

Cornelius Parks & Recreation
Department
Summer Full Day Camps



Parent Information

- John Anderson
Recreation Center Program Manager (RCPM)
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- Shelby Cruse
Recreation Program Assistant (RPA)
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704-622-6136 (John's cell)
704-928-5079 (Shelby's cell)
704-892-6031 x160 (PARC office)

Our Mission

- ▶ To make sure that your child has a safe and exciting week at camp
 - ▶ To provide fun, educational experiences
 - ▶ To provide engaging, sometimes silly, activities for campers to enjoy throughout the day
 - ▶ To provide opportunities to strengthen campers' social skills and complete team-building activities
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COVID-19 Impacts

- ▶ Reduced number of campers and higher staff-to-camper ratios
- ▶ Campers separated into two “cohorts” of no more than 30 children
- ▶ Modified check-in and check-out procedures
- ▶ At this time, we anticipate that **ALL** campers, staff, and instructors will be required to wear a mask while indoors, except while eating or drinking
- ▶ 3-foot social distancing practiced to the maximum extent possible while indoors; 6-foot social distancing while outdoors
- ▶ Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing (hand sanitizer provided at camp)
- ▶ Limited shared materials, to the extent possible
- ▶ Frequent cleaning of facilities and equipment
- ▶ No field trips that require vehicular transportation

All plans are based on, and subject to change dependent upon, the most current guidance and directives in place at the time of each camp offering

Check-In/Drop-Off Instructions

- ▶ 2021 Summer Day Camp will be based at Bailey Road Recreation Center (aka Bailey Middle School, 11900 Bailey Rd, in the cafeteria, though other facilities within the school campus will be used also.
- ▶ In order to coordinate the flow of traffic, please enter using the bus parking lot and follow the signs
- ▶ Parents may check in and drop off their campers with Summer Day Camp staff at the cafeteria entrance between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. daily. Drop-off will not be allowed earlier than 7:30 a.m. *This process may take a bit longer than in past years and social distancing will be required by all while waiting to check in. Please be patient.*
- ▶ Each child must bring their own mask to be worn while indoors.
- ▶ One of our summer camp staff will escort your child into the cafeteria after check-in. Parents **will not be allowed** to enter the school with their children.

Check-Out/Pick-Up Instructions

- ▶ For pick-up each day, parent/guardian will be met by a staff member at the cafeteria entrance to check out each camper. Please have a valid driver's license or other valid form of picture identification ready to show the staff member.
- ▶ 6-foot social distancing will be required by all while waiting to check out.
- ▶ Camp will conclude every day at 5:30 p.m. Please plan to pick up your child **NO LATER** than 5:30 p.m. each day. There will be a late fee assessed for all late pick-ups. Parents will be allowed a 5-minute grace period after 5:30 p.m. to arrive for pick-up. After 5 minutes, parents will be assessed a late fee of \$1 per minute, with start time for charges commencing at 5:30 p.m. Parents will be notified of the late fee and payment will be accepted by phone, online, or in-person.

Typical Camp Day

Each week there will be a maximum of 60 campers. Campers will be broken into smaller “cohorts” with no more than 30 campers per cohort. These cohorts will have sub-groups during activity time throughout the day for activities.

A camp day will typically look like a variation of:

- ▶ 7:30–9 am: Camper drop-off time. Kids will have their choice of crafts & games to play indoors while all the campers arrive.
- ▶ 9–9:30 am: Introduction to the camp day
- ▶ 9:30–10:30 am: Outdoor time at the park/morning snack
- ▶ 10:30–12 pm: Small groups will engage in a variety of activities*
- ▶ 12:15–1:45pm: Lunch, followed by reading/quiet time
- ▶ 1:15–3:45pm: Small groups will engage in a variety of activities*
- ▶ 3:45–4:15pm: Afternoon snack
- ▶ 4:15–5:30pm: Checkout process starts, with free choice of crafts in the café or games in the gym

**Activities rotations may include learning games, STEM activities, crafts, D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read) time, outdoor time and others.*

Camp Attire

- ▶ Campers must wear socks and comfortable/running shoes that tie each day to camp. NO flip flops or sandals.
 - ▶ Campers will receive one Cornelius Summer Day Camp (SDC) shirt per summer. Camp shirts are typically distributed on Wednesdays. It is optional for campers to wear their SDC shirts during the week, unless otherwise noted, such as a picture day, etc.
 - ▶ Parents may purchase an additional shirt, if extras are available, at a cost of \$10.00.
 - ▶ Please apply sunscreen on your children before they come to camp and have extra in their pack for them to apply before we go outside.
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Lunch and Snacks

- ▶ Unless otherwise notified, each camper must bring his/her own nut-free lunch and nut-free snacks to camp every day.*
DO NOT PACK ANY SNACKS OR LUNCHES CONTAINING ANY TYPE OF PEANUT AND/OR TREE NUTS. WE HAVE CAMPERS THAT ARE VERY ALLERGIC!!
- ▶ Send a medium or large-sized refillable water bottle with your camper every day. Campers will have access to water fountains to refill their water bottles as needed.
- ▶ Campers will not have access to a refrigerator or microwave.

