



At Welkinweir / 1368 Prizer Road, Pottstown, PA 19465
Open year-round, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

2021 Summer Nature Day Camp
**Parent Handbook, Health Ticket
and Liability Release Form**

Parents and Guardians - please review this information and complete the included, additional forms prior to your children attending camp.

Camp Q&A Sessions

Do you have questions about camp content? Covid prevention? Other concerns? An informational session will be held to help answer these and other questions. This optional session will take place via Zoom at 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021.

NOTE the location of the Camp Entrance: Address is 1368 Prizer Road, Pottstown, PA 19465. For summer camp go to the Welkinweir visitor's parking lot. Follow directional signs. Do not use the Green Valleys Watershed Association business entrance.

How to Contact Us

- Call 610-469-4900, or email camp@greenvalleys.org
- During camp hours of 8:30am to 3:15pm, staff may not be available. If you have an emergency, you can call the main GVWA office at 610-469-4900.
- Messages and emails sent on a weekend or after hours will not be checked until 7:45 a.m. the next business day.

Our Camp Staff

- Counselors have passed the necessary background checks, COVID-19 screenings and / or are fully vaccinated.
- We are not requiring face masks for outdoor activities where three (3) feet can be maintained. Masks will be required for close activities or when indoors during storms or cool down times. Guest Presenters will not be wearing a mask during their programs, however they will maintain a 10 to 15 foot distance from the campers and staff.
- A registered nurse will monitor all camp staff protocol to ensure policies are being implemented correctly.

Facilities

Camp will be held entirely outdoors, with the only exceptions being inclement weather or an excessive heat warning. Older campers will also utilize portions of the Horseshoe Trail that extend from Welkinweir.

Inclement Weather Plan

- In the event of an **excessive heat warning**, camp groups can take turns using the air conditioned Education building for 20-30 minutes at a time, in their group's designated area for activities.
- In the event of **thunderstorms**, Grades 1 through 5 will take shelter in the Education building – Grades 1 and 2 on the north side; Grades 3, 4, & 5 on the south side. Grades 6, 7 and 8 will use the garage adjacent to their meeting area.*
***Note that if there are continuous storms or heavy rain during a day of camp, parents will be contacted via phone to schedule pick up of their child earlier than the regular end times.**

Portable Toilets

- We do not have indoor restrooms for camp. Portable, flush toilets and outdoor hand-washing sinks are used, with each camp group having their own set of two toilets and two sinks.
- Toilets and sinks are serviced once per week by a company, and maintained daily by Green Valleys' staff.
- **Children must be able to use porta potties and be able to button/snap clothing on their own.**

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures for Daily Camp

Please allow a few extra minutes each day when dropping off and picking up your child. If you have children in different grade groups, having different start and end times, you may choose the earlier time to drop off or pick up your children. Counselors will supervise children until camp begins.

***Remember to bring your child's signed Health Ticket daily (see pages 7, 8 and 9).**

Locations and times to drop off and pick up campers will be by grade group to limit contact between children and guardians.

Please follow this schedule:

- Children age 4 and entering Kindergarten (Dragonflies) drop off at 9:30 a.m., pick up at 12:30 p.m., at Location C.
 - 1st and 2nd grade campers (Bullfrogs) drop off at 9:15 a.m., pick up at 2:30 p.m., at Location C.
 - 3rd, 4th and 5th grade campers (Turtles) drop off at 9:00 a.m., pick up at 2:45 p.m. at Location B.
 - 6th, 7th and 8th grade campers (Hérons) drop off at 8:45 a.m., pick up at 3:00 p.m. at Location A.
- Parents and children must walk to a registration table in their designated parking lot area (signs will be posted). Please wait in line 6 foot apart. Children will have their temperature taken by a counselor, and will then be escorted to their designated meeting area.
 - Campers will only be permitted to leave with the authorized adults listed on your registration forms. Staff may ask for photo ID if they feel it is necessary.
 - Please be prompt when picking up your child at his/her designated times, as we WILL charge a fee for continual tardiness.
 - Any late drop-offs or pick-ups should report to the Education Building or available staff for assistance.

Before and After Camp Care camper drop off and pick up is at the Education building.

Before Care begins at 7:45 a.m. After Care ends at 5:15 p.m.

- Senior Camp Counselors oversee these programs, and activities are outdoors.
- Green Valleys has games and outdoor toys, and children are welcome to bring in books or other, non-electronic toys.
- Please pack extra snacks for your child if he/she is attending Before or After Camp Care.
- The visitor parking lot closes at 4:30 p.m. - when picking up After Care children, please use the entrance closest to the Education building, the small gate. A yard sign is posted at this gate.

