



Summer Day Camps at the YMCA of Eastern Ontario

We would like to welcome all new and returning campers and their parents. Camps are filled with fun games, crafts, challenges, and sports. We strive to ensure that every child has a great camping experience.

Attached is a Parent Handbook to help you prepare for your child's camp adventures. Important information is provided to help you familiarize yourself with our Summer Day Camp guidelines and policies. We strive to provide your child with the best possible experience.

Thank you for making Summer Day Camps at the YMCA of Eastern Ontario your child's destination of choice for their 2022 camp experience.

Sincerely,

Your YMCA Staff and Volunteers



The YMCA has over 150 years of experience in providing youth with fun, safe and rewarding summer camps. We are committed to providing a safe atmosphere and you can trust the YMCA to put the well-being of your child first.

The YMCA recognizes the tremendous impact a positive day camp experience has on the development of a child. Our camp staff are carefully selected based on experience, leadership and the ability to work with children. Our camp staff have experience working with youth and a personal interest in ensuring that every camper's experience is one that they will cherish and remember forever. All staff hold current Standard First Aid/CPR 'C' certifications as well as a clear Criminal Record with Vulnerable Sector Check. All staff attend mandatory training prior to camp beginning. You can be assured that our staff are carefully selected and well trained.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Our camps are designed to ensure that all campers enjoy their summer camp experience through a variety of organized activities, special trips, and interactive games. Our camps promise action-packed weeks full of indoor and outdoor sports, educational games, arts & crafts, and much more!

SUMMER PROGRAM HOURS AND DATES

The YMCA Summer Day Camp program operating hours, Monday to Friday, are as follows:

Program Hours: 9:00am – 4:00pm

Extended Hours: (no extra charge): 7:30am – 9:00am and 4:00pm – 5:30pm

**All camp programs will be closed on August 1 (Civic Holiday)*

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

There is a minimum cancellation fee of \$20.00 per camp, per registration. Written notice is required to be eligible for a refund, less the cancellation fee. Refund requests will not be accepted less than 5 days in advance. Requests received after 5 business days are not subject to a refund. A cheque will be mailed, or your credit card will be refunded. Exceptions will be made for extreme circumstances at the discretion of the Supervisor. Refunds will not be issued if a participant is sent home for misconduct.

ALLERGY ALERT

For the safety of children with peanut and other nut allergies, all Day Camp programs are “peanut/nut-aware”. When sending lunches and snacks, please check to ensure that you do not send a food item containing nuts or nut products.

ABSENCES FROM CAMP

If your child is unable to attend camp on a given day, please call the appropriate camp location before 9:00am

Kingston: 613-546-2647 ext. 0

Brockville/Kemptville/Prescott: 613-342-7961 ext. 0

Refunds are not given for days missed.

DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PROCEDURES

Safety is a priority for the children in our care. We require parents/guardians to sign their campers in and out of camp each day - **photo ID is required for sign in and sign out**. We request that parents give themselves a little extra time each morning to enable our staff to ensure that each camper is comfortable upon arrival at camp. Please note that Monday mornings we complete routine lice checks. Children 10 or older can have a parent fill out a form in-person on the first day of camp each week to consent to their camper being able to sign themselves out at the end of the camp day. Campers can be released to anyone on the authorized pick-up list.

We will ask for and require photo identification at each pick-up time through the entirety of the summer due to our Child Protection Policy.

All YMCA Summer Day Camp program locations close at 5:30pm. If you will be late due to unforeseen circumstances, please call your child's camp location and leave a message. Parents picking up children after this time will be **charged late fees**. The late fee charge is \$10 for the first 5 minutes and \$5 for every 5 minutes thereafter.

CAMP RULES

Our camp rules are aligned with the YMCA core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility, such as:

- ✓ Be honest with yourself and with others
- ✓ Care for yourself and others
- ✓ Respect yourself and others
- ✓ Be responsible for yourself and others
- ✓ Cherish your differences and include others' differences too!

The YMCA strives to create a community where everyone feels safe and comfortable. Bullying, fighting and harassment of any kind will result in a camper being sent home at the discretion of the camp supervisor. Should removal be required, the YMCA reserves the right to make such a decision and no refund of camp fees will be provided.

