

Fulton County YMCA
CAMP AGAMING & CAMP IROQUOIS
2010 Parent Handbook



The experience that lasts a lifetime.

Est. 1885 - Celebrating 125 years of YMCA Camping!

Fulton County YMCA
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www.fultoncountymca.org

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Welcome Parents and Campers!

Dear Parents and Campers,

Our camp staff has been busy planning and preparing for a great camp season and we are delighted that you will be a part of it. Our camp staff are committed to helping your child have an experience that will last a lifetime and to help them build a healthy spirit, mind, body through our camp programs.

Please take a moment to read through this handbook so you and your child are aware of our camp policies, procedures and practices. If you have any questions about camp please feel free to ask. Thank you for choosing Fulton County YMCA Camp Programs this summer and we look forward to serving you & your family.

Sincerely

Jes Walker

Camp Director for Camp Agaming and Camp Iroquois

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848-3447 ext. 279

2010 CAMP SPECIAL EVENTS

Please see camp newsletters & bulletin boards for details on these fun camp events!

125th ANNIVERSARY OF YMCA CAMPING CAMPFIRE - Wednesday, July 14th

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL – Thursday, July 22nd – 3:15-5pm

CAMP AGAMING ALUMNAE DAY – Friday, August 6th – 11:30am – 1pm

CAMP AGAMING OVERNIGHT - Friday, August 13th – 7pm -7am

CAMP AGAMING & IROQUOIS FAMILY PICNIC/ CLOSING PROGRAM – Friday, September 3rd – 11:30am-1:30pm

Camp Agaming Sessions & Themes (ages 6-13yrs) 9am - 4pm

Session 1: June 28th-July 9th

Week 1: Red White & Blue Welcomes You

Week 2: Wild, Wild West

Session 2: July 12th –July 23rd

Week 3 Splish-Splash Water Sensation

Week 4: Passport Around The World

Session 3: July 26th –August 6th

Week 5: Agaming Olympics & Color Wars

Week 6: It's A Bugs Life

Session 4: August 9th – August 20th

Week 7: Time Travel Adventures

Week 8: Agaming's Got Talent

Session 5: August 23rd – September 3rd

Week 9: Pirates of Camp Agaming

Week 10: Endless Summer Celebrations

Camp Iroquois Session & Themes (ages 4 & 5 yrs) 9am – 4pm

Session 1 - June 28th Party in the USA – Welcome!

Session 2 - July 5th A Bug's Life

Session 3 - July 12th Circus, Circus

Session 4 – July 19th International Week

Session 5 - July 26th Camp Iroquois's Got Talent

Session 6 - August 2nd Wild, Wild West

Session 7 - August 9th Wacky Water Week

Session 8 - August 16th Week 8 Disney Stories & Adventures

Session 9 – August 23rd Moovin' & Groovin''

Session 10 – August 30th Endless Summer Celebrations

Camp Extended Care – Optional, additional fee – must register at desk.

AM Extended Care – 7:00am – 9:00am

PM Extended Care – 4:00pm-5:30pm

CAMP PAYMENTS : All camp sessions must be paid in full by the first day of each session. All payments made after the first day of the session will be charged a \$15 late fee.

Absences:

No make-up days, credits or refunds will be given for missed days. No Exceptions.

Birthdays

If your child is celebrating a birthday during camp please be sure & share that information with us. We would like to help celebrate that day. If you are planning on bringing in a special treat to celebrate your child's birthday, please check with the Director to verify the number of campers in the group and whether or not there are any food allergies to be aware of. **Absolutely no nut products allowed due to allergies.**

Bug Repellant

Campers are encouraged to bring their own lotion or roll-on insect repellant to camp. This should be labeled and kept in their backpack and used as necessary.

Camp Counselors

Our camp staff are carefully screened and selected based on experience, education, skills, certifications, character (caring, honesty, respect and responsibility), enthusiasm and love of working with children. All our camp staff meet YMCA and NYS Department of Health requirements and guidelines.

Camper Code of Conduct

Our goal at the YMCA is to provide a healthy, safe, & secure environment at camp for all campers. Our camp focuses on four core values: Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility. Children attending camp are expected to follow our Code of Conduct and interact appropriately in a group setting.

Campers will:

- Be responsible for their actions.
- Respect themselves, others, our property, equipment and environment.
- Be honest in all their relationships and interactions with others.
- Treat others as they want to be treated and follow the Golden Rule.
- Use positive communication-no profanity, offensive words, name calling, etc....
- Listen and Pay Attention - it is necessary for camp safety & knowing what to do.
- Be enthusiastic, thoughtful, open-minded, friendly, and involved.
- Learn and obey all the camp rules.

