



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
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2021 Camp Thundermoon Day Camp FAQs

How will camp be set up differently this summer to follow the new COVID-19 safety guidelines?



- Parent pick up and drop off at staggered times
- No bus service this year, no field trips or swimming
- Safety and directional signage throughout camp
- Camper groups will have their own designated space, with 10-14 campers and two counselors per group
- Traditional camps will use outdoor space, and have their own tent, picnic tables, field space, and port-o-lets
- Specialty camps will use indoor classroom space due to the nature of the specialized camp, and will use designated outdoor space when needed and have use of our indoor bathrooms.
- Traditional camps will rotate through camp activities while following social distance guidelines
- Each group will have own art supplies and sports equipment
- Counselors stay with same group. Meeting the current CDC guidelines of ensuring that student and staff groups are as static as possible by having the same staff work with the same group of children all day.
- Before and after care campers will be assigned to groups with other before and after care campers
- Campers will wait at a specific location in the same spot each day at arrival and at pick up
- Hand sanitizing stations throughout camp, frequent handwashing
- Staff using all necessary PPE
- Enhanced health and wellness screenings including daily temperature checks

Continue reading for more details.

What guidelines is Camp Thundermoon Day Camp following to plan for camp this summer?

Camp Thundermoon Day Camp is following all guidelines and requirements from federal, state, and local governments as well as the YMCA including: the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC), State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, YUSA.

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Will there be bus service?

Due to the safety guidelines, we are unable to offer our bus service for New Britain families and there will be no busing offsite for field trips or swimming. Camp is a parent drop off and pick up program, with staggered times for each grade level.

How many campers will be allowed at Camp Thundermoon this summer?

- The State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood has licensed our camp for up to 200 campers.
- We do not know yet how many campers will be on site. This depends on registrations.
- Our location has enough space and walking areas within the spaces we will be using to meet the current CDC guidelines of enhanced social distancing and restricting mixing of groups.

Groups per Traditional Camp and per Specialty Camp: The number of groups per Traditional Camp unit and per Specialty Camp will depend upon weekly registrations.

How many counselors will be with each group?

- Two counselors per group, remain with same group all session for traditional camps. Specialty camps will have one or two counselors per camp depending on enrollment.
- The same staff will work with the same group of children all day to meet CDC guidelines ensuring student and staff groups are as static as possible.

What is required of counselors to help keep our campers safe?

- All counselors will have temperature taken before campers arrive Meeting the current CDC guidelines of implementing screenings safely, respectfully as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations.
- Counselors will be instructed and trained on the current and proper cleaning and sanitizing method meeting the current CDC guidelines of intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation.

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- Counselors will have access to and wear the necessary PPE throughout the day, as well as wash hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc. meeting the current CDC guidelines of promoting healthy hygiene practices.
- Counselors will wear masks.
- Counselors will interact with assigned group meeting the current CDC guidelines of ensuring that student and staff groups are as static as possible by having the same staff work with the same group of children all day.
- Meeting the current CDC guidelines of ensuring that student and staff groups are as static as possible by having the same staff work with the same group of children all day

What is expected of campers?

- All campers will have temperature taken upon arrival, meeting the current CDC guidelines of implementing screenings safely, respectfully as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations.
- Campers will be instructed and trained on the current and proper cleaning, movement and social distancing methods. Meeting the current CDC guidelines of intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation, and of promoting healthy hygiene practices.
- Campers will be instructed and directed on expected camp behavior meeting the current CDC guidelines of protecting children and staff.

Do campers have to wear masks?

We are awaiting the guidance from the State of Connecticut about masks this summer. As soon as we have the information we will share it with camp families.

How will social distancing guidelines be followed at camp?

- Between groups - Our camp has enough space and walking areas within its locations to meet the current CDC guidelines of enhanced social distancing and restricting mixing of groups.
- Within groups - Campers will be instructed and directed on expected camp behavior meeting the current CDC guidelines of protecting children and staff.
- We will continue to educate them on the CDC guidelines and ask that you continue to remind them of these at home.

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How will staff keep camp clean and sanitized?

Camp cleanliness and sanitizing meeting the current CDC guidelines of promoting healthy hygiene practices and intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation

- Cleaning equipment and portable foam hand sanitizing dispensers will be located throughout camp
- Jugs of sanitizer will be at each group space
- Visual signs everywhere at camp as a reminder to wash hands, keep each other safe from germs, and keep camp clean
- Equipment will be cleaned before, during and after use
- End of day spraying with Ghost B Sprayer 105ex all outdoor equipment and picnic tables. Indoor classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected by the janitorial staff of the school.

What will the camp day hours be?

- 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for traditional camp hours and all specialty camps
- 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (for those needing extended care before, after, or both.) Before and after care campers will be assigned to groups with other before and after care campers.
- Specialty Campers cannot participate in before and after care
- Campers will wait at a specific grid location on the assigned field in the same spot each day

What is the daily Traditional Camp activity schedule?

Morning Activities

- Arrival and morning announcements
- Counselors (2) with assigned groups of 10-14 at assigned site/area.
- Sites will be equipped with necessary art and sports supplies and hand sanitizers. Campers will not share supplies and equipment will be cleaned before, during and after use meeting the current CDC guidelines to limit sharing.
- Campers MUST bring water bottles that will be filled by counselors, at one of the various water stations, throughout the day.

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- Follow planned activities for the day scheduled by unit directors and counselors.
- Rotations to assigned areas and activities.
- All camps will have assigned port-o-let or bathroom areas.

