

YMCA Camp Wewa Parent Information Packet

Cabin Group Placement

Cabin assignments will be made on the basis of age and sex. Requests for one individual for your child to room with (must be the same age) will be granted. The person requested must request your child also, if not or if more than one camper is requested, we may not be able to honor the request.

Daily Schedule

A typical day for regular camp program is as follows:

7:30 am	Wake-up	1:00pm	Rest Period
8:00	Chapel Devotion	2:00	Cabin Swim/Trading Post
8:15	Breakfast	4:00	Cabin Group Activity
8:45	Cabin Area Clean-Up	6:00	Dinner
9:30	1 st Activity	7:00	Evening Activity
10:30	2 nd Activity	8:45	Twilight Talk
11:30	3 rd Activity	9:30	Optional Raggers program
12:30pm	Lunch	9:45pm	Cabin Devotions/Lights out

Our Counselors

Each year we strive to select young men and women for their Christian motivation, and who have displayed a sincere interest in and concern for the well being of children and our environment. A period of intense training provides skills in the techniques of counseling, group work, and program activities. Share whatever you feel will help the counselor do a better job with your camper including behavior challenges, fears, medical concerns, and/or significant family issues. All staff and volunteers are background checked.

TIPS—Our staff may not accept tips or gifts. Contributions to our Youth Scholarship Program on behalf of a staff member are most welcome.

Keep in touch with your camper

Campers LOVE mail! Encourage everyone to write. Most campers find letter writing a real chore, and are often too busy to “find time.” You can be sure that the trip home and the weeks that follow will be filled with their adventures. Stress happy events when you write. Ask about activities and new friends and try to avoid talking too much of home life as sometimes this sparks homesickness.

MAIL DELIVERY: Campers receive their mail daily. Care packages are nice for campers to receive as well. Camp Wewa has teamed up with Sealed With A Kiss care package company for your convenience. Please visit our web site at www.ymcawewa.org for more links. If you choose to send one, please do not include gum, soda, or food of any kind. Due to health regulations, all food products will be confiscated and not returned so please do not send them. All mail will be opened in front of staff. Any inappropriate items will be confiscated and not returned. Please note that we DO NOT forward or return any packages that arrive after your camper leaves. There is NO MAIL DELIVERY on Friday—closing day. Please send all mail to this address—Camper’s Name, Cabin Name, YMCA Camp Wewa, 221 South Binion Rd. Apopka, FL 32703.

TELEPHONE: Campers cannot receive or place phone calls while at camp. Any messages that need to be relayed to a camper or to the parents will be done through our Directors.

E-MAILS/FAXES: Camper’s ARE NOT ALLOWED to send or to receive faxes. All e-mails must be sent through our link with Bunk1 on our website (www.ymcawewa.org).

DIGITAL PHOTOS: We will be taking digital photos again this summer where you can go on-line to a secure web site, view and purchase photos of your child at camp. More information on our collaboration with Bunk1 will be available at camp registration.

Trading Post Accounts

Trading Post funds are automatically included in the camp fees. We will provide any drink and food item from the Trading Post on a daily basis as well as provide them with a Wewa Water Bottle and cover any incidental expenses (ie. emergency laundry expenses). Campers do not handle cash and are not allowed to keep cash in their cabins. Cash will only be accepted on Opening Day and Closing Day where parents and campers will have the opportunity to purchase Wewa Wear.

What to bring to camp

DRESS

Life at Camp Wewa is informal! Send typical play clothes—the kind you can afford to lose or don’t mind getting really dirty. We recommend a one-piece swimsuit as well for the girls.

BUG REPELLANT

During the summer in Florida, bugs are everywhere. Because campers spend much of their time outdoors, bug repellent is a MUST.

PERSONAL GEAR/NAME TAG

Please put your camper's name on everything. Personal belongings must be clearly marked. We can assume no responsibility for them. USE FIRST AND LAST NAMES. Lost and found is sorted at the end of each session. It is retained for one week after each session and then it is taken to the Good Will. We cannot mail lost items to you, please check the lost and found box in the dining hall if something is lost upon leaving. We are not responsible for items lost or stolen so please do not send valuables.

LAUNDRY

Laundry service is now available at camp for Wewa Weekend participants and is included in your camp fee.

WHAT TO BRING . . . (Suggested list)

Light weight sleeping bag or blanket

Pillow and pillowcase

Laundry bag

Sheets

Clip-on clothespins

Flashlight

Backpack

Extra bedding in case of accident

Rain gear

2 Swimsuits

5 T-shirts

2 Long-sleeve shirts

1-Wk supply of underwear

6 Pairs of socks

2 Pairs of jeans/long pants

We encourage campers that play the acoustic guitar to bring them to camp but please remember that you do so at your own risk. Safe storage will be provided if requested.

