

Welcome to Camp Bear Creek!

Thank you for registering your camper for one of the most memorable experiences of their life—summer camp! We are pleased that your child will be joining us this summer as they connect with nature, live in the moment, build authentic relationships, and grow in their faith. Our goal is that when your camper returns to you at the end of their experience, you can see their growth, excitement, and love for Christ.

Check-in is at 12:00 p.m. on your check-in day at Deer Center. Lunch will immediately be provided after check-in. This packet contains pertinent information regarding your camp session.

Please fill out your online paperwork and pay any outstanding camp fees no later than two (2) weeks prior to your child's camp start date.

Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns leading up to your camper's stay with us, please do not hesitate to give us a call at (563) 488-3893.

In Christ,

The Camp Bear Creek Staff

office@bearcreek.camp | www.bearcreek.camp



What to Expect from a Weekend at Camp

We're thrilled you've chosen Camp Bear Creek and we're excited to welcome your camper for their time at camp. Please be sure to read this packet thoroughly, and of course, please let us know if you have any questions!

Prior to Arrival at Camp

<u>Please fill out the required forms at least two weeks before your camp's start date. Payment of any remaining camp fees is also due two weeks before camp.</u> You can manage your paperwork and payment from your online account. Please know that completed paperwork and payment are required for camp attendance.

Check-In Day

Check-in will be held at Deer Center (the dining hall) at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. Lunch will immediately be provided after check-in. During check-in, you may leave all of your belongings and bags in the car.

Check-in will involve the following:

- 1. Cabin assignments for your camper(s).
- 2. Health screening and head check. If head lice are found on a camper, we are prepared to administer topical treatment on site which will enable the child to stay at camp while being treated.
- 3. Purchase any Camp Bear Creek keepsake items or clothing from our Camp Store.
- 4. Move into your cabin and get your camp shirt.

Check-Out Day

Check-out will take place immediately after lunch on Sunday at 12:00pm. Check-out will involve the following:

- 1. Loading your camper's personal belongings.
- 2. Chatting with your camper's counselors about the week.
- 3. Filling out an evaluation about your time at camp.

Health Concerns

All counselors are certified in First Aid/CPR and are with campers at all times, 24 hours a day. Parents are with their children and are able to assess for illness and injury. **Each family is responsible for covering costs of medical expenses incurred while at camp.** The camp insurance policy provides supplementary coverage for accident expenses which exceed the family's resources. It does not cover the costs for illness.

Please make sure to monitor yourself and your camper for COVID-19 symptoms before you come and do not come to camp if either of you are sick. If a camper develops COVID-19 symptoms or is exposed to COVID-19 while at camp, parents will be notified and they will be tested (lower nasal swab rapid test) for the virus. If an individual tests positive, parent and child will be asked to depart immediately.

Telephone and Mail

Please expect that the use of a phone by a camper is not permitted except under the expressed permission of the Director in the event of an emergency or special circumstances. Campers most certainly enjoy hearing from their family while at camp. Please address all mail to your camper as follows:

Camper's Name, You & Me Camp, Camp Bear Creek, 9106 42nd Ave, Wyoming, IA 52362 You may decide to pre-write mail for your camper's stay. If you do this, make sure to indicate on each letter your camper's name, camp program, and which day of the week you'd like it delivered. Give any pre-written mail to the greeter when you arrive at check-in. It is also helpful for parents of young children to send pre-addressed envelopes for them to write letters home.

Packing for Camp

It is strongly recommended that all clothing and equipment be marked with your camper's name prior to arrival. Lost and found articles with names attached are much easier to return to owners. Lost and found articles left at camp will remain for two weeks to be claimed by their owners. Campers should bring enough clothing with them to last for their entire stay (washer/dryer is unavailable to campers except under special conditions or circumstances). When packing, keep in mind that campers need to be comfortable and able to get sweaty, wet, and every degree of dirty in existence—this is part of the fun of being at camp! *Please bring the following*:

- Sleeping Bag or Bed Linens
- Fitted sheet for mattress: twin size (optional)
- Pillow
- Bath towels & washcloths
- Shampoo & soap
- Comb or brush
- Toothbrush & paste
- Sandals for pool & for use in the shower
- One-piece swimming suit/tankini or trunks (it is suggested that you bring 2)

- Pool towel
- Shorts
- Jeans or sweatpants
- Shirts
- Pajamas
- Closed-toed shoes
- Socks & undergarments
- Sweatshirt or Jacket
- Raincoat or Poncho
- Creek stomping outfit: shorts, t-shirt, & shoes (no flip flops) that will get wet and very muddy

- Hat
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Bible
- Flashlight & extra batteries
- Water bottle
- Small backpack
- Plastic bags to put wet or muddy clothes
- Laundry Bag

What Not to Bring

We ask that you do not bring personal sport equipment or musical instruments. <u>Please do not bring cell phones</u>, smart watches, tablets, video games, money, and food or candy (they attract <u>critters</u>). Pets are not allowed at camp. Part of the Camp Bear Creek experience is embracing the natural world around us. We understand that parents may want to bring their cell phones, but please keep them put away and out of sight. We also ask that you leave your camper's cell phone/smart watch/tablet at home.