



Family Guide Summer Camp 2026

YMCA Storer Camps



THANK YOU!

Dear Families,

Thank you for choosing YMCA Storer Camps for your child's summer. We are truly honored to be part of their camp experience this year. During their time at Storer Camps, your camper will enjoy safe, engaging outdoor adventures while growing in the YMCA's four core values:

- Caring
- Honesty
- Respect
- Responsibility

Our professional staff spend the entire year thoughtfully planning and preparing to create a meaningful and memorable summer. In addition to fun and adventure, your child will have opportunities to build self confidence, develop leadership skills, take initiative, and strengthen their ability to work cooperatively with others. We look forward to hearing the stories they will bring home about their successes, new friendships, and the challenges they have overcome. Since our founding in 1918, YMCA Storer Camps has continued to grow and evolve, and we are proud to offer a program that remains rooted in tradition while meeting the needs of today's campers.

This guide is designed to walk you through every step of the camp journey, from registration through pick up. The information included is important in helping camp run smoothly for your child and for all campers in our community. We encourage you to read it carefully and keep it for future reference. If questions arise at any time, please feel free to contact our team at (517) 536-8607. We are always happy to help.

Warm regards,



Melissa Di Fiori
Vice President of Camping



Derek Bycraft
Director of Operations



Courtney "Apollo" Beeston
Summer Camp Director

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Camp Registration & Forms



Camp Fees & Payments

Once your camper is registered for camp, you will receive an email confirmation of enrolled sessions and total camp fees due. Payments can be made any time online through your CampMinder account or by calling the office.

On Friday, May 15th, any remaining balances will be automatically charged to your default payment method on file.

Registrations that happen after May 15th require camp fees to be paid in full. Any outstanding fees must be paid by the time your camper checks into camp.

Cancellations

We know plans change and your camper may not be able to make it to their registered session. You have a few options of what to do if your camper can't make it to their session anymore:

- Transfer to another session: We're happy to help move your camper to a different camp session at any point during the summer.
- Receive a system credit: Apply your payment as a credit toward a future YMCA Storer Camps program, including Summer Camp, Winter Camp, or Spring Break Camp. Credits are valid for two years and will be converted into a camp donation if not used within that time.
- Request a refund: We can issue a refund to your original payment method. Please note that starting May 16, deposit payments are non-refundable.

Cancellations are not able to be done online, so please call our office at 517-536-8607 to make any of the above changes.

Camp Forms

Everyone's favorite thing - paperwork! Well, more like onlinework these days as all of our forms are now digital. Once your camper is registered, you're able to access all necessary forms through your CampMinder account (ymcastorer.campintouch.com) through the Forms & Documents section. Any form listed in bold is required to be filled out. Be sure to complete these forms before check-in day as anything not completed needs to be filled out at camp before checking in (which means a longer check-in day for you and your camper).

Below is information about some of the forms you will see on your CampMinder account.

01 Camper Application

- If you registered online, this is already done!
- If you registered over phone or with a partner group, this needs to be complete as it confirms contact information, cabinmate requests and that your camper will be attending.

02 Camper Health Form

- Required to be filled out even if your camper doesn't take medication or have any medical needs.
- When filling out, please be sure to include ANY medications your camper will be bringing to camp.
- You can also review stocked medication and indicate any you would not like administered.

03 Camper Release Form

- List any adult individual who may pick your camper up.
- **INCLUDE YOUR OWN NAME!!!**
- Be sure to have at least one adult who is within a two-hour driving distance from camp listed in the event of an emergency.

04 Confidential Camper Care Form

- Please use this form to share any physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral health information that will help us care for your child.
- The information on this form is shared with appropriate camp staff so our team can offer the right support and help your camper have a safe, positive camp experience.

05 Camper Photo

- Please upload a recent photo of your camper.
- Uploading a photo of your camper helps our cabin counselors warmly welcome them on arrival and ensures we can easily identify them throughout their time at camp.



Getting Ready & Arriving to Camp

You've got the kids signed up for camp and filled out their forms... now comes the fun part of getting them all set for a great experience at camp! Let's start by knowing what to pack and when to arrive at camp.

What to Bring to Camp

Before packing your child's belongings, take a moment to review the Overnight Camp Packing List so you know what's actually needed. This will help keep things organized and make packing easier for both you and your child. To get started, here are the essentials for camp:

01 Bedding

All mattresses at camp are size Twin XL, and campers are welcome to bring sheets or sleeping bags for bedding. Don't forget to pack a pillow as well!

