



# Camp Roger

## 2020 Summer Camp Parent Guide Wilderness Trip Information

### PACKING LIST

- Quick-drying clothing for sunny, rainy, and cool days (preferably not cotton)
- Lightweight **long** sleeve shirt and **long** pants (quick drying – **not jeans or cotton**) for bug protection
- Socks (preferably quick drying)
- Swimsuit (one piece or modest tankini for girls)
- A supportive, broken-in pair of tennis shoes for hiking
- Raincoat or poncho (light raincoat is advised)
- A **warm, lightweight, and quick-drying** sleeping bag (Be sure your bag easily stuffs to a small size)
- Two** large (at least 24 oz. each) water bottles
- Toiletry articles
- Insect repellent (2 cans/bottles)
- Prescription medications (must be brought in the original container from the pharmacy)
- Campers who use prescribed inhalers or EpiPens should bring **two** inhalers on the trip

#### Optional:

- Hiking boots (tennis shoes are enough if they are comfortable and supportive)
- Sandals with back straps or water shoes
- A brimmed hat for sun (head nets may be provided)
- Camp Roger provides backpacks, but if you have your own you may bring it.
- Sunscreen
- Bible
- Lightweight flashlight or headlamp
- A lightweight quick drying towel or chamois and a regular towel for back at camp
- If a pillow is desired, it must be a small travel pillow
- If a sleeping pad is desired, bring a lightweight one
- Digital Camera

#### **For Voyagers Only:**

- Khaki or navy shorts for back at camp to be worn on opening/closing days with Staff shirt
- Extra clothes to stay at camp for 4-Day Session

**IMPORTANT:** Proper equipment can make the difference between a miserable camp experience and a comfortable, happy one. It is essential that you follow these equipment/packing guidelines. This may involve borrowing or buying gear that you may not already own. If you have trouble procuring this gear, please call Camp Roger at 616-874-7286 for assistance.

### THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME

- All electronic devices (cell phones, iPods, iPads, tablets, electronic games, etc.)
- Cosmetics, hairdryers, etc.
- New or expensive clothing
- Food, gum and candy
- Over-the-counter medications (Trip leaders will have these on hand as needed)
- Alcohol, drugs, and cigarettes (including e-cigs) are prohibited

### LOST and FOUND POLICY

- Please label all your child's items with their full name.
- At the end of the session, lost and found items are placed near the cabin porches and then collected by the Lodge. You may check this before you leave.
- Any items left after campers leave will be held until the fall. Please call camp as soon as you realize you have a missing item. If we are able to locate the item(s), we will make arrangements with you for returning the item(s).
- All items left after September will be donated to a charitable organization.

### ACCOUNT BALANCES

- All accounts must be paid in full by the opening day of the session.
- You may pay your balance before you arrive by mailing in a check, calling camp with a credit card number, or using the Return to Pay feature through your online registration account. Registrars will be available in the lodge during check-in to assist with any final payments.

### CAMP STORE MONEY

Wilderness trip campers do not need to deposit money in a camp store account. Voyager campers may bring along a little pocket money for snacks on the van rides to and from their destination, but not a lot is needed. They may visit the camp store for campwear/souvenirs on drop off and pick up day.

## **HEALTH HISTORY FORMS AND MEDICATIONS**

- Beginning in May, a link to complete an online health history form will be made available through your online registration login. (If you did not register online, you will still be able to complete the online health history form.)
- All health history forms must be completed prior to your child's arrival at camp. If you registered online prior to May, you will receive an email notifying you when the online form is available. If you have any questions, please call the camp office at 616-874-7286.
- If there are any changes to be made to a submitted health form, please call the camp office to request that your form be reopened.
- All prescription medications, herbal supplements, and vitamins must be brought to camp in the original container from the pharmacy. The camper's name, prescribing physician's name, medication name and dosage should be clearly marked on the container.
- All medications will be kept in the first aid kit with the counselor when off site. The first aid kit is stocked with ample over-the-counter medications, first aid supplies and a backup Epi-pen. The counselors are responsible for all medication administration when out of camp. They are given specific instructions and med administration sheets from the nurse. The counselors are also given copies of the camper's health history forms and discusses each camper's specific medical needs with the nurse prior to leaving camp. The nurse is available by cell phone 24 hours a day for consultation as needed for out of camp trips.
- Wilderness Trip leaders will contact camp directors at least once per trip to touch base.
- Each Wilderness Trip is staffed with a counselor who is Lifeguard/CPR and Wilderness First Aid Certified.

