

# WELCOME TO YMCA CAMP DU NORD

*Please read through this information – we hope it will answer most of your questions before you arrive at camp. Please do not hesitate to contact our office for more details.*

## COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

Health of Campers and Staff – Campers and staff are expected to closely monitor their health and the health of their cabin groups before and during their stay at camp. If you, or anyone in your party, are experiencing any Covid-like symptoms before you arrive, please consider canceling your trip (for a full refund) or rescheduling for a later date. Be prepared to answer the following questions as you arrive to camp:

1. Have you or anyone in your house traveled to another country in the last 14 days?
2. Within the last 14 days, has someone in your household tested positive for COVID-19?
3. Are you currently experiencing any symptoms of illness?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, please consider rescheduling your trip to du Nord. All staff are expected to stay home if they experience any symptoms of illness.

Program Areas – All buildings and indoor program areas including the Dining Hall, Saunas, Outdoor Activity Center, Den, and Camp Office are closed to campers during this time. The du Nord Bathhouse will remain open to campers, however campers must wear face coverings when reasonable to do so while inside.

Physical Distancing – All Camp staff are currently practicing the social distance guidelines as recommended by the CDC and Minnesota Department of Health. We ask that all campers respect this policy and remain at least 6 feet away from other family groups during their stay.

Disinfecting – Prior to your visit, your cabin will be fully disinfected using CDC approved disinfectant that is also EPA certified. Each cabin's high touch points will be cleaned with chemicals aimed at killing the COVID-19 virus. This includes door handles, light switches, thermostats, all dishes and cooking utensils, and coffee makers. In addition, we aim to have at least 30 hours of unoccupied time in each cabin between visitors.

## ARRIVAL TIME

Campers may arrive any time **after 4:00 p.m.** the first day of their reservation. Please head to Gateway House (at the entrance to Pine Pointe Village) to check yourself in before proceeding to your cabin. **Due to cabin cleaning and disinfecting guidelines, you will not be able to check into your cabin early.** Please plan your travel time accordingly.

## WHAT TO BRING

Bedding and Towels: Bedding, pillows, and towels are not provided at Camp du Nord. For bedding, sleeping bags are convenient, or you can bring sheets and blankets. Please check [here](#) if you would like information on bed sizes in your cabin. Bring hand, bath, dish, and beach towels.

Food: If you are preparing meals in your cabin, pack all food. Perishable food items are not for sale in the camp store this time of year. There are cooking utensils, pots, pans, a microwave, toaster, coffee pot, and dishes in all cabins. Pots, pans, and dishes are NOT provided for our tent sites, platform tents, and platform cabins.

Clothing: It can get very cold this time of year and kids will be outside for most of the day. Be sure to pack winter coats, snow pants, winter boots, hats, mittens and **extras of everything** so they always have something dry to put on. Be sure to pack enough clothes for your entire stay, as there are no public laundry facilities or dryers at camp.

Miscellaneous: Face masks, backpack and water bottle for each student to bring to enrichment activities, flashlight or headlamp (it gets dark early this time of year), electric boot/mitten dryer if you have one, personal toiletries, anything you need for school/work. Please contact our office if you wish to request a high chair or booster seat for your cabin. Pack N Plays are NOT available for camper use at this time.

## **DIRECTIONS TO CAMP du NORD**

*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 Ely from the Twin Cities:

- I-35 north to the Cloquet exit
- Highway 33 north through Cloquet to Highway 53
- Highway 53 north past Virginia to Highway 169
- Highway 169 north to Ely

### To Camp from Ely:

- Drive through town and turn left on 88 (or Grant McMahan Blvd.) which is just past the International Wolf Center.
- Go 2.3 miles and turn right onto 116 (or Echo Trail).
- Go 9.1 miles and turn left on North Arm Road, which is less than 1 mile past Fenske Lake Campground.
- Drive 3.0 miles (you will pass YMCA Camp Widjiwagan) to the entrance to Pine Pointe Village (check in here at Gateway House), the entrance the du Nord village is an additional .5 miles and the entrance to the Northland Village is an additional .8 miles. All entrances are on the left.

Please fill up your gas tank in Ely and drive carefully! The road between Ely and Camp du Nord is curvy and can be icy in the winter. If it is going to be a particularly cold week, park your vehicle so that the hood is easily accessible in case you need a jump start.

## **PHONES**

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 or call camp directly at 218-365-0365. If there is an emergency in the evening, you could try a staff member at home at 218-365-2796 or 218-365-7686. **Cell phones have very limited service at camp. Please plan accordingly when planning to work from du Nord.**

## **WI-FI**

In light of the current environment, we understand the importance of campers being able to access Wi-Fi while they are here at camp. While we always encourage unplugging at du Nord, Wi-Fi will be available in Pine Pointe cabins this winter so that people can work or go to school from camp. Look for info on the current Wi-Fi access info at your cabin when you arrive to camp. When you are not working or doing school work, we would still highly encourage you to unplug and take in the outdoors while you are here at camp.

## **SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN**

Parent or adult chaperones assume responsibility for the care, supervision and safety of children. See policy page for suggested chaperone to child ratios.

## **SAUNAS**

Unfortunately, our saunas will remain closed at this time due to health guidelines around COVID-19. We appreciate your understanding regarding this policy.

