



# **BEDFORD CAMP PROGRAM**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **When does camp registration start?**

Typically, the camp registration begins the third week in March and continues through the camp session. There is a discounted rate the first few weeks of registration. Information will be in the Spring/Summer brochure.

### **When I register for camp, what do I need?**

Basic information about your child, as well as emergency contact phone numbers, medical insurance information and a doctor-signed copy of their vaccination records.

For tiny tots you will need to prove the date of birth of the camper. (e.g. birth certificate)

### **What ages are the counselors?**

Our Senior Counselors are high school graduates and older (usually 18 years and older); Junior Counselors have just completed 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade and are 16 or 17 years of age. Counselors in Training are 15 years old.

### **What is the camper to counselor ratios?**

The mandated ratio according to the Department of Health is a 12:1 ratio and the counselor is considered anyone age 16 and older. The town of Bedford exceeds the Department of Health in trying to keep our ratios low at 8:1.

### **What other supervisory staff are at the camp locations?**

In addition to the counselors, most locations have a Director and an Assistant Director. The supervisors at the camps are all educational professionals working in schools or obtaining degrees to work in schools. Our Specialists are also young adults looking to work in schools or with youth.

### **What certifications do the directors have?**

All Directors and Specialists are certified in RTE (Responding to Emergencies) or equivalent and CPR for the Professional Rescuer or equivalent.

### **What do the day campers do during the day?**

The morning is broken up into five-30 minute periods, during that time the campers will participate in swimming lessons, athletics, arts and crafts, sports and games, playground visits, board games, snack time and more. In the afternoon, the campers will have free swim and more fun and games with their counselors.

### **What does my tiny tot camper do during the day?**

The tiny tot program is broken up into four-30 minute periods plus a snack time. During their day, campers will participate in arts and crafts, plus games and activities. The counselors run three periods to keep the campers entertained and active. Campers may play group games, with running and movement or have creative play with building blocks, manipulative and dramatic play.

**How are the children grouped?**

At the Day Camp the children are grouped by grade and gender. At the Tiny Tot level the campers are grouped by age. We do try to group kids entering kindergarten together.

**Will my child have swimming lessons?**

As part of the day camp program, campers will participate in swimming lessons.

For Tiny Tots we have a program called Little Dolphins that is separate from the camp program. There is an additional fee and parent must provide transportation to and from Little Dolphins swim lessons. You must have a valid pool ID card to take Little Dolphins.

**My child will need to take medication while at camp. What do I need to do?**

Any camper needing to take/have medication at the campsite will need to have a parent- and doctor-signed approval form, which is available at the recreation office or online under camp forms.

**What should my child wear to camp?**

Campers should be in summer clothing (short and t-shirt) or appropriate clothing for the current weather conditions. All shoes should be closed toe. We recommend sneakers be worn every day. There are times campers will need to sit out from activities if they are not wearing appropriate shoes.

**Is there water to drink at camp?**

All the camps/pools have water fountains. However, we recommend sending your day camper with a labeled water bottle or thermos every day. Tiny Tot campers have access to water all day.

**Can my child purchase lunch at day camp?**

Yes, our food concession stand has a set camper lunch where children can purchase lunch every day. Copying of the form can be found online under the camp section.

**Does the town provide transportation to and from camp?**

No, it is the parent's responsibility to provide transportation.

**What happens when it rains?**

The day camp has three scenarios for rainy days:

1. If it is raining in the morning and camp is moved to the rain location, drop off and pick up will be at the rain location. If we start at the rain location we do not move back to the campsite.

2. If it starts to rain mid-morning (before 12 noon) and it is expected to continue raining the rest of the day; we will bus the kids to the rain location. Pick up will be at the rain location.

3. If it starts raining after 12:00 noon and it is expected to continue, camp will be cancelled and parents will be asked to pick up their camper or have your camper picked up by a pre-approved person.

**How will I be notified of the rain day locations/ cancellations?**

The Recreation Department will send out an e-mail blast to the e-mail you provided at registration time. We do our best to send the e-mail out in a timely manner, but there are times it is delayed due to unexpected weather patterns.

**Does the town offer a before-care program?**

No, the town camp drop off time is 9:00am.

**Does the town offer after-camp care?**

YES! The town offers an extended camp day for the working parent. We will transport all three camps to one location for an extended camp until 5:45pm. There is an additional fee for this camp.