



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## **YMCA CAMP THUNDERMOON**

**Held at Mooreland Hill School**  
**166 Lincoln Street**  
**Kensington, CT 06037**

**NEW BRITAIN YMCA**  
**50 High St, New Britain, CT 06051**  
**860-229-3787**

**Berlin YMCA**  
**362 Main St, Berlin 06037**  
**860-357-2717**

### **CAMP HOURS**

Traditional Camp & Specialty Camp: 9:00AM-3:00PM  
Extended Camp Care includes:  
Before Camp Care: 7:00AM-9:00AM  
After Camp Care: 3:00PM-6:00PM  
(Hours listed above are Monday through Friday)

# **YMCA**

# **CAMP THUNDERMOON**



## **2017**

# **PARENT HANDBOOK**

## YMCA MISSION

We know that lasting personal and social change comes about when we all work together. That's why at the Y, strengthening community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and strive.

### YMCA Core Values

Programs at Camp Thundermoon are designed to promote the character values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. Our core values unite us as a Movement with a common cause. They are the shared beliefs and essential principles that guide our behavior, interactions with each other, and decision making as a camp.

#### Caring (Red)

Show a sincere concern for others.

#### Respect (Yellow)

Follow the 'golden rule'.

#### Honesty (Blue)

Be truthful in what you say and do.

#### Responsibility (Green)

Be accountable for your actions.

### CAMP PROGRAM GOALS

At Camp Thundermoon our main goal is to provide fun days filled with great opportunities for learning and personal growth for children in Grades 1 through 8. Our focus for fun is within three key areas: Spirit (the Arts), Mind (Science/Reading), and Body (Health/Wellness). In addition we strive to focus on youth development which includes:

- Instill the YMCA Mission and YMCA Character Values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility.
- Provide opportunities to increase self-confidence.
- Provide positive role models who lead by example.
- Create and develop long lasting friendships.

#### FOR HEALTHY LIVING

### DAILY SCHEDULE

<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
7-8:45AM	Before Camp Care	1:00PM	Hill Time—All Camp
9-9:30AM	Camp Begins—Morning Announcements	1:30PM	Free Activity
9:30AM	Period 1*	2:30PM	End of Day Wrap-Up
10:30AM	Period 2*	2:45-3:00PM	Meet with Unit
11:30AM	Lunch	3:00-6:00PM	Camp Dismissal
12:00PM	Period 3*		After Camp Care

\*Activity periods will be one of the following

Spirit (the Arts)      Mind (Science/Reading)      Body (Health/Wellness)

Unit - Where the entire age group (Unit) comes together for an activity organized by the Unit Director.

## PARENT'S AGREEMENT

### IMPORTANT—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

#### I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- ◆ If registering for **1 week** of camp then payment is required in **FULL** at the time of registration.
- ◆ If registering for **multiple weeks**, a \$10 weekly deposit is required for every week you are registering for and then auto-draft is required for the remaining camp balance using a credit or debit card. The weekly draft payment is due by the Monday before the start of the next session.
- ◆ If full auto-draft payment is **NOT** made prior to the start of the next session/week, then the child will not be able to attend camp that session.
- ◆ Should your auto-draft payment be returned for any reason it will then be sent to our ECASH system for collection. Upon collection from the ECASH system, you will be charged a **\$20 return fee.**
- ◆ A **\$25 INSF Fee** will be charged to all returned personal checks.
- ◆ I will be responsible for payment of any collection fees incurred by me should my account become delinquent.
- ◆ Requests for changes in camp sessions will be honored as space permits and the request is submitted with **at least one week notice.** There is a **fee of \$20** to change sessions.
- ◆ A **one (1) week notice is required for all cancellations.**
- ◆ Full refunds (minus the Camp Fun Fee) are given for medical reasons only (must provide a note from the child's physician) and are at the discretion of the Camp Director.
- ◆ Fees will not be refunded for absence, failure to attend during the term of enrollment, delayed attendance at camp or dismissal from camp.
- ◆ I give permission for photographs and videotapes of my camper to be used in marketing and camp publicity. If not, I will notify the YMCA Camp Office in writing.
- ◆ Campers must be healthy, injury-free, and well enough to fully participate.
- ◆ I give permission for my camper to participate in all camp activities, including but not limited to swimming, field games etc.
- ◆ I authorize transfer of my camper to the New Britain-Berlin YMCA facility, 50 High Street, New Britain, twice a week for swimming, gym time, and climbing the rock wall.
- ◆ I authorize **YMCA officials to secure medical/emergency treatment and transportation for my camper.**
- ◆ The YMCA reserves the right to dismiss a camper whose presence or behavior is threatening to camp or other campers.
- ◆ **We are required by the state to have health history forms for each camper prior to attending camp. Forms will be given to parents at the time of registration and MUST be completed by the family physician and parents before the camper attends camp. Physicals are valid for three years from the date of the exam.**

