



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

# **YMCA CAMP GREIDER PARENT & CAMPER HANDBOOK 2017**

## **WELCOME TO YMCA CAMP GREIDER!**

YMCA Camp Greider is a very unique summer day camp experience! We have our own facility within the Oregon 4-H Center with a lodge, 80 acres of nature to explore, hiking trails, a vegetable garden, a pond and an archery range. We are proud to offer wonderful camp activities including canoeing, games, archery, hiking, arts & crafts and more. Most importantly, we offer a safe environment where campers are supervised by staff who are hired because of their skills and desire to work with youth. Staff are trained to help campers integrate into camp life, make new friends, and have fun!

Our focus at YMCA Camp Greider is to demonstrate the values of the YMCA: Responsibility, Respect, Caring, and Honesty.

We look forward to getting to know your child this summer as they experience the magic of YMCA Camp Greider. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Rose Mary Garrels  
Camp Director  
Family YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties  
685 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
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YMCA Phone: 503-581-9622

## Registering for Camp

There are two ways to register for YMCA Camp Greider. You may register online at [www.theyonline.org](http://www.theyonline.org). You may also download and print the registration form at [www.theyonline.org](http://www.theyonline.org) and either mail it or bring it in person to: 685 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301.

To register, fill out a registration form and include a \$50 deposit at the time of registration. The remaining balance will be due 7 business days prior to the first day of camp, but you may pay at any time prior to that date. Most sessions close 10 days before the start of the session. All summer program fees are non-refundable and transfer fees may apply to any changes in registration.

Financial aid is available and you will find an application at [www.theyonline.org](http://www.theyonline.org). Please complete financial aid paperwork 30 days prior to the session of camp you are registering for. We make every effort to provide funds so camp is accessible to all children. Last year, we provided over \$12,000 in scholarships!

## Check In Process

**Check in is from 7:00-8:30 AM each morning.** Please do not arrive early as we are busy preparing for camp to open and we will start our check in process promptly at 7:00 AM. Campers should be dropped off at the YMCA's Cottage Street entrance. Campers under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a parent/legal guardian.

At check in on Monday, you'll **turn in your child's health form** and find out who your child's counselor will be for the week. If your child attends multiple sessions of Camp YMCA Camp Greider, you will only need to turn in one form; we will hold that form for the remainder of the summer. Also at check in, you'll provide any medications your child will need while at camp.

The bus to YMCA Camp Greider leaves promptly at 9:00 AM. If you arrive after 8:45 AM, your child may not be able to ride the bus to camp that day.

## Check Out Process

Campers return to the YMCA for **pick up at 5:00 PM each evening.** Extended care is available until 6:00 PM at no additional charge. Any child picked up after 6:00 PM will be assessed a late fee of \$1.00 per minute.

**At check out each day, you'll be required to provide current, valid photo identification. Only persons listed on the camper's health form may pick up the camper.**

If you need to pick up your child earlier in the day, please notify the Camp Director to make arrangements.

## Health Care at Camp

Upon arrival at check in on Monday, our staff will review your child's health form and ask if you have any additional information to provide. Medications your child needs will be turned over to our staff at this point and dispensed as directed. This includes all prescription and non-prescription medications such as vitamins and creams. Please note, we are required to dispense medications from their original container and follow directions as provided on the label. We recommend you send only enough medication needed for the duration of your child's stay, plus one dosage. Children who carry an epi-pen or an inhaler should bring 2, one for the health staff and one to carry with him/her.

The health history form (available at [www.theyonline.org](http://www.theyonline.org)) must be filled out and brought with your child to the first day of camp. Please **DO NOT** mail your child's health form so it may be kept confidential. The information you provide will be shared with only the staff who need to know to directly provide care for your child. Please be as detailed as possible while completing the form. The information provided does not prevent your child from attending camp, it simply allows our health staff to make informed decisions regarding your child's care. Children with Asthma, Heart Defect/Disease, Seizures, Diabetes, or Bleeding/Clotting Disorders require a physician's authorization to attend camp. If your family does not immunize, please complete a waiver available at the Family YMCA of Marion and Polk County.

If your child has any behavioral or emotional concerns or diagnosis that may impact their experience at camp, please contact the Camp Director prior to the beginning of camp so we can create a plan so they can have a positive experience at camp. Our staff is well-trained in providing support to a wide variety of children and we look forward to getting to know your child and helping them enjoy YMCA Camp Greider.

Some families consider taking a "medication vacation" while at camp. We strongly encourage campers to remain on their regularly scheduled medications while at camp. While at camp, a child's routine is different than at home and continuing on medications allows children to have the most successful experience.

