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## **2020 Mountain Mist Day Camp FAQs**

### **How will camp be set up differently this summer to follow the new COVID-19 safety guidelines?**



- Parent pick up and drop off at staggered times
- No bus service this year
- Safety and directional signage throughout camp
- Camper groups at their camp sites, groups of 10 campers with two counselors
- Rotate through camp activities while following social distance guidelines
- Each group will have own art supplies and sports equipment
- Each group has their own assigned bathroom and Mountain Mist will have additional port-o-lets to accommodate the increased need
- Counselors stay with same group. Meeting the current CDC guidelines of ensuring that student and staff groups are as static as possible by having the same staff work with the same group of children all day.
- Before and after care campers will be assigned to groups with other before and after care campers
- Campers will wait at a specific grid location on the assigned field in the same spot each day at arrival and at pick up
- Hand sanitizing stations throughout camp, frequent handwashing
- Staff using all necessary PPE
- Enhanced health and wellness screenings including daily temperature checks
- No overnights

Continue reading for more details.

### **What guidelines is Mountain Mist Day Camp following to plan for camp this summer?**

Mountain Mist Day Camp is following all guidelines and requirements from federal, state, and local governments as well as the YMCA including: the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC), State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, YUSA.

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

##### **MERIDEN YMCA**

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### **Will there be bus service?**

Due to the safety guidelines, we are unable to offer our bus service. There will be parent drop off and pick up at staggered times. More information will follow.

### **How many campers will be allowed at Mountain Mist this summer?**

- Mountain Mist has 66 acres of space.
- OEC approved our camp for 450 campers
- We can accommodate 16 - 45 groups of campers, with each group consisting of 10 campers and two counselors. These meet CDC guidelines of enhanced social distancing.
- We do not know yet how many campers will be on site. This depends on registrations.
- Our camp has enough space and walking areas within its locations (Approx. 50-70 feet between camp sites) to meet the current CDC guidelines of enhanced social distancing and restricting mixing of groups.

#### Groups per Traditional Camp Village

- Teepees: 2 - 4 groups
- Pioneers: 2 - 4 groups
- Discoverers: 3 - 6 groups
- Explorers: 3 - 6 groups
- Adventugators (Adventurers and Navigators): 2 - 4 groups
- CITs: 1 group - training first sessions-integrated later on
- Adaptive - one counselor per child integrated into age group and will also meet as a group following guidelines

#### Groups per Specialty Camp

- STEM- 1 group at camp
- MTC - 2 groups at camp or at YARTS
- Art - 1 group at YARTS (9:00 AM -12:00 PM)
- Sports- 1 group at camp
- Gymnastics - 1 group at camp transported to Gymnastics Center (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)
- Cooking- 1 group at camp transported to YARTS
- Fishing/Fort Building- 1 group at camp transported to approved ponds
- Horseback Riding - waiting for guidelines

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### **How many counselors will be with each group?**

- Two counselors per group, remain with same group all session
- The same staff will work with the same group of children all day to meet CDC guidelines ensuring student and staff groups are as static as possible.

### **What is required of counselors to help keep our campers safe?**

- All counselors will have temperature taken before campers arrive Meeting the current CDC guidelines of implementing screenings safely, respectfully as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations.
- Counselors will be instructed and trained on the current and proper cleaning and sanitizing method meeting the current CDC guidelines of intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation.
- Counselors will have access to and wear the necessary PPE throughout the day, as well as wash hands, covering coughs and sneezes, etc. meeting the current CDC guidelines of promoting healthy hygiene practices.
- Counselors will wear masks. They will wear gloves when filling water bottles and handling lunches.
- Counselors will interact with assigned group meeting the current CDC guidelines of ensuring that student and staff groups are as static as possible by having the same staff work with the same group of children all day.
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### **What is expected of campers?**

- All campers will have temperature taken upon arrival, meeting the current CDC guidelines of implementing screenings safely, respectfully as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations.
- Campers will be instructed and trained on the current and proper cleaning, movement and social distancing methods. Meeting the current CDC guidelines of intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation, and of promoting healthy hygiene practices.

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- Campers will be instructed and directed on expected camp behavior meeting the current CDC guidelines of protecting children and staff.

### **Do campers have to wear masks?**

At this time guidelines do not require them to wear masks. If your family decides you want your camper to wear a mask your camper is welcome to do so.

### **How will social distancing guidelines be followed at camp?**

- Between groups - Our camp has enough space and walking areas within its locations (Approx. 50-70 feet between camp sites) to meet the current CDC guidelines of enhanced social distancing and restricting mixing of groups.
- Within groups - Campers will be instructed and directed on expected camp behavior meeting the current CDC guidelines of protecting children and staff.
- We will continue to educate them on the CDC guidelines and ask that you continue to remind them of these at home.