3 Pairs of shorts

2 Pairs of tennis shoes

Pajamas/robe

Flip-flops/water sandals

2 Bath towels

Swimming towel

2 Washcloths

Toothbrush & toothpaste

Soap/Shampoo/Conditioner

Comb/Brush

Deodorant

Insect repellent

Sunscreen

Disposable camera

Stuffed Animals

Books, etc. for quiet time

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

Cell phones

Propane powered hair curlers

Radio/Walkman

CD players

Electronic games

TVs

Expensive cameras or watches

Rifles/Ammunition

Knives/Hunting/fishing knives

Beverages/food

Bicycles/rollerblades

Pornographic materials

Any of these items and any other item deemed unacceptable by the Directors will be **immediately confiscated**. Controlled substances or fireworks are prohibited. Possession or use of controlled substances, alcohol, tobacco, or fireworks will result in immediate dismissal from camp, without a refund.

Travel Information

DIRECTIONS: From I-4: Take the S.R. 436 Exit. Go WEST on 436 until it intersects 441. Go NORTH on 441 through Apopka. Turn left on Lakeview (3rd stop light after the 429/441 intersection). Go to the end of Lakeview and turn left on Binion Rd. The camp will be a mile down on the left. **From Florida Turnpike:** Go NORTH on the Turnpike to Toll Road 429 NORTH. Go to the end of 429 where it intersects Hwy. 441. Turn left on 441 and go to Lakeview (3rd stop light after the 429/441 intersection) where you will turn left again. Go to the end of Lakeview and turn left on Binion Rd. The camp will be a mile down on the left.

Arrival and Departure Procedures

ARRIVAL: Sunday between 1:30-3:00 pm. All campers need to arrive at that time. **Please do not arrive early!** Some of our staff is dismissed on weekends between sessions and is not available to greet early arrivals. When you arrive, a member of our staff will meet you where you will receive a map of the camp and direct you the Dining Hall for Check-In. At the Dining Hall, you will receive further instructions. Please keep in mind that YOU MUST CHECK-IN WITH THE NURSE AND ADMINISTRATION STAFF. NOTE: After check-in you will need to put your child's bags in the camp van or truck in the parking lot and we will bring it to their cabin. You and your child will need to walk to their cabin from the parking lot. **DO NOT DRIVE INTO CAMP.**

SWIM EVALUATIONS

Each camper's swimming ability will be evaluated on opening day. Everyone must have a swim evaluation. **Boating/skiing options correlate with swimming capabilities.**

DEPARTURE

Parents are encouraged to come at 1:45pm and join us for the closing ceremonies at 2pm. Checkout is from 2:30-4:00pm. Campers will be ready to leave right after the Closing Ceremony. It is important they be picked up before 4:00pm as that is the time most our staff begin their time off. **YOU MUST CHECK YOUR CAMPER OUT PERSONALLY WITH THEIR COUNSELOR!** We must have written permission to let them leave with someone else. Please send a note to the Director indicating the name(s) of the person(s) who have permission to pick up your child. Please have a photo ID with you for anyone picking up a child at Camp Wewa will be asked to see their ID before any child is

released. PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK UP ANY MEDICATION BEFORE YOU LEAVE AT THE INFIRMARY AND DOUBLE CHECK FOR MISSING POSSESSIONS IN THE DINNING HALL. NOTE: In inclement weather, such as thunderstorm, check-in and out procedures will be modified. We appreciate your patience on these days!

PARENT EVALUATION

At the end of the summer you will receive a parent evaluation. Your feelings and impressions are important to our commitment to quality camping. Please complete this evaluation and return it promptly, as all comments are considered by our program committee and help us plan for the following year.

Visitation Policy

No visitors please. This policy results in an improved program and is partially responsible for the elimination of homesickness problems.

Wewa Weekends

Campers who are staying between sessions may stay for a Wewa Weekend. Wewa Weekends include supervised activities and meals. There is an additional fee if they stay and they need to be registered for this program in advance. Free laundry service is included for all Wewa Weekend campers.

HOMESICKNESS

Remember when you were homesick? You survived and so will your camper. We'll work with them and help adjust to this new feeling. Please don't rush to camp if the "Help-Come Get Me" letter arrives. In most cases, by the time you get the letter, the problem will have passed. If you feel a concern, however, don't hesitate to call the Camp Director. It is important that your camper understand that they may not leave camp during the session without the knowledge and permission of the Camp Director. Our policy in cases of campers who leave without permission is to notify you as well as the local law enforcement officials. Parents are contacted in severe or prolonged cases.

BEDWETTING

If your camper periodically experiences bedwetting, please be sure we know about it. Talk with their counselor. Be sure to include a plastic mattress cover with the extra bedding you send along. We want to make their stay here as comfortable as possible.

Photographs

Many pictures are taken each summer. Often they are used in camp promotion pieces and placed on our web site. If you DO NOT want your camper in these photos, a separate letter must be sent to the Camp Director. Again, if we do not hear from you prior to your camper's arrival, we will assume that you have given your permission. Photos can be viewed and purchased at www.ymcawewa.org.

