

**2011  
Our 49<sup>th</sup>  
Season**

**Camp**   
**Riverbend**

*Owned and Operated By The Breene Family Since 1962*

# PARENT'S HANDBOOK

## 2011 CAMP SEASON



**(908) 580-CAMP**

**(888) THE-CAMP**

**(908) 647-0664 / Fax (908) 647-2435**

**e-mail: [info@campriverbend.com](mailto:info@campriverbend.com)**

**[www.campriverbend.com](http://www.campriverbend.com)**



Camp will open on Monday, June 27 and close on Friday, August 12, 2011

Camp will be closed on Monday, July 4, 2011

116 Hillcrest Road, Warren, New Jersey 07059

# HEALTH & SAFETY

**MEDICAL FORMS:** The New Jersey State Youth Camp Safety Act and the American Camp Association REQUIRE every camper to have a medical form signed by a physician. Return your child's medical form to the Camp Nurse by June 1st. Your child does not need a doctor's exam just for this purpose. The doctor can fill out our form based on any physical done since June 2010. Medical forms for all campers can be downloaded from our web site at the "registration" tab.

**CAMP NURSE:** We have a full time Camp Nurse. Please feel free to call her at Camp if any problems come up that she should know about. All medication must come to Camp in its original container. All medication (prescription and non-prescription) must be administered by Camp Staff. **Campers are not allowed to self-medicate**, even with over-the-counter medication. Our Camp Doctor is on call. In an emergency, we would use the Warren Township Rescue Squad and Overlook Hospital in Summit. In addition to our nursing staff, other staff members have First Aid and CPR certifications. Depending on the severity of the situation, our Camp Nurse may contact you if your child becomes ill or is injured at Camp.



**LUNCH:** Each camper will get a personalized, re-usable lunch bag on New Camper Orientation Day or Welcome Day. Please send your child's lunch in this bag all summer. Lunches will be refrigerated at Camp each day. Juice, milk and/or bottled water is provided for each camper at lunch. Camp provides food for all cookouts and overnights. If you prefer, you can order lunches on-line from Simply Gourmet Lunches. Simply Gourmet works with us to offer hot and cold lunches, which are delivered to your child at Camp daily. Basic lunches cost about

## **SUNBLOCK:**

Please put sunblock on your child in the morning before he/she comes to camp. Sunblock will be re-applied at camp after each swim.



**VISITING CAMP:** You may visit Camp any day **except** June 27, July 22, August 11 or August 12. Please **don't** come to visit during lunch (12 noon - 1:00 pm). As you arrive, park on the side lawn behind the vans and then come to the Camp Office to sign in. We will give you a visitor tag, which you must wear while you are in Camp. Children may visit Camp, but only with an adult. All visitors to Camp must know the password for the child they are visiting.

**SIGNING OUT CAMPERS:** No one may ever take a camper out of Camp without signing that child out at the Camp Office. Any adult picking up a camper must know the password that you wrote on your child's registration card. Password changes can only be made in writing.

# FOOD

\$4.50 per day, paid directly to Simply Gourmet. You can choose to order lunch some days or every day. For more information about catered lunch options, visit [www.simplygourmetlunches.com](http://www.simplygourmetlunches.com). You will have to wait until you get your child's group assignment on June 18 or 19 to place a lunch order.

**SNACKS:** A mid-morning snack and juice are given to Clubhouse campers each day. An ice cream/ice pop snack is provided for all campers at about 4:00 P.M.

**OTHER FOOD FROM HOME:** Since many campers have all types of food allergies, we do not allow any food from home to be given to other campers. For birthdays, we suggest you send in some simple (non-edible) favors for the group.

# TRANSPORTATION

**BUS ROUTES:** We try to arrange our bus routes so each child's ride is as short as possible. We will pick up and deliver your child to your house unless you've requested another address, or if you have agreed to meet a bus at another location. If your child wants to go home with a friend after Camp, you must call us first so we can make sure that there is enough room on the bus for the extra passenger. All our buses are in constant contact with the Camp.

At the New Camper Orientation Day on June 18 or the Welcome Day on June 19, you can meet your bus driver and/or bus counselor and get his/her phone number. The bus rider will call you before Camp starts to confirm the pick-up and drop-off times. Campers who start Camp after our first week will hear from riders during the week before they begin. Please contact the rider directly (not the Camp Office) ahead of time if you know that your child will not be coming to Camp one day.

**BUS SAFETY RULES:** All passengers (campers, staff and drivers) must wear a seat belt at all times while in a bus or car. All seat belts must be fastened snugly.

The Camp bus will pick up and drop off campers at their homes or other point designated by parent, guardian or Camp. Camp buses use school bus flashing lights for every pick-up and drop-off. If the camper must cross the street, the bus rider will assist the child.

Campers must remain seated in their seats. They may not throw things out the window or put parts of their bodies out the window. Campers must follow instructions from the bus or car driver or rider. Campers may not eat on the bus.

In case of emergency, the driver will notify Camp immediately using the two-way radio and/or cell phone.

In case of emergency or delay in the usual route, the Camp Office will contact parents of affected campers by phone.