### **How will staff keep camp clean and sanitized?**

Camp cleanliness and sanitizing meeting the current CDC guidelines of promoting healthy hygiene practices and intensifying cleaning, disinfection and ventilation

- Cleaning equipment and portable foam hand sanitizing dispensers will be located throughout camp
- Jugs of sanitizer will be at each camp site
- Each camper will be given individual hand sanitizer bottles on lanyards
- Visual signs everywhere at camp as a reminder to wash hands, keep each other safe from germs, and keep camp clean
- Equipment will be cleaned before, during and after use
- End of day spraying with Ghost B Sprayer 105ex

### **What will the camp day hours be?**

- 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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- Before and after care campers will be assigned to groups with other before and after care campers
- Specialty Campers cannot participate in before and after care
- Campers will wait at a specific grid location on the assigned field in the same spot each day

### **What is the daily Traditional Camp activity schedule?**

#### Morning Activities

- Breakfast snack at campsites
- Morning announcements will be broadcast
- Counselors (2) with assigned groups of 10 at assigned site/area.
- Sites will be equipped with necessary art and sports supplies and hand sanitizers. Campers will not share supplies and equipment will be cleaned before, during and after use meeting the current CDC guidelines to limit sharing.
- Campers MUST bring water bottles that will be filled by counselors, at one of the various water stations, throughout the day.
- Follow planned activities for the day scheduled by village directors and counselors.
- Rotations to assigned areas and activities.
- All camps will have assigned port-o-let or bathroom areas.

#### Lunch

- Free Lunch: Counselors will bring boxed or bagged lunch to campers from pavilion to the camp sites. Campers that bring their lunch must provide a lunch that can stay in a backpack. No refrigeration will be available.

#### Afternoon

- LOGS (Lots Of Great Stuff) will be broadcast
- Continue with scheduled activities
- Pool/Archery Rotation

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### **What about rainy days?**

- At Mountain Mist Day Camp we call rain liquid sunshine! We do everything we can to have fun on a rainy day.
- We will closely monitor the weather forecasts just like we would normally do for overnights, and announce any cancellation in advance.
- Virtual Activities will be offered if camp is cancelled due to rain
- We will utilize pavilions in sudden or threatening weather.
- If severe weather required us to close camp early (like when schools get closed early for a similar situation) we would call parents and guardians to pick up their camper.
- Rainy days are not prorated or refunded.

### **What if my child needs to take medicine?**

Much like child care settings that most of your children attend throughout the year our staff will all be trained in administration of medication As well as First Aid CPR. Rescue inhalers, epi pens and emergency medication will be kept in proper storage containers, labeled and with the child's counselor. Nurses and staff will log the administration of any medication throughout the camp day on the OEC's Medication Administration Record.

### **What happens if someone gets injured or sick?**

- Our Nurse, Health and Isolation Procedures meet the current CDC guidelines of monitoring and preparing.
- Counselors will evaluate the injury and contact the nurse via walkie/phone for severity of request, injury, etc. and will be advised on course of action
- Counselors have first aid and CPR training and campsites will be equipped with First Aid Kits
- We have a nurse on site throughout the camp day. The Nurse will advise on how to proceed
- Cabins will be designated as an isolation station should a camper show signs of a fever or COVID-19 related symptoms
- Childhood illnesses will still occur, children and staff who develop a fever will not be permitted to return to camp until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of acetaminophen (Tylenol, Motrin, Advil, fever reducers). Should a child or staff member develop signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 and a fever will not be permitted to return to camp until fever free for 72 hours without the use of acetaminophen. We will adhere to strict illness

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policies for the safety of all children and staff at the Y and consult with local and state health departments when necessary and as questions arise.

### **When do we need to register by?**

The deadline for registration is midnight on the Tuesday before the camp session you want you camper to attend.

### **How do we register this year?**

There are two registration options this year, online or paper. We encourage you to use online registration if you can to help us go green as much as possible.

Online registration opens Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a drop box outside of the Meriden YMCA for medical forms and for paper registration forms if you choose to use those instead of registering online.

### **Will there be a camp sign discount program?**

Yes. Register for camp between May 11 and June 1<sup>st</sup> and use promo code camp2020 to receive \$15 off of one session per camper. We will install the camp lawn sign in your yard. We ask that you please display it for 30 days.

### **Where and when do we drop off medicine?**

If your child needs to take medicine we will get you information on how you can drop off the permission form and medicine before camp starts.

### **Will there be an Open House?**

We are working on both an actual open house on June 6<sup>th</sup> and a virtual tour on our web site.

### **Will there be camp scholarships available?**

Yes. We are in contact with the Campership Scholarship board and they are working on raising funds for this. We are also working to raise additional funds. The

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qualification information is on our website. Please contact Phylis at the Y for the application and any questions. You can call 203-235-6386 and leave a message and she will call you back or you can email her at [pbalogh@meridenymca.org](mailto:pbalogh@meridenymca.org).

**Can we request that our camper be with a friend in the same group?**

Yes and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

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