The YMCA reserves the right to send home or suspend a camper from camp for disruptive, unsafe, or persistent behavior issues.

Camp T-Shirts

For their safety, all campers are required to wear their camp shirts on ALL FIELD TRIPS. The cost of the t-shirt is included in the camp fee and will be given out on the first field trip day. Extra camp shirts are available for purchase.

Character Development

The Fulton County YMCA has four core values that we strive to model and develop in our campers on daily basis. They are CARING, HONESTY, RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY. We incorporate them into all aspects of our camp program.

Clothing

Campers should wear simple, non-restrictive clothing that you do not mind getting dirty, muddy, wet, or possibly ruined. Shorts, jeans, sweatpants, tennis shoes, and t-shirts are a good choice. Their clothes will get dirty.... it is camp. You may want to send along an extra change of clothes just in case. We are not responsible for lost, damaged or missing items. ***To minimize the chance of lost clothing please label all clothing properly.***

Camp Fees and Payments

A child is not registered for any camp program until payment is received in full and all paperwork is completed and submitted.

All camp fees are non-refundable and non transferable and must be paid in full by the first day of each camp session. ***A \$15 late fee will be assessed on all late payments made after the first day of the camp session.***

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

Cell Phones or any electronic devices (Nintendo DS, I pod, etc...) are not to be brought to camp or used in camp. If necessary, cell phones & other devices will be collected by staff and returned to the parent/guardian and at the end of the day. The Fulton County YMCA is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen property. In emergencies, campers can be reached by parents or guardians by calling the YMCA - 848-3447. If the camp is offsite on a field trip the Camp Director and Assistant Camp Director will have cell phones so that they may be contacted by the YMCA.

Cubbies

Each child will have a labeled cubby each camp session. Campers must keep all their belongings in assigned cubbies provided for them. Your child is responsible for keeping their cubby clean & organized while at camp & keeping track of their personal items.

Daily Activities

Campers will be grouped into different units depending on age & other variables. All children are encouraged to participate in many different camp activities such as arts & crafts, games, sports, singing, dancing, swimming& much more. An example of camp activities and a typical camp day is available & posted in our unit areas.

Discipline

When a camper does not follow our Code of Conduct we may take the following steps: Staff will redirect the child to more appropriate behavior.

Child will be reminded of rules, behavior guidelines and discussion occurs.

If behavior continues, Camp Director/Asst. Director is notified and meets with the child.

If behavior persists, parent/guardian will be notified. A note will be given to the parent/guardian explaining the situation.

If a child's behavior threatens the immediate safety of them selves or others, the parent may be notified and expected to pick up the child immediately from camp. If a problem persists and a child continues to disrupt camp, the YMCA reserves the right to suspend or expel a camper as situation demands. No refunds will be issued for campers who are suspended or removed from camp for disciplinary reasons. Campers that don't follow the Code of Conduct may also be ineligible for field trips

Early Pick Up

If your camper is going to be picked up early we must have a written note from the parent or guardian stating the date & time and who will be picking them up. Please inform the Camp Director, Assistant Director, or other camp staff at sign in with your child.

Extended Care & Late Pick-Up

Camp hours are 9am - 4pm. Optional Extended Care hours are 7:00-9:00am & 4-5:30pm. Campers being dropped off or picked up during these hours must be enrolled in Extended Care program. *If a child is picked up later than 5:30pm (by YMCA clocks) there will be a \$15 late fee payable at pick up. After 15 minutes (5:45pm) there will be an additional \$5 late fee charged for each 5 minutes thereafter.*

Field Trips

Camp Agaming field trips are every Wednesday, weather permitting & are included in our camp fee. Field trips require a bagged lunch & make sure your child brings extra snacks as well as a water bottle. **Campers MUST wear their designated camper t-shirts on all field trips.** Camp Iroquois will schedule a few field trips during the summer TBA.

