

# INFORMATION & GUIDELINES

The following information will help guide us all in living as a community of families for the weekend. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Huy Lu at Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear by telephone at (909) 866-3977 or email at [campbigbear@ymcasm.org](mailto:campbigbear@ymcasm.org)

## CHECK-IN and CHECK-OUT TIMES

We will be ready to welcome you at the Camp Office at 4:00pm on Friday, August 30. We do encourage you to pack efficiently and as light as possible. If you need to arrive at camp after 7:00pm, please call camp (909) 866-3977 to let us know your anticipated arrival time so we can know when to expect you. Please plan to pack and clean your way out of your cabin or dorm after Monday's breakfast and before any closing activities.

## LOW-TECH GUIDELINE

Video games, I-pods and laptops are discouraged. We are an outdoor recreational facility where spending time in nature and building community is a large part of the goal for family camp. Electronic devices detract from that experience. Cell phones receive very poor reception in most areas of camp; we have a telephone in the office and internet access for emergencies. Cameras are welcome to capture ALL your camp memories.

## COMMITMENT TO HEALTHY CHOICES

Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear is part of a national YMCA initiative to improve wellness through physical activity and healthy nutrition choices. At camp, being active is a part of every day. You will enjoy many outdoor physical activity opportunities. The terrain is uneven and mostly unpaved. Your activity level will be very high during your family camp experience. Your family should enjoy "camp style" fitness opportunities. Meals at family camp will be served cafeteria style with many additional healthy options at our salad and cereal bar.

## SPECIAL NEEDS (mobility, diet, allergies, etc.)

We strive to provide programs and services for everyone at Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear. If you or a family member has special needs, please contact Huy Lu by telephone at (909) 866-3977 or by email at [campbigbear@ymcasm.org](mailto:campbigbear@ymcasm.org)

We will be happy to discuss the weekend's activities with you to make sure they are appropriate for your family. We can provide vegetarian options at regular meals, however, our ability to serve intense allergies and dietary needs depends on advance notice and may require that you plan to supplement with your own supply of specialized foods. Refrigerators and microwaves are located in game room. Supplementary food items can be store in your cabins but not in the camp kitchen refrigerators.

## HOUSING ASSIGNMENTS

Every effort is made to honor requests for those who wish to share a housing unit with another family. Families are, generally, housed together based on the age of the children in each family. We can, also, arrange housing for individuals with special needs and/or limited mobility. Feel free to call the camp director to discuss any concerns about the location or amenities in your dorms or cabins.

## COMMUNICATION

In case of emergency at home or in camp, the camp telephone number is (909) 866-3977. Non-emergency messages will be delivered at mealtimes. There is a telephone available for guests to use if needed.

## DRESS CODE

Outdoor and modest dress is the most fitting for camp. Closed toed shoes are required for many recreational activities and warmer clothing is recommended for outdoor evening programs.

## **FIRST AID and MEDICAL CARE**

Families are responsible for their own first aid and medical care. Emergency transportation and major injury care is available from local volunteer fire department. Non-emergency transportation is the responsibility of the affected family. Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear reserves the right to send a participant home if a physician so advises.

## **REFUND POLICY**

Camp registration deposits are not refundable. The balance of the camp fee will be refunded only under exceptional circumstances, and with the approval of the Camp Director. Please understand that we have reserved a place for your family with your registration, and may have turned others away.

## **ALCOHOL & TOBACCO POLICY**

As a branch of the YMCA, and in the spirit of Family Camp, our guests must refrain from the possession or use of alcohol or drugs while at camp. If members of your family smoke, we ask that you do not smoke inside any of our facilities and will designate an area for you if requested.

## **NOISE CURFEW**

For the comfort of our community, please make an effort to keep noise to a minimum from 10:00pm-7:00am as sound travels easily in camp.

## **LOST and FOUND**

A common camp issue! There is a box in the Dining Hall Fireplace Room for lost or found items. Unclaimed clothing will be laundered and donated to charitable organizations after thirty days.

## **FORGOT SOMETHING?**

Another common camp challenge! Camp has basic supplies available; just ask any Santa Monica Family YMCA Camp Big Bear staff for assistance. There is also a Vons or CVS in Big Bear Lake which can supply most needed items.