

Parent Information Sheet

New for Summer 2010:

- ALL HEALTH CHECKS will be done in the gym. Staff members will direct you to the correct station if your camper has medicines.
- MAIL BINS will be located in front of the Walter House (Camp office). After registration, stop by and drop off mail for your camper. You save in postage – we save in time sorting! (Remember: No larger than a manila envelope, please.) This is also the spot for the information table – if you have questions, suggestions, or need any assistance, stop by!
- REGISTRATION is from 2-3. We have found that the large majority of campers arrive by 3 pm. If you are traveling from a great distance, or have a conflict with the 2-3 check-in window, please contact the camp office for instructions. After dropping off their child, parents can stop by canteen or the information table, and should be able to leave camp between 3:30 and 4 pm.
- CANTEEN CARE PACKAGES will be available for parents to purchase in canteen. **Attached is more information.**

From the camp office:

- Please make sure your balance has been paid before you arrive at camp. An unpaid balance means an extra step in registration, which slows you down with your very anxious camper! Contact Catherine Bentley, office manager, with questions. (info@winnataska.org; 205-640-6741.)

Packing list:

- **The list is attached.** It can also be found on the website, under the “Get Ready for Camp” tab. <http://www.winnataska.org/documents/packinglist10.pdf>
- If your child is attending a mini-Chico session, you can figure out which night activities they will most likely be participating in by going to the website, under “Camp Life” and then the drop-down, “Night Activities.” (Sometimes weather conditions mean that night activities might have to be re-arranged.)
- Please support us in enforcing the rule that campers DO NOT BRING CELL PHONES to camp. Part of our mission is that campers grow socially. Campers who are constantly texting are not interacting with their peers. Camp has established emergency procedures and campers will not need them for that reason.
- New for Summer, 2010: Please send a white cotton t-shirt to tie-dye in crafts.

Luggage

- **Attached are two luggage tags.** (One for Chico and one for Mainside.) Please print this out, write your child's name in BOLD LETTERS on the tag, and tape it securely to each and every piece of luggage or bag that your child brings to camp. Suggestions: Print it out on cardstock paper if you have it for better durability. Also, tape over the entire tag so that it doesn't rip.
- The tag sometimes does not make it to the end of the week intact, but every week we have lost bags, left-behind bags, or luggage that is taken home by someone else. It is imperative that your child's luggage be labeled clearly.

- When you arrive at the camp parking lot, look for signs as to where to put your child's luggage. It will be transported close to the huts.
- Camp will not transport plastic shelving or drawers of any kind.

Health Form

- **Attached is a blank health form.** Bring your completed health form with you to camp. You will turn it in to a nurse.
- If your camper is attending more than one session, make a copy of the completed health form for each camper for each session.
- Make sure that you bring a copy of your health insurance card with you as well.
- Extras will be available, of course, but this will greatly slow down your check-in.
- Health forms are also available on the website:
<http://www.winnataska.org/documents/camphealthform.pdf>

The day camp starts

- Directions to camp are on the website: <http://www.winnataska.org/directions.htm>
- Please do not arrive before 2 pm check-in time. Our parking lot is not shaded, and our staff is preparing for your campers up until that time. (We know this is hard, as your campers are very excited to get here.)
- From the registration parking lot, the nearest bathrooms are located by the pool, in the changing house.

Registration

- Staff members will direct you to parking.
- **STEP ONE:** You will first check in at the Welcome Center in the parking lot. You will need to put your luggage in the Chico or Mainside areas. If you have an unpaid balance, you will be directed to the camp office.
- **STEP TWO:** From there, you will walk down the main road of camp and go to the health check, located in the gym. Staff will do a brief check for overall wellness. This is where you can turn in medications or discuss a medical condition with a camp nurse.
- While you are in the gym, pick up a cool drink, snack, or one of our new water bottles. There are also bathrooms in the gym.
- **STEP THREE:** Mainside campers will walk across the bridge and look for the directors at the director's hut. You will find out your cabin and turn in your camper checkout card.

Chico campers will head up to Chico Hill to meet the directors, turn in their checkout card, and find their hut. (Look for Camp Chico signs as you walk down the main road of camp.)

- STEP FOUR: Meet your leaders. Your leaders will let you in your hut when they make sure that you have visited all three registration stations.
- Now you can retrieve your luggage, make your bed, and get your new camp t-shirt. The first thing that campers will do on Sunday afternoon is visit the pool for swimming classification. Let the fun begin!

Meet the directors

- Camp Winnataska has a very special group of people who volunteer their time to be the "mom and dad" at camp. They work very closely with the leaders in the huts and are there as a resource for your child. You will meet them when you register your child.
- The directors for first week are Mary Owen and Dana Sprague Lower. They have over four decades of experience at Camp Winnataska.

Mail

- Directions on how to send mail to your camper can be found on the website: <http://www.winnataska.org/mail.htm>.
- Many parents will be very excited to hear that we are offering an email delivery service through bunk1.com.
- The link to "bunk notes" can be found on the home page of the website: http://www.bunk1.com/template/login.asp?origin=/template/community.asp&form_camp_id=9766
- This is a service offered by a separate company than the one that does our registration. Your username and password for registration will not be recognized. You will need to create an account to view pictures and send bunk notes.
- Bunk notes are printed out before breakfast, organized, and then delivered to campers during rest – the regular mail delivery time.

Daily Pictures

- Bunk1.com will also be posting the daily pictures during camp. The pictures will be password-protected, according to federal child-safety regulations. You are welcome to share the password with relatives.
- Attached is an explanation of how to register for both the bunk notes and daily pictures, including the password.
- You do not need to purchase Bunk Notes to view the daily pictures.
- All inquiries about daily pictures should be directed to bunk1.com.
- We receive an incredible amount of feedback about pictures -- most of it contradictory! Our volunteers do the best that they can to make sure that parents gets a good idea of what their children are doing at camp, and is able to see their child in a picture. With 200 campers, there will be a great number of pictures to sort through!

We are really looking forward to a fun-filled week at camp with your child. Please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help you with something.

Sincerely,

Mary Margaret Shepherd and Kelley Feagin, summer program directors
The Camp Winnataska Board of Directors and Operating Committee