

WELCOME TO YMCA CAMP NORTHERN LIGHTS

Please read through this packet and save this information to reference while at camp. We hope this will answer most of your questions before you arrive. Please do not hesitate to contact our office for more details on any of the following information.

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Program Areas – All buildings and program areas are now open. Campers may wear masks when sharing indoor spaces, but it is not required. Please contact the Fall/Winter/Spring Director with any questions.

Physical Distancing – Camp staff are currently following CDC guidelines and recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding masking and social distancing. We ask that you respect these policies and practice these same guidelines if you see other people on camp property. Masks and at-home COVID-19 tests can be provided as needed.

CABIN PAPERWORK

You will find the following documents in your cabin.

- * Camp Map
- * Welcome Newsletter
- * Emergency Cards located on the refrigerator
- * Cabin Cleaning Checklist (located in cabin binder)

ARRIVAL TIME

Campers may arrive any time after 3 p.m. on the first day of their reservation, if arriving later please let our Program Director or Camp Hosts know. Please proceed directly to your cabin and notify Anna, Ethan, or Logan of your arrival or stop by the Laurentian Lodge for assistance. Review the Camp Map for cabin locations. If you have any questions or concerns call our Fall/Winter/Spring Program Director, Anna Heil at 763-230-9300.

WHAT TO BRING

Bedding Linens and Towels

Only flat and fitted sheets will be provided, **blankets and pillows will not provided** for you at Camp Northern Lights during this time. Please make sure to bring hand, bath, dish, and beach towels as well.

Food: All cabins have full facility kitchen to prepare your own meals. There are cooking utensils, pots, pans, a microwave, toaster, coffee pot, and dishes in all cabins. For a full list of cabin contents visit the following link: [Cabin Contents List](#)

Clothing: The weather can change quickly at Northern Lights and it is best to be prepared for anything. Be sure to pack multiple warm layers, extra socks, warm jackets, hats, and mittens. In the spring and fall, it is always a good idea to pack raincoats, rain pants, and shoes or boots that can get wet. In the winter, winter coats, snow pants, and snow boots are a necessity. Be sure to pack enough clothes for your entire stay, as there are no public laundry facilities at camp.

Miscellaneous: Water bottle and backpack for hiking or skiing adventures, flashlight, swimsuit, personal toiletries, and a camera.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP NORTHERN LIGHTS

If you have never been to camp, please take a look at these directions! Driving directions found online do not always give the best route to camp.

To Camp from the Twin Cities:

- Travel north up I-35W N and I-35 N
- Continue north on Highway 33 north, the Cloquet Exit (237)
- Your northbound journey continues up Interstate 53 N through Eveleth and Virginia
- Take Highway 169 to connect to Highway 21
- You will pass bear Island Highland Road and then Escape Road/684 on your left hand side. The left turn into camp is shortly after, there is a large camp sign along the road that is lit up in the evening. Our fire number is 9089.

To North Point Village:

- When you turn in on the Camp road, you will want to watch for these landmarks in this order. Keep your vehicle moving along right past these:
 - A mailbox on the right, a small house on the left (private property not owned by the YMCA), an unmarked road to the left, a diiiiip and uuup in the road (Teeny Trickle River), a Y in the road – stay right through the pretty woods
- You will come to the bottom of a hill and see the Northern Lights Camp sign, continue straight to the office in Laurentian Lodge (a green building) to check-in.

PHONES AND COMPUTERS

The camp phone is for emergency use only. Should an emergency arise at home, the caller should contact the administrative office at 612-822-2267. If there is an emergency in the evening at Camp, you could try a staff member at the on-call number 763-358-2072. Cell phones have a limited service at camp, and we ask that participants only use cell phones inside their cabins.

Camp Northern Lights does have Wi-Fi available in some cabins, including Alder, Ash, Birch, Callisto, Cassiopeia, Cygnus, Draco, Fir, Jack Pine, Lyra, Pegasus, Polaris, Red Pine, Revontulet, and Spruce. To sign on, look for the network "Northern Lights Guest" and use the password "community" (all lowercase). The Laurentian Lodge also has internet available if you need access, although we do encourage you to unplug and get out in nature while at camp!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrative Office

YMCA Camp Northern Lights
651 Nicollet Mall, Ste. 500
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Phone: 612-822-2267
Fax: 651-646-5521

Camp Address

YMCA Camp Northern Lights
9089 Highway 21 North
Babbitt, MN 55706
Phone: 218-208-3209
info@campnorthernlights.org

FULL-TIME STAFF

Daniel O'Brien - Executive Director
Isaac Patterson - Summer Program Director
Kaarin Mantz - Administrative Coordinator
Anna Heil - FWS Program Director
Ethan Hasz - Camp Host

Sam Kujawa - Property Manager
Justin Hobbs - Caretaker
Noah Roseen- Maintenance Staff
Nick Roth - Maintenance Staff
Logan Thomas - Camp Host

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

Parents or adult chaperones assume responsibility for the care, supervision and safety of children. All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult at all times. See policy page for suggested chaperone to child ratios.

