

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR CAMPERS AND PARENTS

To Camper and Parent:

Please read this page before you come to camp. It contains answers to the questions we are asked most often, and it outlines important policies.

1. How can I as a parent help my child adjust to leaving home before camp?

Before camp begins, stress the positives to your child; meeting new friends & having fun. If your child is apprehensive, reassure him that this is a safe place, where he will be cared for, & you'll see him soon. Any feelings your child has about camp (fear, sadness about leaving you) are OK, & your child needs to know they are natural and you understand. Try **not** to set them up to fail by saying things like: "If you're unhappy, I will come and get you", or "If you feel bad you can always call me." **DO** show an understanding of the child's concerns. Leaving home, even to go to camp, is an important time in the life of a child. It's a time when they learn that as individuals they can do things without you. Please call for help (908-852-2401) if you need to.

2. What can I do while my child is at camp?

Write your child, relax, be here between 9-10 a.m. Saturday (Wednesday for Genesis I) to pick up your camper.

3. What should I bring to camp?

(One-week events)

Clothing: (with name marked on each item)

- Five-six pairs of shorts
- Two pairs of full-length slacks or jeans
- Underwear and socks for a week
- Short and long sleeved shirts
- Hiking or other sturdy shoes, if you have them
- Sneakers or moccasins
- Sweater and jacket
- Raincoat and rubbers
- Pajamas
- Bathing suit and beach towel (goggles if wanted)

(Two-week events)

Clothing: (add these to the one-week list)

- Three more pairs of shorts
- One more pair of full-length pants/jeans
- Underwear for two weeks

(For both one and two week camps)

Bedding: Sleeping bag or 2-3 warm blankets and sheets. Pillow and pillowcase (if desired) All campers will have a cot and mattress

Toilet Articles: Soap in a container, washcloths and bath towels, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb & brush, sanitary supplies

Other Items: Bible, flashlight & batteries, insect repellent, sunscreen, laundry bag, pencils, pens, stationery, and stamps. (These items are also at the camp store.)

Optional: Canteen, fishing equipment, camera, film, guitar. Pocket knife (for Jr/Sr Highs). Knives will be kept in a central location. (Elementaries & Juniors may not bring knives.)

Spending money: (for camp store) - \$15 - \$25

ALL CAMPERS NOTE: DRUGS, LIQUOR, AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS are prohibited by the Camp Board. Anyone found possessing substances will be asked to leave the program without refund. Those with illegal substances are liable under the penalties of law.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING: radios, electric items, pets, or expensive articles. **Cell phones are not allowed.** Equipment needed for programs is provided by the camp, unless specified.

NO FOOD SHOULD BE BROUGHT OR SENT TO CAMP. Because we will be camping in the woods and do not want to attract wildlife (raccoons, etc.) food will be taken & returned at the end of the week before you go home.

4. When should I arrive at camp & when can I be picked up?

Registration for all events except Genesis II is from 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, and pickup is from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. on the next Saturday. Pickup for Genesis I is 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday. Registration for Genesis II is 2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Wednesday.

PLEASE LET US KNOW immediately if you will not be at camp at the pickup time, or if you have arranged to have someone else pick up your child.

5. IF I cancel my camp reservation; do I get my money back?

If cancellations are made four weeks before the beginning date of the camp event, a full refund, less \$25 for administrative costs, will be made. Late cancellation or failure to show will result in forfeiture of the **full camp fee**. Refund requests for medical reasons must be received with a written statement from your physician and can result in a refund of up to half the fee.

6. I would like to come to camp with a friend or another family member. Can we bunk together?

Requests to bunk together will be accepted for **NO MORE THAN YOU & ONE OTHER CAMPER IN THE SAME CAMP AGE GROUP**. If you wish to bunk with a friend, please have the parents of both children request it in writing. **Unless you request it, we will put siblings in separate camping units.**

7. How many campers does each counselor have?

Each counselor is responsible for six campers. In a full unit, there will be six boys and six girls, and one male and one female counselor. Frequently we'll assign a third staff member. Sometimes we will have an all girl or all boy unit.

8. Parent/Guardian

-any medication must be given to the nurse during the health check at registration, and this **medication must by law be in the original containers (including inhalers)**. Campers cannot hold medications. They will receive medication from the nurse at meal times or at the Health Center. This policy applies to vitamins, any drug which can be bought over the counter, or drugs prescribed by a doctor (except inhalers). Please do not send vitamins unless prescribed for certain deficiencies. If you bring medication to camp, please fill out the white page "If camper is bringing medication ..." and bring it & medication with you when you register your child.

9. There is a nurse or EMT on duty at the Health Center 24 hours a day.

We have doctors on call; they have provided us with standing orders covering accepted medical procedures for routine illnesses or accidents. A doctor is consulted in case of emergency or when illness does not respond to routine treatment. Please be assured that in any emergency or unusual occurrence, we will make every effort to contact parents and (unless absolutely necessary) no extreme measures will be taken without contacting the parents.

REMEMBER TO BRING THE HEALTH FORM,

We cannot register you without one. A physical is required every two years. If you want to use this year's physical next year, make a copy & keep it for next summer.

We do not keep forms from year to year!

10. **INSURANCE:** The camp carries secondary health and accident insurance--your insurance is primary.

11. **LATE ARRIVALS:** If for any reason you will be arriving late the day camp begins for your child, please let the camp office staff know in advance. Also, because **early departures** can be disruptive to your child and others in the unit, we can accommodate them only in unusual situations. Please plan to send your child for a week they will be able to complete.

12. **May I call during the week or have my parents phone or visit?**

We discourage contact between parents and children during camp, either through visits or phone calls. Camp allows children a chance to grow their independence and self confidence. It's better to include stamped, self-addressed envelopes and stationery when packing for your child and to write to him or her regularly while he or she is at camp. You may also fax (908-852-0045) or e-mail (camper@campjburg.org) your camper. If there is an emergency, we'll contact you immediately.

13. **Can Camp Johnsonburg accommodate children with special-health related diets?**

Yes, just let us know about your special needs in advance so we can make appropriate arrangements.

14. **Can I send my special needs child to Camp Johnsonburg?**

Our directors and counselors generally do not have the special skills needed to work with seriously troubled, mentally handicapped, or other special needs children. In rare instances an exception may be made, but only after we consult with parents and the child's doctors. **Please do not send a special needs child to any session without speaking with the camp director.** To do so generally results in a less than successful experience for the child.

15. **Will you make exceptions to the grade policy in registering a child for camp?**

Experience has indicated most children are happier with others at their own peer level. In the great majority of cases, placing children out of their grade level has not been successful. Exceptions are rarely made and are only considered after much discussion with parents and campers.

16. **Parents - please note that counselors and staff may not accept gratuities.**

Consider donating to our campership fund if you are pleased with our program.

17. **Will I be out of place at Camp Johnsonburg if I am not Presbyterian?**

No, everyone is welcome without regard to race, color, national origin, or religious preference. Although we have people of all faiths at camp, all are asked to take part in Bible study & worship. Jesus Christ is central to our program.

18. **Where is the camp located?**

The camp is located in Northwest New Jersey, in Johnsonburg, Warren County. We are approximately 15 miles from the Delaware Water Gap. See brochure or back of yellow letter for directions to camp.