



Y Camp Thunderbird

Family Camp Information Package

Dear Camp Thunderbird Family,

Welcome to Camp Thunderbird! Spring will be here before we know it and soon it will be time to start preparing for camp.

Information in this booklet is updated every year, and all of the information is vital for your camper(s) to have a successful experience. Please read carefully!

Life at camp is different from the routines and patterns of home. Taking the time to talk with your family about their upcoming experience is an important step in preparing. Setting a positive tone and clarifying expectations can really help your child make the adjustment. In doing this, your child will take the most out of their Camp Thunderbird opportunity.

We look forward to having your family join us at Camp Thunderbird.

Camp Programs

At family camp we offer all the same great programs as our summer camp programs. Families will be given the opportunity to sign up for the programs of their choice for that day at breakfast. **Not every program will be offered every day but there will be the opportunity to participate in all activities at one point during your stay.**

Some activities will be adult only with the opportunity for parents to leave their kids with Camp Thunderbird staff and head out with the other parents for a morning or an afternoon. There will be age minimums for kids to be unaccompanied in different program areas. Parents are always welcome to participate with their kids.

We do our best to foster an atmosphere of cooperation rather than competition. If we run an activity containing some element of competition, we focus on challenging campers to achieve their own goals, rather than encouraging them to measure their accomplishments against the achievement of others.

What to bring

The following checklist is a good guideline for packing for camp. We encourage you to wear old clothes you won't mind bringing home dirty or getting lost. We do not recommend that you bring expensive clothing to camp.

Label everything! We suggest sew-on labels for clothing items, and an indelible marker for other items. Include the camper's full name. Try to ensure that your camper can recognize the items that belong to them.

General Packing List

Clothing

- 3-4 day supply of underwear
- 3-4 day supply of socks (wool socks are best)
- 2 pairs of shorts
- 2 pairs of pants (sweatpants are warmer than jeans)
- 3-4 days of t-shirts
- 1 long-sleeved shirt
- 1 warm pullover (wool or fleece)
- 1 sweatshirt
- Warm jacket
- Hat (for those rainy or sunny days)
- Raingear (needs to be 100% waterproof, jacket and pants). Outdoor activities continue in the rain.
- Toque and mitts (for cool nights)
- Pajamas
- 2 pairs of shoes (1 for daily wear, athletic shoes or sport sandals, close-toed preferable)
- 1 to 2 bathing suits (easy to move, paddle, and swim in)
- sunglasses

Personal Items

- soap and shampoo
- toiletries, comb, toothbrush, etc.
- a watch and/or alarm clock
- sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher)

Other

- water bottle
- sleeping bag or bedding for single bed
- pillow
- towel

day pack
flashlight (extra batteries)
breathable laundry bag
stuffy toy (optional)
book (optional)

Please do not bring:

- Portable music devices
- Hatchets
- Food
- Video games
- Other valuables

Cotton vs. Synthetic Fabrics

Cotton does not insulate the wearer when it becomes wet and takes a very long time to dry. Synthetic fabrics such as polyester, polypropylene, nylon, spandex and fleece are better suited for spending lots of time outside. These fabrics keep the wearer warm even when wet and they dry very quickly. Wool takes a long time to dry but insulates relatively well even when wet.

Packing

A Rubbermaid bin or a duffle or hockey bag work well for organizing clothes and keeping them dry and secure in the cabin. We recommend a max size of 68L for the Rubbermaid tub. Anything larger is difficult to carry and does not fit well into the cabins. Please no bins with wheels.

Smoking

Our site is a smoke free property. Please let us know if this will pose a problem for you.

Telephone

There is very limited cell reception on our property. Use of cell phones is requested to be discrete as we promote a screen free environment for our campers. A landline telephone is available for your use at camp but it is not monitored throughout the day so it is best only for outgoing calls. If you need to be reached while at camp in case of emergency you can get have someone call 250-642-3136.

Lost and found

Lost and found items are displayed outside the dining hall during the session. Lost and found items are kept at camp for 14 days after the session ends and are then donated to charity unless...

you fill out our Lost and Found request form (found on our website) and a staff member will check the lost and found for you. If the item is found, we will contact you and make arrangements to hold it for you at camp until September 15, at the latest. This will give you

time to get to camp during our office hours for collection. **We will not be able to transport items into Victoria or Langford in 2019.**

Your privacy

The YMCA-YWCA is committed to maintaining the confidentiality, privacy, and accuracy of personal information it collects, uses and discloses about its participant, members, donors, parents/guardians, staff and volunteers. At the YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island (the Y) your privacy is and always has been very important to us. We are dedicated to provide you with superior service while protecting your privacy and safeguarding your personal information. For more information please visit our website: www.vancouverislandy.com

Camp Office

Camp Thunderbird

5040 Glinz Lake Road

Sooke BC V9Z 0E3

tbirdmanager@victoriay.com

Phone: (250) 642-3136

Sample Schedule

Time	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
7:45	Polarbear		
8:30	breakfast		
9:30		newt catching	Fort Building
	10am Arrival	low ropes	archery
		adult hike	Nature walk
11:00		community mtg	orienteering
	games	archery	archery
		Adult kayak	Canoeing
12:30	Lunch		
1:30	archery	rock climbing	Departure
	canoeing	frisbee golf	
	rock climbing	Adult climb	
2:40	frisbee golf	canoeing	
	kayaking	SUPing	
	rock climbing	Adult climb	
4:00	Disco	Disco	
5:30	Dinner		
7:00	animal game	campfire	
	campfire	adult SUP	
		Hyas Time	
9:00	Recommended Bedtime		