A Day at Nature Camp

Although there are many experiences that are common to all ages during each camp week, we plan activities to meet each age group's developmental level. Activities will vary based on the changes made to camp this year, and based on camper interest.

Camps follow this general outline:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2 hours | Nature or field walk with activities, educational game, and snack |
| 1.5 hours | Lunch, free play, educational game or activity |
| 1 hour | Art and/or science project, nature walk, water games or stream visit (stream visits are not daily) |
| .75 hours | Activity(ies), wrap-up |

Camps for children in Grades 6, 7 & 8: There will be one alternative camp site each week, at Marsh Creek State Park, with pick up and drop off at the park. Details will be emailed to parents prior to each camp week.

Day Camp Packing List

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING that your child brings to camp, and have children dress for the weather. **Camp runs rain or shine (See the Inclement Weather Plan on page 1).**

***Your child should wear clothes, shoes and face coverings that he/she can manage on their own, in order to maintain physical distancing as much as possible.**

To bring / wear daily:

- **A mask or acceptable face covering**
- Clothes that can get dirty
- Sneakers or hiking shoes with heel straps (Welkinweir trails and terrains vary.)
- Hat
- In the event of rain, do not forget a rain coat.
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent (for all ticks)

To bring daily:

A bag or backpack, labeled, and containing:

- **A snack and lunch - Campers must bring their own lunch and snacks that do not require refrigeration.**
 - Each group will eat lunch at their own designated site.
 - ALL foods ARE permitted, including those containing peanut butter and dairy.
- **Water bottle and cooler of extra water - Campers must bring their own reusable water bottles AND another container of water in order to refill their bottles.**
 - We will provide bottled water if caregivers cannot return to bring water to refill.
 - NO coolers will be provided to fill water bottles. NO reusable water bottles will be offered to those campers who forget them.
- Water shoes or old sneakers to wear in the stream (open-toed shoes or sandals are NOT acceptable)
- Towel (bath or beach sized)
- Sunscreen
- Insect repellent (for all ticks)

Do NOT bring:

- × Electronic toys or games
- × Cell phones (unless campers are asked to bring them for taking photos)
- × Cameras (unless campers are asked to bring them)
- × Wildlife (animals and plants) – Leave them where you find them!
- × Toys, books, other personal belongings (Exception: Your child may bring these items for Before and After Camp Care only).
- × Unless your child is in the 6th, 7th & 8th grade group and instructed to wear a bathing suit for the alternative camp site, do not pack OR wear bathing suits.

We want the children to be focused on camp activities, not on items brought from home. We are not responsible for valuable items that may be lost or broken.

Health Information

Medical and Liability Release Forms

You should have received the *Medical and Release forms*, following receipt of your registration. **The forms must be reviewed, completed, signed and returned to Green Valleys PRIOR TO your child attending camp.**

Symptom Screening of Campers

See pages 7-9 for the Additional Liability Release forms and Daily Health Tickets Related to COVID-19.

- **Health ticket is to be completed daily and is your child's entrance to camp for each day.** Staff will collect the health ticket **daily**.
- Parents should monitor their children at home for signs of illness, including checking their temperature, before arriving at camp. Children should stay home if they show symptoms of illness or have a fever.
- **Upon arrival to camp each day, camper wellness will be monitored via daily temperature check using a no touch thermometer. If your child has a fever exceeding 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, he/she will be allowed to wait a few minutes and then have their temperature taken again. If he/she still registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, he/she cannot attend camp that day.**
- The Executive Director will be the designated GVWA staff person to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. Staff and families will self-report to the Executive Director if they have symptoms of, a positive test for, or exposure to someone with COVID-19.

Limiting Exposure to COVID-19 and Other Communicable Diseases

GVWA will NOT allow any visibly ill child to attend camp.

At home, it is recommended by the CDC that families follow these guidelines to help prevent exposure and spread of COVID-19.