02 Shower Essentials

Campers will need to bring their own shampoo, soap/shower gel, deodorant (PLEASE REMEMBER THIS), towels, toothbrush and toothpaste. While not required, we also do suggest packing shower shoes.

03 Safety Accessories

Since campers will be outside and active all day, please help them stay safe and comfortable by packing sunscreen, a water bottle, and a small bag they can use to carry everything with them.

04 Camp-Friendly Swimwear

To keep things fun and comfortable for all campers, boys should bring board-short trunks and girls are welcome to wear one- or two-piece swimsuits that offer full, modest coverage (no revealing styles, please).

05 Proper Attire for Activities

Many of our camp activities require proper footwear for the safety of participants. Activities such as horseback riding and our rock wall require closed-toe shoes (crocs are not closed-toe, even in sport mode).

06 Labelled Belongings

We do our best to help campers keep track of their items, and labeling everything with your camper's name will make it even easier to ensure all belongings are returned.

Prohibited Items

To help us keep camp running smoothly and safely, the following items aren't allowed at camp. If they're brought along, our staff will hold them in the office until check-out day, and a camp director will give you a call to let you know.

- Cell Phones
- Weapons of any kind (including pocket knives)
- Tobacco
- Drugs
- Electronics (computers, smart watches, headphones, etc.)
- Money (cash or credit cards)

Packing FAQs

My child can't have a phone at camp? How am I supposed to be in contact with them while at camp?

You're right, we don't allow cell phones at camp. We know that can feel like a big adjustment! One of the special things about camp is the chance for kids to unplug and fully connect with their counselors and fellow campers. Phones can distract from those relationships and the activities happening around them, and they can also create privacy concerns and interfere with our structured camp communication systems. Most importantly, they tend to take away from the full camp experience; not just for the child with the phone, but for their cabinmates as well.

That said, we absolutely want you to feel connected while your child is here. Throughout the week, we share photos and updates through the YMCA Storer Camps app (available in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store). You can also send letters to your camper through the app, and they're able to write back. Be sure to check the Camp Photos & Communication section of this guide for all the details on staying in touch.

Can you laundry on Wednesday so I don't have to pack as many things?

We're not able to do midweek laundry service for campers. With 200–300 campers here each week, that would be a lot of laundry and not nearly enough time to get it all done!

We recommend packing enough outfits for each full day at camp, plus an extra set of clothes just in case. Camp can be messy, active, and full of surprises and that extra outfit often comes in handy.

If your camper is participating in a July Stayover Weekend, laundry service is available during the weekend for an additional \$20. Check out the Camp Activities & Additional Options section to find out more about Stayover Weekend.

Isn't there a shop at camp? How can my child make any purchases if they can't bring money?

Yes! We do have a camp shop, or as we call it, the Trading Post, where campers can purchase fun items like camp gear, small toys and trinkets, and snacks during their stay.

Since campers don't bring cash to camp, we use a "Camp Bank" system instead. Before camp, you can add money to your child's Camp Bank account, and they'll use those credits to shop at the Trading Post throughout the week.

You can find all the details about how it works in the Camp Activities & Additional Options section of this guide.

What do you do with your lost and found items during the summer?

Our counselors do their very best to help campers head home with everything they brought, but we also encourage campers to take responsibility for keeping track of their belongings. Please be sure all items are clearly labeled with your child's first and last name, and remind your camper to keep an eye on their things throughout the week.

At the end of each session, any unclaimed items are collected and added to our Lost & Found. If you notice something missing once you're home, please give us a call as soon as possible. The sooner we know, the better chance we have of locating it. Lost & Found items are held for three weeks after the last session of Summer Camp and then donated to a local charity.

Okay, but you'll let a kid have their phone if I pack it in their things, right?

Nope, phones still aren't allowed, even if you sneak one in your camper's bag. We really appreciate you helping us stick to the no-phone rule. It keeps camp fun, unplugged, and full of real-life adventures for everyone! If a phone does turn up, don't worry; we'll give you a call and lock it safely in our office until pick-up. You'll still get plenty of updates and photos through the YMCA Storer Camps app, so you won't miss a thing!

Check-in Day

Get excited! It's finally time to check in for camp! All campers, no matter which program they're in, check in at Malachi Dining Hall, just a little west of the main entrance. You can easily find it on Google Maps or Apple Maps by searching "YMCA Malachi Dining Hall." Once you arrive, we'll guide you through a few simple steps to complete your child's check-in.



