

Cornelius Parks & Recreation Summer Day Camps



Parent Information

- John Anderson
Recreation Center Program Manager (RCPM)
janderson@cornelius.org
- Leslie Bosse, Camp Director

704-622-6136 (John's cell)
704-892-6031 x160 (CPRD office)

Our Mission

- ▶ To make sure that your child has a safe and exciting week at camp
 - ▶ To provide fun, educational experiences
 - ▶ To provide engaging, sometimes silly, activities for campers to enjoy throughout the day
 - ▶ To provide opportunities to strengthen campers' social skills and complete team-building activities
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Check-In/Drop-Off Instructions

- ▶ 2022 Summer Day Camp will be based at Bailey Road Recreation Center (aka Bailey Middle School), 11900 Bailey Road.
 - ▶ In order to coordinate the flow of traffic, please enter using the school's bus parking lot, located between the school and Bailey Road Park, then follow the signs.
 - ▶ Parents may check in and drop off their campers with Summer Day Camp staff at the cafeteria entrance between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. daily. Drop-off will not be allowed earlier than 7:30 a.m.
 - ▶ Summer Day Camp staff will greet parents outside the school's cafeteria to sign them in each morning and will escort each child into the cafeteria after check-in.
 - ▶ Note: At this time, masks are not required in our rec centers; however, participants are welcome to wear them if they choose to do so.
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Check-Out/Pick-Up Instructions

- ▶ Check-out will occur at the same location as check-in. The check-out tent outside the cafeteria entrance will be staffed beginning at 4:30 p.m. each day. If you plan to pick up your child prior to 4:30 p.m., you will have to ring the doorbell and a staff member will answer the door. Please call John Anderson to arrange early pick up.
- ▶ Summer Day Camp staff will greet parents as they arrive, asking for the child's name and asking for photo identification before authorizing pick-up. **All persons authorized to pick-up campers, including parents, will need to have a driver's license or other state-approved identification with photo out and ready to show the SDC staff person** to expedite the process.
- ▶ If at any time during the week, the person picking up the camper is someone other than the primary account holder or one of the emergency contacts provided upon registration, you must complete an Authorization for Pick Up Form (APU) for our camp staff at check-in on that day (or on any previous day). **Those persons will need to have a driver's license or other state-approved identification with photo out and ready to show the SDC staff person when checking out your camper.** Only one (1) APU is necessary for the summer unless you need to provide us with new information; we will keep your APU on file for all weeks of SDC.
- ▶ Camp will conclude every day at 5:30 p.m. Please plan to pick up your child NO LATER than 5:30 p.m. each day. There will be a late fee assessed for all late pick-ups. Parents will be allowed a 5-minute grace period after 5:30 p.m. to arrive for pick-up. After 5 minutes, parents will be assessed a late fee of \$1 per minute, with start time for charges commencing at 5:30 p.m. Parents will be notified of the late fee and payment will be accepted by phone, online, or in-person.

Typical Camp Day

Each week there will be a maximum of 100 campers. Campers will be divided into smaller groups during activity time throughout the day.

A non-trip camp day will typically look like a variation of:

- ▶ 7:30–9 a.m.: Camper drop-off time. Children will have their choice of crafts and games to play indoors while all the campers arrive.
- ▶ 9–9:30 a.m.: Introduction to the camp day
- ▶ 9:30–10:30 a.m.: Outdoor time at the park/morning snack
- ▶ 10:30–12 p.m.: Small groups will engage in a variety of activities*
- ▶ 12:15–1:45 p.m.: Lunch, followed by reading/quiet time
- ▶ 1:15–3:45 p.m.: Small groups will engage in a variety of activities*
- ▶ 3:45–4:15 p.m.: Afternoon snack
- ▶ 4:15–5:30 p.m.: Check-out process starts, with free choice of crafts in the cafeteria or games in the gym

**Activity rotations may include learning games, STEM activities, crafts, D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time, outdoor time, special guests, and other opportunities.*

Camp Attire

- ▶ Campers must wear socks and comfortable/running shoes that tie each day to camp. NO flip flops or sandals.
- ▶ Campers will receive one Cornelius Summer Camp shirt per summer. Camp shirts are typically distributed on Mondays for those who do not already have one from a previous week. It is optional for campers to wear their camp shirts during the week, unless otherwise noted, such as field trips, picture day, etc.
- ▶ Parents may purchase an additional shirt, if extras are available, at a cost of \$10.00.
- ▶ Campers **MUST** wear their camp shirts when we go on field trips (usually, but not always, on Tuesdays and Thursdays). **Campers without their camp shirts on any field trip day will not be allowed to attend the field trip.** Parents will be given the option to bring the shirt to camp before departure or be **required** to purchase an additional shirt from the Camp Director at a cost of \$10.00.
- ▶ **Please apply sunscreen on your children before they come to camp and have extra in their packs for them to apply before we go outside.**

Lunch and Snacks

- ▶ Unless otherwise notified, each camper must bring his/her own nut-free lunch and nut-free snacks to camp every day. There are two snack breaks per day.
- ▶ **DO NOT PACK ANY SNACKS OR LUNCHES CONTAINING ANY TYPE OF PEANUT AND/OR TREE NUTS. WE HAVE CAMPERS WHO ARE VERY ALLERGIC!!**
- ▶ Send a medium or large-sized refillable water bottle with your camper every day. Campers will have access to water fountains to refill their water bottles as needed; however, larger bottles mean more immediate access when thirsty.
- ▶ Campers will not have access to a refrigerator or microwave.

