FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2027 Resident Camp Parent & Camper Handbook



CAMP JORN YMCA

Welcome Letter

Hello Resident Camp Families!

There is no place like Camp Jorn a home away from home where kids explore, grow, build friendships, and create memories that last a lifetime!

At Camp Jorn, our dedicated staff provide a safe, supportive environment where campers build confidence, develop new skills, embrace adventure, and connect with nature. Through cabin life, exciting activities, and outdoor experiences, campers learn independence, teamwork, and the values that make Camp Jorn so special.

We are honored that you've entrusted us with your child's camp experience. Their safety, well-being, and personal growth are our top priorities.

This handbook contains important information to help your family prepare for a successful summer. Please review it carefully and don't hesitate to contact our office with any questions.

We can't wait to welcome your camper for another unforgettable summer at Camp Jorn!

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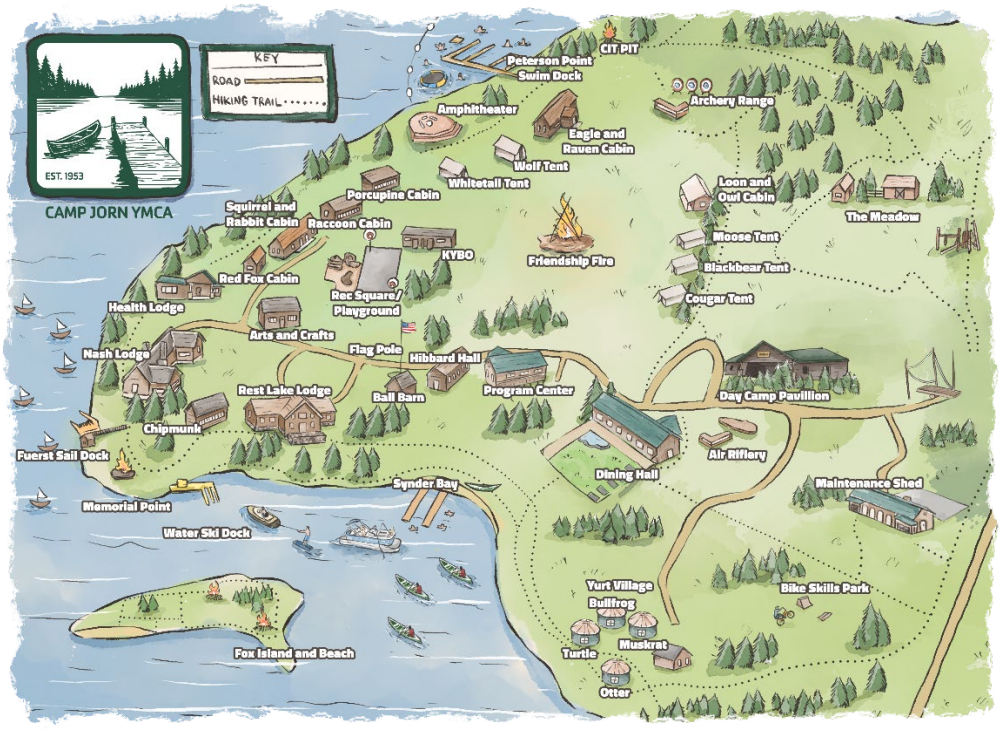
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Before You Arrive | Family Checklist

Use this checklist to help your camper prepare for a safe, fun, and memorable summer at Camp Jorn!

Registration & Forms

☐ Complete all required forms by **May 14, 2027**.
☐ Pay your remaining balance by **May 14, 2027**.
☐ Verify emergency contacts, authorized pickup adults, and health information.
☐ Confirm transportation arrangements and review arrival/departure times.

Preparing Your Camper

☐ Review camp rules, behavior expectations, and the electronics policy together.
☐ Discuss homesickness, daily routines, and asking counselors for help.
☐ Practice independence with hygiene, organizing belongings, and personal responsibilities.
☐ Encourage your camper to try new activities and make friends.

Packing & Personal Belongings

☐ Review the packing list and pack together with your camper.
☐ Label all clothing, bedding, and personal belongings.
☐ Pack medications in original, labeled containers for check-in.
☐ Leave electronics, valuables, and prohibited items at home.

Staying Connected

☐ Review camp communication policies and photo access through SmugMug.
☐ Pack stationery, stamps, and addressed envelopes for letters home.
☐ Add Trading Post funds if desired (**$40–$60 per week recommended**).

One Last Reminder: Involve your camper in preparing for camp! Encourage independence, build excitement, and remind them that counselors are always available to help.

Our Mission

Building character, confidence, and community through enriching outdoor experiences.

Camp Jorn YMCA Goals & Objectives

The goal of our summer camp experience is for campers to experience personal growth through engaging in challenging activities, while experiencing a sense of supportive community. This experience is rooted in our core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and personal growth. At Camp Jorn, you will develop growth in our core values, build new and lasting friendships, develop skills in our activity areas, and grow socially within our camp community.

Camp Jorn YMCA's goals, objectives, & Indicators are:

1. Campers will develop personal growth and higher sense of self while engaging in challenging activities that promote positive risk taking, independence and opportunity for success.
    a. Campers select own activities for elective times
    b. Each camper will participate in activities during the week that will personally challenge them and teach them new skills, such as: camping, hiking, firebuilding, backpacking, canoeing, fishing, sailing, team sports, archery or other activities.
2. Campers will work on making & maintaining positive relationships with their peers and friends while building a sense of community.
    a. Each camper will live with a group of fellow campers in a cabin, platform tent, or yurt. Together, they will build a community, share responsibilities, and make group decisions.
    b. Each camper will participate in a democratic decision-making process in his or her cabin through cabin activity choices.
    c. Each camper will have the opportunity to create life-lasting friendships and positive relationships with others through group living.
3. Campers will learn the YMCA core values to help them become positive well-rounded individuals.
    a. Honesty: Campers will be taught the value of honesty while at camp, to speak and act with sincerity, truthfulness, fairness, and integrity.
    b. Respect: Campers will be taught the meaning of respect, to show consideration for self, others and the environment.

c. Caring: Campers will be shown how to care for themselves and others, to provide compassion and understanding and to recognize the goodness in others.
d. Responsibility: Campers will experience responsibility for themselves, their actions, their belongings, and camp property. They will be taught to do what is right, to be accountable for their behavior and obligations, and to persevere to completion.
e. Personal Growth: Campers will strengthen four personal competencies: compassion, contribution, commitment, and character—to discover and become their best selves.

