



# **FOR A SAFER US**

**YMCA CAMP MATAUCHA  
RE-OPENING ROADMAP**

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## **General Re-Opening Requirements**

As we begin to “Return to Normal” we have updated our COVID-19 Operational Guide. The following information provides an update to our families on how camp will be mitigating the risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

YMCA Camp Mataucha has reviewed the recommendations set forth by the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood (OEC), American Camping Association, and the CDC regarding face coverings & PPE, social distancing, and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting.

These policies and guidelines are constantly changing, as this information comes to us, we will update this guidebook and notify families of the change.

## **Confirmed COVID-19 Cases at Camp**

In the event a staff member or camper is diagnosed with a confirmed case of COVID-19, the Camp Director will report this to the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the OEC, and the Local Health Department for both YMCA Camp Mataucha and town of residence for those diagnosed. The staff or camper’s entire group (vaccinated staff are not required to quarantine) will not be allowed to return to camp for 10 days after the last day of contact with the affected child or staff member following local health recommendations. YMCA staff will conduct the appropriate cleaning and disinfecting protocols. Depending on the size of the program and the number of people affected, closure of a particular area or quarantine of an entire age group or the entire program may be considered.

## **Camp Staff**

Staff training curriculum will be modified to include updated information regarding our COVID-19 related cleaning, sanitizing, and reporting procedures. Camp Administration staff will be required to wash hands, sanitize office surfaces, wear appropriate face coverings, and maintain social distancing while working in the Main Office.

## **Before & After Care**

Before & After Care will be held in the Main Pavilion at Camp and the Greater Waterbury YMCA Rose Hill Gymnasium with groups socially distanced. If additional space is needed to maintain distance, Arts & Crafts, and tents will be available as needed.

## **Drop Off & Pick Up Procedures**

Drop off will be done in 2 waves.

- Before Care – 7:00AM – 8:30AM
- Traditional Camp Only – 8:45AM – 9:15AM

Camp Staff will be waiting for their groups in designated areas socially distant from other groups.

Parents will park their cars in the parking lot and walk their campers to the Sign In Staff Member. Here, you will sign your child into camp, and they will meet their counselor in their designated spot. All groups will be socially distanced in their designated areas. Once a child is signed in, we are asking parents to walk back to their cars to limit the crowd size at the main entrance.

Pick Up will be done in 2 waves.

- AM Care & Traditional Camp Day- 3:00-PM-3:15PM
- After Camp Care- 3:30PM-6:00PM

Parents will remain in their cars until the busses have left the parking lot. During this time, a staff member will come to your car and you will sign out your child. Once our busses have left the parking lot, your child(ren) will be walked to your car by a staff member.

## **Mask Usage**

Based on State Guidelines, staff and children will not be required to wear masks while outdoors. Staff or campers who wish to wear a mask outside may do so, but camp will not be requiring outdoor mask usage.

While indoors and on busses, campers and staff will be required to wear masks. Current guidance makes exceptions for campers with a documented medical condition, disability or special education need, and while eating.

All Campers and Staff who are using bus transportation to and from camp will need to wear a mask AT ALL TIME while on the bus.

Campers will need to bring a mask to camp every day and be prepared to wear them if needed.

## **Bussing**

As we navigate the transition “Back to Normal” we are excited to once again offer bussing for our families. All bus routes/times can be found by visiting [waterburymca.org/camps](http://waterburymca.org/camps) \*Please note: Campers will need to sit in assigned seats while riding the bus. Please review the section on mask wearing for additional information. We are asking all families to double check and confirm the correct AM and PM bussing information is provided in our online registration website.

## **Activity Areas**

Camp Staff will maintain distance from other groups. Only one group will be assigned to an activity area at a time except for swimming.

## **Swimming**

Based on endorsement from the Local Board of Health, swimming will be allowed. Each group will change one at a time. Waterfront will be separated into sections marked by cones on the beach and lane separators moved from current position to lengthwise from back dock to the beach.

