



Hidden Acres Summer Camp Most Frequently Asked Questions

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact Hidden Acres at summer.camp@hacamps.org.

What objectives guide our program development?

- Connect – Build fun, healthy relationships with and among campers.
- Guide – Mentor campers and model healthy habits.
- Protect – Keep campers safe at all times.
- Teach – Share the gospel and help campers grow closer to Christ.

How is your staff chosen and hired? Each staff member is carefully interviewed prior to hiring and has been recommended by four references. We also run a background check on each staff member. It is our desire to hire staff who are trustworthy, spiritually mature, and who are positive role models for children. More than 180 young adults serve in staff positions for the summer, including counselors, kitchen, maintenance, wranglers, program specialists, and office staff. Our summer staff is involved in daily Bible study and prayer.

What does it mean by “grade”? The grade your camper will be entering this coming fall.

How do I know which camp my child is eligible for?

- | | |
|---|--|
| ● Pre-Primary | Kindergarten – 1 st grade |
| ● Primary | 2 nd – 3 rd grade |
| ● Junior | 4 th – 6 th grade |
| ● Junior High | 7 th – 8 th grade |
| ● High School, Timothy Team, Assistant Wrangler | 9 th – 12 th grade |

What time is check-in? Drive-thru check-in is on Sunday from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

What if I’m late for check-in? Please come to the Welcome Center. If you know in advance that you will be late, please let us know. If you are going to be later than 9 p.m., please wait and bring your camper after 8 a.m. on Monday morning.

What do I need for check-in?

- Medications: see page 6 **“What if my camper has medications?”**
- Completed Medication/Health Information form, IF your camper has medications (available on our website and also emailed to you shortly before your camper’s scheduled session)

Can my high school student drive to camp and check in without me? Yes. We will ask them to park their car where our summer staff parks. They will not be allowed to use their car during the week.

What time is pick-up? Fridays from 1-3 p.m. except for Week 4 pick-up, which is 1-3 p.m. on Wednesday, June 26th.

What if I need to pick up my camper early? Please **call the office two days prior to the early pick up** so we can send notes out in our mail to the counselor and the camper. We will have your camper in the Welcome Center with all their belongings when you arrive. Also, please let the counselor know on Sunday when you check in your camper.

Do all camps end on Friday? No. Most camps do end on Friday with pick-up from 1-3 p.m. There is one exception:
Week 4 (June 23-26) – pick-up on Wednesday, June 26 from 1-3 p.m.

Is my camper old enough for all camp activities? All campers in 4th grade or above have the opportunity to use the climbing tower, zip line, and giant swing at no charge. Residential campers in grades 6-12 can purchase a single trail ride for \$20. **PLEASE NOTE:** These trail rides are **only available online prior to arrival at camp.**

What if my child does not know how to swim? There are lifeguards at both the lake and the pool, and the counselors will be with their campers anytime they are in the swim area of either location. We also have life jackets available for campers to use. If you would like your child to wear a life jacket every time they swim, you are welcome to send one with them or tell their counselors you would like your child to wear one.

Campers who do not pass the swim test will not be allowed to go on the blob or the rope swing, or to use a boat without a counselor. All campers are required to wear life jackets while on boats and the blob.

If you have concerns about your child's swimming ability, we encourage you to share those concerns with their counselors when you drop them off at camp.

How can my camper purchase snacks, items from the gift shop, and crafts? You have 3 options:

1. Camper Spending Account: Log back into your CampBrain account. Find "View My Registrations" and click on the green button under Summer Camp 2024 that says "View details". Scroll down to the bottom of the page and look for a section called "Camper Spending". Click on the green "Add Deposit" button and you'll be taken to a page where you can add spending money for each registered child and enter your debit/credit card information to pay.
2. Cash
3. Debit or credit card

What is the suggested amount for spending money? \$30.00-\$40.00

For bigger purchases such as clothing from our gift shop, we suggest that you visit the Gift Shop at the Family Life Center (FLC) when you pick up your camper or visit our online store at <https://store.hacamps.org/> and make those clothing purchases prior to your camper's arrival. They'll love having Hidden Acres gear to wear during their week at camp.

Will I be charged extra for the t-shirt that every camper receives? No. The t-shirt is included in your camp registration. All sizes are final upon registration.

Is there a discount for registering early? Yes. A \$20.00 early bird discount will be **automatically** credited to your camper's account if the registration is received in our office on or before March 31st. Please **DO NOT subtract this from your \$95.00 deposit.** It is automatically deducted from your balance *after* the deposit has been received. If you are registering online, this \$20 early bird discount has already been deducted if you are registering on or before March 31st and is reflected in the price of camp.

