

**North Riverside Recreation Department
2401 South DesPlaines Avenue
North Riverside, IL 60546
(708) 442-5515**

Dear Parents,

Welcome! The staff of Camp Commons Day Camp is looking forward to having your child join them for a fun-filled summer of activities.

This parent manual was developed to assist you in preparing your child for the program. **Please read it thoroughly**. It contains important information which will help your child's camp experience be a safe and happy one.

Please feel free to call the Recreation Department at 442-5515 if you have any additional questions or concerns.

We look forward to a great summer!

North Riverside Recreation Dept.

CAMP COMMONS DAY CAMP

I. Introduction

Camp Commons Day Camp has an exciting summer of activities planned for your child. Our goal is to provide your child with numerous recreational opportunities which promote fun, cooperation with others, build self-esteem, and enhance creativity. We expect that your child comes to camp ready to actively participate in all activities to the best of their abilities. The day camp is located in the gymnasium at the Village Commons but we will also be using the Community Room, outdoor play area, kitchen and craft room.

II. Staff

Our staff has been specially selected because of their ability to work with children and their skill background. They have been trained in all areas of recreational programming as well as safety, behavior management, problem solving and leadership. Our staff ratio is approximately 1:10 enabling your child to get special attention, if needed.

III. Activities

Activities are planned with the interests and needs of the children in mind. Because we recognize that each child is unique, we try to offer the child as many different activities as possible, as well as choice of activities. Arts and crafts, sports, drama, cooking, nature awareness, active and quiet games are all part of our program. A weekly calendar outlining basic activities is sent home each week with your camper.

IV. Special Events & Field Trips

Each week the staff will be planning one special event and/or field trip which may require your child to bring something special, dress up, or who knows what! Please watch for flyers sent home with your child or on special notes marked on your weekly activity calendar. **For field trips**, location, time, clothing, lunch arrangements, etc. will be sent home by flyer. Please remember, the supervision of your child is the responsibility of our staff. If you feel a need to be at the field trip site you will be responsible for your child and should drive them there on your own.

V. Camper Information/Emergency Forms

The Camper Information/Emergency Forms are extremely important and must be filled out completely and accurately for the safety of your child. If there are any changes to be made on the form once it has been turned in, please put the changes in writing and give it to the staff in the Recreation Department office.

VI. Pick Up and Drop Off Procedures

Camp begins at 9:00 AM. Please do not send your child early because our staff is involved in planning sessions and your child will not be supervised.

Camp ends at 3:00 PM. If someone other than those indicated on the Camper Information Form is picking up your child, you must inform the staff in writing. If the staff is in doubt, you will be called before we will permit the child to leave. Please advise the person picking up your child that an ID may be requested. Also, if your child is to walk or ride his/her bike home on a one-time basis, please let the staff know in writing. All bikes should have a lock and be parked in the bike rack provided.

If, on the Camper Information Form, you have indicated that your child is “responsible for self” after camp, no written permission will be necessary.

If your child is in either Before Camp Care and/or After Camp Care, you will be given a separate sheet of procedures from the Camp Care staff. PLEASE BE PROMPT WHEN PICKING UP YOUR CHILD! Additional charges will occur for pick-ups after 6:00 p.m.

VII. Discipline

For the safety and enjoyment of all the campers, we expect each youngster to respect and adhere to the basic rules of camp. If there is a problem, the staff will first speak with the camper. If the problem cannot be resolved, the Director of Parks and Recreation will intervene, and, if necessary, contact the parents. Appropriate action will be taken if negative behavior continues, with the possibility of termination from the program. Respect for self, staff and other campers is important to the success of our program.

Conduct Policy: Please Read.

In order to maximize the enjoyment of each participant’s recreation experience and to ensure their safety in a fun yet nurturing environment, the North Riverside Recreation department has adopted a CONDUCT POLICY for all recreation activities. Participants will be expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner and treat others the same. Consequences for inappropriate behavior may result in a participant not being permitted to attend an activity or possible termination from the program. Any questions could be directed to the Director of Parks and Recreation.

VIII. Lunches

Your child is to bring a **marked paper sack** lunch with a beverage each day unless the staff notifies you of any changes. Lunches will be refrigerated. Please do not send any glass bottles. If your child will be buying snacks or drinks from the vending machines, **please send them with change for the machines.**

IX. Snacks

The children will often be preparing snacks while under the supervision of the staff. If your child has any food allergies, please make sure it is indicated on the Camper Information Form.

X. Medications

If your child needs to take any medications, please indicate on the Camper Information Form. Our staff is not allowed to dispense the medicine, but if you send the proper dosage with your child and a note on what time it is to be taken, it will be stored properly and your child will be reminded as to the time.

XI. Clothing

Each camper will receive a t-shirt the first day of camp. The shirt is provided by the Recreation Department for identification purposes. **IT IS TO BE WORN ON ALL FIELD TRIPS.** (Sorry...only one t-shirt per camper if enrolled in multiple sessions.) On the other days, your child should be dressed appropriately for the weather and the activities for the day. (*Skirts are not recommended.*) We do lots of fun, messy, activities. Please send your child in old clothes that are appropriate for day camp. The staff also requests that your child wear gym shoes. (*Sandals often slip off during active play and become a safety hazard.*)

XII. Personal Items

It is recommended that your child not bring personal items to camp. The staff cannot be responsible for them.

XIII. Parent Concerns

If you have any concerns, please see the Camp Director. If the Director is unable to help you, you will be referred to the Director of Parks and Recreation. We are here to serve you and your child.

XIV. Refunds/Transfers/Cancellations

There is a \$10 service charge for **each** session change/transfer or cancellation. **Session refunds will be issued ONLY if the space is filled.**

HERE'S TO A GREAT SUMMER!