We support campers' personal growth through age-appropriate opportunities that reflect their developmental stages. Campers choose three electives based on their interests and age, with each offering progressive skill levels that help them work toward mastery.

Camper Eligibility

Camp Jorn strives to create programming to be enjoyed by as many children as possible. In everything we do, health and safety are our top priorities. As such we need to recognize the limitations of our facility, programs and staff.

All campers must meet the minimum age requirement for their program and must be able to do the following at a developmentally appropriate level for their age:

- Communicate needs and concerns with others at a conversational level of English
- Understand and comply with directions given by staff
- Refrain from unsafe/harmful behaviors towards themselves and others, including self-harm
- Identify and avoid safety risks
- Feel comfortable living in a rustic environment (no air conditioning, presence of insects/animals, etc.)
- Able to maneuver rough terrain and distances
- Manage the sensory stimulation of a frequently large, loud, and energetic group environment (especially during dining hall mealtime)
- Assume responsibility of personal hygiene, including the ability to use the bathroom, shower, and change clothes independently
- Demonstrate age-appropriate social and emotional skills in managing personal boundaries, relationships, communication, stress, and conflict.

- Ability to participate safely and respectfully within a typical group size of 10 peers and 2 counselors.

Important Health & Safety Note:

If your child has any conditions requiring special care — such as anaphylaxis, severe asthma, seizures, Type 1 diabetes, gastrointestinal disorders, motor disorders, ADHD, autism, cognitive disorders, or other exceptional health conditions — please contact our Operations Director, Lauren Heger at Lauren@campjornymca.org or our CEO, Katy Bost, at Katy@campjornymca.org as soon as possible to discuss. This will allow us to review your camper's health history and treatment to determine if Camp Jorn can safely meet their needs.

Forms & Deadlines: May 14, 2027

All forms are due by May 9th. Most are completed in your online account; some may be downloaded and uploaded. Please let us know if you have any questions or problems with the online forms or your CampInTouch account. You can call the office at 715-543-8808 ext 0201 or email jenn@campjornymca.org for additional assistance.

Required Forms Include

☐ **HEALTH HISTORY & IMMUNIZATION RECORD**

(Parents/guardians must complete and sign the Health History & Immunization form for campers under 18. All campers and staff must meet Wisconsin school vaccine requirements. Exemptions may be allowed for medical, religious, or personal reasons, but may be restricted during outbreaks. Fax immunization record to 608-901-0593)

☐ **RESIDENT CAMP LETTER TO THE COUNSELOR**

(Share camper's needs, challenges, and camper's own thoughts.)

☐ **AUTHORIZED GROWN-UPS**

(Who can pick up at bus/camp; valid photo ID; no release under age 18 or under the influence)

☐ **TRANSPORTATION FORM**

(Choose arrival/departure method (car or bus); bus spots limited.)

☐ **FRONT/BACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE CARD**

(For clinic/hospital billing; campers without insurance must have a waiver on file)

☐ **CAMPER PHOTO**

(For identification/emergency use)

☐ **ANTI BULLYING & BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT**

(The camper and parent/guardian must sign Camp Jorn Anti-Bullying and Behavior agreement prior to attending a session. Please go over the details of this agreement carefully with your camper.)

Payment Information

You will select your preferred payment method during registration.

Deposit: A $250 non-refundable deposit per session is required at registration. Families applying for financial assistance are eligible for a reduced $100 scholarship deposit per camper, which is applied toward their camp balance. The scholarship deposit is refundable only if the family declines the scholarship award; once accepted, it becomes non-refundable, including for cancellations or no-shows.

If paying by check, your camper's spot will not be reserved until the deposit is received.

Final Balance Due: May 14, 2027

Payment Options

1. **Credit Card – Automatic Final Payment**

Your remaining balance will automatically be charged to the default credit card on file on May 14, 2027.

***A 3% processing fee applies to all credit card payments*.**

2. **Credit Card – Automatic Installment Plan**

Spread your remaining balance across scheduled automatic payments on the following dates:

- January 15, 2027
- February 12, 2027
- March 12, 2027

- April 16, 2027
- May 14, 2027 (final payment)

***A 3% processing fee applies to all credit card payments*.**

3. **Check/Other – Pay on Your Own**

You are responsible for submitting your remaining balance in full by May 14, 2027. No automatic payments will be processed.

Please note: All camp balances must be paid in full before your camper can attend.

- Please make checks payable to Camp Jorn YMCA. (There is a $25 fee for all returned checks.)
- Or mail payments to: Camp Jorn YMCA 13591 Zenner Lane Manitowish Waters, WI 54545 Attn: Camp Registrar
- Please include your camper's full name and camp session in the memo line of your check to ensure your payment is applied to the correct account.

Changes, Cancellations & Refund Policy

We understand that plans can change! All requests to change or cancel your camper's registration must be submitted in writing to the Camp Jorn office. Schedule changes will be made whenever possible, based on availability.

- **Deposits:** The $250 deposit is non-refundable.
- **Cancellations:** Payments made beyond the deposit are refundable if cancellation is requested at least 4 weeks before your camper's session start date. Exceptions may be considered for medical reasons.
- **Late Cancellations:** Cancellations made less than 4 weeks before the session start date are not eligible for a refund, except in approved medical circumstances.
- **Early Departures:** No refunds will be issued if a camper leaves early or is dismissed due to homesickness or misconduct. Camp Jorn YMCA will retain 100% of the session fee.

Scholarships

Camp Jorn YMCA is committed to making the joy of camp accessible to every child, regardless of financial circumstances. Financial assistance is available to qualifying, timely families, with awards typically covering **10–50% of camp session and transportation fees**, based on demonstrated financial need and available funding.

How to Apply:

- Register your camper first. A camper registration must be completed before applying for financial assistance. A **$100 scholarship deposit per camper** will be collected at registration and applied toward the camper's balance. If you are unable to pay the $100 deposit, please contact jenn@campjornymca.org
- Complete the **online Financial Assistance Application.** Only one application is required per household.
- Upload **ONE** form of income documentation: your most recent tax return, W-2, two recent pay stubs for each parent/guardian, Medicaid card, Free or Reduced Lunch eligibility letter, or Schedule C for self-employed applicants.
- Receive your scholarship award notification within five business days of submitting a completed application and income documentation.