Are there other discounts available? Members from the same family receive automatic sibling discounts of \$15 per camper starting with the second camper from your family who registers. *(Ex: First camper pays full price, each sibling thereafter receives \$15.00 off automatically.)*

What happens if my camper needs to cancel? The deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable within the year to another summer camp or a camper in the same family only. Any payments made beyond the deposit will be refunded if the cancellation is before 4 p.m. on the dates listed below for each specific camp start date.

Start of Camp Date	No Refund for cancellation after 4 p.m.
June 2, 2024	May 24, 2024
June 9, 2024	May 31, 2024
June 16, 2024	June 7, 2024
June 23, 2024	June 14, 2024
June 30, 2024	June 21, 2024
July 7, 2024	June 28, 2024
July 14, 2024	July 5, 2024

In case of grave illness or death in the family, the entire payment may be refunded.

Is there a dress code? Yes. Counselors may ask a camper to change clothes if deemed inappropriate.

Girls

- Shirt straps at least 2 inches wide
- No bra, underwear, cleavage, or stomach showing
- Appropriate shorts that come past mid-thigh when standing
- No writing on the backside of shorts or pants
- One piece or two piece swimsuits that cover the entire stomach
- No low cut or form fitting clothing
- No leggings/yoga pants

Boys

- No underwear showing
- Appropriate shorts that come past mid-thigh when standing
- No writing on the backside of shorts or pants
- No form fitting clothing (such as tight fitting Under Armour)

What shouldn't my camper bring? Please DON'T BRING the following because they will be confiscated:

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| ● Cell phones | ● Hatchets |
| ● Computers/iPads | ● Weapons of any kind |
| ● Smart watch | ● Sparklers/fireworks |
| ● Other electronics | ● Snacks (no food is allowed in cabins) |
| ● Pocket knives | |

Phones found in the possession of campers will be turned into the office for the remainder of the week. The phone will be returned to the camper on Friday afternoon.

Can my camper bring food/snacks? **No.** Food and snacks are not allowed in the cabins. Food allergies are a growing concern, and we want to protect our campers who have food allergies. Also food in the cabins attracts unwelcome pests.

What if my camper has food allergies? Please make sure you fill out the allergy section on the registration form. We are capable of accommodating most gluten-free, dairy free diets, if we are aware of their medical need. Please be advised that we typically don't use peanut, tree nut or shellfish in our menus. We cannot accommodate msg, soy allergies or vegan diets. You are always welcome to send food for your camper. There is a special room in the dining hall where the camper's food can be kept. There is a refrigerator and microwave available in the allergy room.

Can my camper bring a camera? Absolutely! Please be aware that they may get lost or damaged, so we suggest disposable cameras.

Can my camper receive mail? **Please send LETTERS ONLY --- NO PACKAGES!! Packages will NOT be delivered until Friday.**

You can send your letters or leave them at the **"MAIL"** drop located near the front entrance as you leave camp after you have dropped off your camper. **Please put your child's full name on it and add their cabin** information that you received at check-in so we can direct it to your camper. If you want to send mail through the US Postal System, **please make sure their name is on it and send no later than 3 days prior to your camper's arrival.** Mail often takes 5 days or more to reach us.

Can my camper receive emails or phone calls? Camper email can be sent by going to www.Bunk1.com. Our pre-approval code is **20HIDDENACRES24**. There is a fee of approximately \$1.00 per email. Bunk1 is available Monday-Thursday until 10 p.m. Campers will not be able to reply to your emails. Unless there is an emergency, campers will not be able to receive or make any phone calls. **Cell phones are not allowed and will be taken from the camper if found in their possession.**

Can I see photos of camp? Yes. Please go to www.Bunk1.com and use the invitation code of **20HIDDENACRES24** to check out our photo gallery. This is free, but you will need to create an account. Also check out our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/hacamps>. You can see photos even if you do not have a Facebook account. Please be patient when looking for photos of your camper. With 400+ campers each week, we cannot guarantee that every camper will appear in a photo.

Can my camper request a bunkmate? Yes. We do limit your requests to **TWO** bunkmates. We will always do our best to honor at least one of your camper's bunkmate request; however, please understand that bunkmate requests are **not guaranteed. We do not put large groups of friends together.** If groups of more than 2-3 friends request each other, we will split those friend groups into groups of 2-3. Campers must be in the same specific session and age grouping. For example, Junior and Junior High do NOT bunk together. Residential and Basketball do NOT bunk together. We do not accept requests to keep two campers separate unless they are siblings. *New requests or changes must be submitted more than one week prior to camp arrival.*

When will my camper know their cabin assignment? The earliest availability for cabin assignments is on Sunday during check-in. Please do not call the office asking for cabin assignments.