Personal Items

- ▶ Please make sure that all items your child brings to camp are labeled with his/her first and last names. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- ▶ Every camp day (unless time does not allow) will include D.E.A.R. time (Drop Everything & Read). Your child should bring a book everyday. Please make sure it is marked with their first and last names. Though campers are encouraged to bring their own books, we have a limited, onsite library in case your child forgets to bring one!
- ▶ No baby dolls, action figures, etc., are allowed at camp, unless special permission has been granted by the RCPM or Camp Director.
- ▶ **NO** cell phones, smart wrist phones/watches or electronic devices are allowed at camp, unless special permission has been granted by the RCPM or RPA. **These items can be very disruptive, so if any are seen during camp, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the camp day.** If campers need to place an urgent call, they can use the RCPM's or Camp Director's phone.

Expectations of Behavior

- ▶ We want all campers to be safe and have fun.
- ▶ Campers must follow directions of all camp staff and be considerate and respectful of their counselors and other campers during the week.
- ▶ We have a three-strike policy:
 - ❖ 1st Strike: Verbal warning
 - ❖ 2nd Strike: 5–15 minute timeout
 - ❖ 3rd Strike: Conference with parents and written report
 - Two reports: 1–2 day suspension
 - Three reports: Dismissal from the camp

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. Can I drop off my child any earlier than 7:30 a.m.?

A. No, the doors will remain locked until 7:30 a.m. unless otherwise advised.

Q. What if I need to drop off my child later due to a doctor's appointment, for example?

A. Organized camp activities will begin each day at 9 a.m. If you know that your child will be arriving after 9 a.m., you will need to coordinate your later drop-off time with the RCPM or Camp Director, especially for days when there is an off-site activity planned, such as going to the Bailey Road Park playground or a field trip. We recommend that you call John Anderson at 704-622-6136 when you are en route so staff can be prepared.

Q. How do I reach someone during the camp day?

A. If there is an emergency during the camp day, call or text the Recreation Centers Program Manager (RCPM) John Anderson at 704-622-6136. If onsite staff cannot be reached, call the Cornelius Parks & Recreation (CPRD) office at 704-892-6031 ext. 160.

Q. What do I do if I need to pick up my child early?

A. Please inform our check-in staff when dropping off your child in the morning if you will need to pick up your child at a different time that day. If there is an emergency during the camp day, call any of the numbers above.

FAQs Continued

Q. **When do you give out the camp shirts?**

A. Each camper will receive one camp shirt per summer (unless additional shirts were pre-ordered). Typically, shirts will be distributed on Mondays for those who do not have one from a previous week. Campers who are absent will receive their shirt the next camp day.

Q. **What if I want another camp shirt?**

A. You may purchase another camp shirt for \$10, if additional shirts remain in inventory. Contact the RCPM or Camp Director, or call the CPRD office at 704-892-6031 x160, for more information.

Q. **When does my child need to wear it?**

A. Campers **MUST** wear their camp shirts on field trip days (usually, but not always, on Tuesdays or Thursdays). Campers without their camp shirts on a field trip day will not be allowed to attend the field trip; therefore, parents will be given the option to bring the shirt to camp before departure or will be **required** to purchase an additional shirt from the Camp Director at a cost of \$10.00.

Q. **Why can't my child(ren) wear sandals or flip flops to camp?**

A. Campers run around both outside and in the gym, so it is unsafe for them to be running without shoes that are secure on their feet. We have had children run out of their sandals and flipflops and fall and hurt themselves. We have also had children's sandals/flip flops break leaving them without shoes and having to call the parents to bring replacements.

FAQs Continued

- Q. Why can't my child bring peanuts? What about Nutella or peanut butter crackers?**
- A.** We are very mindful of campers' medical needs and have a lot of campers that are highly allergic to peanuts and tree nuts. That's why we say **NO** peanuts, almonds, walnuts, trail mix, peanut butter crackers or cookies, PB & J sandwiches, Nutella, granola/breakfast bars with nuts, Reese's, etc., at camp. Staff will confiscate any snack of these types if brought to camp.
- Q. What if my child needs to take medicine during the camp day?**
- A.** Campers will not be given any medication, including EpiPens, during camp by staff unless special permission has been granted. Campers will need to take any required medication themselves or have a parent or guardian administer the medication. All medications will be held by the RCPM or Camp Director. Any special medication requests will be need to be directed to the CPRD office at 704-892-6031 x160.
- Q. Why can't my child switch groups?**
- A.** Our staff structures camper groups based on age because many of our activities are age-specific. Campers will have free time during most days to interact with friends who may be in other camper groups. Age ranges will vary from week to week depending on each week's registered participants, so camper groups may also vary from week to week. Also, experience has shown us that it is important for campers to make new friends!
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FAQs Continued

Q. What happens if I pick up my child late from summer camp?

A. After 5:30 p.m., parents will be allowed a 5-minute grace period to arrive for pick-up. After 5 minutes parents will be called. Parents arriving more than 5 minutes late will be assessed a late fee of \$1 per minute, with start time for charges commencing at 5:30pm. Late fees must be paid by calling the CPRD office at 704-892-6031 x160, or by charging to a credit card on file. Late fees will not be collected at the camp site.