Minor injuries while at camp will be treated as needed included, but not limited to: washing, applying band aids or ice packs. Parents will be notified of any illness or injuries that occur at camp.

### You will be notified if your child:

- Has temperature of 100 degrees or above
- Has 2 loose stools or vomits
- Has green discharge from nose and/or eyes or any type of eye infection
- Has chicken pox, scabies, or other contagious disease
- Has what appears to be head lice
- Has an allergic reaction
- Receives an injury more than a minor scrape or cut

If any of these occur, we will make a determination about your child returning home or remaining in camp.

In the event of a major injury or illness, the Camp Director will assess the situation. If necessary, staff will seek appropriate medical attention and contact parents. This could include calling an ambulance to transport the child to Salem Hospital.

## Behavior Expectations

At YMCA Camp Greider, in order to create a safe and fun camp environment, we ask campers to follow three basic directions:

- Respect Yourself (maintaining hygiene, speaking kindly about oneself, following rules)
- Respect Others (keeping hands to yourself, speaking kindly to others, respecting personal property)
- Respect Camp (causing no harm to camp environment, buildings, trails, respecting wildlife in and around camp)

At YMCA Camp Greider, we have a no tolerance policy for bullying. We define bullying as physical (hitting, tripping), verbal (name-calling, belittling, humiliating), and social (exclusion, coercion). We recognize that conflict between children can occur and we work to provide children opportunities where they can be socially successful. We train our staff to recognize bullying behavior which is not necessarily a single event but can escalate into multiple events. Camp will not tolerate these behaviors in person or via electronic devices. Campers who bully will be dismissed from camp and camp fees will not be refunded.

Our camp staff have been trained on how to provide clear expectations for campers, guide campers to make positive choices, and be consistent while working with campers. If a child is unable to follow camp rules or participates in escalating bullying behavior, he/she will work with their counselor, unit director, and then, the Camp Director in order to solve the situation that is occurring. We will make every effort to meet the needs of the campers and seek a solution for a positive camp experience. Parents will be notified if a camper is not being successful in following rules at camp. On occasion, campers who choose to continue disregarding camp rules will be dismissed from camp and camp fees will not be refunded.

## Typical Daily Schedule

7:00 AM	Check in at YMCA; games
8:45 AM	Load buses
9:00 AM	Buses depart for YMCA Camp Greider
9:45 AM	Chapel
10:00 AM	Counselor group time/snack
10:15 AM	Skill Groups
12:00 PM	Swim
1:00 PM	Lunch
2:15 PM	Skill Groups or All Camp Games
3:30 PM	Campfire
4:15 PM	Flag
4:30 PM	Load buses
5:00 PM	Return to YMCA for check out
6:00 PM	After care closes

## What to Bring to Camp

We recommend "play clothes" that can get dirty or wet. Please label all belongings, especially bags, water bottles, and sweatshirts.

### Forms on Monday

Health Form

Horse Waiver (if horse camper)

### Other

Backpack

Water bottle

A sack lunch

Snacks

Swimsuit, towel, goggles (Swimming on T-F)

Sunscreen

### Clothing

Play clothes suited for the weather (mornings can be chilly)

Sweatshirt or jacket

Close-toed shoes, suitable for hiking and running

### **Please do not bring to camp:**

Any items of value; camp is not responsible for lost or broken items.

Any weapons or explosives such as knives, fireworks, or lighters.

Any electronic devices such as phones, Ipods, or MP3 Players.

Flip Flops or shoes without a back strap.

## General Information

### **Camp Store**

We have merchandise available for purchase at our camp store. Campers are able to visit the store during check in and check out. You may order items from camp store when you check your child in in the morning. Orders will be filled at camp – usually the same day order is received. All proceeds from our store go toward our camp scholarship fund.

### **Friend Requests**

Many camper attending camp feel more comfortable attending with a friend. If two campers are within one year of each others age, please submit a request in writing at registration. Typically, the older camper will be placed with the younger camper. We can only honor one friend request per camper. While we can not guarantee each request, we make our best effort to make sure friend requests are met.

### **Visitation Policy**

Any visitors arriving on camp must check in at Greider Lodge and must be pre-approved by the Camp Director. However, we typically do not grant visitation during camp sessions because we require all persons in camp to have met our employment and/or volunteer requirements including a background check. If there is a family emergency, please contact the Camp Director to make arrangements.

### **Communicating with Camp**

Please be assured that "good news is no news" while your child is at camp. We will contact you if we have concerns or questions about health or behavior issues. If you do need to reach us, please contact the Family YMCA of Marion & Polk Counties at (503) 399-2755 and a message will be relayed to the Camp Director or email: [knoel@youry.org](mailto:knoel@youry.org). We will return your call or email as promptly as possible.

Revised January 2017