SAUNA

We have two saunas on our property; an electric sauna located in North Point village is open on a first come, first serve basis for folks to use at any time, and a new wood burning sauna located in the middle of camp (near Revontulet.) Our electric sauna can be enjoyed by turning the knob to heat it up a few hours before use. Our wood burning sauna will be available on a limited basis and heated by staff who stoke it hourly. Please connect with Anna, Ethan, or Logan if you are interested in knowing more about wood fire sauna availability during your stay.

CAMP STORE

Our camp store is open 9:00 - 12:00 and 1:30 - 4:00 on all days we have scheduled programming. If you are here for a book your own getaway contact Anna, Ethan, or Logan and they will meet you there and help with purchases or coffee orders!

RECYCLING

In keeping with our philosophy, Camp Northern Lights insists upon recycling glass and metal. Recyclables can be placed in bins near the dumpsters, cardboard can be placed in the shed by both parking lots in North Point and Buena Vista Village, please ask a staff if you have any questions regarding this. THANK YOU!

CABIN CLEAN UP

Care of the cabins and grounds is the responsibility of all campers. As a courtesy, please follow the cleaning checklist in your cabin binder, including cleaning the appliances, sweeping and/or vacuuming floors, recycling glass, aluminum and plastic, and disposing of non-recyclable trash. Please remember to plan your cleanup schedule so that you are out of your cabin by 11:00 a.m. on your departure day.

FIREWOOD

Camp Northern Lights programs are based on the natural values of the north woods environment and aim to create a greater appreciation for and understanding of the outdoors. Although surrounded by woodland, our supply of wood is not unlimited. Our wood supply, for your use at no charge, is dependent upon hundreds of hours of volunteer efforts and donated woodcutting equipment. We ask that you use firewood conservatively for campfires and in the fireplaces. Please connect with our Camp Host if you would like to use an axe for splitting wood.

USE OF EQUIPMENT

If you are interested in using any of our equipment, just chat with any camp staff after arriving at camp and they will get you set up. Read over any safety rules and regulations posted by the equipment or in your cabin information packet before using. Campers are

responsible for the safe and proper use of our equipment and will be asked to replace anything that is broken due to misuse. Please inspect all equipment before use, and inform staff if anything is in need of repair.

PETS

Dogs are allowed in select cabins during the Fall, Winter, Spring season in the following cabins: Cygnus, Callisto, Lyra, Red Pine, Fir, Pegasus, and Cassiopeia. Dogs are not allowed during the summer months. The rate if you bring a dog is \$25.00/day. Service dogs are welcome at camp any time of year, free of charge. Please review our dog policy before bringing your furry friend, and remember to always keep your dog leashed while at camp.

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT & PROCEDURES

In each cabin we have two emergency cards. Please take a moment to look over both and notify staff if you are missing one.

- Green Card- Emergency Procedures- Please read through this information and become familiar with our procedures for severe weather, missing camper, wildfire and violent intruder.
- Pink Card- If you have an emergency, you can call any of the numbers listed on the pink card. We also have a radio located in Sisu lodge and we have a staff member available via radio 24/7. We also have AEDs, First Aid kits, and Epipens located in Laurentian Lodge and Orion (staff kitchen) these may be accessed at any time. We also have an oxygen tank that staff are trained to use.

ALCOHOL & TOBACCO

The use of alcoholic beverages at camp is limited to the campers' immediate living area. The legal drinking age is 21 and must be adhered to at all times. Use of illegal drugs is prohibited. Tobacco use inside any structure or near camper cabins or sites is not allowed, the parking lots are the designated smoking area, each recycling center has a metal bin for disposal of the butts.

LOST AND FOUND

Please keep track of all personal items brought to camp. If you lose an item, please connect with the Fall/Winter/Spring Program Director. All unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to the Camp Northern Lights fall and spring garage sales. Camp Northern Lights is not responsible for personal items that are lost, left behind, or misused by other campers.

ACCESSIBILITY

If a family member has a disability requiring an accommodation or a special need you would like us to be aware of, please let us know as soon as possible. This information enables us to better meet the needs of your family within available resources. Please contact the YMCA Customer Service Center at 612-230-9622 for more information.