## **WaterPark**

Groups using water park elements will end their swimming period 10 minutes prior to other groups at waterfront. There will only be one group per period using the Waterparks.

## **Boating**

While at boating, campers will only be in boats with campers from their group. Boats, paddles, and lifejackets will be sanitized in between uses. Campers will wash their hands prior to and after boating.

## **Tower**

Tower director will clean all hardware in between group usage. Counselors will be responsible putting on, assisting with, and removing harnesses and helmets. Helmets will be wiped down between uses. Two sinks will be installed in the Trailblazer pavilion and all campers will wash their hands prior to and after climbing.

## **High Ropes**

High Ropes director will clean all hardware in between group usage. Counselors will be responsible putting on, assisting with, and removing harnesses and helmets. Helmets will be wiped down between uses. Two sinks will be installed in the Trailblazer pavilion and all campers will wash their hands prior to and after climbing.

## **Low Ropes**

All counselors will be trained in low ropes facilitation. Groups will wash hands prior to and after low ropes at the sinks behind the main office. Staff will wipe down all elements used at the period end.

## **Field Games**

Campers will wash hands in the sinks near the Bathrooms prior to and after activity. Counselors will wipe down all equipment after use and return to designated area in shed.

## **Basketball**

Campers will wash hands prior to and after activity. Counselors will wipe down all basketball at the end of the period.

## **Nature**

Campers will wash hands prior to and after activity at the sinks near Woodward Hall. Counselors will wipe down all equipment at the end of the period.

## **Arts & Crafts**

Campers will wash hands prior to and after activity at the sinks near Arts & Crafts lodge. Arts & Crafts Director will wipe down all tables, chairs, and equipment used during activity period.

## **Blue Blocks**

Blue Blocks will be used in the empty field between Woodward Hall and Smith Pond. Campers will wash hands prior to and after activity in the sinks near Woodward Hall. Blocks will be cleaned and sanitized after each use.

## **Archery**

Campers will wash hands prior to and after activity at the sinks in Pequot pavilion. Archery director will wipe down all equipment prior to and after group usage.

## **Mataucha Store**

The Camp Store will be open during the lunch period. Each Unit will have a designated time to make purchases at the camp store. This summer, we are asking families to create a camp store account to limit the amount of cash transactions.

## **Assemblies**

We will be bringing back Full Camp Morning Flag and L.O.G.S. (Lots of Great Stuff!) this summer. These assemblies will take place outdoors, and in our amphitheater. Please review the section on Masks for more information regarding Outdoor Mask Usage.

## **Severe Weather Days**

Camp will not be held on days with forecasted/known heavy rain or severe weather. If there is a forecasted severe weather day, camp will be cancelled due limited indoor and covered space and the mask usage guidelines. Weather forecasts and patterns will be monitored and a joint decision by both the Outdoor Center Director and Chief Operations Officer before 7:00PM if the next camp day will be cancelled. When storms are forecasted for later in the day, they will be monitored and a decision to cancel the remainder of the camp day will be made and families will be notified to pick up their children. Families will be notified via

email, phone call, and text message in regards to Severe Weather Days. Families will receive a YMCA credit for each full day that is cancelled. On light rain days, camp will run as planned, please send your camper in appropriate clothing for the weather.

## **Cleaning Protocols**

Our Camp Maintenance team will be updated and retrained on our cleaning and sanitizing procedures. This summer, we will be using Micro-Chem Plus, a disinfectant used by many school systems, hospitals and is an approved cleaner from the CDC. The most commonly used areas of camp (bathrooms, changing rooms, tables, etc.) will be cleaned when not in use.

## **Field Trips**

In 2021, YMCA Camp Oakasha will not be taking field trips. This summer, some of our normally scheduled field trips may be replaced with a Special Event at camp! We are hopefully that field trips will return next summer!