Forms & Medical Screening

- We'll begin outside the dining hall with a quick health screening. This includes a short questionnaire, a temperature check, and a brief lice check. It's quick and helps us keep everyone healthy and ready for a great week.
- Next, we'll confirm that all of your camper's forms are complete. If anything is missing, no worries! You'll be able to take care of it before moving on to the next check-in stop.
- If your child is bringing medications, please head to the medication drop-off line to meet with our health officer. The process is a bit detailed, but it ensures all medications are properly documented, stored safely, and administered correctly while at camp.



Balances & Add-ons

- It's not too late to sign your camper up for a horseback trail ride or add funds to their Camp Bank! We're happy to take care of those add-ons before you complete check-in.
- Be sure to check out the Camp Activities & Additional Options section to see all the fun extras available during your child's time at camp.
- If you've added any extras or still have an outstanding balance, we'll help you get everything squared away at check-in.
- Please note that campers won't be fully checked in until any remaining balances have been paid.



Cabin Assignment & Move In

- You've completed all the steps meaning you're officially ready to check in! Your camper will receive their cabin assignment and be all set to move in.
- If you brought mail or packages you'd like delivered during the week, you can leave those with our team at the cabin assignment table.
- Once you have your cabin assignment, you'll exit the dining hall, return to your car, and drive to your cabin's designated drop-off area.
- Families are welcome to walk their camper to the cabin and help them get settled in for an amazing week ahead!

Do I need to be the person checking my child in? Can a relative or friend bring them to camp?

Anyone you trust (and is at least 18 years old) can drop off your camper, as long as they can stay with them through the entire check-in process and take care of any remaining fees. Multiple family members are welcome to check-in day as well, just keep in mind that it gets very busy and crowded in the cabins during move in!

The only exception? Four-legged friends. Please leave pets at home so check-in can go smoothly for everyone.



Camp Activities & Additional Options

What goes on at camp?

Throughout your child's time at YMCA Storer Camps, they will have opportunities to explore the natural world, try new activities, and build friendships that last a lifetime. Each day is designed to encourage discovery, growth, and fun in a supportive and engaging environment.

There truly is so much to experience at camp that one session, or even one summer, hardly feels like enough to do it all. Below are just a few of the many activities and experiences your camper can look forward to during their time with us.



Rock Climbing



Boating



Archery



Arts & Crafts



Swimming



Reptile Room



Kangaroo Jumper



Small Animal Barn



Campfires

And that is only the beginning. Campers can also look forward to fire building, shelter building, going on nature hikes, basketball (which began at the YMCA!), cooking skills, singing, dancing, gaga ball, and so much more. There is always something new to try and another opportunity just around the corner.

Additional Options

As if everything listed on the last page didn't sound like enough, there's even more things you can add to your camper's experience to make camp even better! Please note that certain additional options may not be available for each camp program due to the length of stay or other unique activities already taking place.

Horses

We've been horsing around since the first horses arrived at camp in 1937, and we want your camper to join in on the fun. There's plenty of ways to get up on the saddle throughout your camper's stay at YMCA Storer Camps.



- Trail Rides, \$35 per ride: A one-hour horse riding experience perfect for the first-time rider or the one-millionth-time rider! Campers will be given a safety course from our professional wrangler team before mounting up and heading out through camp on horseback.
- Horse Lessons, \$140 per camper: Campers will spend an hour Monday – Thursday learning to care for horses, riding techniques and increased horsemanship.
- Overnight Trail Ride, \$80 per camper: Overnight Horse Rides give campers the chance to experience life like a true wrangler. They'll journey along a scenic two-mile trail to the far side of Stony Lake, where they'll set up camp for the night. After grilling dinner together, campers will settle in under the stars, sleeping in tents surrounded by nature. Come morning, they'll ride back across the trail to enjoy breakfast and reunite with their cabinmates for another exciting day at camp.

Stayover Weekend

We understand; one week of camp is hardly enough, which is why we offer Stayover Weekends for your camper to spend two, three or even four weeks at Storer this summer. Stayover Weekend are available for any session in July. These relaxing weekends allow campers to reenergize for the next week while still enjoying camp activities (and saving you an extra trip for drop off and pick up over the weekend).

There are two Stayover Weekend options:

- Stayover Weekend, \$80 per weekend: All campers will stay in air-conditioned lodges to rest up and have opportunities to do their favorite camp activities during a less-crowded time at camp. On Sunday, campers will move into their new cabin for the week and welcome their new cabinmates who are checking in.
- Stayover Weekend with laundry, \$100 per weekend: In addition to Stayover Weekend, we will also do all of your camper's laundry for them. No need to worry about packing two week's worth of clothes into a small suitcase.

