

2021 COVID Sangamon Guidelines and Information

Below is additional information for this summer in light of the continuing COVID pandemic. These guidelines are based on the State of Vermont Overnight Summer Camp Operations Guidance, Vermont Forward Guidance, as well as recommendations from the American Camping Association. This represents our most current understanding of the guidance available for Vermont summer camps. We will continue to monitor guidance available to us and make changes as updates to Vermont's expectations come through.

Pre-arrival requirements

You will need to practice low-risk behaviors 14 days prior to arriving at camp. These are defined by the State of Vermont as:

1. Use multiple non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) at all times unless with and within your single household. This family group is your cohort.
2. These NPIs are most important: maintaining as strict a cohort as possible outside of mandatory school and direct work requirements, wearing face masks when with anyone not in your household, and conducting any interactions with those outside your cohort outdoors.
3. Do not attend gatherings with other households.
4. Do not attend funerals, weddings, or family events (even visits to family members living outside your household).
5. Do not have playdates or participate in team sports, attend recitals or other such gatherings.

Testing

Electronic or hard copy evidence of a negative PCR test taken within the three days before arrival (and as close to arrival as possible) is required. A pre-arrival test is not needed if the camper or staff person has proof that they are fully vaccinated or has recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days.

We will also be testing campers and staff within days 4 and 7 of the session. We are waiting for input from the Vermont Department of Health, our own health care personnel, and the American Camping Association to decide which day is best.

Arrivals & Departures

Travel to camp should be as direct as possible and optimally be a single day trip with contactless behaviors along the way. Ideally you will drop your son off by private vehicle. If public transportation is the only option, NPIs must be used to minimize contact with others. You must get in touch with Darcey to outline travel plans other than arrival by private vehicle.

Current guidelines ask us to limit the number of individuals on the property who are not part of our community and as such, drop off and pick up will look a little different this year.

Drop-off: Please plan on arriving no earlier than 9:00 am and no later than 11:45. We ask that only one adult drop each camper off when possible. We are looking at ways we can stagger arrivals to allow for distancing while also honoring the distances some of you are traveling in order to get to camp. We will be in touch as soon as we have that plan in place.

Drop offs, opening day registration, and medical checks will all be done in the main yard. You will not be able get a tour or go to your son's cabin. We know this is a big change and especially hard if you are a new parent, but please know that his cabin staff will be helping the boys set up their bunks and making sure they are all set for their first night and beyond. We are also working on plans to connect you and your son with cabin staff by Zoom prior to the start of the session to help support a successful transition and we'll be sending details about that later in May.

Pick-up: Please arrive after 9:00 am and before 12:00 noon. If unforeseen circumstances occur causing you to be late, please call us at (802) 483-2862 to let us know. Failure to do so will incur a \$50 late pickup fee. Parents must check out on closing day before leaving camp. All checkout procedure, like check-in, will take place in the main yard this year. Leaving or arriving outside of our scheduled session dates is not possible this year, so please plan accordingly.

Cohorts

We will be organizing cabin groups using a cohort structure. When staff and campers of the same cohort are together it will be considered the same as being in a family group at home and they will not be required to wear masks. This will occur when they are eating, sleeping, and spending time together separate from other groups. When members of multiple cohorts are in the same space NPIs will be in place including masks, distancing, and a focus on outdoor/well ventilated spaces.

Masks

There will be several times throughout the day and places at camp where we will require campers and staff to wear masks. Exceptions to this are when your son is with his cohort and when he is participating in swimming at the waterfront.

We are asking for you to pack 7 reusable masks for use during the session. Please make sure his name is on each one! We will collect them from the boys at the end of each day and wash them several times a week. Masks should be cloth reusable facial coverings. Masks must cover both the nose and mouth with two layers of cloth in order to be effective against transmitting droplets from the wearer. Cloth masks or buff/gaiter style face coverings are both acceptable as long as they are double layered and effectively contain respiratory droplets. Bandanas and masks with valves are not permitted as they don't contain germs adequately. While disposable masks will be available at camp for the inevitable misplaced mask situations, we are asking that you not provide them for your son.

Medical Considerations

If your son has a condition that puts him in a high-risk category, please reach out to Darcey right away. We'll need to work with you and your son's primary care provider to decide whether or not camp is a reasonable and safe option this year. If the decision is made that camp is not the right choice for your son prior to June 1st, all payments made to date will be refunded.