



Summer Day Camp Parent Guide

What can I expect for my camper?

Counselors who truly care for every camper in their group, positive outdoor experiences, small group devotions and camp-wide worship experiences, crazy games, strong friendships, songs, campfires, new challenges, growth opportunities, and traditional camp activities. We encourage parents to get to know their camper's counselor on opening day. Our entire staff is committed not only to giving your camper a positive and fun experience, but a safe one where they can learn and grow. We desire for all who come to camp to leave with a greater understanding and appreciation for God, for themselves, and for one another.

Camper Check-In

Monday-Friday (7:30AM – 8:15AM)

We start our day at 7:30 so working parents have ample time to drop off their camper and make it to work on time. On that note, please allow for a little more time during drop off on Monday morning so we can make sure all paperwork and payments are in order. Arriving between the designated times will allow our staff to give you the attention needed with no disruption to our programs. **Please plan on walking your camper into the building to drop them off each morning. We will ask you to sign your camper in and out each day.**

Things to Bring for Check-In

- Balance Due in the form of cash, check, money order, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover
- Camp store payment (if you didn't already make this online)

Camper Check-Out

Monday-Friday (5:15PM – 6:00PM)

We plan to return to the Pavilion for pick up around 5:15 daily. Please be sure to have your camper picked up by 6:00PM. Please note that we will not release your child to anyone not listed on their 'Pick-up Release Form'. If we do not recognize the adult picking them up we will ask for ID. Sometimes during afternoon thunderstorms, our pick-up location may change. If that occurs our staff and additional signage will direct you to the new pick-up location for that afternoon.

Late Drop Off/Early Check-out

If you plan to drop your camper off later in the day due to an appointment or unexpected event please let camp staff know as soon as possible. If it is unexpected feel free to call the camp office at 863-675-0334 and we will be glad to assist your camper in integrating into the camp day as best as possible.

If you plan to pick your camper up prior to 5:15 you will need to let camp staff know no later than the morning of. Please allow for at least 15 minutes to get your camper to you. Camp is a large place and we want your camper to experience as much as possible during their time here. **Early pick-up can not be later than 4:00PM**

Family Pets

Pets are not allowed at Riverside Camp and Retreat Center. **Please leave pets at home.**

Camper Medications

We stock most common over the counter medication similar to Advil, Benadryl, etc. Please note on your camper's health form if you do not want them to have any of the OTCs listed. Inhalers and epi-pens will be given to your camper's counselor so your camper can have quick access to them.

What to Bring to Camp

Campers will be outdoors for large parts of the day, and should bring attire suited for that environment.

- Towel
- Sunscreen & Bug spray
- Modest Swimsuit
- Tennis shoes (closed toed shoes)
- Sandals for pool and shower time
- WATER BOTTLE (refillable)
- A Bible
- Rain jacket or poncho
- Disposable camera
- Small backpack to carry everything

Please note:

Modest swimwear for ladies: 1 piece swimwear, for gentlemen: board short style swimwear

All clothing should be modest and styled for activity, ladies: wide tank top straps and longer, modest shorts, gentlemen: no sagging shorts or pants

What NOT to Bring

- Cell Phones – see below
- Drugs and alcohol
- Expensive electronics
- Weapons of any kind
- iPods, MP3 players
- CD players
- TV's
- Video games
- Food of any kind
- Cash
- Personal sports equipment or toys

Riverside is not responsible for the damage or theft of any items brought to camp.

Cell Phones

Campers are not allowed to bring cell phones to camp. If your camper is found with a cell phone, we will confiscate it until afternoon pick up. We know that in today's culture many of our campers and parents stay in daily communication via cell phones. We also understand the trust that you are placing in us by allowing your camper to come to camp without their cell phone, and want to make sure you understand why we have this policy. We believe that there is a very real value in your camper spending time unplugged and disconnected from their digital lives. We believe that taking time off from our phones, computers, social media, video games, etc. can open up the space in our minds and hearts to hear and feel God at work. If there were any situations regarding your camper while at camp that you need to be made aware of (medical issues, etc.) we will call you. If you need to reach your child immediately because of an emergency at home, please call the camp office at 863-675-0334. Thank you for trusting us with your camper.

Camp Discipline

Acceptable camp behavior will be reviewed with all campers the first day of camp, and all are expected to behave in accordance to these guidelines. Counselors and staff will set the tone in their behavior and speech. If discipline issues arise the counselor will ask the camper to sit out of various activities, and if issues continue they will be dealt with by the director. If problems persist, the camper may be sent home. Physical altercations will result in immediate dismissal. Only the camp director has the authority to send campers home. **Campers sent home early for behavioral issues will not be able to complete their week of camp and do not warrant a refund of fees.**