What if the weather gets stormy? Camp staff monitors the weather at all times and, when necessary, will notify staff and campers of threatening weather via our emergency siren and loud speaker. During severe weather, campers are taken to a lodge, the Family Life Center or a basement facility around camp.

What is Timothy Team (T3)? The Timothy Team (T3) is a two-week camp for high school students who desire to serve our camp while learning to become more Christ-like in every aspect of their lives. T3 campers will follow their own custom curriculum with worship sessions and Bible studies that will replace attending nightly chapel sessions with our younger campers. They will learn about servanthood and discipleship.

What should my camper bring? Please mark everything with your camper's name.

- Sleeping bag & pillow
- Bible
- Towels & washcloth
- Shampoo & soap
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Comb/brush
- Casual clothes (shorts, shirts, jeans) – **Shorts must come to mid-thigh when standing**
- Underwear, socks
- Sweatshirt or light jacket
- Modest swimsuit
- Rain poncho or jacket (rain boots, if desired)
- Insect repellent with Deet & sunscreen
- **Refillable water bottle to keep your camper hydrated**
- Flashlight & batteries
- Tennis shoes & sandals
- Old clothes & shoes for creek walks (may need to just throw them away after the fun)
- Extra bag to store dirty clothes
- Closed-toe shoes & jeans if signed up for a trail ride
- Clothing for 2 weeks if attending a Timothy Team camp or Assistant Wrangler camp (no laundry is available)

What if my camper is attending a specialty camp? Your camper will need the following:

- Horse Camp, Horse Wilderness, Wrangler in Training, Barn Crew and Rough Riders: 2 or 3 pairs of jeans, boots or hard-soled shoes
- Sports: appropriate shoes and clothing (no spandex or short shorts allowed)
- Airsoft: long sleeves, if desired (all other equipment is provided; *however, you may bring your own*)
- Fishing: fishing poles, hooks, simple tackle (bait is furnished)
- Timothy Team (T3): closed toe shoes

If your camper is attending a two-week camp (Assistant Wrangler or Timothy Team (T3)), please send enough clothes for both weeks. Our laundry facilities are limited, and our summer staff will be using the laundry facilities on the weekends, so the **laundry facilities will NOT be available for campers.**

Where can I find the description of each specialty camp? Descriptions of our various types of camps can be found at

<https://www.hacamps.org/before-summer-camp-registration>. Scroll down and click on the “Types of Camp” box.

Do I have to furnish a copy of my insurance card? Yes. If your camper must go to the doctor or emergency room, a copy of your insurance card saves time getting your child care when our nurses take your camper for medical treatment. These may be turned in with the registration form, uploaded with online registration, or brought to check-in. If you bring it to check-in, please have a copy that we can keep. We are not able to make copies during check-in.

What if my camper has medications? We have licensed medical personnel on duty 24 hours a day to administer medications. At check-in, you will need to see the nurses and give them the following:

- Completed Medication/Health Information Form (available on our website and also emailed to you shortly before your camper’s scheduled session)
- Medications in their original containers
- If you send vitamins, please send SMALL bottles. We do not have room to store large bottles.
- CLEAN empty weekly pill organizer for our nurses to fill with your child’s medications (**DO NOT fill the pill organizer; our nurses will do that**)
- The Nurses will be located by the big red NURSE banner as you make your way through our drive-thru check-in process.

All medication MUST be checked in with the nurses. **Do not pack any medications in your camper’s luggage.**

What if my camper gets sick or hurt? Our nurses will contact parents first, and if we can’t reach a parent, we will contact the emergency contacts listed on your registration form.

Do I need to send Tylenol or Ibuprofen? No. Our Health Center will supply those. However, make sure you have checked the box on the registration form allowing our nurses to administer over-the-counter medicine.

What is a typical day at camp? Times vary depending on age group, but this will give you an idea.

7 a.m.	Rise & Shine
7:45 a.m.	Flag Raising
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:30 a.m.	Cabin Devotions
9:00 a.m.	Chapel for younger campers; Scheduled Activities/Specialty Time for older campers
10:00 a.m.	Scheduled Activities/Specialty Time for younger campers
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Scheduled Afternoon Activities
5:30 p.m.	Supper
7:00 p.m.	All Camp Game
8:30 p.m.	Chapel for older campers; Scheduled Activities for younger campers
10:30 p.m.	Lights out