Scholarship Deposit: If you decline the scholarship award offered by Camp Jorn YMCA, your $100 deposit will be refunded. Once you accept your scholarship award, the deposit becomes non-refundable, including if your camper later cancels or does not attend camp.

Fundraising Opportunities

Camp Jorn offers optional fundraising opportunities to help families offset the cost of camp. Through partnerships with Meadow Farms, Flower Power, and other fundraising vendors, families can earn funds toward their camper's balance.

Participation is completely optional, and **all funds earned are applied directly to your camper's camp fees.**

Opening Day | Camper Drop Off

Camper Arrival & Departure by Car

The following information applies to **families transporting their campers to and from Camp Jorn by personal vehicle.** Families utilizing Camp Jorn's bus transportation should refer to the Bus Transportation section for separate arrival and departure instructions.

Opening Day | Arrival by Car

Camper Drop-Off: 1:30–2:30 PM

Please do not arrive before 1:30 PM, as staff will still be preparing for camper arrivals.

Campers should eat lunch before arriving. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM.

Upon arrival, staff will greet families and guide them through the check-in process.

Medications: All medications must be in their original containers with current prescription labels. Place medications in a zip-top bag labeled with your camper's full name and turn them in at check-in.

Late Arrivals: If you cannot arrive during the scheduled check-in window, please contact the camp office in advance. If your camper does not arrive as expected, we will follow up to confirm attendance.

Need Assistance on Opening Day? For immediate assistance, contact CEO Katy Bost at 715-904-1745. The camp office is staffed Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM.

Closing Day | Departure by Car

Camper Pick-Up: 2:30–3:30 PM

Check-Out: Families will check out with camp staff at the dining hall.

Photo ID Required: Adults picking up campers must present a photo ID and sign their camper out.

Authorized Adults: Complete the Authorized Adults form in your CampInTouch account before camp. Campers will only be released to verified, authorized adults age 18 or older.

Early Pick-Up: If you need to pick up your camper early, please contact the camp office in advance at 715-543-8808 or jenn@campjornymca.org.

Camper Arrival & Departure by Bus

Camp Jorn YMCA offers bus transportation from three convenient locations in Illinois and Wisconsin: **Gurnee, IL; Kenosha, WI; and DeForest, WI.** Families can select their preferred bus location by completing the Transportation Form during registration. Campers are supervised by Camp Jorn staff throughout their trip.

Bus Transportation Fee: $125 per camper, one way ($250 round trip).

Please Note: Bus transportation fees are non-refundable if a family cancels scheduled transportation, as buses are reserved based on enrollment.

Opening Day | Arrival by Bus

Before Boarding the Bus

Lunch & Water: Pack a lunch and a full water bottle for your camper's trip. Camp Jorn is a peanut/tree nut-aware facility, so please do not send foods containing peanuts or tree nuts.

Medications: All medications must be in their original containers with current prescription labels. Place medications in a zip-top bag labeled with your camper's full name and give them directly to Camp Jorn staff at the bus stop. Do not pack medications in luggage.

Asthma & Allergies: Campers who require an inhaler or EpiPen should have one prescribed device available during bus travel and an additional device provided for camp.

Electronics: No electronics of any kind are permitted on the bus or at camp. Any devices brought to camp will be held in the office until the end of the session. Camp Jorn is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

Bus Check-In & Departure

- Camp Jorn staff will wear staff shirts for easy identification.
- Clearly label all luggage with your camper's first and last name.
- Campers will load their luggage, complete check-in with staff, and board the bus.
- A PG-rated movie may be shown during the trip.

Need Assistance on Opening Day? For immediate assistance, contact CEO Katy Bost at 715-904-1745. The camp office is staffed Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM.

Closing Day | Departure by Bus

Food: Campers traveling home by bus will be provided with heavy snacks and drinks by CJ.

Bus Schedule: Please review the transportation schedule for designated departure and arrival times. **Please Note: All bus arrival times are approximate**. Parents/guardians should arrive at their designated bus stop 5–10 minutes before the scheduled arrival time and allow up to 15–20 minutes for possible delays due to traffic or weather. If longer delays are anticipated, Camp Jorn YMCA will notify families via email.

Authorized Adults: All campers must be signed out by an authorized adult (18 or older) at the bus drop-off location. Complete the Authorized Adults form in your CampInTouch account before camp. Campers will not be released to unauthorized or unverified adults.

Photo ID Required: Adults picking up campers should be prepared to present a photo ID.

Contact Information: A cell phone number must be provided on the transportation release waiver for the adult responsible for drop-off and pick-up.

Bus Location & Schedule to Camp

Bus Stop Location	Check-In	Departure	Arrival at Camp
Gurnee, IL: Warren Township High School, 500 North O'Plaine Rd.	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Kenosha, WI: Kenosha YMCA, 7101 53rd St.	8:30 AM	8:45 AM	2:30 PM
DeForest, WI: DeForest Park & Ride, 5012 Elephant Trail	10:30 AM	10:45 AM	2:30 PM

Bus Locations & Schedule from Camp

Bus Stop Location	Departure	Arrival
Gurnee, IL: Warren Township High School, 500 North O'Plaine Rd.	1:30 PM	8:15 PM
Kenosha, WI: Kenosha YMCA, 7101 53rd St.	9:30 AM	7:15 PM
DeForest, WI: DeForest Park & Ride, 5012 Elephant Trail	9:30 AM	5:15 PM

Luggage Tips

- Use a large duffel or soft-sided bag; no trunks.
- Ensure luggage fits under the bunk (16" high) and is clearly labeled.
- Pack one small backpack with lunch, water, and snacks for the day.
- Do not pack medications in luggage; turn them in at check-in.

All personal gear is brought at your own risk. Camp Jorn YMCA is not responsible for lost or broken items. Please do not send them with new, expensive items or items that are irreplaceable.

Expectations for Bus Service

Staff Expectations:

- Buses will always have staff on board to supervise campers. Supervisors go through orientation during staff training regarding bus transportation and assisting parents and campers at stops.
- Bus staff will assist campers during the bus ride (getting seated, roll call, playing a movie, answer questions, help with lunches, etc.) Let your camper know staff is there to help!

