

YMCA Camp Oakasha

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Session Dates and Times

Camp starts at 9am and ends at 3pm. We do offer extended camp for additional fees.

Preview Week, June 25-June 29

*Preview week may not run due to school schedules

Session 1, July 2-July 13

*There will be camp on Monday, July 4th

Session 2, July 16-July 27

Session 3, July 30-August 10

Session 4, August 13-August 24

2. How much does camp cost?

Depends on the program you wish to sign up for.

Podunks and Mohegans \$355 for a two week session. Nehantics and Cherokees are \$375 for a two week session. Our CITs are \$375 for a four week session and Specialty Camps are \$380 for a two week session.

3. How long is my camper's physical valid?

Physical forms are valid for 3 years from the date of the examination. Camp does keep valid physical forms from previous summers. If you are unsure when your last physical was, please contact your doctor. Camp will mail out reminders to registered families who's physicals are expired or not on file in May.

**NEW - Health forms are due annually, and can be completed by parent/guardians*

4. How do I apply for financial aid?

Financial aid packets will be available at the front desk of the Waterbury YMCA April 1st for new families and those wishing to apply for camperships. Complete the packet and someone from the YMCA will get back to you. A \$50 deposit is needed to reserve your camper's spot until financial aid awards are given.

5. Does camp provide a lunch?

No. But we do refrigerate all lunches. For storage purposes we ask that you do not send a cooler or large lunch box. Brown paper bags work best in our refrigerator.

6. Can I pick my child up early?

Campers can be picked up early from camp if parents send a note or call the office, 860-264-42817, to make prior arrangements. Pick up cannot occur between 2:30-3:00 pm. During that time the entire camp is going through closing ceremonies and removing children is very challenging. Children will only be released to individuals that are listed on the camp registration form and can produce a valid photo ID.

7. What is the camper to counselor ratios?

Our youngest groups have ratios of approximately 1 counselor to 6 campers. Other groups remain at 1 to 8 and some of our older groups have a ratio of 1 to 12.

8. What are the ratios at the waterfront?

Our waterfront is staffed by certified Lifeguards who practice their skills weekly. We keep the waterfront ratio at approx 1 to 10.

9. What happens on rainy days?

It never rains at camp (it's only liquid sunshine). When there is liquid sunshine at camp we get everyone under cover and continue the fun. Depending on the severity of the liquid sunshine outdoor activities may continue until the weather impedes our safety.

10. What should my camp bring each day?

Each child should bring a backpack containing their lunch, bathing suit, a towel and maybe a hat and water bottle. Lunches are collected in the morning by the counselors.

11. What should stay at home?

Children will be actively participating in outdoor activities, so they should not bring game boys, personal music players, personal toys or games, or any other valuables.

12. Can I talk to my child's counselor?

Absolutely. We encourage you to share your input with our staff. Before each session counselor call every child's family (either the Sunday before the session starts or the first Monday of the session). You can also contact the office, 860-264-2817, and leave a message for your child's counselor to contact you. Another great way is to attend a family night and meet your child's counselor in person.

13. What if my child loses something while at camp?

14. We have a lost and found at each camp that fills very quickly and we try our best to return all lost objects to campers. Please place your child's name on each article of clothing and be sure to visit lost and found on family nights. Items are generally kept for two weeks after a session and then donated to a local charity.

15. What if my camper gets sick or injured while at camp?

We have a first aider on camp property and all of our staff are CPR certified and most of our staff also have a First Aid Certification. Parents are contacted to remove ill children from camp. In cases of emergency the local EMS responders will transport campers to Waterbury Hospital.