9986 or emily@wamycommunityaction.org
Mary Helen Fennell, Assistant Camp Director
(828) 773-4363 or maryhelen@wamycommunityaction.org

We appreciate your input and support for the program and hope you will take the time to participate in some of the activities and workshops offered.

Mountain Adventures will also have the opportunity to participate in physical fitness activities, group games, creative projects, team building initiatives, and much more. If you participate or volunteer in ANY activities with the program please be sure to sign in as a parent-volunteer on that day. Your camp counselor will have the appropriate sign in sheets.

CAMPER SIGN IN/OUT:

Each day your camper(s) must be signed in and out by an adult/guardian, that is listed the camper's pick up list. Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp will not release any camper(s) unless the person picking them up is on the pick-up list.

This year, we are introducing a new electronic sign in/billing system. This is to help us stay organized, ensure the continued safety of your child, and make our sign/out process more efficient and eco-friendly! We will explain the system fully on the first day your child(ren) attend camp as well as introducing it in this handbook.

Each day when you arrive, you will put in the four digit code assigned to you (the last four numbers of the main phone number listed), and it will automatically sign in the child. If you have multiple children/siblings in the same program, it will give you the option to sign them in as well (to avoid putting in the pin number multiple times). Each day at pick up, you will repeat the process to sign them out.

Each person on the pick up list will have a unique code. If someone other than the main guardian on the pick-up list gets the child on a certain day (with their unique code), the main guardian will be notified when the camper is picked up. We will still be checking IDs until staff are able to recognize family members to ensure safety of the campers.

In order to ensure each camper's safety, you must physically come into the building and sign your camper(s) in and out of the program on a daily basis. No other camper will be allowed to sign out another camper, including themselves or other siblings (unless they are 18+) under any circumstances.

No individual that is a registered sex offender will be allowed to pick up camper(s). If you need to add someone to your pick-up list, please have a camp counselor write the new name and phone number in your students packet and have them receive a new pin number.

If there is an existing legal custody document, please send a copy with your registration packet. As legal custody changes, please send updated information.

If you arrive later than 6:00 pm, late fees will apply. Late fees are \$5.00 per camper for every 10 minutes late. You will be provided with an invoice at the end of the week.



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THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME:

We are striving to create a fun, safe, learning environment for our campers. In order to ensure safety, DO NOT BRING: fidget spinners, toys, cell phones, radios, jewelry, CDs, MP3's, CD players, pagers, video games, magazines, IPODS, lap tops, roller/wheel shoes, skate boards, knives, cigarette lighters, tobacco, drugs, non-prescription drugs, alcohol, guns (including play guns and water guns), fireworks, weapons, gum, pets, large sums of money, or anything of great value.

It is at the discretion of the camper(s) counselor if another item brought to camp is deemed inappropriate. Should your camper bring one or more of these items, it will be held by the camp director and your camper might face suspension from the program.

THINGS TO BRING EVERYDAY:

Each day your camper should bring the following items to camp:

1. Swim suit or clothes to swim in (sometimes our plans change based on the weather!)
2. Extra pair of clothes
3. Tennis shoes & socks (or other hiking related shoes)
4. Towel
5. Sunscreen (unless using camp sunscreen)
6. A great attitude and a smile!

**Your camper may keep majority of these items at the school if you don't want to bring them back and forth. Campers will be provided with lockers to store their items in each day. Rooms will be locked after camp hours. Please take your campers swimsuits and dirty clothes home on the weekends to wash them and return to camp on Monday with dry and clean clothes.

DRESS CODE:

The Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp Program respects the camper's right to choose his or her own style of dress or appearance. However, campers are expected to adhere to standards of dress that are compatible with the requirement of a good camp environment. If a camper's dress is such that constitutes a threat to health or safety, the director or director's designee may require the camper and the camper's parents or guardians to take appropriate action to remedy the situation.

For the protection of all students, bathing suits must cover the midriff region. This means if a camper is wearing swimming trunks or a two piece swimsuit, a rash guard or shirt must be worn. This new policy aligns with the Watauga County School system swimming policy.

One piece bathing suits and/or trunks with rash guards are suggested. There will be days that campers are required to wear comfortable closed-toe shoes for hiking or doing other physical activities. Campers may leave tennis shoes or other hiking appropriate shoes in their locker as long as the shoes go home on the weekends. If your camper does not have the appropriate attire for an activity, they will not be allowed to participate.

Dress code is as follows:

- Clothing must not be disruptive to the camp environment and cannot be provocative, revealing, indecent, vulgar, obscene, or profane.
- Any article of clothing must not be revealing and must cover all personal body parts, including the midriff. Excessively short shorts are not allowed at camp.
- Pants must be worn on the waist. No sagging pants are allowed.
- Undergarments may not be visible.



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DRESS CODE CONTINUED

-Proper street footwear is required. Shoes with laces must be laced, tied, and fit properly. Chacos or sandals that are tied or strapped around the entire foot will be allowed but tennis shoes must be available EVERY DAY due to the wide variety of activities that we will participate in daily.

-Clothing that promotes gang affiliation, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, the use of a controlled substance, depicts violence, is of a sexual nature, or is of a disruptive nature is prohibited.

LUNCH & SNACKS:

- Mountain Adventures will provide all youth with a healthy snack. Snacks are provided through a donation from FARM Cafe, local churches, and other community organizations here in Watauga County.
- Breakfast & Lunch will be provided through the Summer Feeding Program everyday at no extra cost. Students can pack their lunch as well but are encouraged to take advantage of the camp meals.
- Mountain Adventures will accommodate youth with special dietary needs upon written request from the parent/guardian. Please let the camp director know if your child has specific needs at the beginning of camp.

