

Spruce Lake Day Camp

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the cost of camp? What is and is not included?

One week of Day camp costs \$205 per camper and covers all program costs and care from 9AM-4PM. It includes lunch, 2 snacks, and covers the cost of off site excursions. Each camper will receive a camp T-shirt and water bottle. There are many discounts available; please see the registration form for details.

Before/After care is available at Spruce Lake between the hours of 7:30am and 5:30pm for an additional fee. This is for campers who need to be dropped off prior to 9am (7:30-9:00am) and/or need to stay past 4pm (4:00-5:30pm). A late pickup fee will be assessed if a camper is not picked up by 5:30pm.

Shuttle service to and from Spruce Lake Day Camp is not included in tuition. There is an additional fee for the shuttle service.

In addition to the daily snacks, day campers will have the opportunity to visit the Snack Shop or Trading Post on scheduled days. The Snack Shop/Trading Post is not covered in the cost of tuition. There is an electronic camper bank system available to deposit funds so that campers do not need to carry cash.

What kinds of activities do you have at camp?

We offer a wide range of activities such as swimming, sports, arts & crafts, outdoor recreation, and adventure programming. All activities will be carefully supervised and age appropriate.

Do you have any programs for children with special needs?

We do not serve special needs populations but are willing to discuss involvements on a case-by-case basis. Our team and training are not geared toward children with special needs or at-risk children, and all campers must be reasonably mobile in order to participate.

Spruce Lake Retreat provides the facilities for an excellent Family Camp each summer called Joni and Friends. Their program is designed to provide a retreat for families which have a family member with special needs. You can find more information about Joni and Friends family retreats by visiting <http://www.joniandfriends.org/family-retreats/>.

Do you have an open house when we can see the camp?

Spruce Lake Day Camp hosts a few events during the school year. Our 'fun days' in the Fall and Winter are designed for campers to experience a 'taste' of Day Camp. The annual Spruce Lake Open House in the Spring is a drop-in event for any interested campers to meet some of our team members and check out the camp. Contact the office for information regarding these events. In addition, Spruce Lake Retreat is open almost every day of the year; if you call ahead, we will be glad to make arrangements for you to visit Spruce Lake Day Camp.

Are you affiliated with any church or denomination?

Spruce Lake Day Camp is a Christian camp affiliated with the Franconia Mennonite Conference of Mennonite Church USA. Our mission is "Pointing people toward Jesus Christ by caring for the children of our community". We accomplish our mission by providing a safe, nurturing environment where young people can grow socially, emotionally, and spiritually.

How do you screen and train your team?

We seek to find solid Christian men and women who are living their faith authentically and with integrity, who possess the skills and gifting for the roles they are seeking.

Team Member Screening - Each team member at Spruce Lake Day Camp is carefully screened. We require each summer team member to go through the application process annually, even if previously hired. We review applications, screen at least three confidential references, review employment/education history, and conduct personal interviews. All potential team members are required to sign a voluntary disclosure statement giving us permission to complete background checks with the National Sex Offender Registry, SS trace to verify address, and the National and County/State criminal history check.

Team Training - All team members are required to attend a summer team training event that covers both general subjects and subjects specific to their roles. Our training involves sessions on Health and Safety, Risk Management, Age Group Characteristics, Organizational Mission, Supervision and more.

What is your camper to counselor ratio?

We strive to have a Staff: Camper Ratio of 1:7. This ratio is adjusted according to the number and age of the campers enrolled in the program.

Tell me more about your camp health care program

We have a Nurse on duty at Day Camp, and Day Camp team members are trained in CPR & First Aid. Your child's safety is paramount. In the unlikely event that your child experiences an accident or illness at camp, protocol is as follows – Phone contact with parents/guardians is established in an emergency. This process is initiated by the director, nurse, and/or manager but can be delegated to an appropriate team member. Since we have no way of determining what each person considers an emergency, the general camp practice is to contact parents when there is a concern about campers' health and/or when a situation is not progressing as expected. Because many people remotely access their voicemail, it is expected that camp personnel leave voice messages that appropriately communicate the need for a given parent to call the camp.

Camper Health Form - This is a required form that we need to help ensure your son/daughter's wellbeing during their time at camp. Along with emergency contact and health-related information, it gives your permission to participate and gives us permission to dismiss your son/daughter to someone other than yourself.

What happens in the event of an emergency?

In the event of an emergency at camp, we will do everything in our power to contact the guardians as quickly as reasonably possible. Please rest assured that in the event of a communications breakdown, such as a power outage, regional crisis, or national incident, we are doing everything in our power to care for your child.

How do I get to Spruce Lake Day Camp?

The Day Camp will take place on the grounds of Spruce Lake Retreat. The entrance is located just off Route 447, about three miles north of the traffic light in Canadensis (the intersection of Routes 390 and 447). Traveling north on 447, you will pass Long Road on the left (This is the Wilderness Camp entrance). Stay on 447 N until you see the Spruce Lake Retreat sign on the left side of the road. Day Camp signs with directions will be posted on both the North and South entrances. Drop-offs and pick-ups at non-standard times will be at the Wilderness Camp location (turn onto Long Rd from Route 447 and take the first right).

What should a camper bring to Day Camp?

Water bottle, Bible (if you have one), Bank money, Sun & bug protection, Backpack, Sturdy Sneakers or Sandals w/ back strap, Towel, Swimsuit (see modesty), extra change of clothes (Please Label Clothes)

What should not be brought to Day Camp?

Cell phones/ electronics, Non-prescription Meds, Drugs/ Alcohol/ Tobacco, Dangle or hoop earrings, Spaghetti-strapped Tops,

Bikini-style swimsuits, Mid-cut and short shirts, Personal sports equipment, Animals or Pets, Snack foods/ Candy, Pocket knives,

Weapons of any kind, fireworks & combustibles.

What is the code for Clothing Modesty?

We encourage team members and campers to wear clothing that adheres to the modest standard described below.

-Swimsuits should be modest and one-piece or a Tankini-only if the fabric fully overlaps (no Bikinis).

-All clothing should be suitable for recreation activities.

-Shirts should be suitable for recreation and modest. Please do not wear form-fitting shirts, or those that reveal stomach.

-Leggings may be worn under other appropriate clothing but not as stand-alone pants.

-Tank Tops must pass all expectations for shirts and not have thin straps or expose the back.

-Please do not bring clothing with wording or images contrary to the Christian principles of the camp.

At the discretion of the counselors and/or managers, we may ask a camper to change or refrain from wearing certain articles if the above standard is not met.