



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mountain Mist Day Camp Policies

Food

Campers will be offered a free breakfast snack and lunch. Details on this program will be provided prior to the start of camp. If your camper prefers, they can bring lunch in a brown paper bag labeled with their name.

Due to several allergies, we are now a nut free camp.

What should my child bring to camp?

Campers should bring a backpack packed with a brown bag lunch (nothing that needs to be heated up) if they do not want to receive the free lunch that is provided to all campers, bathing suit and towel, sunscreen (no spray) and water bottle. All items should be labeled with your campers first and last name. All campers must wear sneakers. No other footwear is allowed for safety reasons. If campers arrive with other footwear we will call you to bring sneakers to them. Be aware that clothing and sneakers may get wet and dirty at camp! it is advised not to wear anything new or of value.

Do not bring any electronics or toys. If a camper must bring a cell phone it will stay in their backpack and switched off during the camp day. If you need to communicate with your camper, call the main camp number at 203-237-7864. The YMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen personal items.

Membership: To enroll in camp your child must have a Meriden YMCA membership, either a full or program membership. Call 203-235-6386 for details.

Medical Form: This form must be turned in before a camper can attend a day camp per the State of Connecticut's regulations. If your child needs to take medication while at camp, the Medication Administration Form must be filled out and signed by a physician before our Camp Nurse can administer medication to your child per State of Connecticut requirements. You can pick up this form at the Meriden YMCA or download it from our web site at www.meridenymca.org

Individual Care Plans: If your child has allergies, asthma, seizures, diabetes, or behavior issues, an individual care plan is required by law.

Payment: All camp payments must be made in full before the camper attends camp unless other arrangements have been made. Payments will be auto-drafted weekly. Call us at 203-235-6386 for more information.

Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify for the Campership Fund Scholarships. The date of the Campership Application night will be announced as soon as it is available.

MERIDEN-NEW BRITAIN-BERLIN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Refunds: All fees except your non-refundable deposit, basic membership fee, camp improvement fee and any late fees will be refunded if the Meriden YMCA is notified in writing no less than 10 days prior to the start of a registered week. Deposits may be refunded only in the event the cancellation is due to medical reasons and notification must be in writing accompanied by a doctor's note prior to the registered week. No refunds will be awarded once the camp week that the camper has registered for has begun. For additional information on this and all of our camp policies, visit our web site at meridenymca.org

Cancellations: Specialty Camps require a minimum number of participants. If the minimum number is not met prior to the beginning of the session, the Meriden YMCA reserves the right to cancel the specialty camp prior to the session. You may transfer to another specialty camp or traditional camp for that session.

Transportation Plan

In an effort to provide safe, reliable, and quality transportation services to our campers and their families, Mountain Mist uses pre-selected bus routes throughout the summer. Our buses are staffed by Mountain Mist counselors to and from camp daily. We can't accommodate individual bus stops. You will receive a camp bus schedule with your registration materials and the schedule is posted online at meridenymca.org.

Daily bus lists are given to the bus counselor so counselors can check campers in. If there is a change in transportation, please send a note or call the camp office before 1:00 p.m. Please also contact the office if you are picking up your child early!

How can I contact my child and/or camp staff during the camp day?

Please call the camp office at 203-237-7864 during camp hours. Your child can contact you from the camp office phone. **DO NOT CALL THE DOWNTOWN Y.**

Lost and Found: On occasion, campers lose or forget things at camp. Please label your children's things. We do have a lost and found area at camp and we do show the lost items to the children when we gather after lunch at Polly's Place before afternoon activities. Any unclaimed items go in the lost and found area. Any items not claimed the end of the last camp session will be donated or thrown away.

Overnights: Camp overnights are held the second Thursday night of the camp session, weather permitting. There is no AM bus service the Friday after an overnight. Parents may drop off their camper at camp after 7:30 a.m. on the Friday after an overnight. Dismissal is at 12 p.m. and PM buses will arrive at their stop 3 hours earlier than the regular schedule. PM Care is available until 5:30 p.m. for an additional fee. All children will receive breakfast after an overnight, and those staying for extended day will receive lunch.

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DCF Mandated Reporters

The YMCA Staff are mandated reporters. In our professional capacity, we are required by law to report any suspicion or belief that any child under the age of eighteen might have been abused or neglected. This includes leaving a child unattended in a car.

Drop Off & Pick-Up Policy

1. All parents must sign their child in when dropping off for am care.
2. All parents must sign their child out and show ID when picking up. It is a state mandated code.
3. No child will be dismissed from the program with anyone other than the parents or persons listed on our authorization forms unless we have written permission from the parent. Please note it is the responsibility of the parent to inform the staff of any changes regarding authorization. Therefore, the parent must check the child's file with the staff for correct or updated information. (Please be advised, all people who pick up your child will need to show a form of a picture I.D. and know the code word.)

What do I do if my child will be late, or if I need to pick up my child early?

Please call and notify the camp office at 203-237-7864. All late arrivals and early pick ups are at the camp office. Only individuals on your child's approved list (with the code word and photo i.d.) will be allowed to pick up your child from camp.

If a Child is Not Picked Up at Closing

If a child is not picked up after closing hours the following steps will be taken:

1. The child/children will be kept calm, busy and reassured that he/she will be taken care of and their parents are probably held up at work.
2. Parents will be called at work, home, and cell phone to try to reach them.
3. If parents cannot be reached, we will call the emergency or alternative contact at 5:30 p.m. When the emergency contact person has picked up the child staff will leave notes on the camp office door to tell the parents who picked up the child and when. (Every effort will be made to contact parent.)
4. At 6:00 p.m. if the child is not picked up the YMCA will have no choice except to call the police department. At that time, the child may be released to the police.
5. Staff members are aware of usual pick up times for individual children and will call if the parents have not picked up around their usual time.

Discipline Policy

We use positive guidance (conversation), redirection, and quiet time as our means of discipline. Redirection is a method where the child is lead into another activity to get

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their mind off activities causing difficulties. It is trying to redirect a child to another kind of activity. Quiet Time is when a child has to be removed from the activity because of some unacceptable behavior. The child is given several warning before quiet time is imposed. The child sits in an area away from the activity and in some cases away from other children to think about their behavior that they exhibited.

If a child is exhibiting unacceptable behaviors on a consistent basis and the methods we are using are not working, the director, or counselors will discuss what options we might try to change or correct these behaviors.

All parties must be honest in communicating the concerns that they are having dealing with the child. It is important for the staff and parents to stay in constant communication. The concerns could be about anything dealing with: behavior, development, speech a physical condition, etc. We do have outside consultants and agencies that can help. When we have come across a situation where every possibility has been exhausted, and the child is not benefiting from the programs the facility has to offer, or the behaviors have not changed, the parents will be asked to remove the child from camp. The Meriden YMCA staff will assist as much as possible. We will leave the door open for a child to return to this facility should the behaviors diminish or change to the point where our program would be more conducive to the child's needs.

If you have a problem with your child or another child within this facility, you need to address the problem immediately with the director or assistant director. Please do not text any camp counselor directly, or take matters into your own hands.

- Under no circumstance will any child be frightened, humiliated, neglected, abused, corporal or restrained.
- Under no circumstance will food be taken away for a child misbehaving.
- Children are not bad their behavior is what is unacceptable.
- All staff members are expected to act professionally when they are dealing with children. Appropriate language must always be used to emphasizing the positive.
- Use supervisors and directors to try to solve problems. Try to work out problems with the parents we work as a team.
- Discipline is always under direct staff supervision.

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