## EARLY CAMP DISMISSAL POLICY

The camp office must be notified if a child will be picked up early from camp. Please provide extra time when picking up your camper early from camp, as they may be involved with an activity at the time you arrive. If the camper will be picked up by someone other than a parent, that person must be listed on the camper's registration form and must present a photo I.D. (License). Campers will not be released to anyone not on the authorized/emergency pickup list or to persons on the list who do not present a valid I.D., or who aren't 18 years old or older.

## OUR CAMP FACILITY

Camp Thundermoon is held at the beautiful Mooreland Hill School campus in Kensington, CT. Photos of the Mooreland Hill School campus can be seen by visiting [www.mooreland.org](http://www.mooreland.org). Our camp program will utilize various areas of the campus including indoor/outdoor spaces and full use of the athletic fields behind the building. There are lots of great spaces that allow for enhanced summer camp activities including a science lab and an arts & crafts building.

## SWIMMING AND MORE AT THE YMCA FACILITY

Each unit will visit the New Britain-Berlin YMCA to swim twice a week (Monday/Thursday). Bus transportation is provided and will leave camp by 9:30 AM on swim days. Swim time includes group swim lessons and free swim time. Campers will also enjoy organized gym games and get to use the indoor rock wall. All activities are supervised by camp staff, certified rock wall staff, and certified lifeguards.

## FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are a great addition to our camp program. Every other session will include an exciting field trip that goes along with the weekly theme. Field trips are always on the Friday of a field trip session. A detailed permission slip will be sent home with campers at the beginning of that session. Field trip fees are included in the weekly camp fee. During the non-field trip weeks, we'll have a camp show and/or an all camp activity.

## LOST & FOUND

Lost and found items accumulate very quickly each week at camp. Please make every effort to label your child's belongings. Have your camper look for their missing item at our lost and found area in the camp office. All unclaimed items will be discarded after two weeks.

*\*Please note - campers are not allowed to bring toys, electronics, or any valuables to camp.*

## WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

**\*All items should be marked with the camper's name.**

- Backpack to & from camp each day to hold all belongings.
- A cold lunch (including a drink). All lunches will be collected each morning and refrigerated until lunchtime. Please pack lunch in a brown paper bag or Ziploc plastic bag, as we have limited space in our cooler.
- A bathing suit and a towel. One piece for girls or tankini allowed.
- A water bottle. There will be ample time for water breaks and a water fountain to refill when necessary.
- Sneakers or closed-toed shoes **MUST** be worn at all times! **Sandals & open-toed shoes are prohibited during the camp day**—but may be worn for swimming or watergames activities.
- **Sunscreen**

## WHAT TO KEEP AT HOME

- **All Electronics:** iPod's, iPad's, Reading Tablets, Gameboys, etc.
- **Cell Phones** - Campers **DO NOT** need a cell phone at camp. If they need to contact a parent they can use the camp phone in the office. Campers that are caught with cell phones will be asked to leave them in the camp office until the end of the day.
- Trading Cards –none of any kind, Pokemon, Magic Cards, etc.
- Toys
- Jewelry
- Anything of value - Please be advised that YMCA Camp Thundermoon is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Clothing with messages referring to tobacco, drugs, alcohol, sex or containing offensive or inappropriate words. Any camper wearing such clothing will be dismissed from camp for the day unless they can have a parent/guardian bring them in a change or clothes.
- Weapons (knives, matches, guns or anything that can be used as a weapon). Any camper who brings weapons to camp will be suspended immediately.
- Drugs, alcohol, tobacco. YMCA Camp Thundermoon is a drug, alcohol, and smoke free program. Any camper found with tobacco, drugs or alcohol will be immediately suspended from camp.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Every child should experience the life-changing fun of summer camp. To help, the Meriden-New Britain-Berlin YMCAs offer financial assistance to those who need help to afford camp. Those who are in need of financial aid must first apply for the state funded **Care 4 Kids Subsidy** program. Applications are required each summer, even if you've received assistance previously from Care 4 Kids for camp or another childcare based program. Once Care 4 Kids is either received or denied, families may then apply for the Y's Financial Assistance. Applications are available at the New Britain or Berlin YMCAs or online at [www.nbbymca.org](http://www.nbbymca.org). The YMCA's Financial Assistance is based on a percentage and is **NOT** carried over each year (re-application and acceptance is required).