Parent Expectations:

- Parents are responsible for supervising their camper until fully checked onto the bus.
- Bring a photo ID for smooth check-out

Camper Expectations:

While riding the bus campers are advised of the following safety policy. Please share with your camper:

- Have fun on the bus while staying safe
- Always listen closely to staff/driver instructions
- Stay seated unless using the bathroom
- Always respect the driver
- Respect those around you
- Take care of your own garbage
- Think of the great times you're going to have/just had at camp!!

Camp Life

At Camp Jorn YMCA we create a safe space for acceptance and participation for everyone regardless of age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religious affiliation, immigration status, ability, or national origin. We believe that all kids deserve a camp experience and will make every reasonable effort to meet the individual needs of all our campers.

A Typical Day at Resident Camp

Every day at Camp Jorn is filled with adventure, friendship, and opportunities to try something new! While no two days are exactly alike, our daily schedule provides a balance of structured activities, cabin time, outdoor adventures, and opportunities for campers to relax and connect with friends.

What Does a Typical Day Look Like?

8:15 AM	Flagpole / Hoppers Depart	3:15-3:45 PM	Free Time
8:30 AM	Breakfast	4:45-5:45 PM	Cabin Activity 2
9:00 AM	Cabin Clean Up	5:45-6:00 PM	Flagpole/ Hoppers Depart
9:30–12:20 PM	Class 1–3 (with brief transitions)	6:00-6:45 PM	Dinner
12:30–1:10 PM	Lunch	6:45-7:20 PM	Trails
1:10–1:50 PM	Rest Hour	7:30 PM	Campfire
1:55-3:10 PM	Cabin Activity 1	9:00-10:00 PM	Back to Cabins/Lights Out

A Balance of Choice & Community

Morning Electives: Campers choose activities based on their interests, giving them opportunities to develop new skills, explore hobbies, and make friends outside their cabin group.

Afternoon Cabin Activities: Cabin groups spend time together participating in activities they help select, encouraging teamwork, friendship, and shared experiences.

Evening Campfires: Each evening, campers gather for songs, performances, games, and Camp Jorn traditions before returning to their cabins for reflection and bedtime.

Please Note: This is a sample daily schedule. Actual times and activities may vary based on camper age, program, weather, special events, and overnight trips. Campers participating in specialty programs or extended trips will follow schedules specific to their programs.

Cabin Groups & Housing

Campers are assigned to groups of 8–10 campers with two counselors, based on age, gender identity, and program. Accommodations include cabins, yurts, and platform tents, with each camper having their own bunk and storage space.

For non-binary campers, families will be asked to select the cabin gender where their camper feels most comfortable.

Cabin Mate Request

Campers may request one cabin mate during registration. Requests must be mutual, and campers must be within one year of age/grade, have the same or compatible gender identity, and attend the same program and session.

While we do our best to accommodate requests, cabin mate placements are not guaranteed.

Bathrooms & Showers

Campers have access to our bathroom facility, the “KYBO,” while many younger camper cabins have bathrooms and showers inside. Some cabins require a short walk to the nearest facility, so please pack a flashlight.

All bathroom and shower stalls offer privacy with doors or curtains. We recommend bringing shower shoes and a shower caddy for toiletries.

Personal Hygiene & Daily Responsibilities

At Camp Jorn, campers are encouraged to develop independence by taking responsibility for their personal hygiene and belongings. Counselors provide age-appropriate reminders and support, but campers should be prepared to manage their basic personal care needs.

Campers are expected to:

- Shower regularly and brush their teeth twice daily.
- Change underwear and socks daily and wear clean clothing.
- Wash hands regularly, especially before meals and after using the bathroom.
- Apply sunscreen and insect repellent as needed.
- Keep belongings organized, separate dirty clothing, and hang up wet towels and swimsuits.
- Ask a counselor or Health Lodge staff member for help with personal care needs.

Parent Tip: Before camp, practice these routines at home and encourage your camper to take responsibility for their personal hygiene. Pack enough toiletries and supplies for their entire session.

Bedwetting

If your camper occasionally experiences bedwetting, please let us know in the Letter to the Counselor so staff can prepare to provide support. Campers should bring their own pull-ups, which can be stored and changed into discreetly in the cabin bathroom or Health Lodge.

If an accident occurs, staff will handle the situation privately and arrange for bedding to be washed. Campers are encouraged to ask their counselor for help whenever needed. Our staff are understanding and experienced in handling these situations, and there is nothing to be embarrassed about!

Meals

Campers enjoy family-style meals in the dining hall with their cabin group. Campers take turns serving as “hoppers,” helping set up and clean up tables.

Our nutritionally balanced menu offers a variety of options, including yogurt, fruit, and oatmeal at breakfast and a full salad bar at lunch and dinner.

Picky Eaters: We encourage campers to try new foods while providing a variety of options. Campers should let their counselor know if they are having difficulty finding something to eat.

Dietary Needs & Food Allergies: Please list all food allergies and dietary restrictions (gluten-free, dairy-free, etc.) on your camper's Health History Form so our staff can plan accordingly.

Swimming

All campers are encouraged to participate in a swim evaluation on their first afternoon at camp. The evaluation includes swimming 2–4 lengths and treading water. Campers who are uncomfortable or unable to complete these skills may participate in a modified shallow-water evaluation. No camper will be forced to participate.

Based on their evaluation, campers are classified as non-swimmer, beginner, intermediate, or advanced, with swimming areas designated accordingly. Trained lifeguards supervise all evaluations, and shallow-water areas and life jackets are available so campers of all abilities can enjoy the waterfront.

Trading Post (Camp Store)

During their stay, campers will have opportunities to visit the **Trading Post**, Camp Jorn's camp store! The Trading Post offers a variety of items, including Camp Jorn apparel, snacks, ice cream, drinks, water bottles, stickers, hats, souvenirs, and more. Daily snack purchase limits are in place.

Recommended Spending Money: $40–$60 per Camper, per Week

To help families plan, here are some examples of Trading Post prices:

Item	Estimated Price
Candy, snacks & ice cream	$1–$4
Drinks	$2–$4
Stickers & small souvenirs	$2–$6
Water bottles & mugs	$10–$20
Camp Jorn T-shirts	$15–$25
Hats	$20–$30
Sweatshirts & hoodies	$35–$50

Prices are estimates and may vary. Merchandise availability is subject to change.

We encourage families to discuss spending habits with their campers before arrival, including how to budget their funds to last throughout their session.