The YMCA does however have specific rules that could result in participants being sent home, at the expense of the parent/guardian:

- Violence towards others
- Abuse / Harassment / Bullying of any kind
- Participant endangering others or themselves
- Possession of drugs, alcohol or tobacco
- Defacing of YMCA property

CODE OF CONDUCT

The safety of each person in the program is of the utmost importance. Each participant has a personal responsibility to learn and follow the safety procedures and other rules established by YMCA staff. By registering for Day Camp, I hereby agree that any behaviour of the participant that places them, other campers, or staff at risk may result in the participant's immediate dismissal from the program. Further, if dismissed from the program, I agree to cover any expense(s) arising from such dismissal. I hereby acknowledge and agree that no refund will be granted for dismissal or removal of the participant at the YMCA's or the camper's families' request before the end of a program session. **Campers that have been sent home from camp on a first instance may be welcomed back for a second try, barring an extreme circumstance. Campers that are sent home for a second instance are subject to being denied Summer Day Camp services for the remainder of the summer.**

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INDEMNIFYING RELEASE

While YMCA staff make every effort to minimize exposure to known risks associated with participation in YMCA programs, I hereby acknowledge that my child may participate in activities that may involve risk of injury. In this regard, I agree that I have provided (if required) a complete and accurate health history and hereby permit my child to participate in the full range of program activities, unless specifically noted by me in the health information section of the registration form. I hereby release and discharge the YMCA of Eastern Ontario from any and all liability for damages sustained in consequence of loss, injury or damage to the participant, and from all other actions, causes of action, claims, demands or damages of any kind with respect to death, injury, loss or damages to any person or property arising out of or connected with preparation for, or participation in, the Summer Day Camp program.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

In the event of an accident, injury or illness involving the participant, and immediate contact by the YMCA with an emergency contact or parent cannot be made, I hereby authorize and grant permission to YMCA staff to secure proper medical treatment and authorize on the participant's behalf all procedures, including, without limitation, admission to an emergency unit, hospital and treatment therein, ordering of x-rays, tests or treatment, injections, anesthesia and/or surgery, as deemed necessary by the attending medical professional(s). I agree not to hold the YMCA responsible for any costs or injury arising out of an emergency.

CAMP SWIM TESTS

Safety is the number one priority; we will be performing weekly swim tests to ensure the safety of your children. If the lifeguards determine that the swimmer has sufficient endurance and strength to be safe in the pool for the camp, they can swim without a lifejacket. If the lifeguards determine that the swimmer may not have sufficient endurance and strength to be safe in the pool, they will need to swim in a lifejacket. Campers may choose not to complete the swim test if they would prefer to wear a lifejacket in the pool.

CHILDREN REQUIRING MEDICATION

Parents of children requiring medication must complete and sign a **Medication Form** for each medication that is required. Parents of children requiring emergency medication (i.e., Benadryl which requires a physician's note, epi pen) for an anaphylactic reaction, must complete also complete an **Anaphylactic Action Plan**. Please make sure to include all symptoms/reactions associated with your child's allergy.

WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD BRING TO CAMP?

We ask that parents remain mindful of the weather and dress their children appropriately in comfortable clothes. Hats, articles of clothing, lunch kits, sunscreen, water bottles, etc. should be clearly labeled with your child's name on them. Children are strongly advised to bring the following:

- Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses
- Reusable water bottle
- Comfortable and safe footwear
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Nutritious morning and afternoon snacks (PEANUT/NUT FREE) and drinks
- A nutritious lunch (PEANUT/NUT FREE)
- Bathing suit and towel (on swim days)

Please **DO NOT** bring any valuables, toys, electronics, etc. If these items are brought to camp, staff will store them safely and return them at the end of the day. We understand that some campers will have phones, but they are to stay in lockers or backpacks, and are not to be used throughout our camp day. The YMCA is not responsible for any lost items. Any found items at the end of the day are collected and stored at your child's camp location. If your child loses something, call your camp directly or visit to look through the lost and found. The YMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen articles. Please encourage your child to bring only what is needed for camp.