

## 2020 Summer Nature Day Camp

### Frequently Asked Questions

[How much is a session of summer camp?](#)

[What are the hours of camp?](#)

[How much and when is Before and After Care?](#)

[How do I add or edit sessions for my child's registration?](#)

[If I need to cancel, can I get a refund?](#)

[Do you serve lunch at camp?](#)

[What do I need to pack for my child?](#)

[Can the Conservancy staff administer medications?](#)

[My child is young. Will you put sunscreen on them?](#)

[What are the rules of camp?](#)

[Can my camper be in a unit with his/her friend?](#)

[How do you break up the units at camp?](#)

[Can my child be a Junior Staff member?](#)

[My child has special needs. Can they attend camp?](#)

[Something came up! I need someone to pick up my camper who is not on the authorization list. What do I do?](#)

[How can I contact you during the day?](#)

[What is STEM?](#)

[How does STEM/STEAM fit into Camp?](#)

[What are the STEM Missions of the Week?](#)

[Where can I find out more information?](#)

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How much is a session of summer camp?

-June 22-Aug 14, 2020: Each 5-day session of camp is \$270. We will not hold camp on July 3 and the week of June 29-July 2 costs

\$220 at Mt. Pleasant. Belmont campers will be going on a field trip during the week, and the June 29-July 2 session costs \$270.

What are the hours of camp?

-Camp runs from 9:00 - 3:30 daily. Morning drop off is from 8:45 – 9:00. Afternoon pickup is from 3:30-3:45. If your camper is arriving late or being picked up early, please inform our staff so that we can meet you. The Camp Session of August 17-21 has the hours of 8:30—4:00 with no Extended Day options available.

### How much and when is Before and After Care?

-Before Care starts at 8:00am and is \$30 for the week. After Care starts at 3:30 and is available until 5:30pm for \$60 for the week. Before and After Care is not pro-rated.

### How do I add or edit sessions for my child's registration?

-Log in to your account on the [Registration webpage](#). You will not have to make a new registration. If you require a reimbursement, your payment will be returned through our registration management system. It may take up to three business days for the reimbursement to be processed. Please see below for refund availabilities.

### If I need to cancel, can I get a refund?

1. In accepting your online registration, the Camp reserves a place for your child and hires staff according to registrations and deposits paid. Therefore, refunds are processed according to the schedule below, less a refund fee for each transaction.

- There is a \$10 refund fee for each refunded transaction. Refund fees are non-refundable, non-transferable, and may not be applied to your balance.
- A full refund minus refund fees is permitted until June 1, 2020, or up to 21 days prior to the start of the session.
- Refunds requested up to 14 days prior to the start of the session will be refunded minus 30% and refund fees.
- No refunds after 14 days prior to the start of camp session unless the camper suffers medical emergency, attested to by a physician, which keeps the child from attending. Refunds are not given for absence, sick days or if a camper is dismissed due to behavioral problems.

2. Partial payments will be refunded based on the information above for the total session cost and subject to applicable Refund Fees.

3. The refund and cancellation policy also applies towards tuition paid for Before Care, After Care, and the Junior Staff Program.

4. Cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to [camp@howardnature.org](mailto:camp@howardnature.org) or [belmont@howardnature.org](mailto:belmont@howardnature.org).

Refund Availability		
Start of camp	Full Refund available until	Refund Less 30% until
6/22/2020	1-June	8-June
6/29/2020	8-June	15-June
7/6/2020	15-June	22-June
7/13/2020	22-June	29-June
7/20/2020	29-June	6-July
7/27/2020	6-July	13-July
8/3/2020	13-July	20-July
8/10/2020	20-July	27-July

### Do you serve food at camp?

-No. Campers should bring a filling, waste-free lunch. (Hints on [waste-free methods](#).) There is no refrigeration for lunches; include a freezer pack if needed. If your child is staying for After Care, please pack a snack as well. We may offer small treats or activities involving food (an example is making an edible fire to show how to build a fire circle and cooking fire), but we will send a specific letter home to parents beforehand with a list of ingredients. Where possible, we will use items made in a peanut-free facility. Parents may supply alternatives for campers.

### What do I need to pack for my child?

-Please pack the following: water bottle; sunscreen; waste-free, filling lunch; sturdy closed-toe shoes for running around; towel; water shoes; change of clothes; rain gear if the weather calls for it; a backpack in which to store your campers' items

### Can the Conservancy staff administer medications?

-No. Children who need to take medications while at camp must be able to take their own medications under supervision of Conservancy staff. To do this, we must have parent authorization for over-the-counter medicines and a physician's authorization for prescription medications. A Medication Form must be filled out for each medication the camper is taking while at camp, including regular prescriptions and emergency medications. The Medication Form may be found on our Camp Parents webpage.