Important Information:

No Cash: Campers should not bring cash to camp. All purchases are made through their prepaid Trading Post account.

Adding Funds: Families can add money before or during their camper's session through CampInTouch.

Refunds: Remaining balances of $10 or more will be refunded in the fall.

How to Add Trading Post Funds

- Log in to your **CampInTouch** account.
- Select **View Camp Store**.
- Click **Fund Account** and enter your desired amount.

Tip for Families with Multiple Campers: If you add the same amount to multiple camper accounts within a short period, your credit card company may flag the transactions as duplicates. To avoid this, try entering slightly different amounts (for example, $20 for one camper and $20.50 for another).

Activities

When campers arrive at Camp Jorn, they will have the chance to sign up individually for the class activities they will participate in during the week. Here they will develop new skills and make new friends outside of their cabin. Most campers will rotate through 3 class activities each morning. Campers enrolled in a specialty class or camp will take part in that activity during this scheduled time. Below is a list of potential choices for your camper, but our staff members also develop new classes throughout the summer based on campers' interests.

The program staff make strong efforts to place campers in their top choices for classes. Please encourage your camper to be open to trying new things in case one or two of their top choices are not available.

Please note that some activities are restricted based on swimming ability and age.

Activities include but are not limited to:

- Swimming
- Archery & Hatchet Throwing
- Crafts
- Mindfulness
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Sailing
- Ecology
- Drama
- Move that Body (Dance)
- Sports & Field Games
- Fishing
- Outdoor Skills
- CJ News
- Soccer
- Biking
- Air riflery/Slingshots
- Waterskiing (Requires registration prior to attending CJ

Cabin groups collectively decide which activities they do in the afternoons at camp.

Each night, all camper groups gather in the amphitheater for our evening campfire where we sing songs, share performances, and play an all-camp game or activity. Next, campers retreat to their cabins and counselors lead campers to reflect on their day, their week, and their lives through discussion about our core values like caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and personal growth.

Overnight Campouts & Trips

All campers will participate in a tent-camping experience with their cabin group. During overnight and trip programs, campers sleep outdoors in tents for one or more nights. Camper safety is always our priority: trips are planned carefully, safety precautions are followed consistently, and all groups are led by well-trained trip leaders. The type, duration, and destination of each trip are determined by the cabin group's age, ability, and the weather forecast.

- Youngest campers typically stay at on-property sites such as Club CJ and Fox Island.
- Older campers may canoe to nearby DNR sites for their overnight experience.
- Two-week campers often embark on a 2–3 day trip on the Manitowish Waters Chain of Lakes

Leadership programs (TEVA, LIT, CIT) participate in extended trips ranging from 3 to 6 nights, with trip length increasing by program level. These groups may travel several hours from camp to backpack or canoe in locations such as the Turtle Flambeau Flowage, Porcupine Mountains, Namekagon River, Northern Highland Forest, Manitowish River, Superior Hiking Trail, and other regional destinations.

Trips offer exceptional educational and developmental value. They help campers build confidence, connect with nature, overcome challenges, and strengthen group cooperation—growth that few other experiences can match.

Parent Communication, Mail, & More

We understand how important it is to stay connected while your child is away at camp! Camp Jorn is committed to keeping families informed while encouraging campers to build independence, confidence, and meaningful connections during their time with us.

Letters & Care Packages

We love when campers receive mail from home! Letters and care packages are a wonderful way to stay connected and brighten your camper's day.

Mailing Guidelines:

Sharing Treats: If sending snacks or treats, please include enough for the entire cabin (approximately 10 campers and 2 counselors).

Nut-Free: Do not send items containing peanuts or tree nuts. Camp Jorn is a peanut/tree nut-aware facility.

Care Packages: Please limit care packages to **one per camper, per week**. Consider sending activities the entire cabin can enjoy, such as card games, puzzles, stickers, books, or small crafts.

Shipping Packages to Camp: We recommend using Amazon or another shipping service that clearly labels packages with the camper's name. We strongly discourage Walmart deliveries, as packages are often left outside the office without recipient information, making it difficult for our staff to identify and deliver them to the correct camper.

To help ensure timely delivery, please include your camper's full name on all packages sent to camp.

Letters Home: Pack self-addressed, stamped envelopes and encourage your camper to write home.

Mail Early: Mail delivery to the Northwoods can be slow! Send letters and packages at least one week in advance to help ensure delivery during your camper's session.

Plan Ahead: Talk with your camper about how often they might like to write home and help them address envelopes before camp.

Tips for Writing to Your Camper

Keep letters positive, encouraging, and focused on their camp experience. Ask questions like:

- What's your favorite activity so far?
- Have you made any new friends?
- What's something new you've tried?
- What's your favorite camp meal?

Rather than emphasizing how much you miss them, remind your camper how proud you are of their independence and adventures. Positive messages from home can help campers feel supported and reduce homesickness.

Please Note: Mail arriving after your camper's session ends will not be forwarded or returned. Mail is not delivered on weekends or closing day.

Mailing Address:

CAMP JORN YMCA
ATTN: Camper's Full Name & Session
13591 Zenner Lane
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

Emailing Your Camper | Camp Stamps

NEW FOR 2027! Two-Way Email Communication!

Families can now send emails to their campers and receive handwritten replies electronically through CampInTouch!

CampStamps allow families to send messages that are printed and delivered to campers at camp. With our new eLetter feature, campers can write handwritten responses that are scanned and sent electronically to their families.

How to Send an Email:

1. Log in to your **CampInTouch** account.
2. Add a credit card under **Credit Card for Email & Photos** (even if a card is already on file for tuition).
3. Go to **Your Account – Camp Stamps** to purchase CampStamps if needed.
4. Open the **Email** section, compose your message, and select any optional features.
5. To request a handwritten response, select the **eLetter reply option** below your message.
6. Submit your email.

CampStamp Pricing:

- 10 CampStamps – $10
- 15 CampStamps – $14
- 20 CampStamps – $18
- 30 CampStamps – $25

Important Information:

- **Sending Emails:** 1 CampStamp is required per outgoing email, per camper.
- **Camper Replies:** Families can request a handwritten eLetter reply for an additional CampStamp, which is deducted only when the reply is received.
- **eLetter Collection & Delivery:** Camper replies will be collected and uploaded **Monday–Friday at 4:00 PM**. Once processed, handwritten replies will be delivered electronically to families through CampInTouch.
- **After-Hours & Weekend Replies:** Replies collected after 4:00 PM or over the weekend will be processed on the next scheduled collection day.
- **Free eLetter Stationery:** Families may print eLetter stationery from CampInTouch for campers to bring to camp at no additional cost.
- **Email Delivery:** Emails submitted after 10:00 AM will be delivered the following day.
- **Optional Features:** Games, stationery, and photo attachments may require additional CampStamps.
- **Privacy:** Emails are printed and folded. For private or sealed correspondence, please use traditional mail.
- **Unused CampStamps:** CampStamps are non-refundable, but unused credits carry over between seasons.

