



DAY CAMP 2018 WELCOME!

Welcome to the York Parks & Recreation Day Camp (OAC +JAC)!

We are so excited for camp this year! We have a fun-filled summer planned with great field trips, games, events, and activities. We have a great staff working at our camps this summer; we have a few returning counselors as well as some fantastic new additions. Be sure to check out the JAC and OAC staff intro videos on our website and Facebook page! Throughout the summer, we as a staff hope to encourage each child's talents to grow, provide a safe environment, and celebrate their unique qualities. We are thrilled to welcome back returning campers and look forward to meeting our newest campers!

A normal day at camp begins with check-in and a camp-wide game for everyone. Throughout the day we will play games, spend time outside, take field trips around town, go to the beach, make arts and crafts, and have lots of fun! We hope that your child goes home with a big smile each day, excitedly ready to share with you all about what we did at camp! On the following pages you will find important information regarding OAC as well as JAC.

SUN SAFETY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US! Please send your child with sunscreen **every day**. If it is nice outside, we will be outside playing games, setting up the slip-n-slide, playing on the playgrounds or having free time. Each day at camp, campers will reapply sunscreen multiple times. Please make sure your child always has plenty of sunscreen in their backpack. OAC counselors are not allowed to put sunscreen on your children. We will ask that they partner up with a friend and make sure the sunscreen is being applied adequately. OAC counselors will oversee the process to make sure each child has sunscreen on before heading outside. JAC counselors are allowed to apply sunscreen because some of the younger campers just aren't quite ready. We will not have sunscreen for your child at camp, so please pack some! Helpful Hint: Apply sunscreen at home before camp to save time!

The following guidelines should help make the summer a safe and enjoyable one for everyone.

Activities

All campers are required to be at group activities and stay with camp staff. Children may choose not to participate in planned group activities, but additional activities may not be available for children who choose not to participate. Please, encourage your camper to try something new, that's when growth happens! JAC splits their campers into groups based on age to better provide age appropriate activities for all campers!

Regular Camp Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm, Monday-Friday

OAC's home base is York Middle School and JAC is based out of Village Elementary. You must sign in your child when you drop him or her off. This is important to us as we want to be aware of who is at camp. Please, come into the lobby, sign your child in or out, and make direct contact with a staff member. We may have information and schedules to share with parents so please make sure that you come in with your child each day. For the safety of your child we do not allow for the drop off or pickup of children at any location other than home base.

Check in: 7:30am-9:00am

Please take notice that after 9:00am we may have left the school for a field trip. It is very important to have your camper at camp **no later than 9:00am** as that is when our day begins! As you make your child's summer plans (sports camps, art camps, etc.) please keep in mind that it is very difficult for us to accommodate individual schedules. During the day we may be elsewhere. We will always leave a sign on the doors of the gym telling where we are.



Check out: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Please be aware that a late fee of \$1 per minute will be assessed if pickup occurs later than **5:30pm**. If you have special circumstances and need alternate arrangements to pick up your child, please notify a camp director. Only authorized persons listed on the consent form (signed by parent/guardian) and with picture ID will be allowed to pick up your child. Please make directors aware of any unusual pick up plans i.e. neighbor, grandparent.

Snacks & Lunch

We will have 2 snack times and a lunch each day. Please send your child with healthy snacks, lunch, and plenty to drink. It's important to include extra water (refillable bottle is best) and snacks on field trip days. Please pack enough food for your child to last the day. Neither camp can provide food for any child, even if they have eaten everything they brought to camp that day. **REMINDER: JAC IS PEANUT/TREE NUT FREE!!!**

Illness/Sick Policy

If your child has a fever, is vomiting, has diarrhea, or any other contagious illnesses, please do not send them to camp. Parents/caregivers or emergency contacts will be notified if a child develops symptoms while at camp and will be expected to make arrangements for pick up.

Camper's Code of Conduct

On the first day of camp, we will talk to campers about our code of conduct. We will also ask for their help in establishing camp rules for the summer. We will ask them to sign a copy of the agreed upon rules to reinforce the code that we will use to maintain consistency and fairness. Another copy will be posted visibly in the lobby of York Middle School. We will not tolerate any form of bullying and/or physical or verbal intimidation. We have developed a positive reinforcement conduct code. Please review the following.

- *Respect other campers, counselors, and the environment
- *Always use proper language and behavior
- *Keep hands, feet, and objects to self
- *Remain with your assigned group at all times
- *Follow directions at all times
- *Maintain a positive attitude—HAVE FUN!



Discipline Policy

To assist counselors with the improvement of inappropriate behavior, progressive discipline guidelines have been established. These procedures may be skipped if the severity of the offense warrants.

*First Offense- Verbal correction or warning

*Second Offense- Ten-minute “breather” and conference with parent

*Third Offense- Parents contacted and asked to pick up camper immediately. Child will be suspended from camp for an amount of anywhere from one day up to the remainder of the summer, at director’s discretion.