### My child is young. Will you put sunscreen on them?

-No. Sunscreen is considered to be a topical medication by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and we are not allowed to help apply it. We will remind and encourage campers to apply sunscreen and will stay in the shade through most of the day.

### What are the rules of camp?

-Summer Nature Camps at the Howard County Conservancy are safe places for all campers. To accomplish this, our camp rules require respect for oneself, each other and the environment. Please read these guidelines with your camper to help them fully understand the expectations and behave appropriately at camp.

Campers agree to:

- Show respect to other participants and treat them with courtesy
- Show respect to staff and cooperate with their instructions
- Know and follow behavior guidelines and camp rules
- Use program equipment, natural areas and facilities properly
- Respect the property of others
- Work out disagreements in a non-violent manner with the help of staff
- Communicate appropriately, which means not using foul language or gestures, unwelcome teasing or harsh words
- Respect the health and safety of other campers and staff, understanding that pushing, kicking, hitting, bullying or fighting are not acceptable and will not be tolerated

Camp is a special place where we prioritize all campers' right to physical and emotional safety. All campers deserve to try new things, make new friends, explore and have fun in a safe environment. Conservancy staff will work with each camper individually to resolve minor behavior issues and will seek positive parental support when necessary. The Conservancy reserves the right to dismiss a camper who exhibits unsafe behavior or endangers other campers. No refunds are provided if a camper is dismissed due to behavioral problems.

[Download a copy of the Code of Conduct](#)

### Can my camper be in a unit with his/her friend?

-Sure! Please tell us *prior to* the camp. You may email the Camp Director or include this information in Health History form. This information needs to be given to administrative staff at least a week prior to the start of the camp session. We will try to accommodate requests within reason but will likely not be able to group more than four campers.

### How do you break up units at camp?

-We will differentiate our activities by age and ability. Generally, we will have a unit for campers ages 5-7, a second unit for campers ages 7-9, and a third unit for 9-12 year old campers. The age breakdown is determined by the age of registrants and *may change depending on the session*.

### Can my child be a Junior Staff member?

-Children ages 13 and over may apply to be members of our Junior Staff. There is a fee for staff members ages 13-15. A limited amount of spaces are available. The fee is waived for Assistant Counselors ages 16-18. Please fill out the [application form available on the website](#). If your child is accepted to the Junior Counselor position, you will be sent a link to a registration page.

### My child has special needs. Can they attend camp?

-If your child is able to participate in normal daily camp activities, they are welcome to join us. However, we are unable to provide one-on-one assistance for camps. Please give us as much information as possible to allow camp staff to most appropriately assist your camper.

### Something came up! I need someone to pick up my camper who is not on the authorization list. What do I do?

-Email the director ([camp@howardnature.org](mailto:camp@howardnature.org) or [belmontcamp@howardnature.org](mailto:belmontcamp@howardnature.org)). You should call as well to let us know about the changes, but we need to see the name in writing so we can check it against the driver's license.

### How can I contact you during the day?

-For important issues while camp is in session, please use the following methods to contact us:

- Camp Phone (during Before and After Care) (phone number issued at the start of Camp)
- Mt. Pleasant Office Phone (during business hours) 410-465-8877
- Belmont Office Phone (during business hours) 410-465-8377
- Our Camp Directors may not be at their desks while camp is in session. Please allow 24 hours for an email reply or call our office for assistance.

### What is STEM?

-Traditionally, STEM incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. At Camp, we integrate Arts into so many of our activities, turning traditional STEM planning into STEAM! See our STEM@Camp page for more details.

### How does STEM/STEAM fit into Camp?

-We have always focused on science and nature at Camp, and we love to investigate over the course of our sessions and summer! This year's STEM Mission of the Week (MotW) will highlight the ways in which Campers use technology to solve problems, work together to design and test engineered structures and devices, and leverage mathematical reasoning to conduct science experiments. We find many imaginative ways to incorporate STEM into our daily planning; i.e. instead of a chemistry demonstration, Campers may participate in a Potion Class! We encourage hands-on investigative learning, not edutainment.

### What are the STEM Missions of the Week?

-We don't want to give too much away! Each week, Camp groups will receive their Mission of the Week briefing. They will work together with other Campers to complete the investigation or solve the challenge. See our STEM@Camp page for more details.

### Where can I find out more information?

-More information may be found online by visiting our camps webpage.

- [Parent Info](#)
- [Summer Camp Sessions](#)
- [Employment Opportunities](#)
- [Camp Blog](#)
- [Conservancy Facebook](#)
- [Conservancy Twitter](#)