SUNSCREEN POLICY:

Mountain Adventures provides at least 30 SPF sunscreen to our campers. If you need higher SPF sunscreen for your child, please send it along. Although we are more than happy to provide this to our families free of charge, this costs starts to add up as we go through bottles daily. Please consider donating sunscreen to our program. Sunscreen will be applied to campers with completed permission forms every two hours during outside play, every hour during water play, and more as needed at the discretion of the camp counselors.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE PROGRAM:

Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp provides each lead counselor with a group cell phone. These cell phones will ensure each camper's safety and will give parents the opportunity to contact staff in case of an emergency, sign a child in/out if they are on field trips, and take photos to share with the program. Please feel free to contact the camp staff if you have an emergency. However, due to supervision being the number one priority, you might have to leave a message or try calling the administrative office if you cannot get through. Phones will be on from 7:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. daily. Phone numbers will be given out on the first day of camp as they are based on what group the camper is placed in.

Both Camp Director and Assistant Director will be available by calling Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm. If you are unable to reach them, please leave a message as they are often within the program or chaperoning field trips.

Camp Director - Emily Greer (828) 773-9986

Assistant Camp Director - Mary Helen Fennell (828) 773-4363

WAMY Boone Office - (828) 264-2421

Cove Creek Elementary School - (828) 297-2781 (Use only if you cannot get ahold of any number above)

Please remember that the Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp is not the responsibility of Watauga County Schools. If you have a concern or would like an issue addressed, please call the Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp Program Director.



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BEHAVIOR POLICY:

At Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp, we do our very best to work with and encourage all the campers. Our campers are expected to adhere to all rules and regulations, follow the code of conduct and follow directions from staff, volunteers, and program leaders. If behavior, personal safety, or the safety of others becomes an issue, you may be notified to pick up your child immediately. The acting summer camp counselor will review a report with you concerning the incident and have you sign.

If a camper's behavior is repeatedly inappropriate or unmanageable, camp staff will have discipline report forms that they fill out. A camper can be suspended from the program for one day, three days, one week, or the remainder of the summer. Please keep an open line of communication with staff members regarding your camper's efforts, improvements, behaviors, achievements, and areas of growth. We do our best to meet each camper at their individual level and want each one to be active, positive, and excited to be in Mountain Adventures. At times, we must also face very hard decisions about keeping campers in the program for a variety of reasons. We find that it helps immensely if guardians can encourage their campers to do well in Mountain Adventures and if they keep an open line of communication with the camp staff.

All incidents will be handled case by case - based on the severity of the incident and at the discretion of the camp director. Below is our discipline and behavior management policy. Our behavior management policy aligns with the NC Division of Child Development standards.

We:

1. DO praise, reward and encourage the campers.
2. DO reason with and set limits for campers.
3. DO model appropriate behavior for campers.
4. DO modify the classroom environment to attempt to prevent problems before they occur.
5. DO listen to campers.
6. DO provide alternatives for inappropriate behavior to the campers.
7. DO provide campers with natural and logical consequences of their behaviors.
8. DO treat campers as people and respect their needs, desires and feelings.
9. DO ignore minor misbehaviors.
10. DO explain things to campers on their level.
11. DO stay consistent in our behavior management program.

We:

1. DO NOT spank, shake, bite, pinch, push, pull, slap or otherwise physically punish the campers.
2. DO NOT make fun of, yell at, threaten, make sarcastic remarks about, use profanity or otherwise verbally abuse campers.
3. DO NOT shame or punish campers when bathroom accidents occur.
4. DO NOT deny food or rest as punishment.
5. DO NOT relate discipline to eating, resting or sleeping.
6. DO NOT leave campers alone.
7. DO NOT place campers in locked rooms, closets, or boxes punishment.
8. DO NOT allow discipline of campers by campers.
9. DO NOT criticize, make fun of or otherwise belittle camper's parents, families or ethnic groups.



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ABUSE/NEGLECT:

If Mountain Adventures Summer Day Camp staff suspect and/or witness incidents of child abuse or neglect, a report will be made immediately to the Department of Social Services by the staff person who suspects/witnesses the abuse/neglect.

MEDICAL INFORMATION/RELEASE FORM:

The Medical Information/Release Form must be fully completed and returned to the camp director. Please make sure you indicate a doctor, the doctor's phone number, and a hospital preference. Additionally, let us know of any special medical condition and all allergies. If your camper has an inhaler or epi-pen, we need to have access to one at the site at all times. Action Plan forms are available if your camper has diabetes, asthma, seizures, or food allergies. If your camper requires medication during the camp hours of operation, you and your doctor must provide prescription information, and a completed medication permission form. All medical information will be kept strictly confidential.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE CAMPERS:

We expect your camper to attend the program on a regular basis, if possible.

We want your camper to be actively involved in setting up individual goals and participating in activities. We want your camper to have a part in watching his or her progress throughout the summer. We expect your camper to obey the rules established by the behavior policy and the code of conduct policy. Failure to do so could mean temporary suspension or permanent suspension from the program. We have many campers we are serving and need to ensure a safe and secure environment for all involved.

EXPECTATIONS OF THE PROGRAM:

1. We will work to engage each camper and make camp fun and enriching.
2. We will listen to concerns and work to address them in the best possible way.
3. We will do our best to work collaboratively with you and your camper.



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