## **CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY**

If you cancel your child's registration 14 or more days before the beginning of the session, a cancellation fee of \$25 will be assessed and all other payment will be refunded. If you cancel less than 14 days before your child's session of camp, a fee of the minimum \$100 deposit will be assessed, and any other payment made will be refunded. Exceptions are only for medical reasons, family emergencies, or death in the family. In such case, only the \$25 cancellation fee will be assessed.

## **ARRIVAL AT CAMP: 12:45pm – 2:00pm**

Please double check your reminder email or statement of account to confirm the start date of your child's session. We request that Pioneer and Voyager campers arrive as close to 12:45/1:00 as possible to maximize the group's trip planning time. If you arrive earlier than 12:45pm, you should wait in your car in the front driveway. The back gate will be closed. Checking in, parking, and moving your child into the cabin could take 45 to 60 minutes. Having your account paid and your health forms turned in ahead of time will help in making the process go more quickly.

The check-in process will include:

- Being greeted by the camp director in the front drive,
- Parking your vehicle (staff will assist you),
- A brief health screening of your child, which includes a lice check (Please allow us full access to the child's hair by removing braids, etc. We also recommend checking, and treating your child if necessary, prior to arrival. We partner with Remedy Lice Boutique in West Michigan for pre-camp screenings at a reduced price.),
- Moving in to the Yurt (Pioneer girls), the Rustic Cabin (Pioneer boys), or the Lodge Basement (Voyagers), and meeting your counselors and trip mates,
- Checking in at the Lodge (this may include paying balances, meeting the nurse and dropping off medications and/or health history forms),
- Visiting the camp store in the Lodge to purchase campwear and souvenirs. The store will also be open on pick up day.

## **LATE ARRIVALS/ABSENCES/EARLY DEPARTURES**

We understand that occasionally a camper family may arrive late due to unforeseen circumstances. If you know you are running late, please call camp as soon as possible. If you anticipate arrival conflicts due to work schedules, please make plans for someone else to drop off your child or choose a different session. Much happens in the first few hours of camp and regardless of your camper's comfort level with camp, there are multiple implications for late arrivals. Late arrivals due to health issues or family emergencies will be accommodated as best we can.

Because the Pioneer and Voyager trips are mostly off Camp Roger's property, missing a day or two due to such things as sports or tryouts, etc. is not an option. Also for Voyagers, being present for the full 4-Day Session as a Voyager counselor is a very important part of the experience. If you anticipate your child having to leave early, please consider another session.

## **DEPARTURE FROM CAMP 9:30-10:30am**

Camper pick up is from 9:30 to 10:30am. Once again, please check your reminder email or statement of account to see when the last day of the session is. If arriving before 9:30am, please wait in your car in the front drive. When the gate opens, please park where directed and go to your child's cabin. Be sure to check for all your child's belongings and check the lost and found tub by the Lodge. Come on in to the Lodge and shop the camp store for campwear and souvenirs.

Voyager counselors are encouraged to stay until 10:30am to say goodbye to all the campers in their cabins and wrap up their experience with their Voyager Trip leaders. We encourage you to pick them up at 10:30am to give them the full counselor experience.

## **KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CAMPER**

Due to the nature of these trips, campers will not be able to receive daily mail. Pioneer River/South campers might receive mail halfway through their trip and then on their return to camp. Pioneer North campers receive mail on the second to last day of the session when they return to camp. Voyagers receive mail when they return to camp and then during the 4-Day Session.

There are multiple ways in which you can communicate with your camper while they are away from home:

- **Bring a letter.** There will be a box at check in in the Lodge on opening day of the session. Feel free to drop off letters to your child ahead of time with the Registrars. Please include the camper's full name.
- **Send them an email.** Camper emails are printed off at Camp Roger before noon each day and kept until the trip returns. Use our online form at [CampRoger.org/email-camper](http://CampRoger.org/email-camper).
- **Fax a letter to your camper.** Our fax number is 616-874-5734. Please include the camper's full name.
- **Mail them a letter.** Please include the child's first and last name and their cabin name if you know it. Send to Camp Roger, 8356 Belding Rd, Rockford, MI 49341.

Campers do not have access to computers or phones during their stay. Because the camp experience is designed to encourage and promote independence and an unplugged environment, phone calls are not permitted. Wilderness Trip leaders will be able to contact camp directors if there are any concerns that might be important to share (severe homesickness, injury, illness, behavioral concerns).

**Photos** will be added to our website after the trip; however, our photographer will need a few days to get these from the trip leaders. Go to [CampRoger.org/2020summerphotos](http://CampRoger.org/2020summerphotos) for a link to the google photo album.

## **Campus Map**

### **Questions?**

Please visit our website at **[CampRoger.org](http://CampRoger.org)** for more information or call us at 616.874.7286.

No question is too small, and we love to serve our families each day. Thank you from all of us at camp!