Clothing/Attire

Please have your camper wear comfortable clothing, suitable for active fun and games. **CAMPERS MUST BRING SNEAKERS EVERY DAY!** If your child doesn’t have sneakers, they may not be able to participate in some camp activities. This is for safety reasons. We recommend athletic shoes with socks, long pants or shorts, and t-shirts/tank tops. It is also a great idea to send an extra set of clothes, including a sweatshirt. Flip flops and crocs are acceptable on beach/water days, however, your camper will need sneakers for the afternoon! On days during which we will be walking and at the school, please send your camper with sneakers! **On Field Trip days, it is VERY important, for safety, that your camper wear his/her camp shirt.** A bathing suit, towel, and sunscreen are important to bring each day. It is a good idea to keep these staple items in your camper’s backpack. If it’s a really hot day we may get the hose or slip and slide going! We cannot be expected to provide sunscreen to 100+ campers so please plan accordingly and be sure your camper has sunscreen in their backpack!

We recommend that you do NOT send personal toys, pets, or electronic items (video games, cell phones, etc.) with your child to camp. These items become distractions and can easily be lost or damaged.

*Video games, iPods, etc. are allowed for bus travel during our Field Trip days. However, staff are not responsible for missing items.

Use of Phone

Campers will NOT be allowed to use the phone during the course of the day. Parents will be contacted in case of emergency or illness. Cell phones are discouraged and, if brought to camp, must be left in backpacks all day. If a camper is caught with a personal electronic without permission from a director, it will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and returned upon pick up. York Parks & Recreation and staff are not responsible for lost or stolen phones. Parents may contact York Parks and Rec at (207)-363-1040 with any questions, and they will get in touch with the directors.



Email

Email will be checked once a day, usually at 8:00am. If you need to get in touch with a director/counselor/or camper immediately, please call the Parks & Rec department at (207)-363-1040 and they will get in touch with them quickly. If you need to talk to a director individually we ask that you speak to them during pick up or drop off or email them at oac@yorkmaine.org or jac@yorkmaine.org. Please be mindful that they are providing care for many children during camp hours. Consequently, they may not be able to be in touch instantaneously. They will try to be as prompt as possible, but may not be responding to email after 5:30pm.

Field Trips

We have planned a variety of exciting field trips in the area. Typically, once a week, and usually OAC on **THURSDAY**, and JAC on **TUESDAY**. Field trips involve bus travel and are an **EXTRA COST** to regular camp day tuition. They are available on a **FIRST COME FIRST SERVE** basis and tend to fill up quickly. Shorter trips to local spots such as Harbor Beach and Mt. A may occur more frequently.

Field trip sign ups begin at 7:30am the Friday before the planned week. Please keep in mind that field trips require sign up SEPARATE from that of a regular camp day. You must pay for the field trip cost **before** your camper's name will be placed on the list. This is to prevent unnecessary sign-ups and to ensure as many campers make the field trip list as possible. Payment can be made at camp.

On a field trip day, your camper must go on the bus with us. No staff will be left behind to accommodate for camper's that don't want to participate or who do not register before field trip fills. All field trips require our staff and campers to wear their complimentary York Parks and Recreation field trip shirt provided on the first day of camp. Any camper who refuses to stay with the group, or ride on the bus will receive a suspension from camp indefinitely.

Field trips are tentative schedules, since we must be flexible due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation!

Beach Day

Beach days are a camper and counselor favorite. To ensure the safety of all, we have strict protocols in place. This beach safety plan has been put in place with the approval and direction of the York Beach Ocean Rescue supervisor and ALL camp staff have been trained in the procedure. OAC and JAC use the far right section of York Harbor Beach (in front of Stageneck Inn) and are occasionally in front of the lead lifeguard (bathhouse) at Longsands. Campers are not allowed to leave this designated area unless accompanied by a counselor (or a buddy for OAC) for bathroom trips. OAC campers are allowed to go up to the bottom of their ribs in the water, but no further. JAC campers are allowed up to their belly buttons. There will always be a minimum of two counselors at the allowed maximum depth (depending on tide, surf, etc.) and two knee deep in the water with more surrounding. All other counselors will be overseeing the remainder of campers. There is always a town lifeguard on duty. Climbing on rocks is only allowed when a counselor is present and the extent of climbing is at counselor's discretion. If there are any concerns, we welcome you to come see us in action!

We value open lines of communication. Our relationships with parents and campers are very important to us, and we work hard to make sure that your camp experience is a great one! If you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with a director at camp or contact Robin Cogger at the Parks and Recreation Office. A great resource for information, scheduled events, and cancellations is the Parks and Recreation website: www.yorkparksandrec.org and our Facebook page! We also send almost all of our information via email. Thank you to both parents and campers for choosing Town of York Parks & Recreation day camps. We are all looking forward to a fun summer and can't wait to share it with you! 🤗

Let's have a SUPER summer!

-Rex Reation