**\*No new financial aid applications will be accepted after June 19th, 2017**

## MEDICAL FORMS

The state of CT requires that all campers have a medical form completed and signed by their primary care physician. Camp medical forms are available at registration or by contacting the New Britain or Berlin YMCAs. They are also available to print online [www.nbbymca.org](http://www.nbbymca.org). Medical forms must be returned back to either the New Britain or Berlin YMCA prior to the child's first day of camp. **Forms can also be faxed to (860) 828-7830.**

*\*Physicals are valid for three years from the date received.*

## MEDICATION POLICY & FORMS

If your camper needs to take medication (either over the counter or prescription) during the camp day, our First Aid Director, Camp Director(s), & Unit Director(s) can dispense medication if the following requirements are met:

- The medication is in its original bottle with the child's name printed on the prescription.
- A physician has filled out and signed the Administration of Medication Form and it is on file in the camp office.
- The medication has not expired.
- All medication, including inhalers & epipens are delivered to the camp office.

Please be advised—medications cannot remain with a child at camp. Children with a medical release may carry inhalers after speaking with the First Aid Director and with an authorized doctor's note. Any remaining medication must be picked up by the parent on the last day of camp (for that camper) or it will be destroyed. We will not hold medications after the last day of camp.

## FIRST AID

All Directors on the leadership staff at YMCA Camp Thundermoon are certified in First Aid and CPR. YMCA Camp Thundermoon also employs a First Aid Director who is on site during the regular camp hours of 8:30AM - 3:30PM. In the event of an emergency or illness, camp staff will notify parents/guardians. No refunds can be given for time missed due to illness. Please keep sick campers home so that germs and illness will not spread to other campers and/or staff. Unless otherwise notified, any camper that requires further medical attention will be transported to the Hospital of Central Connecticut, in New Britain. In addition, a doctor is on call and supervises our medical and emergency procedures for YMCA Camp Thundermoon. All campers who receive first aid will have their injuries recorded in the First Aid Log Book by the First Aid Director or appropriate staff person. An accident report will be sent home with the camper the day the injury occurred. The First Aid Director will also call parents/guardians to notify them of mild injuries at his/her professional discretion and when a serious injury occurs.

## EMERGENCIES

We devote much time and attention to emergency procedures during our staff training in June. We have specific procedures for lost campers, as well as for fire, severe weather and medical emergencies. We practice these procedures during staff training and throughout the summer so that campers and staff will be prepared in the event of an emergency.

## SUNSCREEN POLICY

We recommend that campers wear sunscreen. Campers should apply sunscreen before coming to camp each morning. Campers who need to reapply during the day should bring in their own sunscreen bottle with their name on it. Anyone needing assistance applying the sunscreen will need to visit the First Aid Director for assistance and must also have a sunscreen policy form completed and signed by their parent/guardian.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Sunscreen policy is for campers in Grade 5 and below.

## YMCA CAMP THUNDERMOON STAFF

YMCA Camp Thundermoon is dedicated to recruiting and developing an outstanding group of directors and counselors who are committed to providing each camper with the best camp experience possible. We believe that the success of our camp lies in the quality of our staff. YMCA Camp Thundermoon staff are selected on their experience, ability to lead camp related activities and their personal commitment to being positive role models. Many of the camp staff work in other YMCA departments during the school year—including Childcare & Youth Programs at the New Britain YMCA and Berlin YMCA.

## CAMP DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

To ensure the safety of all campers at YMCA Camp Thundermoon, the following procedures must be followed at camp dismissal time:

- Campers that are registered for After Camp Care will report to that program area upon camp dismissal.
- All other campers will proceed to the camp dismissal area for normal camp dismissal.
- Campers must be picked up by someone over the age of **18** who is either listed on the YMCA Camp Thundermoon registration form or who has the appropriate laminated name sign for that camper. Laminated name signs will be given out prior to or on the first day of camp at drop-off in the morning.
- No campers will be released to individuals who are NOT on an approved pick-up list unless written permission is given by the parent/guardian or with verbal permission from the parent/guardian and consent from a member of the leadership staff. Photo identification is also required of all persons picking up campers regardless if they are on the approved pick-up list.
- If a child hasn't been picked up five minutes after dismissal has been completed, the staff will contact the child's parent/guardian. If they are unable to reach you and your child isn't picked up 15 minutes after dismissal, emergency contacts listed on the registration form will be called.

**A late fee charge will be added to your camp bill for late pick-ups at a rate of \$25 for every 15 minutes you are late.**