Camp Agaming field trip schedule is:

PINE LAKE - June 30th, July 28th, August 11th & 25th, September 2nd

BOWLING, LIBRARY, CREEK STOMPING – July 7th

PINE LAKE/KANE MTN HIKE – July 14th

SPECIAL LUNCH/JHS POOL/CREEK STOMPING – July 21st

WOODWORTH LAKE BOY SCOUT CAMP – August 4th

NORTHAMPTON BEACH/MINI GOLF – August 18th

FONDA FAIR - Sept 1st

Food Allergies

Many children have food allergies and we do our best to accommodate all situations. Fulton County YMCA reserves the right, when deemed necessary to make any area free of specific food allergens based upon the needs of the participants in that specific area. Please let the Director or Assistant Director know of any food allergy your child may have so we can take the necessary precautions. **Our camps are nut free zones – please do not send your child with lunch or snacks with any nut products. Thank you!**

Health

All campers must have their health history (immunization forms) completed and on file by the first day of summer camp. **Per YMCA & NYS Department of Health code, no child may attend camp without this completed form on file at the YMCA.**

Lunch/Snack

Campers must come to camp with a lunch, snacks, & drink daily. Do not send glass bottles or items that need to be heated up. Lunches should be sent in a bag or container with the child's name on it. Please bring an extra water bottle your child can carry with them. We will be outside & keeping them hydrated is very important during the summer.

Medication

We can only accept campers who can self-administer their own medication.

A "Permission to Facilitate Self Administration of Medication" form must be completed before medication can be accepted. This form is available from the camp staff at sign in or member service desk. No over the counter medications will be accepted without written doctor's instructions. Medication must be in the original container with its original label. Container can only contain dosages needed for that camp day. Containers, Epi-pens, inhalers, etc, must go home daily with parent/guardian.

Parent visits

The YMCA has an open door policy for the parents of all campers. Please speak directly with the Day Camp Director or Assistant Director to let them know you are visiting. Parents are invited and encouraged to visit the program sites at any time, but must take care to not interfere with or disrupt the on-going activities.

Personal Property

Fulton County YMCA is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Please make sure that all personal items are labeled with your child's name. Please do not bring personal items to camp such as game boys, iPods, cell phones, or electronic devices.

No electronic devices are allowed in the camp.

Photos

If you don't want your child be photographed for YMCA publicity purposes, you must submit a written do not photo request to the Y prior to your child's first day of camp.

Ratios

We follow all the NYS Department of Health licensing regulations for staffing. Our ratio for Camp Agaming is a ratio of 1 counselor to 12 campers and Camp Iroquois a ratio of 1 counselor to every 10 campers.

Sign In/Sign Out

All campers must be signed in & out daily – no exceptions.

Allow extra time on the first day of each session. Only a parent, guardian or adult (over the age of 18) designated on the pick-up authorization list may sign out the child at pick up (PHOTO ID REQUIRED). **The YMCA reserves the right to refuse pick-up to anyone not listed on the Pick-Up authorization list or that is unable to show photo ID.**

Sunscreen

We strongly encourage campers bring their own sunscreen. Safety from the sun is very important. Kids cannot share sunscreen and must provide their own. We will be outside most days so it is important that your child is protected from the sun. Also providing your child a hat to protect them from the sun is strongly recommended.

Swimming

Children will be swimming everyday. Campers will be safely watched by certified lifeguards as well as staff members located in the water with them. Children must bring a bathing suit and towel each day. Two days a week there will be a short swim lesson in the beginning of each swim time for the campers. Campers will be swim tested to check their ability whether they are a deep-end swimmer, shallow-end swimmer or non-swimmer.

Transfers

There is a \$25 transfer fee per camp or camp session if you change your child's camp schedule. Please choose wisely when registering your child as we are reserving staffing, trips, and a spot in camp for your child.

What to wear

Your camper should be dressed comfortably for the day. Shorts, t-shirts, socks and sneakers are best. For campers protection, do not send your child in sandals, flip flops or any shoe that can easily fly off – sneakers required daily. On chilly or rainy days send your child with a sweatshirt or jacket. An extra change of clothing is recommended daily.

What to Bring - Be sure to label all your child's items!

- Book bag or tote bag for all their personal belongings
- Lunch, Morning & Afternoon Snacks, & Beverages
- Water bottle
- Bathing suit and towel
- Extra change of clothes
- Sneakers required daily, socks, shoes, (flip flops or sandals optional for pool & beach)
- Hat & Sunglasses
- Sweatshirt or jacket if cold or rainy
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We're looking for donations of recycled household items for arts & crafts and children's games that can be used at Camp Agaming & Camp Iroquois this summer. Some craft items needed are: toilet paper or paper towel tubes, cans, glass or plastic jars, tissue boxes, milk jugs or cartons, egg cartons, shoe boxes, ribbon, fabric, newspaper, etc. See our donation list posted at camp for details. Puzzles, board & table games or gently used toys & books you're no longer using are also greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Sincerely - YMCA Camp Agaming and Camp Iroquois Staff