

Cornelius PARC Department Summer Full Day Camps



Parent Information

- John Anderson
Recreation Center Program Manager (RCPM)
janderson@cornelius.org
- Shelby Cruse
Recreation Program Assistant (RPA)
scruse@cornelius.org

704-622-6136 (John's cell)
704-928-5079 (Shelby's cell)
704-892-6031 x160 (PARC 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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COVID-19 Impacts

- ▶ 2020 Summer Day Camp moved from Bailey Road Recreation Center to Cornelius Town Hall
 - ▶ Number of campers greatly reduced
 - ▶ Higher staff-to-camper ratios
 - ▶ New check-in and check-out procedures
 - ▶ All campers, staff, and instructors required to wear a mask while indoors (optional while outdoors)
 - ▶ 6-foot social distancing practiced to the maximum extent possible
 - ▶ Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing (hand sanitizer provided at camp)
 - ▶ Limited shared materials, to the extent possible
 - ▶ Frequent cleaning of facilities and equipment
 - ▶ No field trips that require vehicular transportation
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NEW Check-In/Drop-Off Instructions

- ▶ 2020 Summer Day Camp will be based at Cornelius Town Hall, 21445 Catawba Avenue. Please use the parking lot behind Town Hall.
- ▶ In order to coordinate the flow of traffic, please enter the parking lot using the east entrance (closest to Hwy 115/Antiquity) and follow signs
- ▶ Parents may check in and drop off their campers with Summer Day Camp staff outside the west entrance of Town Hall (on the Food Lion side of the building) between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. daily. Drop-off will not be allowed earlier than 7:30 a.m. *This process may take a bit longer than in past years and social distancing will be required by all in waiting to check in. We ask that you please be patient.*
- ▶ Parents will be required to answer a series of COVID-19 health related-questions before children will be allowed into camp each day. Each child must have a mask.
- ▶ One of our summer camp staff will escort your child into the Community Room after check-in. Parents **will not be allowed** to enter Town Hall with their children.

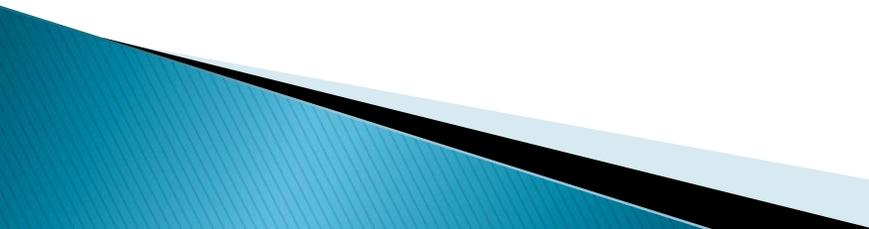
NEW Check-Out/Pick-Up Instructions

- ▶ For pick-up each day, parent/guardian will be met by a staff member at the west entrance of Town Hall to check out each camper. Please have a valid driver's license or other valid form of picture identification ready to show the staff member. Staff will then escort your child to your car. Again, this process will take a bit longer and we ask for your patience.
 - ▶ 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.
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Typical Camp Day

- ▶ During the drop-off period between 7:30 and 9:00 a.m., children will gather in the Community Room and have a variety of activities to keep them busy and entertained.
- ▶ Outdoor games and activities on the Town Hall lawn may include Frisbee, corn hole, ladder ball, giant Jenga, giant Connect 4, and others.
- ▶ Indoor games and activities may include learning games, STEM activities, crafts, D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time, and others.
- ▶ Each week will feature a special guest, activity, or other surprise!
- ▶ Regularly, we will leave Town Hall and walk to nearby parks or other facilities, in addition to or instead of utilizing the Town Hall lawn. Parks may include James Hoyt Wilhelm, Legion, and Smithville. Other options may include, but not limited to, Antiquity Greenway or Pelican's SnoBalls, for example.

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 Day Camp (SDC) shirt per summer. Camp shirts are typically distributed on Mondays. It is optional for campers to wear their SDC shirts during the week, unless otherwise noted, such as a picture day, etc.
 - ▶ Parents may purchase an additional shirt, if extras are available, at a cost of \$10.00.
 - ▶ Please apply sunscreen on your children before they come to camp and have extra in their pack for them to apply before we go outside.
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Lunch and Snacks

- ▶ Each camper must bring his/her own nut-free lunch and nut-free snacks to camp every day. **DO NOT PACK ANY SNACKS OR LUNCHESES CONTAINING ANY TYPE OF PEANUT AND/OR TREE NUTS. WE HAVE CAMPERS THAT ARE VERY ALLERGIC!!**
 - ▶ Send a refillable water bottle with your camper every day.
 - ▶ Campers will not have access to a refrigerator or microwave.
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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 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 an 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 RPA.
- ▶ **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. **If any of these devices 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 RPA'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 9:00 a.m. If you know that your child will be arriving after 9:00 a.m., you will need to coordinate your later drop-off time with the RCPM or RPA, especially for days when there is an off-site activity planned, so your child doesn't miss the departure. 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 Center Program Manager (RCPM), John Anderson, at 704-622-6136, or Recreation Program Assistant (RPA), Shelby Cruse, at 704-928-5079. If these onsite staff cannot be reached, call the PARC office at 704-892-6031, ext. 160

Q. What do I do if I need to pick my child up 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? When does my child need to wear it?

A. Each camper will receive one camp shirt per summer (unless additional shirts were pre-ordered). Typically, shirts will be distributed on Mondays (campers who are absent will receive their shirt the next camp day). At this time, there are no specific days when campers will be required to wear their camp shirts. Staff may notify parents with any requested days to wear them, such as a planned picture day or for other reasons.

Q. What if I want another camp shirt?

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

Q. Can my child(ren) wear sandals or flip flops to camp?

A. No, campers will need to wear socks and a pair of comfortable/running shoes that tie to camp each day.

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.

FAQs Continued

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!

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 PARC 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.

Q. What if my child needs to take medicine during the camp day?

A. Campers will not be given any medication 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 RPA. Any special medication requests will need to be directed to the Cornelius PARC Department Recreation Superintendent, Chad Cauble, 704-892-6031 x165.