Trading Post

The YMCA Storer Camps Trading Post is stocked full of goodies for your camper to enjoy while at camp and souvenirs to bring home. Items include shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, stuffed animals, fidget toys and candy.

Campers are able to have funds added to their Camp Bank which can then be spent at the Trading Post. Purchased can be tracked through your CampMinder account, and you can add funds to your camper's Camp Bank at any time, including while they are at camp. We do not accept cash or card at the Trading Post from campers, so you don't need to worry about sending those to camp.

Any remaining Camp Bank balances are settled in August after all Summer Camp programs conclude. Balances may be rolled over as system credit for up to two years, donated back to camp, or refunded if the remaining balance is over \$10. Due to processing fees, refunds are not available for balances of \$9.99 or less.

Pathfinder/Outback Au Sable River Trip



A truly unique aspect of the Pathfinder and Outback programs is that they get to do some camping out of camp! Every Pathfinder and Outback camper will head out on a 3-day, 2-night canoeing trip along the beautiful Au Sable River in Grayling, MI. Before heading out on the trip, campers will prepare during their first week at camp by learning the basics of canoeing, setting up an outdoor campsite and practicing Leave No Trace principles so they feel confident and prepared for their trip.

The journey begins with a bus ride to Grayling, Michigan, where campers will launch onto the river and paddle downstream, camping at different sites along the way before returning to camp. This is a true outdoor experience with campers cooking meals over the fire or camp stoves, helping filter or boil water, and embracing nature with limited modern amenities. Most gear will be transported ahead to each campsite, but campers will keep essentials like sunscreen and water with them during the day. And of course, life jackets are always worn while on the water.

Do we need to pack anything special for this trip?

Not really. Camp provides all the big gear such as tents, sleeping pads, food, cooking supplies, and canoe equipment. Campers will be provided a large duffel bag to put their belongings in during the trip. We do suggest bringing along a small bag for the river to hold things like sunscreen and water bottles (keep in mind things can get wet!). The one big thing is that you will want to send your camper with a sleeping bag as there will be no mattresses brought on the trip.

Is there anything we should prepare our campers with for this trip?

The biggest difference between this trip and being at main camp is the bathroom setup. Facilities are limited along the river, so campers will learn and use simple Leave No Trace practices for bathroom needs. Our staff introduce this in a supportive, age-appropriate way to help everyone feel comfortable and confident.

What happens if there is an emergency while on the trip? Or worse, my camper misbehaves?

Camper safety is our top priority. All staff on the trip are certified in CPR and First Aid, and our Trip Director is certified as a Wilderness First Responder (WFR). Staff are with campers at all times, both on the river and at camp, and a support vehicle follows the group with supplies and is available to assist or transport campers to local medical facilities if needed.

We also expect campers to follow the same behavior guidelines as they do at camp. In the rare event that a camper's behavior becomes a serious concern, families may be asked to pick them up directly from the trip location. We encourage you to review our Behavior Policy section for more details, and we're always happy to talk through any questions ahead of time.

Canoeing and Camping Schedule

Day	Time On River	Destination Campground
First	3 hours	Burton's Landing Campground (1500 Burton's Landing Dr., Grayling, MI 48738)
Second	5 hours	Rainbow Bend State Forest Campground (Unlisted Address, Grayling, MI 49738)
Third	3 hours	Back home to camp! (6941 Stony Lake Rd., Jackson, MI 49201)



Camp Photos & Communication

Stay connected throughout the entire summer with the YMCA Storer Camps App!
See camp photos, send bunk notes and get updates of what's going on at camp.



Download the YMCA Storer Camps App

- Search for YMCA Storer Camps in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.
- Once downloaded, click "Sign Up" and create your account. You can add all of your campers to your account at this time, but don't forget to go in after check-in to add their cabin to receive bunk notes!

Features

- Push Notifications: Get check-in and pick-up reminders as well as any important updates of what's going on at camp.
- Photo Gallery Access: Check out literally hundreds of photos posted each day from all around camp.
- Bunk Notes & Replies*: Send letters to your camper while at camp and include stationery for them to write a letter back to you.

Photo Gallery

- Save your favorite photos for easy access to pictures of your camper year-round. Photos can be favorited in the app for easy access or downloaded to your phone straight from the app.
- Don't want to look through the hundreds of photos? Upload a picture of your camper so you can easily pick them out of the crowd. You'll get a notification each time a new photo of your camper is added to the app*.
- Share photos to social media or email them to a family member.
- Customize unique photo gifts such as photo books, mugs, calendars and more.
- Order high-resolution digital downloads or photo prints.