**For example, on Food Truck Fridays lunch will be provided*

Personal Items

- ▶ Please make sure that all items your child brings to camp are labeled with his/her first and last names. We are not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
- ▶ Every camp day (unless time does not allow) will include D.E.A.R. time (Drop Everything & Read). Your child should bring a book everyday. Please make sure it is marked with their first and last names. Though campers are encouraged to bring their own books, we have an onsite library in case your child forgets to bring one!
- ▶ No baby dolls, action figures, etc., are not allowed at camp, unless special permission has been granted by the RCPM or RPA.
- ▶ **NO** cell phones, smart wrist phones/watches or electronic devices are allowed at camp, unless special permission has been granted by the RCPM or RPA. **These items can be very disruptive, so if any are seen during camp, they will be confiscated and returned at the end of the camp day.** If campers need to place an urgent call, they can use the RCPM's or RPA's phone.

Expectations of Behavior

- ▶ We want all campers to be safe and have fun.
- ▶ Campers must follow directions of all camp staff and be considerate and respectful of their counselors and other campers during the week.
- ▶ We have a three-strike policy:
 - ❖ 1st Strike: Verbal warning
 - ❖ 2nd Strike: 5–15 minute timeout
 - ❖ 3rd Strike: Conference with parents and written report.
 - Two reports: 1–2 day suspension
 - Three reports: Dismissal from the camp

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. Can I drop off my child any earlier than 7:30 a.m.?

A. No, the doors will remain locked until 7:30 a.m. unless otherwise advised.

Q. What if I need to drop off my child later due to a doctor's appointment, for example?

A. Organized camp activities will begin each day at 9:00 a.m. If you know that your child will be arriving after 9:00 a.m., you will need to coordinate your later drop-off time with the RCPM or RPA, especially for days when there is an off-site activity planned, such as a going to the Bailey Road Park playground. We recommend that you call John Anderson at 704-622-6136 when you are en route so staff can be prepared.

Q. How do I reach someone during the camp day?

A. If there is an emergency during the camp day, call or text the Recreation Center Program Manager (RCPM), John Anderson, at 704-622-6136, or Recreation Program Assistant (RPA), Shelby Cruse, at 704-928-5079. If these onsite staff cannot be reached, call the Cornelius Parks & Recreation (Cornelius P&R) office at 704-892-6031, ext. 160

Q. What do I do if I need to pick up my child early?

A. Please inform our check-in staff when dropping off your child in the morning if you will need to pick up your child at a different time that day. If there is an emergency during the camp day, call any of the numbers above.

FAQs Continued

Q. When do you give out the camp shirts? When does my child need to wear it?

A. Each camper will receive one camp shirt per summer (unless additional shirts were pre-ordered). Typically, shirts will be distributed on Wednesday (campers who are absent will receive their shirt the next camp day). At this time, there are no specific days when campers will be required to wear their camp shirts. Staff may notify parents with any requested days to wear them, such as a planned picture day or for other reasons.

Q. What if I want another camp shirt?

You may purchase another camp shirt for \$10, if additional shirts remain in inventory. Contact the RCPM or RPA, or call the Cornelius P&R office at 704-892-6031 x160, for more information.

Q. Can my child(ren) wear sandals or flip flops to camp?

A. No, campers will need to wear socks and a pair of comfortable/running shoes that tie to camp each day.

Q. Why can't my child bring peanuts? What about Nutella or peanut butter crackers?

A. We are very mindful of campers' medical needs and have a lot of campers that are highly allergic to peanuts and tree nuts. That's why we say **NO** peanuts, almonds, walnuts, trail mix, peanut butter crackers or cookies, PB & J sandwiches, Nutella, granola/breakfast bars with nuts, Reese's, etc., at camp. Staff will confiscate any snack of these types if brought to camp.

FAQs Continued

Q. Why can't my child switch groups?

A. Our staff structures camper groups based on age because many of our activities are age-specific. Campers will have free time during most days to interact with friends who may be in other camper groups. Age ranges will vary from week to week depending on each week's registered participants, so camper groups may also vary from week to week. Also, experience has shown us that it is important for campers to make new friends!

Q. What happens if I pick up my child late from summer camp?

A. After 5:30 p.m., parents will be allowed a 5-minute grace period to arrive for pick-up. After 5 minutes parents will be called. Parents arriving more than 5 minutes late will be assessed a late fee of \$1 per minute, with start time for charges commencing at 5:30pm. Late fees must be paid by calling the Cornelius P&R office at 704-892-6031 x160, or by charging to a credit card on file. Late fees will not be collected at the camp site.

Q. What if my child needs to take medicine during the camp day?

A. Campers will not be given any medication during camp by staff unless special permission has been granted. Campers will need to take any required medication themselves or have a parent or guardian administer the medication. All medications will be held by the RCPM or RPA. Any special medication requests will be need to be directed to the Cornelius P&R office at 704-892-6031 x160.