**EXTENDED DAY:** We have an extended day program as a service for working parents. Please call the Camp Office if you wish to register your child for a permanent space, both morning and afternoon, in this program. For the extended day program, drop off is between 8:00 and 9:00 am, and pick up is between 4:30 and 6:00 pm. Other families may use the extended day program on an occasional basis. There are limited spaces available in the program, so if your child normally does not use the extended day program, you must call us first.

# TRANSPORTATION FAQ'S

**Q: How well qualified are the bus drivers?**

**A:** To drive a Camp Riverbend bus, a driver needs a "Commercial Driver's License with a Passenger Endorsement". To get this license, a driver must have a good driving record for three years, and pass a physical exam, a special written test and a special driving test. All drivers' fingerprints are also checked by the State Police. Our insurance company also checks their records.

**Q: What time will my child be picked up/dropped off?**

**A:** After Welcome Day, the bus drivers will practice driving the route to get to know each house and its location. You will be called to let you know what time your child should be ready on the first day. After the first few days, the pick-up time may be a little later, as the driver becomes more familiar with the route and the children learn to board the van quickly.

**Q: Why isn't my child on the bus with our friend's child in our town?**

**A:** We design the bus routes so that each child will be on the bus for as short a time as possible. In many towns, we have more than one bus, and it may be quicker for different buses to pick up children who live even a block apart.

**Q: Will my child wear a seatbelt?**

**A:** Yes! Our drivers and riding counselors will see to it that everyone is seated and wearing a seatbelt.

**Q: Who supervises my child during the trip?**

**A:** We make every effort for each bus to have a separate counselor as the bus rider. It's his or her job to help children cross the street, fasten seatbelts, take attendance, and maintain order on the bus. The bus driver should concentrate on the driving.

**Q: How do you keep in contact with the buses while they're on the road?**

**A:** We have a special two-way radio system, based in Camp, and at the bus company's office, that lets us talk to buses at any moment. Buses can also call in to Camp while they're on the road. Buses must call in at the end of every trip.

**Q: What happens if I'm not home when the bus drops my child off?**

**A:** Please call into Camp so we can notify the bus by radio if you will be late. It's your responsibility to let us know where your child should go if you cannot be home to meet the bus. Please designate a local emergency name and number that we will keep in our files. If we have not heard from you and you are not home, the driver will radio to Camp for instructions. If you know ahead of time that you can't meet the bus, please let us know! We have an extended day program that will keep your child active in Camp until 6:00 pm. You must pick up your child at Camp from the extended day program. Please call us before 2:00 pm if you want your child to remain at Camp in the extended day program.

**Q: Can my child go home on another bus with a friend, or have a friend come home with him or her?**

**A:** MAYBE! A friend from Camp can come home, but only if there is space on the bus and we have permission from both sets of parents. Please call Camp ahead of time to check if this is possible. If the bus is usually full, we will not be able to tell you yes or no until we take the attendance in the morning.

**Q: We're planning to move in the middle of the summer. What happens to our transportation?**

**A:** We can work it out! Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning a move, and where you will be moving.

# CLOTHING

**DRESSING FOR CAMP:** Clothes for Camp are very informal – shorts, t-shirts and sneakers. Each child needs two bathing suits and two towels every day. We recommend that the child wears one bathing suit in the morning, and packs the second suit and underwear/shorts in his/her backpack.

We recommend Velcro sneakers for younger children. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather: a sweatshirt or jacket for cool days, or a rain coat for wet days. No umbrellas! Campers are only allowed to wear flip-flops when going to and from the pool.

**LOST AND FOUND:** Please label everything your child brings to Camp (raincoat, towels, sweatshirts, bathing suits, shoes and especially all underwear and socks!!!) We have fliers from a few companies that make labels (iron-on, sew-on or stamp-on). We are happy to send them to you on request. Please label clothing with your child's last name (and first name too, if your last name is a common one). Don't use only a first name or initials! Unlabelled underwear and socks that end up in lost and found are discarded, for sanitary reasons.



**NO ELECTRONICS:** Please do not send your child to camp with a cell phone, handheld game system or other small electronics. They may be lost or damaged, and will distract your child from Camp activities.

**CAMP T-SHIRT:** Each camper will be given a free Camp T-shirt. Additional T-shirts or tank tops can be purchased on New Camper Orientation Day or Welcome Day or through the Camp Office. Camp Riverbend sweatshirts, backpacks, shorts, baseball caps and other items are also available. There is no required Camp uniform.

# SWIMMING

We have four heated pools, designed for teaching. Each full day camper swims twice a day, an instructional swim in the morning and a play swim in the afternoon.

We offer returning campers the option of taking their deep water tests, and new campers the option of being placed for swimming lessons before Camp starts. Campers can be evaluated by appointment only the week of June 20th. All campers must be accompanied by an adult. There are a limited number of slots available, so please call or email Robin



([robin@campriverbend.com](mailto:robin@campriverbend.com))  
**after June 1st** to schedule your camper's evaluation. Pre-Camp swim evaluations are not required.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Saturday, June 18** . . . . . New Camper Orientation Day 2:00-4:00 pm (for first year campers and their families)

**Sunday, June 19** . . . . . Welcome Day 10 am to Noon (Campers and parents meet their counselors)

**Monday, June 27** . . . . . Camp Opens 9:30 am

**Monday, July 4** . . . . . Camp is Closed

**Friday, August 12** . . . Last Day of Camp