Lunch

Campers must bring their own lunch. Campers should bring a lunch with ice packs that can stay in the backpack or is packed in a cooler. No refrigeration will be provided. Nothing will be heated up.

*Please note: We have a lot of campers with food allergies and peanut allergies, so please be courteous when choosing foods to send for lunch.

Also in situations where campers forget their lunch, or if camp staff feel an inadequate lunch has been provided for a camper—parents will be notified in the morning and will be expected to provide a lunch by lunch time.

Afternoon

- Continue with scheduled activities

What about rainy days?

- At Camp Thundermoon we call rain liquid sunshine! We do everything we can to have fun on a rainy day.
- We will closely monitor the weather forecasts daily and announce any cancellation in advance.
- Virtual Activities may be offered if camp is cancelled due to rain.
- We will utilize all indoor space in sudden or threatening weather.
- If severe weather required us to close camp early (like when schools get closed early for a similar situation) we would call parents and guardians to pick up their camper.
- Rainy days are not prorated or refunded.

What if my child needs to take medicine?

Much like child care settings that most of your children attend throughout the year our staff will all be trained in administration of medication as well as First Aid/CPR. Rescue inhalers, epi pens and emergency medication will be kept in proper storage containers, labeled and with the child's counselor. First aid director and staff will log

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the administration of any medication throughout the camp day on the OEC's Medication Administration Record.

What happens if someone gets injured or sick?

- Our First Aid Director, Health and Isolation Procedures meet the current CDC guidelines of monitoring and preparing.
- Counselors will evaluate the injury and contact the First Aid Director via walkie/phone for severity of request, injury, etc. and will be advised on course of action
- All staff has first aid and CPR training and will have First Aid Kits available to them.
- We have a First Aid Director on site throughout the camp day. The First Aid Director will advise on how to proceed.
- A specific indoor space will be designated as an isolation station should a camper show signs of a fever or COVID-19 related symptoms
- Childhood illnesses will still occur; children and staff who develop a fever will not be permitted to return to camp until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of acetaminophen (Tylenol, Motrin, Advil, fever reducers). Should a child or staff member develop signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 and a fever will not be permitted to return to camp until fever free for 72 hours without the use of acetaminophen. We will adhere to strict illness policies for the safety of all children and staff at the Y and consult with local and state health departments when necessary and as questions arise.

When do we need to register by?

The deadline for registration is midnight on the Tuesday before the camp session you want your camper to attend.

How do we register this year?

There are two registration options this year, online or paper. We encourage you to use online registration if you can to help us go green as much as possible.

Where and when do we drop off medicine?

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If your child needs to take medicine we will get you information on how you can drop off the permission form and medicine before camp starts.

Will there be financial assistance available?

Yes. The first step for assistance is to apply for the state-funded Care4Kids program. Additional assistance may be available after Care4Kids on a case by case basis.

Can we request that our camper be with a friend in the same group?

Yes as long as they are both in the same camp unit/grade. We will do our best to accommodate all requests.

How can I contact my child and/or camp staff during the camp day?

Once camp begins, the camp phone will be the main way to directly contact your camper or the camp staff. The camp phone number is (203) 898-3901 and is operational only during summer camp weeks. You can also call the New Britain YMCA at (860) 229-3787 or the Berlin Y at (860) 357-2717 to speak to someone there who may be able to assist you.

If camper's need to call a parent for something—they should be using the camp phone in the office. **Campers are NOT allowed to have cell phones at camp.**

Is an afternoon snack provided for extended camp care?

A pre-packaged snack is provided for all campers who are registered for Extended Camp.

What if I need to cancel my camp registration?

- **At least a 1 week notice is required for all cancellations.**
- Upon cancellation, a system credit (minus the Camp Fun Fee) will be given for any camp fees paid. The credit can be used towards any future YMCA program.
- Full refunds (minus the Camp Fun Fee) are given for medical reasons (must provide a note from the child's physician) and/ or emergency reasons only and are at the discretion of the Camp Director.

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- Fees will not be refunded for absence, failure to attend during the term of enrollment, delayed attendance at camp or dismissal from camp.

Can my child arrive late to camp?

Campers that will be arriving late for camp **MUST** be signed in by a parent/guardian.

What if I need to pick my child up early from camp?

The camp office must be notified if a child will be picked up early from camp. Please call the camp office the morning of the day your camper will be dismissed early. Please provide extra time when picking up your camper early from camp, as they may be involved with an activity at the time that you arrive. If the camper will be picked up by someone other than a parent/guardian, that person must be listed on the camper's registration form and must present a photo I.D. *Please note: Campers will not be released to anyone not on the Authorized Pick-up List or to persons on the list who do not present a valid I.D.

What should my child bring to camp?

Campers must bring a nonperishable lunch with ice packs if needed (including drink) each day to camp.

Sunscreen and water bottle. All items should be labeled with your campers first and last name.

All campers must wear sneakers. No other footwear is allowed for safety reasons. If campers arrive with other footwear we will call you to bring sneakers to them.

What to leave at home:

The Y is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Do not bring any cell phones, electronics, toys or valuables to camp.

Do not bring matches, lighters, weapons or anything that could be used as a weapon. A camper who brings any of these items will be immediately suspended from camp.

No drugs, alcohol, or tobacco are allowed. A camper who brings any of these items will be immediately suspended from camp.

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No clothing is allowed at camp with references to alcohol, tobacco, sex, inappropriate words or images. Any camper wearing such clothing will be dismissed from camp for the day unless the parent or guardian brings them a change of clothing.

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