



The Camp Digest

BREAKING NEWS: THE BEST SUMMER EVER IS AT THE Y!

WHERE SUMMER FINDS YOU

Tucked away in the heart of one of Oregon's natural treasures—Silver Falls State Park—lies Camp Silver Creek. Surrounded by towering evergreens, open fields that invite carefree running and games, and a babbling creek whose gentle murmur fills quiet moments with a calming rhythm, the camp offers more than just a place to play—it offers space to breathe. A large pond reflects the night sky and the warm glow of candles during the beloved candlelight ceremony, creating stillness, beauty, and moments of quiet connection that bring youth together in meaningful solidarity.

Camp's historic cabins and buildings, weathered by decades of laughter, late-night conversations, and summer storms, flaunt a rustic charm that feels both timeless and grounding. These cozy spaces—where kids gather for arts and crafts, share meals in the dining hall, and sleep side-by-side in bunkhouses—are more than just old structures. Their creaky floors and worn walls hold generations of memories, echoing the joy and camaraderie of summer's past.



YMCA Camp Greider is a beloved day camp nestled in the hills of West Salem, where towering trees and wide-open spaces make it feel like you are miles away from the nearest city. The marshy ponds serve as natural playgrounds, inviting kids to explore, catch salamanders, frogs, and bugs, and discover the native world up close. Hidden within the fir trees is an outdoor amphitheater. Here, campers perform skits, share music, and listen to daily messages that spark laughter, reflection, and inspiration—lessons they carry home in both their heads and their hearts.

In a world cluttered with constant noise, screen time, and overwhelming headlines, camp gives young people a much-needed pause. These green spaces—so vast, quiet, and alive—can feel unfamiliar at first, but they often become gateways to healing, joy, and self-discovery.



CAMP SILVER CREEK SCOOP: SHORT SESSION SPECIAL

Short Session Special: The Earlier You Register, the More You Save!

Hold onto your canteens, campers! We've got a *limited-time* campfire special heating up just for our Silver Creek Short Sessions!

As we countdown to summer, we're offering **tiered discounts on our Short Session Overnight Camp programs for campers who register between now and May 5th**. The sooner you snag your spot at the campfire, the more you save — like catching marshmallows before they burn!

Here's how it works:

Register By	Discount
April 21-23	🔥 20% Off
April 24-27	☀️ 15% Off
April 28-30	🌲 10% Off
May 1-5	🌸 5% Off
May 6 and beyond	Full Price

This special is only good for Silver Creek's Short Session overnight camps that run from Sunday to Wednesday. If your camper is ready to dip their toes into the magic of Camp Silver Creek for a few unforgettable days, now's the time to leap in!

Spots are limited and cabins are filling faster than a rascally racoon can sniff out a trail mix stash - don't delay! Visit theYonline.org to secure your camper's place under the stars.

Let the countdown to camp (and savings) begin!



5 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT CAMP GREIDER

1. **Our amazing staff.** Many of our staff have been part of the Camp Greider family since they were campers. Our staff are specially selected based on experience, passion, and prior youth work, many of whom are pursuing careers in education or childcare. Their love of camp is part of what makes Greider so special!
2. **Our awesome space.** Throughout 80 acres of beautiful outdoor space, campers boat, play, explore, and make new friends all while enjoying the best Mother Nature has to offer.
3. **Our Theme Weeks!** Our themes are the best around. Renaissance Faire, Sleuths and Spies, Inventor's Workshop, and so much more! All specifically designed to encourage creativity, discovery, and joy!
4. **Our C.H.o.R.R. values.** Camp Greider's programming is rooted in the YMCA's core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. Campers will learn and grow in a space rooted in caring for themselves, their peers, and their camp community.
5. **YOU!** Camp Greider's secret ingredient is our wonderful campers and families. We can't wait to see you at camp this summer!

"Camp is a special place - that experience you have, connections you make allow you to learn who you are and allow you to be the best you, and there's not a lot of places like that."

-- Camp Silver Creek Alum



SAY GOODBYE TO "Y-CARE" - SAY HELLO TO CAMP SUN CHASERS!

Get ready for a season of themed weeks, swimming, and non-stop fun at our Camp Sun Chasers (In-town) Day Camps across Marion and Polk Counties!

These aren't just day camps, they're memory-making, friend-building, curiosity-sparking experiences powered by the Y.

With full-day camps in Salem (Washington & Calvary Elementaries), Keizer (Cummings Elementary), and Independence (Henry Hill Elementary) - plus outdoor half-day camp fun in Silverton (Coolidge-McClaine Park) there's something for every explorer in your family.

- ✓ 7:30am -5:30pm at all full-day locations for youth Kinder to 5th / 8:00am - 1:00pm at Silverton location.
- ✓ Outdoor fun + swimming for every site
- ✓ Theme weeks your kids will LOVE

Spots are filling fast — don't wait to register at theyonline.org

Little Campers, Big Adventures!

Preschool Summer Day Camps at the Salem Withnell Family YMCA

Your littlest adventurers are in for a treat at the Salem Family YMCA's Preschool Summer Day Camps, for ages 3 to 5. These full-day programs run Monday through Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm, and Fridays from 8:00am to 2:00pm, offering a fun, welcoming, and enriching place for preschoolers to spend their summer days.

Each week is packed with exciting theme-based activities, from silly science to messy art and everything in between. Campers will enjoy daily playtime in the gym, visits to local parks, creative projects, and swimming—all designed with young learners in mind.



Help Send a Kid to Camp

We're gearing up for another incredible summer of adventure, fun, and friendship. We want to ensure all of our local youth have the opportunity to continue connecting with others and making memories in a fun and welcoming environment.

With your support, we can send even more kids to camp to reap these benefits. When we show up for all of our kids, we make the entire community stronger.



EASILY
DONATE
ONLINE

Hiring: Apply Today!

Camp Silver Creek (Overnight)

Unit Aides

Youth Development Day Camps

Summer Seasonal

Assistant Program Lead

Program Lead

Site Supervisors



Register Now

S'more fun in store - grab your sport for the Best Summer Ever!

Need a little help making camp happen?

Financial assistance and camperships are available! Contact Felicia Fisher at ffisher@theyonline.org to learn more and apply. Military discounts also available.