Please Note: Campers do not have access to email or electronic devices. All camper replies are handwritten and processed by Camp Jorn staff.

CampStamp Purchases & Support

CampStamps are purchased and managed directly through **CampMinder, not Camp Jorn YMCA**. Camp Jorn does not manage CampStamp purchases, payments, balances, or refunds.

For questions or assistance with purchasing or using CampStamps, please contact **CampMinder Support at 303-444-2267**.

Communication With Camp Jorn

Our staff is committed to keeping families informed of important concerns during their camper's stay while encouraging campers to develop independence and confidence.

When Will Camp Contact You?

Camp Jorn staff will contact parents or guardians when:

- A camper experiences an illness or injury requiring additional medical attention.
- A camper is experiencing significant homesickness or difficulty adjusting to camp.
- Behavioral concerns arise that require parent involvement.
- An important situation occurs that may affect a camper's health, safety, or well-being.

Please Note: Not every visit to the Health Lodge or minor case of homesickness will result in a phone call home. Our staff are trained to support campers through everyday challenges while encouraging independence and personal growth.

Families should not expect routine phone calls or daily individual updates. Rest assured that our staff will reach out if a situation requires your attention.

Contacting Camp Jorn

If you have questions or concerns during your camper's session, please contact our camp office.

Camp Jorn YMCA Office
Phone: 715-543-8808 ext 0201
Email: jenn@campjornymca.org
Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM

Campers do not have access to personal phones or electronic devices during their stay. We encourage families to communicate through letters and CampStamps rather than phone calls, allowing campers to fully enjoy their camp experience.

Visitors at Camp

Family visits to Camp Jorn **during the off-season** are always appreciated; however, visits are not permitted during your camper's session. To arrange a tour before your camper's session begins, please contact our registrar, Jenn Davis, at 715-543-8808 ext 0201 or jenn@campjornymca.org.

Camper Photos | SmugMug

Want a glimpse into your camper's adventures? Throughout the summer, Camp Jorn shares photos through our online photo gallery, **SmugMug.**

- Photos are typically uploaded every other day.
- Families can access the gallery using the link and password provided by Camp Jorn.
- Our staff make every effort to capture a variety of activities and campers throughout each session.

Please Note: While we do our best to photograph as many campers as possible, we cannot guarantee that every camper will appear in photos each day. Our priority is providing a safe, engaging, and memorable camp experience—not interrupting activities for photos.

We encourage families to enjoy the photos as a glimpse into camp life and look forward to hearing their camper's own stories when they return home!

Lost & Found

We encourage families to **label all camper belongings with their first and last name** to help prevent lost items.

Lost and found items will be displayed in a **designated area on Closing Day**. Please take a moment during camper check-out to look for any missing belongings. Camp staff will be happy to direct you to the lost and found location.

Important Lost & Found Information:

- **Claiming Items:** Lost and found items must be claimed within **5 days of your camper's session ending**. Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity.
- **Missing Something?** Contact the camp office at 715-543-8808 ext 0201 or jenn@campjornymca.org with a description of the missing item.
- **Return Shipping:** Families are responsible for shipping costs if they request an item be mailed home. Local pick-up can also be arranged.
- **Labeled Items:** While labeling helps us identify belongings, Camp Jorn does not typically contact families about found items, even if they are labeled. Families are responsible for contacting us to arrange their return.

Please Note: Camp Jorn YMCA is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal belongings.

Health & Safety

Health Care at Camp

Your camper's health and safety are our top priorities! Camp Jorn has volunteer nurses and physicians on-site during camp sessions, along with staff trained in advanced Wilderness First Aid throughout the summer.

Our health care team oversees daily medical needs, medication administration, and treatment of illnesses and injuries. If your camper becomes ill or injured, our staff will assess their condition and provide care according to Camp Jorn's established health care procedures.

When Will Parents Be Contacted?

Our health care team will contact a parent or guardian if your camper:

- Remains in the Health Lodge for **6 hours or longer** or stays overnight.
- Requires evaluation by a physician, dentist, or other outside medical professional.
- Needs emergency room care. Campers will always be accompanied by Camp Jorn staff, including when transported by ambulance.
- Experiences an injury involving the head, back, eye, or mouth, or a cut that may result in scarring.
- Develops a fever **above 100°F**.

Minor illnesses, injuries, and routine visits to the Health Lodge may be handled without contacting home.

Campers with Additional Health Needs

If your camper has a medical, developmental, or behavioral condition requiring additional support, please contact us before their session.

This includes, but is not limited to, severe allergies, asthma, seizures, Type 1 diabetes, gastrointestinal conditions, mobility challenges, ADHD, autism, or other health-related needs.

Please Contact:

Lauren Heger, Operations Director
715-543-8808 ext 0205
Lauren@campjornymca.org

Katy Bost, CEO
715-543-8808 ext 0202
Katy@campjornymca.org

Early communication allows our team to review your camper's needs, discuss necessary accommodations, and determine how we can safely and appropriately support them during their camp experience.

Severe Weather & Air Quality Procedures

Camper safety is our top priority at Camp Jorn. Our staff closely monitor weather conditions, including thunderstorms, severe storms, extreme temperatures, and air quality concerns such as wildfire smoke.

We monitor the **Air Quality Index (AQI)**, which measures air pollution levels and potential health risks. When air quality becomes unhealthy, outdoor activities may be modified, limited, or canceled based on current conditions and safety recommendations.

During severe weather or unsafe air quality conditions, campers will be moved indoors or to appropriate sheltered locations as needed. Camp Jorn staff follow established emergency procedures to prioritize camper safety.

In the event of a significant weather or air quality emergency affecting camp operations, families will be notified with important updates and instructions.

Parent Reminder: Please ensure your emergency contact information is accurate and up to date before your camper arrives at camp.