## **TRADING POST**

The camp store is located in the lower level of the Dining Hall is always unlocked so that people may check out skis and snowshoes at their leisure. Staffed hours will be in your final schedule to purchase coffee drinks assorted Camp du Nord souvenirs like T-shirts, sweatshirts, and stuffed animals. Please be aware that we do not offer ice cream or other perishable food items (such as milk or bread) in the fall, winter, and spring.

## **EQUIPMENT RENTAL**

Ski and snowshoe rentals are included in the fees for Family Campus programs. Skis and snowshoes will be available to check out in our camp store/trading post. Snow tubes will be available at the sledding hill in both Pine Pointe and du Nord villages. Read over any safety rules and regulations posted by the equipment or in your cabin information binder 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.

## **GARBAGE AND RECYCLING**

All campers are expected to take out their own garbage and recycling throughout and at the end of their stay. It may be disposed of in the recycling/trash areas in each village. Camp du Nord can recycle glass, metal, paper, cardboard, and certain plastics. Please rinse out all recycled containers and separate with care.

## **CABIN CLEAN UP AND CHECK OUT**

Care of the cabins and grounds is the responsibility of all campers. All campers are expected to wipe down surfaces, do their dishes, clean out appliances, sweeping and/or vacuum the floors, clean ashes out of the fireplace, and take out any garbage and recycling. **Please remember to plan your cleanup schedule so that you are out of your cabin by 11:00 a.m. on your last day. Due to COVID-19 related cleaning and sanitizing cabins, we are unable to accommodate late check outs at this time.**

## **FIREWOOD**

Camp du Nord 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.

## **EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

First aid kits and AEDs are located in the office below the Dining Hall, the basement of Thor's Lodge in the Den, and in the Morning Glory kitchen. Detailed emergency procedures are posted in each cabin. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with du Nord's emergency procedures upon arrival.

## **PETS**

Out of respect for possible allergies of other campers, pets are not permitted at Camp du Nord or in any of the cabins or sites.

## **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.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

Please keep track of all personal items brought to camp. All unclaimed lost and found items will be donated to the Camp du Nord fall and spring garage sales. Camp du Nord 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 612-822-2267 for more information.

## **CAMP DU NORD MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of Camp du Nord is to strengthen families by providing opportunities for individual and family growth, supporting spiritual development and enhancing environmental awareness in a wilderness setting.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Administrative Office  
YMCA Camp du Nord  
651 Nicollet Mall Ste.500  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
Phone: 612-822-2267  
Fax: 612-223-6322

Wilderness Address  
YMCA Camp du Nord  
3606 North Arm Rd  
Ely, MN 55731  
Phone: 218-365-0365  
Fax: 218-365-5677

info@dunord.org

## **2020 YEAR-ROUND STAFF**

Niki Geisler — Executive Director  
Emily Weise — FWS Program Director  
Andy Gibbons — Maintenance Assistant  
Paul Berowski — Maintenance Assistant

Nick Weber — Summer Program Director  
Scott Olson — Resident Property Manager  
Jake Cahill — Maintenance Assistant  
Jen Fogel — Administrative Coordinator

## **YMCA Camp du Nord — Camping for All Seasons**

Every season at camp is the best season! The North Arm Trails are perfect for hiking in the fall and skiing in the winter. Camp du Nord, 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 du Nord, please have them request a campership application by calling 612-822-2267.*

*Updated 12/30/2020*

## **CAMP DU NORD 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. Rowboats, kayaks and canoes are available for use as a part of the camp fee. A 10 h.p. motor may be used **ONLY** by people with physical disabilities and the motor must be removed from the boat after each use. If you wish to bring a fishing boat, its length is limited to 16 feet and the motor on your boat is limited to 10 hp. A nearby boat landing must be used for launching the boat. Larger fishing boats and/or motors cannot be brought to
3. Camp du Nord. Cross country ski and snowshoe rental are available during the winter season for an additional fee.
3. If you choose to bring any personal recreation equipment, please keep it in your cabin or site when not in use. Camp du Nord will not be responsible for any damages or misuse of personal equipment by other campers.
4. To respect possible allergy issues of other campers, domestic animals belonging to campers and/or volunteers are not permitted at any of the villages at Camp du Nord at any time.
5. 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!

6. Tobacco use inside any structure or on the grounds away from camper cabins or sites is not allowed. Nearby smoking area is available.
7. Use of illegal drugs is prohibited.
8. The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities bans guns and weapons of any kind on the premises of Camp du Nord. All firearms are prohibited on camp property.
9. 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.
10. Camp du Nord requires all youth groups, with youth 18 years and younger, should have chaperone ratios as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u># Adults</u>	<u># campers</u>
<i>5 and under</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6-8 years</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>9-14 years</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>15-18 years</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>

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.

11. 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.
12. Camper families or groups are responsible for their own emergency care and emergency transportation. Camp will supply an Emergency Card for healthcare contact information.
13. Camp du Nord 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. Any recreational activity carries with it normal levels of physical risk. Any injuries to campers while participating in activities at Camp du Nord are the responsibility of that camper or responsible adult. Camp du Nord does not carry accident insurance for campers.
17. All persons attending Camp du Nord 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.

18. ANY change(s) made to a summer reservation are subject to a \$50 service charge per change.
19. 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.
20. If a fall, winter, or spring reservation is cancelled more than 3 weeks in advance, \$50 is non-refundable. Cancellations made within 3 weeks of the reservation are non-refundable.
21. 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.
22. A \$20 service fee will be charged for all returned checks and credit card payment