YMCA Camp Northern Lights — Camping for All Seasons

Every season at camp is the best season! Camp Northern Lights, an exceptional site for a family outing, a church retreat or fellowship with a group of friends, is open weekdays and weekends, for short-term or long-term visits during these seasons. Call the Administrative Office at 612-822-2267 soon as reservations for current openings are being accepted now.

The YMCA welcomes those who wish to participate and annually raises funds to help make that possible. Financial assistance is supported in part by contributions through our Annual Campaign and other donors, and provides scholarships and subsidies for qualifying applicants within our available

resources. Please let us know if we may serve you or your family in this way. If financial assistance could help a family visit Camp Northern Lights, please have them complete a Personal Pricing Plan Application which can be found online at:
https://www.ymcamn.org/camps/camp_northern_lights/about/scholarships

CAMP NORTHERN LIGHTS POLICIES

1. Every attempt is made to encourage preservation of this unique wilderness setting. All campers are expected to respect the trees, land, buildings, equipment, and each other. Individuals, families or groups registered will be held responsible for any damage to the grounds, property, buildings and/or equipment.
2. If you choose to bring any personal recreation equipment, please keep it in your cabin or site when not in use. Camp Northern Lights will not be responsible for any damages or misuse of personal equipment by other campers.
3. To respect possible allergy issues of other campers, domestic animals belonging to campers and/or volunteers are only permitted in select cabins.
4. Use of alcoholic beverages at camp is limited to campers' immediate living area. The legal drinking age limit is 21 years and is adhered to at all times. Please be safe and responsible!
5. Tobacco use inside any structure or on the grounds away from camper cabins or sites is not allowed. Nearby smoking area is available.
6. Use of illegal drugs is prohibited.
7. The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities bans guns and weapons of any kind on the premises of Camp Northern Lights. All firearms are prohibited on camp property.
8. Campers should park cars in established parking lots during their stay at camp. We ask that personal vehicles are only driven through camp for loading and unloading during arrival and departure.
9. Camp Northern Lights requires all youth groups, with youth 18 years and younger, should have chaperone ratios as follows:

Age	# Adults	# campers
5 and under	1	5
6-8 years	1	6
9-14 years	1	8
15-18 years	1	10
10. For rental groups using the waterfront areas, we recommend at least two adults be present, one with lifeguard certification from a nationally recognized certifying body and an adult with experience and skill in paddling instruction.
11. Camper families or groups are responsible for their own emergency care and emergency transportation.
12. Camp Northern Lights advises group leaders to carry participant health information including name and address, emergency contact information, allergies or health conditions, and a signed permission to treat or religious waiver for any minors.
13. All campers should hike, ski, boat or canoe with a partner and communicate their route and estimated time of return to another responsible adult. All search and rescue effort expenses will be charged to the lost campers.
14. Day permits are required to enter the BWCAW for day hiking, skiing, or paddling. Permits may be obtained at the trailhead at the North Arm parking lot or at portages that enter the BWCAW.
15. Any recreational activity carries with it normal levels of physical risk. Any injuries to campers while participating in activities at Camp Northern Lights are the responsibility of that camper or responsible adult. Camp Northern Lights does not carry accident insurance for campers.
16. All persons attending Camp Northern Lights must sign a YMCA waiver prior to or upon arrival. By submitting a waiver form, campers automatically grant permission to use photographs of individuals, families and/or groups in YMCA promotional materials.
17. ANY change(s) made to a summer reservation are subject to a \$25 service charge per change.
18. If a summer reservation is cancelled for ANY reason and not rescheduled, 50% of the total reservation fee is forfeited if the cabin or site is not reserved by another family not yet registered. The \$150 registration fee is not refundable. Cabins not in use because of registration cancellations may be used by the camp staff for other functions.
19. If a fall, winter, or spring reservation is cancelled more than 4 weeks in advance, \$50 is non-refundable. Cancellations made within 30 days of the reservation are non-refundable.
20. If your cancellation is due to a camper's illness, medical reasons, or other uncontrollable circumstance, your camp fees will be refunded minus the deposit when cancellation is accompanied by a doctor or other official statement.
21. A \$20 service fee will be charged for all returned checks and credit card payment

That adult should be 21 years of age or older and at least five years older than the oldest participant in the group. Young adult groups, ages 19 and 20 years old, shall have one responsible adult chaperone to 15 campers. That adult should be 22 years of age or older and at least three years older than the oldest participant in the group. The responsible adult chaperone is the person signing the reservation agreement and is legally responsible for the group. Adult chaperones should have the health history, emergency contact information, and transportation permission for each participant. There should be two adults present, one with age-appropriate first aid, CPR, and AED certification and current lifeguard certification from a nationally recognized certifying body for waterfront activities.