*Available for bundle or individual purchases.

Bunk Notes and Bunk Replies

Bunk Notes are the fastest way to send letters to your camper. Log into the YMCA Storer Camps app, compose your note and hit send. Pretty simple! You can customize your note with fun borders, add pictures and even include a puzzle.

We love helping you stay connected! Bunk Notes are printed each morning at 10:00 AM and delivered during lunch. All notes received before 10:00 AM will be included in that day's delivery. Please note that messages are distributed once daily at lunch and are not delivered throughout the day.

It's easy to hear back from your camper, too! When you include a Bunk Reply with your Bunk Note, your camper will receive stationery so they can send a message back to you. Once they've written their reply, we'll scan it and upload it directly to your app. You'll even receive a notification when a new Reply is ready to view!

Our team makes every effort to provide time and encouragement for campers to complete their Bunk Replies. However, writing back is ultimately up to each camper, and we cannot guarantee that every Reply will be returned. We recommend talking with your camper ahead of time about the importance of responding.

Traditional Mail

There's nothing quite like the "old-time" excitement of receiving a letter in the mail! You're always welcome to send your camper a note while they're at camp. Please be sure to address all mail as follows:

CAMPER NAME
CABIN NAME
6941 Stony Lake Rd.
Jackson, MI 49201



Health & Safety

Your camper's health and safety mean a great deal to us. Our team is here to support campers so they can feel their best and enjoy every part of their camp experience.

Bringing Medication to Camp

If your camper takes any medication - prescription, over-the-counter, vitamins, or alternative remedies - please hand all medications directly to the Health Officer at check-in. To make this process smooth:

1. Pack all medication separately from luggage so it's easy to access at check-in.
2. Place medications in a Ziploc bag.
3. Keep everything in the original container (prescription bottles, over-the-counter boxes, etc.).
4. Label the bag with your camper's name.

At check-in, we will review all medications being brought to camp, log them and have families sign off on the logs to ensure everything is administered safely and accurately during camp.

For everyone's safety, campers may not keep medication in their cabins. The only exceptions are rescue inhalers, EpiPens, and diabetic supplies, which must be shared with the Health Officer at check-in. Inhalers should include prescription information (either the original box or a copy of the pharmacy label works perfect).

We strongly encourage keeping regular medications consistent during camp. If a dosage differs from what's printed on the label, please provide an updated prescription signed by your child's physician. This also applies to over-the-counter medications if the dosage differs from the label instructions. We cannot deviate from prescription or label directions without a signed doctor's note.

Over-the-Counter Medications

Our Health Center keeps common over-the-counter medications on hand to treat minor issues like headaches, upset stomachs, constipation, or allergic reactions. When completing your camper's Health Form, you'll be able to review this list and let us know if there's anything your camper should not receive.

Before giving any medication, we always check the Health Form, and all care is documented.

The following medications are always stocked in our health center:

- Acetaminophen (Tylenol)
- Aloe Vera
- Antacid (Tums)
- Bacitracin, Neomycin & Polymyxin B (Triple Antibiotic Ointment)
- Benzalkonium Chloride (Antiseptic Wipe)
- Benzocaine & Menthol (Medicaine Swabs)
- Bismuth Subsalicylate (Pepto Bismol)
- Calamine Lotion
- Cola Syrup
- Cough Drops
- Dextromethorphan & Guaifenesin (Tussin)
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
- Docusate Sodium (Stool Softener)
- Eye Wash (Purified Water 98.5%)
- Gold Bond Powder
- Hydrocortisone Cream
- Ibuprofen (Advil/Motrin)
- Isopropyl Alcohol 70%
- Lidocaine (Burn Gel)
- Loperamide Hydrochloride (Imodium A-D)
- Miconazole Nitrate (Antifungal Cream)
- Muscle Rub Cream
- Petroleum Jelly
- Pseudoephedrine (Sudafed)
- Silver Sulfadiazine (Silvadene)
- Sodium Chloride (Saline Solution)
- Tencu (Poison Ivy Treatment)

Standing Orders

All of our healthcare policies are reviewed and signed off by a licensed physician in the state of Michigan. For the safety and wellbeing of your camper and everyone on camp, there are certain medical conditions that do require us to send a camper home. Please review the following conditions and if/when campers are allowed to return to camp.

If a camper is ill, we cannot provide overnight care in our health center. An authorized adult listed on the Release Consent Form must pick a camper up in these instances.