(Resource: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/index.html>)

- Wear [a mask that covers your nose and mouth](#) to help protect yourself and others.
- [Stay 6 feet apart from others](#) who don't live with you.
- Get a [COVID-19 vaccine](#) when it is available to you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces.
- [Wash your hands often](#) with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

Green Valleys has taken the following measures* to prevent camper and staff exposure to Covid-19 and other communicable diseases:

- A maximum of 45 campers per camp week.
- **All campers and counselors will remain 3 - 6 feet apart wherever possible, and will wear masks indoors, when necessary.**
- Campers will be kept together in the same groups, by grade, with the same dedicated Senior Counselor and Junior Counselor throughout each day, for the entire camp week.
- Grade groups will not combine with each other for any activities. Each group will have their own objects for craft projects and games that will be shared between group members only, and sanitized after each use, as well as every Friday, in preparation for the following camp week.
- Each group will have its own site equipment, including portable, flushable restrooms and hand washing stations that are serviced by an outside company once per week and sanitized by camp staff every two hours, every day.
- All campers, within their groups at their separate sites, will be given a health orientation on the first day of each camp week by their counselor.
- A cleaning and disinfecting schedule is in place for increased routine cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces within the camp facility – i.e. site tables, bathrooms, etc.

Note that in the event of any camper or staff testing positive for COVID-19, with symptoms, Summer Nature Day Camp will be shut down for that week.

Ticks, Poison Ivy, and Sun Exposure

To prepare your child for potential exposure, please follow these guidelines:

- Apply tick repellent and sunscreen to your child **before** camp begins.
- Counselors will help campers, as needed, reapply both items at lunchtime.
- Although Counselors can help with tick checks if necessary, the best way to locate ticks on your child is to check campers immediately after they arrive home in the afternoon.

Counselors will wear non-latex gloves and masks to apply repellents and sunscreen, and to pull ticks off of campers as necessary.

If you have an issue with Counselors doing so, please notify the Executive Director in writing.

For information on ticks, Lyme disease, and poison ivy, we recommend the following websites: www.cdc.gov or www.chesco.org.

Important Reminders regarding Registration and Cancellation

- **Registration Deadline** - Payment must be received with your completed registration forms. Registrations received *later than* the Thursday prior to the chosen camp week will be considered late, and assessed a \$25 fee.
- Registering for additional camp weeks can be done at any time (within the Thursday deadline), as long as spaces are available in the desired week(s). No new forms are required.
- If you wish to *add or change a camp week*, please contact us at camp@greenvalleys.org 610-469-4900.
- **Refunds and Cancellation Policy** - Refunds are not made for failure to attend, absence, sick days, or dismissal from camp.
- If you wish to *cancel* a camp week, notify us at camp@greenvalleys.org 3 full weeks prior to the first day of the camp week in order to receive a full refund, minus a 10% administrative fee. This fee is per child, per camp week cancelled.
- **Green Valleys reserves the right to adjust or cancel a camp due to low enrollment.** In the event of a cancellation *by us*, notifications will be made via email or by phone as soon as possible, and a full refund will be issued to you.

Green Valleys Watershed Association
2021 Summer Nature Day Camp
Additional Liability Release
In regards to COVID-19

Parents/Guardians, please complete this form for ALL of your children and hand it to the staff at drop off on Monday morning of your child's first camp week.

Thank you for registering your child(ren) for Summer Nature Day Camp 2021.

As with the transmission of any communicable disease like a cold or the flu, you may be exposed to COVID-19, also known as "Coronavirus", at any time or in any place.

Despite GVWA's careful attention to disinfection, cleaning, and use of personal barriers in the way of masks, there is still a chance that your child could be exposed to an illness while attending camp, just as you might be at your gym, grocery store, or favorite restaurant.

"Social Distancing" nationwide has reduced the transmission of the Coronavirus. Although we have taken measures to provide social distancing at camp, due to the nature of the program, at times it may not be possible to maintain social distancing between children and staff, and sometimes parents and guardians.

Although exposure to COVID-19 is unlikely, do you accept the risk and consent to your child participating in GVWA's Summer Nature Day Camp?

YES NO

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Relationship to Camper(s) _____

Date _____

(please print):

Camper 1: First Name _____ Last Name _____

Camper 2: First Name _____ Last Name _____

Camper 3: First Name _____ Last Name _____

Camper Health Ticket

Camper's name _____ Date _____

I confirm that my child does not have the following symptoms:

Fever

Sore throat / Cough

Stomach Ache

Rash of unknown origin

Change in smell or taste

Shortness of breath

And that my child has NOT knowingly had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID19.

Parent Signature _____ Temperature / staff initials _____ / _____

Camper Health Ticket

Camper's name _____ Date _____

I confirm that my child does not have the following symptoms:

Fever

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Parent Signature _____ Temperature / staff initials _____ / _____