



Parent Newsletter 2020



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Pine Forest Camp's 90th Summer! There is a lot to do to get ready for camp. There will be lists to check, articles to read and forms to fill out. It might seem overwhelming. This newsletter contains some helpful advice and important guidelines.

We've assembled the best staff ever. There will be counselors from around the corner and around the world who can't wait to meet your children. Because a great camp like Pine Forest is about people. It's about each and every camper and surrounding that camper with care, adventure and fun. There is so much to look forward to, new friends, new challenges, new horizons.

We understand that there are a lot of things for children to do in the summer, but you picked the best. From all 5 generations of our camp family, we thank you.

When you pack your camper's gear, pack their hopes and dreams too.

We'll make sure to take good care of it all.

The Black Family



Try our Explorer Program: July 11-12, July 18-19, or August 1-2
or Play Day: August 9 (both offered at no charge to current families!)

Email info@pineforestcamp.com or [Register Now](#)

SUMMER 185 Pine Forest Road • Greeley, PA 18425 • 570.685.7141
WINTER 123 S. Broad Street, Suite 1200 • Philadelphia, PA 19109 • 267.639.2488

www.PineForestCamp.com
 Email: info@pineforestcamp.com
 #pineforestcamp @pineforestcamp



Getting Ready

Questions about packing? Contact our experienced camp mom, Hillary at hillary@pineforestcamp.com. No question too silly!

Here are a few tips:

- ✓ Leave one camp shirt out of the trunk and have your camper wear their "Camp Official" on the plane or bus (socks and shoes, too!). Camp Officials can be purchased on www.bunkline.com.
- ✓ Write a letter to your child before camp starts so it is there for the first mail call.
- ✓ Only a small, carry-on bag is allowed on the bus. Trunks, duffles, and suitcases should be shipped to and from camp (baggage companies are listed below).
- ✓ Remember to pack bug spray, a flashlight, a water bottle and sunscreen.
- ✓ Pre-addressed, stamped envelopes are helpful to young campers.
- ✓ Bunk placement information will not be given out before camp. Sorry!
- ✓ Pack a few extra gold (yellow) & blue T-shirts for "Color Days."
- ✓ Laundry goes out once a week, so make sure your child has enough socks and underwear for a week.

Important Contact Information

Camp Phone (267) 639-2488

After June 20 (570) 685-7141

Mountain Baggage (570) 775-0556

email: mountainbaggage@aol.com

website: www.mountainbaggage.com

R&B Baggage (603) 536-2197

(baggage for Florida families)

website: www.rbcampbaggage.com

CampMeds (954) 475-3055

website: www.campmeds.com

Letters

We encourage good, old-fashioned letter-writing. At mail-call each day, there is no better feeling for a camper than receiving a real, handstamped, hand-written letter or card. Some are treasures that are kept through adulthood.

Parents may also send e-mails through the "Bunk Notes" system (see back page), but letters are better.



Phone Calls

It's not easy, but part of sending children off to camp is "letting go." Although phone calls are not necessary, one phone call may be scheduled before Visiting Day, and one after Visiting Day. There are no calls scheduled during the first or last week of camp.

The office will schedule as many calls as possible, before or after dinner, until evening activity begins. Please be reassured that there is always a counselor at the telephone. Hearing your parents' voice for the first time can be upsetting and we will be there to comfort your child. Tears only last milli-seconds after the call – until the first friend walks by, a basketball is dribbled, or a frisbee whizzes by. Don't worry, but if you have a real concern – call us.

NO Packages, Please!

Except for necessities from home that are inadvertently left behind, like a book for school, goggles, shin guards, etc. there is really no reason to send things to camp and that is why we have a no package policy.

If an essential item was left at home, please call the camp office for a pre-approval code so that your package will be accepted and delivered to your camper.

We do allow birthday packages, but please keep them modest. Clearly label them with your child's birth date so that we deliver it on their special day. Please remember: NO bunk gifts or food! We will take care of the celebration!

Please limit large flat envelopes (9x12) to two a summer.



Electronics

Nothing with video or internet capabilities, please!

We do not allow old iPhones, iTouches, Kindles, or any device capable of a wifi or cell phone connection, hand-held games, portable DVD's, laptops, or cell phones. Even if the wifi connection can be disabled, it is not allowed. For music, we recommend Spotify's "Mighty" music player that plays your favorite Spotify playlists without a connection.

If they arrive at camp, phones and electronics will be collected, and returned on the bus (or at pick-up) at the end of the summer. **They will not be returned on Visiting Day. KEEP THEM AT HOME.**

The whole point of being "up where the sky begins" is to live our lives a little differently, a little simpler than we do the rest of the year. Campers can only gain independence if they are truly independent from you and the electronic outside world.

**Don't
BRING**



iPod Touch



Kindle



Cell Phones



Laptop

**Do
BRING**



MP3 Player
(without wifi)



A novel or two



An open mind



A sense of
adventure

More Guidelines for Camp

We've noticed that in recent years there has been an increase in "stuff" sent to camp. In an effort to keep camp and bunk-life simple, please respect these rules:

1. Please, no more than 2 duffel bags per camper can be sent to camp. They are HUGE and hold plenty of gear. Do not ship bedding or other items separately. Everything should fit into duffel bags! Stackable drawers, whether brought on the bus or packed in duffels are NOT allowed! An under-the-bed bin is 'OK' and should be packed inside a duffel!
2. Two Pillows! – in addition to a regular sleeping pillow, please limit any extra decorative pillow to only one more for the bed
3. Please, no bunk gifts or group promotional/logo/airbrush t-shirts or other custom-made apparel. They're great for winter sleepovers or parties, but please only send campers with PFC officials.
4. Remember our no-package policy rule, except those pre-approved for necessities. Birthday packages (which are permitted) should not contain any food or gifts for the bunk.

Thank you for your cooperation!



CampMinder & Campanion

Connect on-line for photos and more!

Every parent can email their child, check out news from camp, and see up to date photos and videos from the summer using the same login they use to fill out forms. Among many other things, you have the ability to email photos to your friends and family.



Just go to **"LOGIN"** on the top right side of the website and you will be directed to the many options available. You can also create guest accounts so that the whole family can connect to the online camp community. Enjoy!

New for 2020: the CampMinder app, **Campanion!** Stay tuned for its roll-out closer to camp!



Extraordinary Optional Activities

Learn more about trips and specialized one-on-one instruction, including tutoring, horseback riding, tennis, basketball and personal fitness, and sign-up for these worthwhile add-ons online!



FORMS

If you haven't filled them out yet, now's the time! Medical, Confidential and Transportation forms are required!

Medication at Camp!

All medication must be sent through **Campmeds**, a company that pre-packages medicine for safe distribution. Please register for CampMeds at www.campmeds.com if your child will be receiving any daily medication at camp. Feel free to call CampMeds directly with questions: (954) 475-3055!

New Camper Weekend June 6-7

Calling all new campers! Come up to camp with your family for the day or stay overnight. Meet future bunkmates, participate in camp activities and sing at a campfire! Call the office to RSVP.

Important Information

Saturday, June 27 Camp Begins
Saturday, July 25 Visiting Day
Saturday, August 15 Camp Ends