Fever

Condition: Any fever over 100 degrees Fahrenheit lasting longer than 1 hour.

Action: Camper must go home and may return to camp once they have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Diarrhea

Condition: Camper has had episodes of diarrhea for more than 24 hours.

Action: Camper must seek advanced medical care and be cleared before returning to camp. Families must pick up the camper and take them to be seen by a healthcare provider.

Vomiting

Condition: Camper has had three or more episodes of vomiting within 24 hours.

Action: Camper must go home and may return to camp once they have been fever free and had no episodes of vomiting for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Acute Asthma Attack

Condition: Camper has 3 or more acute asthma attacks within 24 hours.

Action: Camper must seek advanced medical care and be cleared before returning to camp, including a written treatment plan. Families must pick up the camper and take them to a medical office to be seen.

Nosebleed

Condition: Camper has a nosebleed lasting more than 30 minutes.

Action: Camper must seek advanced medical care and be cleared before returning to camp. Families must pick up the camper and take them to be seen by a healthcare provider.

Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)

Condition: Camper has been diagnosed with conjunctivitis.

Action: Camper must go home and may return to camp 24 hours after taking first dose of treatment.

Head Injury

Condition: Camper has had trauma to the head and has symptoms beyond a mild headache 1 hour after the incident.

Action: Camper must seek advanced medical care and be cleared before returning to camp. Families must pick up the camper and take them to be seen by a healthcare provider.

Rashes

Condition: Camper has a rash that is rapidly spreading or accompanied by a fever.

Action: Camper must seek advanced medical care and be cleared before returning to camp. Families must pick up the camper and take them to be seen by a healthcare provider.

Food Service

Nutrition is vital to a successful trip to camp. Our Food Service staff make sure every child is able to enjoy three full meals a day (and even a delicious snack at night!). We're also able to accommodate nearly every diet under the sun, ensuring every camper will leave the dining hall full of energy for the rest of the day.

Kid-Approved Meals



Each day often starts with the familiar question, "What's for breakfast?" which is then quickly followed by, "What's for lunch?" We know how important it is for kids to enjoy their meals while staying fueled for a full day of camp fun. That's why we take care to serve food that's both nutritious and delicious, the kind of meals kids look forward to and happily dig into.

Sample Menu Options

Breakfast

Pancakes & Bacon
Blueberry Muffin Cake & Scrambled Eggs
Waffles & Sausage Links
Sausage, Egg and Biscuit
French Toast & Sausage Patties

Lunch

Pepperoni Pizza
Chicken Nuggets & Tator Tots
Mini Corn Dogs & Fries
Sloppy Joes & Fritos
Chicken Sandwiches & Mac n Cheese

Dinner

Spaghetti & Breadsticks
Hot Dog & Hamburger Cookout
Tacos & Nachoes
Baked Chicken & Mashed Potatoes
Baked Ziti

At breakfast, campers can enjoy a fresh fruit bar to start their day. For lunch and dinner, a full salad bar is available, offering a variety of fresh options and specialty mixes to suit every taste.

For campers who prefer something familiar, a sandwich station is available at every meal, where they can make their own sandwiches or toast just the way they like it.

My camper has a specific diet, will they be able to eat while at camp?

Absolutely! Our kitchen can accommodate a wide range of dietary needs, including dairy-free, gluten-free, egg-free, soy-free, vegetarian, vegan, kosher, and more. Please be sure to indicate your camper's dietary needs when completing their Health Form.

If you'd like more details about our alternative diet options, feel free to reach out to our Food Service Director, Silena, at swinters@ymcastorerccamps.org.

Do you use any peanuts or peanut butter in the dining hall?

Our kitchen does not use peanuts in any meals. When available, peanut butter is offered at the sandwich-making station. If there are campers attending a session with a known peanut allergy or anaphylactic risk, we replace the peanut butter with Wowbutter (soy butter) at the station to keep everyone safe. Please be sure to indicate any allergies on your camper's Health Form so we can accommodate them appropriately.

Behavior Policy

At YMCA Storer Camps, we are guided by our four core values: Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. These values are at the heart of everything we do and are intentionally modeled and reinforced with campers each day.

Our staff is dedicated to creating a positive, supportive environment where all campers can thrive. Team members are trained in building inclusive communities and using effective conflict-resolution strategies. In addition, our Behavior Specialists provide an extra layer of support by helping staff recognize and respond to individual camper needs.

