

Other camps have already cancelled. Why are you still running?

The decision to operate a summer camp in this environment is a challenge to say the least! We have the utmost respect for our peers that have made the decision to not operate this summer. Our decision to move forward is based on our experience running emergency child care for essential workers and our confidence that we can put proper procedures into place that will allow for the safest environment possible under the circumstances. We also know kids need this. And many families do too. So, we will be here to do the best we can to offer safe, fun, enriching opportunities for our kids.

How is camp going to work this summer?

Campers will be placed into groups of ten children with consistent counselors for the week. Some activities may have specialists who will provide the instruction and leadership but remain properly social distanced.

Can children from my family attend different MetroWest YMCA camps throughout the summer?

In order to help reduce the potential spread of COVID19, all children from the same household are strongly encouraged to attend the same MetroWest YMCA camp. For example, if one child from your household chooses to attend camp at the Family Outdoor Center in Hopkinton, all of the children from your household would also attend camp at the Family Outdoor Center for all of the registered camp sessions.

When will camp start?

Our projected start date for camp is June 29. If you have registered for Pre-Camp and/or Week 1, you can have a credit toward another week, you can make a donation to the campership fund, or we will refund your tuition. This date is subject to change, according to the state plan for reopening, camps are in Phase 2.

What about the CIT/LIT program?

At this point, the CIT/LIT Program will run. There will be some changes to the program as groups are not allowed to mix but it can still be a summer of leadership development.

How will drop-off and pick-up work?

We are still finalizing our drop-off and pick-up plans. If you are enrolled in AM care drop off will be between 7-8. Regular camp drop off may have assigned times between 8:15-9:00. We do know that families will be asked to stay in their cars and a health screening will be part of the drop-off procedure. A brief questionnaire with a signature and temperature check will be required before campers are allowed into camp.

Will swim & swim lessons be offered?

Swimming will be a part of our programs at the Family Outdoor Center in Hopkinton and the Framingham Branch. Due to the need to stay physically distant, we do not think we will be able to offer swimming lessons. We are continuing to explore the options of providing swimming lessons but cannot guarantee our ability to offer them.

How will specialty camps fit in?

We have made the difficult decision to not offer specialty camps this summer. All campers registered for specialty camps will be rolled into our traditional day camp programs where they would be registered according to age. Refunds will be made for the cost difference between traditional and specialty camp. If you do not want your child enrolled in traditional camp, you can donate your tuition or request a credit or refund.

Will campers need to wear a face covering?

We continue to review all the information and guidance available. With the amount of our outdoor space, we believe we will be able to provide enough distance between groups so that face coverings will not be required for most of the day. However, there will be situations throughout the day that require campers to wear face coverings. We intend to provide campers with a buff to support this effort while maintaining ease of keeping your covering with you. "Buffs Up" will become a 2020 camp mantra!

What is the policy if a camper or staff member shows symptoms of COVID-19?

If a camper shows symptoms he/she will be immediately isolated, a face covering put on and sent home as soon as possible. If a staff shows symptoms they will be isolated immediately and sent home. We are moving forward with a policy of: Identify, Mitigate, Isolate & Trace. Our complete policy with further details will be sent to parents at a later date. Details will include our policy on a symptomatic camper/staff member and a confirmed case of COVID-19. Other information will include our plans on hand washing education, social distancing, cleaning and sanitizing, and screening of campers.

Can you guarantee my camper won't be exposed to the virus?

While we will be doing everything we can to manage the risk associated with campers and counselors being together in a group, there can be no guarantee. We simply cannot eliminate the risk, and we know that.

What will happen on rainy days?

It's camp! There will be rainy days where the program will go on as planned. If the weather is requiring campers to be indoors, they may be required to wear a face covering. We are still working on a rainy-day exclusion opportunity and we will let you know as soon as we have a plan for that option.

This message contains a lot of information to take in and there will be more coming. It is our goal to provide all the information necessary for you to make your decision regarding this summer. While we are developing safety protocols to provide a healthy, safe experience this summer, please know, we are also working equally as hard to plan for an exciting adventure for your camper