

Dear Families - welcome to Summer Day Camp @ Great Moose Adventures 2020!

Even though life looks a bit different these days, we are confident that Great Moose Adventures has created a summer day camp experience that is safe and engaging. While it will be different than any other summer, the focus is still the same - camp is a place for kids to have fun playing, exploring and making new friends.

To help reduce the spread of COVID-19, Great Moose Adventures will meet health guidelines designed in consultation with the Ontario Camping Association and the Simcoe/Muskoka District Health Unit and in alignment with provincial health guidelines for day camps. Guidelines include lower ratios and capacity, physical distancing, mandatory health screening and enhanced facility cleaning.

In order to make sure that the transition to this new camp experience is as smooth as possible, we have put together a parent handbook to help navigate our new system.

1. The Program

With social distancing rules in place, camp life looks different, but still the same. Traditional camp activities such as hiking, swimming & canoeing (Middler & Senior campers) , games, crafts, music, drama, sports, archery and camp fires will still continue - just with an independent focus.

Outdoor Education will also change, with team building activities switching to personal projects and challenges, but with all the same benefits:

- emphasizes camper engagement
- fosters a growth mindset
- practices critical thinking & problem solving techniques
- gain mental and physical skill

To allow our teachers more flexibility and camper choice for programming our theme for the first few weeks is CANADA!! This way we can focus on our wildlife (plant & animal studies), culture, celebrations, camp traditions and more. We will let you know as soon as we are ready to try a new theme.

2. The Space

- Both indoor and outdoor learning and play spaces will change to allow for a 2m separation between children in the same group and a 2m separation between different groups outdoors (referred to as cohorts in Ontario day camp guidelines).
- Cohorts are currently capped at 10 people (including teachers). Each cohort has their own designated classroom, entranceway, washroom, sink and play zone outside. Indoors, seats are spaced 2 metres apart and teachers will be managing their classes and following new procedures to maintain this 2m bubble as much as possible.
- It will not be possible to maintain this 2m bubble 100% of the time. Children are not robots and managing a group of children is not a perfect science. From time to time children will approach others or simply forget these new ways of living together, but our policies, procedures and setup will minimise these occurrences and, along with parental support, also minimise the risk of any possible infections existing in camp to begin with or spreading between teachers and children.
- As an outdoor education centre, much of our programming will take place outside, however due to bugs, hot temperatures and rainy/stormy weather, indoor programming will occur.

3. Food

- Lunches and snacks will not be offered at camp this summer, so children will have to bring these meals from home. Meals will be eaten at individual desks and no food sharing will be allowed. We will advise the week before if there are any anaphylactic food allergies in your class during your week of camp.
- Water - please bring as much water as possible in clearly marked water bottles. We suggest 2 liters in separate bottles, so that you can keep one in a cooler space until the afternoon.
- Boomerang Lunches only - we kindly ask that all campers take home everything that they bring, including garbage.
- Access to fridges, microwaves, dishware or cutlery will not be available - please bear this in mind when packing daily lunches
- Camp life is super active, so please provide lots of tasty, good food

4. Communication

- An email will be sent out 1 week prior to camp with a few details, however most information is found in this Parent Handbook
- Parents will have an opportunity for a quick chat during the morning drop-off & afternoon pick-up, but this time should focus on the daily health assessment (see below)
- If you have any questions or would like to set up a phone meeting with a Director, please send an email to directors@greatmooseadventures or call us at 705-687-3903 to book a time

5. Procedures

Drop-off/Pick-up & Health Screening - [Camp starts at 8:30am and ends at 3:30pm](#)

Prior to dropping off children, families will need to complete daily health assessments. Confirmation of this will be taken verbally each morning by a member of staff prior to entry into camp. The health assessment includes looking for the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- fever (>37.8 C) - temperature to be taken daily by parents
- chills
- cough that is NEW or worsening, barking cough (making squeaky or whistling noise when breathing) (croup),
- shortness of breath (out of breath, unable to breathe deeply),
- sore throat, difficulty swallowing,
- hoarse voice (more rough or harsh than normal),
- runny nose, stuffy or congested nose,
- lost sense of taste or smell,
- headache,
- digestive issues (nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain),
- fatigue (lack of energy, tiredness),
- falling down more than usual, for young children
- sluggishness or lack of appetite

Children exhibiting any of these symptoms will not be able to attend camp or will be sent home if they occur during the day.

Furthermore, if you answer yes to any of the following questions please do not send your child to camp:

1. Has your child been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 or someone who has been tested for COVID-19 (due to having symptoms or being a close contact of a confirmed case)?
2. Does anyone in the child's household have any of the systems listed in the symptom list above?
3. Has your child travelled outside Canada in the past 14 days?

Children will have to sanitize their hands at the check in tent prior to entering.

Parents will have to pick up and drop off their child outside and will not be able to come into the building.