Medications at Camp

To ensure camper safety, all medications must follow Camp Jorn's medication procedures.

- **Prescription Medications:** Must be in their original pharmacy containers with the camper's name, current prescription information, and administration instructions clearly labeled.
- **Expired or Improperly Labeled Medications:** Will not be accepted or administered.
- **Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medications:** Camp Jorn stocks common OTC medications that may be administered as needed under procedures established by our consulting physician. Only send OTC medications if your camper takes them regularly. Medications must be FDA-approved and will be administered according to package instructions.
- **Medication Check-In:** All medications must be turned in to designated camp staff during check-in. Medications will be stored securely in the Health Lodge and administered by authorized health care staff, except for approved emergency medications.

- **Health History:** All medications must be listed on your camper's online Health History Form.
- **Medication Pick-Up:** Remember to collect your camper's medications at check-out. Medications will only be released to adults listed on your camper's Authorized Grown Ups Form.

EpiPens & Inhalers

If your camper requires an EpiPen or rescue inhaler, please provide **two non-expired devices**:

- **One** for your camper to carry, as authorized by their health care provider and Camp Jorn's health care team.
- **One** to be kept in the Health Lodge as a backup.

Please ensure all emergency medications are properly labeled and documented on your camper's Health History Form.

Health Insurance

Parents and guardians are responsible for providing health and accident insurance coverage for their campers.

- A copy of your camper's health insurance card must be submitted with their Health History Form.
- Families are responsible for any medical, prescription, or related expenses incurred during their camper's stay.
- Medical providers may bill families directly. If Camp Jorn pays expenses on a camper's behalf, families will be responsible for reimbursing camp.
- If your camper does not have health insurance, please contact the camp office to complete the required waiver.

Homesickness

Homesickness is a normal part of adjusting to camp, especially for campers who are away from home for the first time. Many campers experience some feelings of sadness, worry, or missing family during their first day or two. For most, these feelings improve as they make friends, participate in activities, and settle into camp life.

Our counselors are trained to recognize homesickness and help campers feel comfortable, supported, and included.

How Parents Can Help

- **Stay Positive:** Express excitement about the experiences and friendships awaiting your camper.
- **Build Confidence:** Reassure your camper that they are capable of handling new experiences and challenges.
- **Avoid Promising Phone Calls or Early Pick-Up:** These promises can make it more difficult for campers to adjust.
- **Encourage Independence:** Remind your camper that their counselors are there to help whenever they need support.
- **Keep Letters Encouraging:** Focus on their adventures rather than how much they are missed at home.

For example, instead of saying, *"I'm going to miss you so much!"* try saying, *"I can't wait to hear about all the amazing things you do at camp!"*

What If My Camper Is Homesick?

Your camper may mention feeling homesick in a letter written during their first few days. This is common and does not necessarily mean they are unhappy or struggling throughout their session.

Our staff will work closely with campers experiencing homesickness and provide additional support as needed. **If homesickness becomes persistent or significantly affects your camper's experience, we will contact you** to discuss how we can best support them.

Our goal is to help every camper feel safe, supported, and confident while developing independence and creating lasting memories at Camp Jorn.

How to Ask for Help at Camp

At Camp Jorn, we want every camper to feel safe, supported, and comfortable asking for help. Campers are encouraged to speak with their cabin counselor or another trusted staff member whenever they have a question, concern, or need assistance.

Whether they are feeling homesick, having difficulty with another camper, feeling unwell, or experiencing something that makes them uncomfortable, we want campers to know they are never alone.

If a camper does not feel comfortable speaking with their counselor, they can reach out to another counselor, a program director, or Health Lodge staff.

Parent Tip: Before camp, remind your camper that asking for help is always encouraged and that they should continue speaking up until they receive the support they need.

Camper Behavior & Discipline

Behavior Management Policy

At Camp Jorn YMCA, the safety, well-being, and positive experience of every camper are our top priorities. We strive to create a welcoming, respectful, and supportive environment where campers can build friendships, develop independence, and grow through new experiences.

All campers are expected to follow camp rules, treat others with kindness and respect.

Our staff use positive, age-appropriate behavior management techniques, including:

- Redirecting inappropriate behavior.
- Recognizing and reinforcing positive choices.
- Encouraging campers to express their feelings and resolve conflicts.
- Providing opportunities for reflection and personal growth.
- Modeling respectful communication and interactions.

Our approach focuses on addressing the behavior rather than labeling the camper. Discipline is handled respectfully, consistently, and in a timely manner. Physical punishment, humiliation, intimidation, and scare tactics are never permitted.

Camper Behavior Expectations

To maintain a safe and positive camp environment, campers are expected to follow staff directions, participate appropriately in activities, and respect the safety and well-being of others.

Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to:

- Repeatedly refusing to follow staff directions.
- Leaving assigned activities or supervised areas without permission.
- Hitting, fighting, or other physical aggression.
- Using inappropriate or threatening language.
- Bringing prohibited items to camp.
- Disregarding safety rules or putting themselves or others at risk.
- Bullying, harassment, or intentionally excluding others.

Behavior Management & Parent Communication

Our goal is to work with campers and families to address behavioral concerns before they escalate. However, continued or serious behavior issues may result in dismissal from camp.

Step 1: Parent/Guardian Notification

If a camper demonstrates repeated unacceptable or serious behavior, the counselor will notify camp leadership. The Operations Director or CEO will contact the parent/guardian to discuss the concerns, review expectations, and develop a plan for improvement.

Families will be informed that continued behavior concerns may result in dismissal.

Step 2: Dismissal from Camp

If unacceptable behavior continues after parent notification and intervention, the camper may be dismissed from the program. Parents/guardians will be contacted to arrange pick-up.

Immediate Dismissal

Camp Jorn YMCA reserves the right to dismiss a camper immediately for serious behavior that threatens the safety or well-being of themselves or others, including extreme, repeated, or illegal behavior. Depending on the severity of the situation, dismissal may occur without prior warning.

Refund Policy: Camp fees are non-refundable and will not be prorated if a camper is dismissed early due to behavioral concerns.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Bullying of any kind is not tolerated at Camp Jorn YMCA.

Every camper deserves to feel safe, respected, and included. Bullying, harassment, intimidation, or repeated behavior intended to harm or exclude others may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

We encourage campers to:

- Treat others with kindness, respect, and inclusion.
- Be positive role models for their fellow campers.
- Report bullying, harassment, or concerning behavior to a staff member.
- Seek help from counselors when conflicts arise.

