

YMCA of the North Camp FAQ's

Outdoor Campus, Homeschool, Environmental Ed

CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT: CAR RIDERS

**Staff wear masks

Check-In:

- a. Arrive to our main address: **532 COUNTY RD F HUDSON, WI 54016**
- b. Parents will pull up to the designated check-in spot and roll down window
- c. Car Check In will be circle drive lot, next to the river center
- d. While in the car, the health screening questions will be asked.
- e. If participant doesn't pass the health screening, the participant will remain in the car and will be allowed to be checked the following morning (24 hours later)
- f. If participant passes health screening and they are signed in, they can join the other participants
- g. All participants will have hand sanitizer applied to their hands before entering camp

Check-Out:

ID Check Point - staff has radio and list of ALL car rider campers

- a. Arrive to our main address: **532 COUNTY RD F HUDSON, WI 54016**
 - b. Parents will pull up to the designated check-out spot and roll down window
 - c. Car Check out will be circle drive lot, next to the river center
 - d. Ask for name of campers & check ID for each camper
 - a. Staff member calls for Camper on radio guardian is directed to waiting area
 - e. Informs guardian of area (Marked by orange traffic cones) to pull around to - where they will sign out kid(s)
 - f. Parents pull over in pick-up zone
 - g. Staff are listening for names on radios and announcing kids names to gather campers called
 - h. Staff (wearing mask & gloves) walks campers out to cars - SIGN OUT CAMPER with parent
- *One staff member in each zone to help with check out/take over for bus captains.

CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT: BUS RIDERS (camp & bus stop)

**Families will be encouraged to do pick up/drop off

**Staff wear masks in enclosed spaces

Check-In

- a. Parents will pull up to the designated check-in spot and roll down window
- b. While in the car, the child's and family will be asked the health screening questions.
- c. If campers are cleared to come in, they will be led to their groups.
- d. If campers don't pass the screening, they will be asked to leave and return at least 24 hours later.

Riding the bus

- a. All kids will have hand sanitizer applied to their hands before boarding the bus
- b. All kids will be required to wear masks on the bus to and from camp. Each child will have their own seat
- c. Bus Drivers will sanitize each bus before departing the parking lot
- d. Upon arrival at camp kids will be dropped off at their assigned location:

Check-Out

- Upon arrival parents will remain in vehicle and campers will remain on bus until dismissed

- Staff member will check ID and campers will be walked up and put in car
 - a. Bus rider campers put on masks and campers line up at buses
 - b. If campers aren't feeling well, they can lay down and drink water in First Aid area while waiting for their parent
 - c. Parent will sign out children at car and camper will be brought to the parent

Bus Care:

- a. All busses will be sanitized before every run
- b. All busses wiped down every evening
- c. One child per seat

General Camp Program FAQs

We appreciate your patience and understanding as continue to evaluate how best to safely offer incredible camp experiences while following guidelines from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), American Camp Association (ACA), and state departments of health.

Are YMCA Camps open?

The health and safety of our community is our number one priority, and we are making choices with that in mind. We had a successful summer at our day camps, family camps and our many child care sites across the twin cities and surrounding areas. YMCA Camps remain closed to the public, with the exception of private group reservations and specific camp sponsored programs like Homeschool, Outdoor Campus, and group retreat rentals.

We will continue to adapt to the changes as recommendations and information from CDC, ACA and State health departments progress.

What should we bring for our camp program?

Please send the following items in a backpack, bug spray, sunscreen (If conditions are applicable), re-fillable water bottle, weather appropriate clothing, a mask, and hand sanitizer.

Should we plan to bring a meal?

Unless your program details notate that meals are provided, yes, bringing a meal/lunch/snack is advisable. If you are attending as part of a group retreat or rental, refer to your organizing group leader to see if meals are part of your group reservation.

Will there be busing for camps?

Pick up and Drop Off by families is highly encouraged, as that is the safest option. We will have limited busing available for families, at adjusted stops/routes. To follow best practice guidelines from the CDC & MDH, the bus capacity will be 50% capacity (including staff & campers). Please stay up to date with specific information on our websites and social media.

What technology needs will my student need to be successful?

Your student will need to bring electronic devices and any educational materials needed for distance learning. WiFi capable spaces will be provided by camp for your student to check in to distance learning.

Is there Before/After Care?

No, please look into other YMCA programs that have extended hours for care.

How many people will be in groups? And onsite daily?

All camps will be following a maximum of 10 campers to 1 adult ratio. Daily capacities vary for each site but capacities will be in constant alignment with the most recent recommendations/guidelines from the CDC and state health departments.

What is camp doing to protect campers and team members while at camp?

Our YMCA programs have put protocols in place in all areas of camp to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. These include; changes to group size and building capacities, screening procedures, camp hygiene practices, cleaning and sanitation, and camper awareness and education.

- Each child will be dropped off at a designated place to minimize contact between people.
- Group sizes will not exceed ten kids and one Y staff to adhere to guidance of no more than 10 people interacting in a group.
- Educational activities will enhance learning and offer opportunities to interact in person with their peers that was not possible with distance learning.
- Our Y staff are following even more stringent cleaning and disinfecting standards and will be teaching your child ways to help make washing hands fun and how we care for each other by keeping things clean.
- There will be more handwashing and hand sanitizer stations located throughout camp and all will be required to do regular handwashing and good hygiene practices.
- Deep cleaning in high traffic buildings at a higher frequency will be required.
- Food service will change to eliminating certain self-serve options
- Large group gatherings are being adjusted to meet the current requirements of the CDC.