For parents with younger campers or children who have not been to Great Moose Adventures (or other camps) before, please prep them for a happy good-bye, as parents are not allowed to accompany the kids to class. We will have staff available to escort the kids to their classrooms, but if you think this is going to be an issue - please consider whether your kids are ready for camp this summer.

Drop-off, health assessment confirmation and hand sanitisation will take place at the southern front of the camp in our Registration Tent. If there is a family in front of you, please wait in your car or a suitable distance away (minimum 2m - marked with cones).

Pick-up will take place at the northern front of camp, where a designated staff member will retrieve your child. Please observe 2m social distancing with other parents and children.

Masks and Protective Equipment

Children will not be required to wear masks but may do so if they choose.

Teachers will wear masks if they choose to do so or if they do not think they can maintain a 2m distance from a child (e.g. while distributing materials in the classroom).

If teachers need to come into very close proximity with a child, they will wear a mask and face shield (e.g. when administering first aid or helping to apply sunscreen).

Handwashing & Hygiene

Regular reminders to wash hands and visual checks by teachers will be made to ensure that all children are maintaining good hygiene. Learning how to cough or sneeze hygienically will also form part of health education.

'Keep it Clean' kits will be available in each classroom, which will allow teachers to maintain good hygiene with their cohorts and sanitize surfaces as they see fit, on top of an enhanced regular whole camp cleaning and sanitation schedule which takes place every 4 hours at a minimum.

Sun Care

Children must wear sunscreen and ball caps throughout the day. Please apply sunscreen at home with your children before camp everyday. We will ask the children to reapply throughout the day. All campers will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen, so it might be best to look for easy to apply sprays for the body and sticks for the face. In the event that a child needs help to apply the sunscreen, our teachers will wear a mask and a face shield.

Tick Checks

Individual tick checks will be done upon returning from an outdoor program. If a tick is found, our teachers will safely remove the tick wearing a mask, gloves and a face shield. The tick will be kept on site and can be sent home if needed.

Illness at Camp

If a camper falls ill while at camp, they will be placed in the first aid tent under the supervision of a staff person and isolated from the rest of their camp group. Caregivers will be contacted to pick up their camper immediately. The caregiver will be asked to take the child to a COVID-19 assessment centre to be tested.

Those who test negative for COVID-19 must be excluded from the program until 24 hours after symptom resolution. If a symptomatic person receives a negative result, a repeat test within 24-48 hours can be considered if clinical suspicion is high.

Those who test positive for COVID-19 must be excluded from the program for 14 days after the onset of symptoms and clearance has been received from the local public health unit.

Clothing, Gear & Equipment

Please follow the list to the best of your abilities. All items will be stored in the campers personal space and can stay at camp for the whole week. Teachers will encourage campers to look after their belongings, hang-up any wet/damp gear and take home dirty or soiled belongings. We will let you know the week before, if you need anything specific for your upcoming week at camp.

- water bottle (2x 1 Litre)
- hat
- sunscreen
- bathing suit & towel
- indoor shoes - flip flops are ok
- shoes with closed toes
- rain jacket & pants
- long sleeved t-shirt & pants
- extra shorts, socks and t-shirt
- extra underwear
- sweater/hoody
- plastic bag for wet clothes
- Life jackets for Middler & Senior Campers - please let us know if you would like to borrow one of ours
- Pencil case with a variety of age appropriate crayons, markers, pens, pencils, erasers etc.
- Scissors and a glue stick

Here is a list of items that you do not need: cell phones, cameras, video games, junk food or candy, new or good clothing

Here is a list of optional items: books, magazines, notebooks and a small stash of personal toys for your own space

6. Camper Code of Conduct

- All campers must follow 2m social distancing to the best of their ability, including indoor classroom time, during outdoor adventures and in regards to other campers personal belongings
- Any **purposeful** touching or breaking of procedure is grounds for removal from camp
- Self-screening - if any camper is feeling unwell at camp or at home, they must let an adult know as soon as possible
- Campers are expected to adhere to the GMA Rules of Respect - Respect Nature, Staff, Yourself, Other Campers and GMA Property

7. Payments & Cancellations

- Full payment must be received to confirm your booking - \$275/full week or \$220/short 4 day week (no HST)
- Due to the challenges involved with operating a small scale business in the uncertain times of COVID-19, we are not able to offer refunds or credits for any cancellations (sickness, personal or other), exclusions from camp (due to sickness or behaviour) or in the event that we are closed down due to a mandated government shutdown. We appreciate your understanding and support in this matter.

Payment Options

- Interac email transfers to directors@greatmooseadventures.com
- Credit Card with a 2.9% administration fee - [click here](#)
- Send a cheque to 'Great Moose Adventures Inc' (1368 Housey's Rapids Road, Gravenhurst, P1P 1R3)

If you have any questions about the information provided in the handbook please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to a wonderful summer ahead.