Camp Jorn staff are trained to recognize and respond to bullying concerns and work to maintain a safe, supportive environment for all campers.

Required Agreement: All campers and parents/guardians must review and sign the **Camp Jorn Anti-Bullying & Behavior Agreement** before attending camp. Please take time to discuss these expectations with your camper before their session.

How to Find Us

Camp Jorn YMCA
13591 Zenner Lane
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

Camp Jorn is located on a beautiful 70+ acre peninsula surrounded by mature pine forests in Wisconsin's Northern Highland State Forest. Situated along the shores of Rest Lake, part of the Manitowish Chain of Lakes, our camp provides a unique Northwoods setting for outdoor adventure, friendship, and personal growth.

Questions & Who to Contact

Have questions about Resident Camp, registration, payments, or preparing for your camper's session? We're happy to help!

Jenn Davis | Office Manager/Registrar
Phone: 715-543-8808, ext. 0201
Email: jenn@campjornymca.org
Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM–4:30 PM

After-Hours & Emergency Contact

If you need immediate assistance or have an emergency outside regular office hours, please contact:

Katy Bost | CEO
Camp Cell Phone: 715-904-1745

Camp Jorn YMCA | Resident Camp Packing List

Before You Pack

- **Label Everything:** Clearly label all belongings with your camper's first and last name using a permanent marker, laundry pen, or name labels.
- **Pack for the Full Session:** Bring enough clothing for your camper's entire stay. Laundry is only available for campers attending three-week sessions.
- **Laundry:** For three-week campers, laundry is coordinated through the Trading Post. No cash or laundry detergent is needed.
- **Dress for Adventure:** Campers will be outdoors, exploring, and getting dirty! Pack comfortable, durable clothing rather than expensive or sentimental items.
- **Luggage**: Use a large duffel bag or soft-sided suitcase that fits under a 16-inch bunk. Please do not bring trunks.

Parent Tip: Pack together with your camper! This helps them recognize their belongings, know where everything is packed, and take responsibility for their items throughout their stay.

How Much Should I Pack?

The amount of clothing your camper needs depends on the length of their session. We recommend packing enough clothing for the entire stay, plus a few extras for unexpected weather or messy activities.

Session Length	Recommended Clothing	Laundry
1 Week	6–7 days of clothing, plus extras	Not available
2 Weeks	13–14 days of clothing, plus extras	Not available
3 Weeks	13–14 days of clothing, plus extras	Available during session

CLOTHING

☐ Raincoat or poncho
☐ 2 swimsuits
☐ 3 sets of pajamas per week
☐ Light jacket
☐ T-shirts (one per day)
☐ 3–4 pairs of shorts per week
☐ Underwear (one per day)
☐ Socks (one pair per day)
☐ 3 long-sleeved shirts or sweatshirts per week
☐ 2 pairs of jeans or long pants per week
☐ Tennis shoes / closed-toe athletic shoes (required)
☐ Athletic sandals (heel strap preferred)

OPTIONAL ITEMS

☐ White clothing for tie-dying
☐ Stationery, postcards, stamps, pre-addressed envelopes
☐ Books or quiet games
☐ Notebook, journal, pens or pencils
☐ Disposable camera
☐ Hat or bandana
☐ Favorite stuffed animal
☐ Pictures from home
☐ Friendship bracelet string, beads, hair tinsel or small craft supplies
☐ Small battery-operated fan

BEDDING & EQUIPMENT

☐ Warm sleeping bag with stuff sack
☐ Twin fitted sheet and flat sheet
☐ Pillow and pillowcase
☐ Laundry bag
☐ Reusable water bottle
☐ Flashlight with extra batteries
☐ Large duffel or soft-sided suitcase (must fit under a 16-inch bunk)
☐ Small backpack or day bag
☐ Waterproof or large zip top bags for wet or dirty clothes

WATERSKI SPECIALTY

☐ Extra swimsuit
☐ Rash guard shirt
☐ Extra beach towel

TEVA, LIT & CIT

☐ Rain jacket and rain pants (no ponchos)
☐ Quick-dry microfiber towel
☐ Lightweight hiking boots with good ankle support (may get wet)
☐ 3 pairs wool or synthetic hiking socks (no cotton)
☐ Hat or bandana

OUTPOST PROGRAM

☐ Sturdy water shoes with secure straps (Tevas or Chacos recommended)

PERSONAL CARE & TOILETRIES

☐ Shower caddy or toiletry bag
☐ 2 bath towels and 2 washcloths
☐ 1 beach/swim towel
☐ Soap or body wash
☐ Toothbrush and toothpaste
☐ Deodorant
☐ Sunscreen
☐ Sunglasses
☐ Insect repellent
☐ Shampoo and conditioner
☐ Comb or hairbrush
☐ Feminine hygiene products (if needed)
☐ Tissues
☐ Lip balm
☐ Shower shoes
☐ Hair ties (if needed)
☐ Other personal toiletries

Helpful Reminder: Northwoods weather can change quickly! Pack clothing for warm summer days, cool evenings, and rainy weather. Campers should bring comfortable clothes that can get dirty, wet, or muddy.

What NOT to Bring

For the safety and well-being of all campers, the following items are prohibited:

- **Electronics:** Cell phones, tablets, smartwatches, video games, and other electronic devices.
- **Food Containing Nuts:** Peanuts, tree nuts, or foods containing these ingredients.
- **Valuables:** Expensive clothing, jewelry, or sentimental items that could be lost or damaged.
- **Pets or Personal Vehicles**
- **Nicotine, Vapes, Drugs, or Alcohol**
- **Inappropriate Clothing**: Clothing displaying alcohol, drugs, sexual content, or offensive language.
- **Weapons:** Knives, fireworks, firecrackers, slingshots, or other weapons.

Important: *Parents or guardians are responsible for arranging immediate pick-up if a camper brings prohibited items that require dismissal under Camp Jorn's policies.*

Final Packing Reminders

- Double-check that all belongings are labeled with your camper's full name.
- Pack clothing suitable for changing Northwoods weather.
- Make sure your camper can comfortably carry and manage their own belongings.
- Leave valuables and electronics at home.
- Review the packing list together before departure!

We can't wait to welcome your camper for a summer full of adventure, friendship, and unforgettable memories at Camp Jorn YMCA!