What activities will participants be able to do and not do?

With safety and guidelines in place, we are able to run most of our program areas. We will be closing down some areas and activities, to keep participants and staff safe. All listed program areas will run with disinfecting procedures added to activities.

Archery/Slingshots/Target Sports - will run, disinfect equipment after each use

Arts & Crafts – staff will lead activity from six feet away, each camper will do projects that are individual, no sharing of supplies or equipment

Nature Studies/Environmental Ed- any equipment or supply sharing will be preceded and followed by application of hand sanitizer, , leader will be six feet away

Waterfront Activities (canoes, rowboats, kayaks, paddleboards, etc.)- will not run (summer program area only)

Climbing/Low Initiatives/Team Building – Yes, where available, with safety precautions in place.

Fire Building- yes, with safety precautions in place, no sharing of food when applicable

Outdoor Games (Gaga, 9 Square, sports etc.)- Yes, with the following safety precautions in place

- a. Everyone washes hands before activity
- b. Everyone sanitizes hands at activity area
- c. No more than one group at an activity
- d. Games and activities should be as low contact or no contact as possible. No full body contact or games that involve things like holding hands, linking elbows, or crawling under others
- e. All equipment handled by campers or staff (balls, racquets, etc.) will be sprayed and wiped down after each activity
- f. Commonly touched surfaces (gaga pit ledges, gate latches or handles, etc.) will be wiped down after program sessions
- g. Use sanitizer between games (hydration break + clean hands, at least every ten minutes) & watch for campers to touch their face, mouth, or eyes
- h. Everyone sanitizes hands as they leave
- i. Activities are 'drills and skills' only, no games or competition with other teams

How will you be screening participants and staff for COVID-19?

We follow all protocols and guidance we receive from health experts and know that it is possible that all participants and staff will be asked to maintain self-observation before coming to camp. We will go through the health screening for each participant prior to check in, as well as checking for symptoms. Participants and staff will be asked a series of 4 questions prior to entry into programming:

- Have you or anyone in your house traveled to another country in the last 14 days?
- Within last 14 days, has someone in your household tested positive for COVID-19?
- Are you currently experiencing any symptoms of illness?
- Do you agree to read our camper social contract in your cabin/site which includes information about practicing physical distancing, increased cleaning and monitoring your health while at the Y?

A "yes" response to any of the questions will result in the participant or staff not being able to participate in programming until a "no" response can be given.

Will participants and staff be required to wear masks?

Participants and staff will wear masks in all indoor spaces, and outdoors when social distancing is not possible. When social distancing is possible, masks will be optional and at the discretion of the wearer.

How will you be separating anybody suspected of having COVID-19?

We will continue to adhere to guidance from the CDC, our state department of health and local officials. Any participant or staff that exhibits symptoms would immediately be separated from our program population and isolated in a safe, dedicated space until we are able to have a caregiver pick them up from camp.

Is staff prepared and trained to handle any outbreak of COVID-19?

Prior to operating we will ensure that not only will we have protocols in place for our participant and team members, we recognize that additional training will be provided. Not only will we train on the health aspects of participant but we'll also train on cleaning and disinfection protocols,

program changes to minimize spread, and outbreak response plans. These trainings will take place before any participant arrive and will be ongoing as health officials manage and provide new information regarding COVID-19.

How are you staying informed and up-to-date?

We are remaining informed by receiving timely updates from the American Camp Association, YUSA, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health Services, and industry experts.

Will camps have international staff?

In light of the current circumstances and guidance from government and health officials, the YMCA of the North is not hiring international camp staff for 2020. Our international camp staff add so much value to the culture of camp and it is our goal to move forward with these relationships in the future once it is safe to do so per government and health officials.

What is your cancellation policy?

If our program offering changes as a result of current circumstances, or your ability to attend camp changes, please know we will work with each of you. If we need to cancel a program for any reason pertaining to COVID, a refund will be generated (including deposit), and no action is necessary. If you would like to cancel your camp session, we will provide a few options:

- **Donate:** Instead of a refund, you could make it a donation to support the continued work of YMCA Camps.
- **Deposit:** Turn your refund into a credit on your Y account for a future program.
- **Refund and donate:** Do both. Consider taking a partial refund and making a partial donation.
- **Full refund:** We're glad to follow our COVID-19 refund policy, where you can get the full refund (including deposit).

Please contact our Customer Service Center at 612-230-9622 or customerservice@ymcamn.org to assist with any cancellation questions.

Is there financial support available to help me pay for camp?

Yes. As always, we never want to turn anyone away because of their financial situation. Please consider reaching out for financial assistance before choosing to cancel, we want campers to be able to experience a YMCA camp this summer: <https://www.ymcamn.org/scholarships>.

How is the YMCA responding to serve community needs during this crisis?

We have positioned our YMCA as a Community Response Hub offering life-saving programs and services. For more information, visit: <https://www.ymcamn.org/impact-summary>

How can I help?

We are beyond grateful to the members of our community – our alumni, guests, camper families, volunteers, and staff – who have recognized the challenges crises like this can pose to a human services organization regardless of their own hardships that they may be facing and have already supported us. For those that are able and interested, please [make a gift here](#). You can also see an

updated Wish List located on GIVE pages of our camp websites. THANK YOU for your support of children and families during these uncertain times.