Camper Health Forms

Please complete this very important form completely and accurately. DO NOT PERMIT THE CAMPER TO FILL OUT THE FORM. The form asks you for information that will assist us in caring for your child's health and provides us with vital information in case of illness or accident. **A physical by a health professional is required within one year of your camper's arrival at camp.** PLEASE RETURN the Health Form at no later than May 15th. Late forms will result in a \$25 late fee and possible drop from the camp session.

Important Health & Camp Policy Information

HEALTH CARE PROCEEDURES

The camp Infirmary is supervised by a registered nurse and/or the Camp Director. Our counselors are all required to have current First Aid and CPR/AED training. Our infirmary is equipped with all necessary and routine over-the-counter medications. We accept only prescription medications prescribed by a doctor upon arrival at camp. These will be administered to your child by our health care staff. Please don't bring basic items that are already on hand at the infirmary.

If an emergency trip to the hospital or a doctor is necessary, a staff member will accompany your child and one of our staff will contact you as soon as possible. You will be expected to meet your child at the hospital and are responsible for any follow-up appointments that may be necessary. You and a physician must release your child in order to come back to camp. If your child becomes ill and a non-emergency visit to a doctor is needed, you will be contacted and asked to transport your child to the doctor.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Medical charges for any illness or injury at camp are your responsibility. Bills will be sent to you for submission to your insurance carrier. Be sure the name of the carrier and your policy number appear on the medical form! This procedure will prevent paying for the coverage twice.

MEDICATION

ALL MEDICATIONS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE HEALTH DIRECTOR DURING THE CHECK-IN DAY SCREENING.

This includes all vitamins, over the counter drugs, etc. NO MEDICATION will be accepted unless it is in a properly labeled container including:

1. The Camper's Name
2. The Prescription Number
3. The identification of the medication
4. The proper dosage
5. The date it was dispensed

6. Complete instruction for use

7. The doctor's name.

CAMPERS USING INHALERS MUST BRING 2 INHALERS WITH THEM.

Medications not picked up after camp will be held for two weeks and then discarded.

ADHA MEDICATIONS

Hyperactive children on medications are not uncommon at camp. Normally these children present no special problem. However, these children do become a problem when a doctor or parent decides to change, reduce, or suspend the child's medication right before sending them to camp. Children often have very dramatic behavior changes when their medication is adjusted or suspended. This is not the time to send a child to camp. Children with severe behavior disorders or whose medications do not substantially modify their behavioral disorder, do not do well in a camp environment and parents should consult the Camp Director prior to enrollment.

DIETARY RESTRICTIONS

Please let the Camp Director know at the time of registration of any dietary restrictions your child may have. It is important to get this information to us so that we may inform the kitchen of any special menus that need to be prepared. Please include information of vegetarians as well.

ALLERGIES

Please notify us if your child has any allergies, especially insect or food.

Payment Procedures

DEPOSIT AND BALANCE OF FEES

A \$150/session non-refundable deposit is required with each registration. The balance of the session(s) fees must be received by May 15th in order for your child to attend. A \$25 late fee will be assessed to your account for any late payment or forms. If you register after the deadline date, you must register in full. The balance may be paid in installments if desired. Please contact the camp office at (407) 886-1240. Please note there will be a \$30 service charge assessed to your account for any checks returned by the bank for insufficient funds. Failure to pay your balance will result in your child being dropped for the program.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

YMCA Camp Wewa Youth Scholarship Fund offers services to all that desire to participate regardless of ability to pay. Scholarship assistance is available on a sliding scale and reviewed by the Camp Director on an individual need basis. Scholarship applications are available at www.ymcawewa.org.

DISCOUNTS/BONUS BUCKS

Bring-A-Friend – Campers can earn \$25.00 toward their camp fee for each new friend they get to sign up (Someone who has not attended Wewa before).

Early Bird Discount – Campers can earn a \$25.00 Trading Post Bucks for registering before December 31st.

Multi-Family Discount – Families can earn \$25.00 for each additional child sent to camp.

Host a Wewa Video Party and receive a 10% discount for every new camper that signs up! Contact the Camp Director for more information.

REFUND POLICY

Cancellations made in writing and received at YMCA Camp Wewa by March 15th will be eligible for a refund of fees paid toward the season. There will be no refund of deposit made on cancellations after March 15th. A \$25 processing fee will be charged for any session change made after March 15th.

BEHAVIOR POLICY

A camper may be asked to leave camp if his/her behavior interferes with the camping experience of others. No refund is made in this situation!

Confidentiality Agreement

All information contained within your child's file and all conversation is considered confidential. The program is restricted by law from releasing confidential information on any individual, agency, or school district without first obtaining permission from the parent to do so. Any names, addresses, phone numbers or other confidential information will only be used by YMCA Camp Wewa for marketing purposes.