Whenever possible, we work directly with campers to encourage positive choices and gently redirect challenging behaviors before involving families. At times, we must also balance the needs of the entire group, which may limit extended one-on-one support. When additional support is needed, we will communicate with families to share what's happening and partner on next steps. We value open, supportive communication and believe that strong partnerships with families help campers succeed.

Behavior Management Plan

YMCA Storer Camps follows a three-level Behavior Management Plan. Each level reflects increasing severity, with the goal of helping campers learn, grow, and make positive choices. While most situations are resolved at Levels 1 or 2, more serious behaviors may result in immediate advancement to higher levels. Final decisions regarding dismissal are made by Camp Directors.

01 Verbal Warning

Campers will meet with their Village Coordinator and/or a Behavior Specialist to discuss their behavior. They will receive a verbal warning along with clear expectations moving forward.

Level 1 Behavior Examples

- Not disclosing a phone at camp
 - Phones found at camp will be securely stored in the office until check-out. Families will be notified.
- Roughhousing
- Disrespect toward peers or staff
- Disrupting group activities
- Minor verbal conflicts
- Swearing
- Defiance
- Teasing or put-downs

02 Final Warning

A Behavior Specialist and/or Camp Director will contact the camper's family to discuss concerns and work toward a resolution. Campers are informed that continued behavior may result in dismissal.

Level 2 Behavior Examples

- Any continued behavior from the verbal warning.
- Intentional verbal altercations
 - Name Calling
 - Humiliation
 - Gaslighting/Manipulation
 - Threats
- Any behavior that is deemed unsafe for themselves or others
 - Self-Injury Behavior
 - Dangerous Stunts/Dares
 - Destruction of Property
- Difficulty respecting personal boundaries
- Behavior that makes others feel uncomfortable
- Discovery of contraband

03 Camp Dismissal

For serious or repeated behaviors, the Camp Director will contact the family to arrange for the camper to be picked up. Campers must be picked up within one hour, plus travel time from the family's home address. If timely pickup is not possible, additional action may be taken.

Level 3 Behavior Examples

- Continued Level 2 behaviors
- Bullying
- Racism or discrimination of any kind
- Intentional physical aggression toward others
- Inappropriate sexual conduct (verbal or physical)
- Use or possession of illegal substances, including:
 - Tobacco
 - Nicotine products (including vapes)
 - Recreational drugs
 - Alcohol
- Possession of weapons

Behavior Policy FAQs

Will I be contacted if there are concerns about my camper's behavior?

We value open communication with families and will reach out if more serious or ongoing concerns arise. Many minor behaviors are handled at camp through redirection and support, but if additional partnership is needed, you can expect to hear from a member of our team.

Can a camper skip levels in the behavior plan?

In some cases, yes. While most situations begin with a Level 1 response, more serious behaviors may require moving directly to a higher level to ensure the safety and well-being of all campers.

How are behavior decisions made?

Our staff work together to thoughtfully assess each situation. Counselors, Behavior Specialists, and Camp Directors collaborate to determine the most appropriate response, taking into account the context and the needs of both the individual camper and the larger group.

What support is provided to help campers succeed?

We are committed to helping campers grow and make positive choices. Staff use encouragement, clear expectations, and age-appropriate conflict-resolution strategies. Behavior Specialists are also available to provide additional guidance and support when needed.

How are conflicts between campers handled?

Conflicts are a natural part of growing up, and camp provides a great opportunity to build these skills. Our staff guide campers through respectful communication and problem-solving, helping them navigate challenges in a positive way.

Behavior Policy FAQs (continued)

What if my camper has specific behavioral or emotional needs?

We encourage families to share helpful information on the Confidential Camper Care Form so we can best support each camper. While we do our best to meet individual needs, our ability to provide extended one-on-one support may be limited in a group setting.

How do you ensure fairness and consistency?

All staff are trained in our behavior management approach and work closely with leadership to ensure expectations are applied consistently, while still recognizing each camper's age and individual circumstances.

What qualifies as unsafe or serious behavior?

Unsafe behaviors are those that may put a camper or others at risk, such as physical aggression, dangerous actions, or possession of prohibited items. These situations are taken seriously and may result in immediate escalation within the behavior plan.

What happens if my camper is dismissed from camp?

If a camper is dismissed, a Camp Director will contact you to explain the situation and arrange pick-up. Campers must be picked up within one hour, plus travel time from your home address.

Can someone else pick up my camper if needed?

Yes. Authorized pick-up individuals listed in your camper's account are welcome to pick up your camper. We recommend ensuring this information is up to date prior to arrival.

Is there a refund if my camper is dismissed?

Campers who are dismissed due to behavior policy violations are not eligible for prorated refunds for missed time at camp.

How can I help prepare my camper for success?

Before camp, we encourage families to talk with their camper about the importance of kindness, respect, and making positive choices. Helping your camper practice independence and communication skills can go a long way in setting them up for a successful and enjoyable camp experience.



Check-Out & Post-Camp

Check-Out Day

All good camp adventures must come to an end (for now!), and check-out will take place between 1:00–2:00 p.m. on your camper’s final day. Campers will be ready to reunite with you at their village area (not Malachi Dining Hall, where check-in took place). Don’t worry – we’ll make sure you know exactly where to go, with details shared at check-in and reminders sent via email and the YMCA Storer Camps app.

To help everything run smoothly, please plan to arrive between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. Our security gate will open right at 1:00 p.m., so we kindly ask that you do not arrive early to help us avoid traffic backups. If you’re running behind, just give us a quick call at 517-536-8607 so we know you’re on your way.

If pick-up is delayed, our team will begin reaching out to you and your listed emergency contacts. Our top priority is making sure every camper gets home safely. If we’re unable to reach a parent/guardian or emergency contact and a camper has not been picked up, we are required to contact child protective services to ensure the camper’s safety.

DON’T FORGET!!

The person coming to pick up your camper must both have a valid photo ID and be listed on the Release Consent form. You can make changes to the Release Consent form online or by calling our office at 517-536-8607.

Trading Post Balances

Looking to spend your camper’s remaining Camp Bank balance or wanting to get some Storer gear for yourself? The Trading Post will be open during check-out to get those last-minute items before heading off.

If your camper has a credit remaining in their Camp Bank following their camp session, you will be contacted in the second week of August once all Summer Camp programs have concluded. Based on your remaining balance, you have a few options of what you’d like done with them:

Balances \$9.99 and Under

- Donate your balance to the YMCA Storer Camps Annual Campaign
 - Donations go directly to making camp accessible to all.
- Turn your Camp Bank balance into a system credit that can be used for future Summer Camp programs.
 - System credits are valid for the next camp year. After the following year, credits will be donated to the YMCA Storer Camps Annual Campaign.

Due to processing fees, we do not refund Camp Bank balances that are \$9.99 or less.

Balances \$10 and Over

- Donate your balance to the YMCA Storer Camps Annual Campaign
 - Donations go directly to making camp accessible to all.
- Turn your Camp Bank balance into a system credit that can be used for future Summer Camp programs.
 - System credits are valid for the next camp year. After the following year, credits will be donated to the YMCA Storer Camps Annual Campaign.
- Have a refund issued to your original method of payment. If you paid cash, a check will be mailed to you.

The fun and excitement of YMCA Storer Camps doesn't end when summer camp does. Throughout the year, we offer a variety of programs and events for your whole family, your child, or even just you to enjoy. No matter the season, there's always something happening at camp. We can't wait to welcome you back soon!

Labor Day Weekend Friends & Family Camp

Friday, September 4 – Sunday, September 6, 2026

Spend quality time with family and friends at YMCA Storer Camps. Reconnect with old friends, reminisce about days gone by, and create new memories together.

Whether you're returning to camp or visiting for the first time, there's something here for everyone. Fill your weekend with activities or simply relax and enjoy your time at camp. It's all up to you!

Women's Wellness Weekend

Friday, September 18 – Sunday, September 20, 2026

For women ages 18+. Grab your friends (or come solo!) and treat yourself to a fun, relaxing getaway at YMCA Storer Camps for our Women's Wellness Weekend.

Spend the weekend moving your body, trying something new, and soaking in the peaceful beauty of camp—your way. Whether you're craving adventure or total relaxation, this weekend has you covered.

Activities include:

- Yoga
- Stand-Up Paddleboarding
- Arts & Crafts
- Rock Wall Climbing
- Nutrition Demonstrations
- And more!

Winter Camp

Sunday, December 27th – Wednesday, December 30th

NEW FOR 2026: Winter Break Winter Camp!

Our new dates give campers the perfect opportunity to enjoy a break during the holiday season while reconnecting with friends from summer camp.

Reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and experience all the classic camp fun your camper loves now in winter style. From snowy adventures and creative moments to cozy campfires and laughter-filled cabins, Winter Camp brings the magic of camp to life in a whole new season.

Whether camp has been part of your story for years or this is your first visit, you belong here. Come create new memories, revisit old favorites, and experience Storer like never before. Open for campers ages 7 -17.