Seminole County
Summer Adventure Eco Camp

Parent Handbook

Daily Schedule

A typical day for regular camp program is as follows:

7:30am-9am	(Optional) Extended Care	1pm	End of Week Project Time
9am	Camp Begins	1:30pm	Activity 3
9:15am	Activity 1	2:30pm	Snack
10:15am	Snack	3pm	Large Group Activity
10:45am	Activity 2	4pm	Camp Ends
12pm	Lunch	4-5:30pm	(Optional) Extended Care

Our Staff

We strive to select counselors for their value set and scientific knowledge, those who have displayed a sincere interest and concern for the well-being of children and our environment. Share whatever you feel will help the counselor do a better job with your camper including behavior challenges, fears, medical concerns, and/or significant family issues. All staff and volunteers are background checked as prescribed by Florida law.

Staff/Camper Ratios

1:15 counselor to camper ratio.

What to bring to camp

DRESS

Life at Camp is informal! Send typical play clothes —the kind you can afford to lose or don't mind getting really dirty. We ask that a change of clothes be kept in a backpack at camp just in case they are needed.

BUG REPELLANT/SUNSCREEN

In Florida, weather is unpredictable! Bugs and sun are everywhere. Because campers spend much of their time outdoors, bug repellant and sunscreen is a MUST. Please apply these prior to camp arrival and encourage your child to re-apply throughout the day. A sunscreen of at least SPF 15 is recommended. Please avoid aerosols when possible.

PERSONAL GEAR/NAME TAG

Please put your camper's name on everything. Personal belongings must be clearly marked. We can assume no responsibility for them. USE FIRST AND LAST NAMES. Lost and found is sorted at the end of each session. It is retained for one week after each session and then it is taken to the Good Will. We cannot mail lost items to you, please check the lost and found box if something is lost upon leaving. We are not responsible for items lost or stolen so please do not send valuables.

WHAT TO BRING . . .

Lunch & drink (refrigeration is not provided)
Close-toed shoes
water shoes (old tennis shoes will work)
Insect repellent/Sunscreen SPF 15 (Minimum)
2 Snacks & 2 Drinks
Backpack/Rain gear

WHAT NOT TO BRING:

Soda/Energy Drinks
MP3 Player/Radio
Animals
Knives/rifles/ammunition/weapons
Personal sporting and/or other equipment
Electronic games
Expensive cameras or watches
Alcohol/drugs/tobacco

Any of these items and any other item deemed unacceptable by the Counselors will **be immediately confiscated**. Controlled substances or fireworks are prohibited. Possession or use of controlled substances, alcohol, tobacco, or fireworks will result in immediate dismissal from camp, without a refund.

Cell Phones

Cell phones may NOT be used during extended day or regular camp hours. If a camper brings a cell phone to camp it must be kept in their backpack and the phone must be shut off. Phones not stored away will be confiscated by the staff and returned to the parents at the end of the day. In case of an emergency all parent contact will be done through the camp staff. **Eco Camp is not responsible for lost or stolen phones, personal belongings and/or electronics**.

Camp Location

Ed Yarborough Nature Center: Physical Address: 3485 N. CR 426 Geneva, FL 32732 (321) 377-4846

Arrival and Departure Procedures

ARRIVAL: Extended Care drop-off is between 7:30am-8:45am and Camp drop-off is between 8:45am-9:00am. You must be registered for Extended Care to drop-off prior to 8:45 am. At check-in, you will need to park and escort your camper to sign-in. Please keep in mind that **YOU MUST SIGN-IN AND OUT WITH THE CAMP STAFF DAILY**. PLEASE BE PREPARED TO SHOW A PHOTO ID DAILY. ONLY THOSE AUTHORIZED BY THE PARENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION WILL BE ALLOWED TO PICK UP A CAMPER. Anyone not registered for Extended Care who arrives prior to 8:45 am will either need to wait or register for Extended Care.

DEPARTURE

Camper pick-up is at 4pm and extended Care is between 4:00pm-5:30pm. You must be registered for Extended Care to pick-up your camper after 4:15pm. At check-out you will sign your camper out. Please keep in mind that **YOU MUST SIGN-IN AND OUT WITH THE CAMP STAFF DAILY**. PLEASE BE PREPARED TO SHOW A PHOTO ID DAILY. ONLY THOSE AUTHORIZED BY THE PARENT AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION WILL BE ALLOWED TO PICK UP A CAMPER. We must have written permission to let campers leave with someone else. Please send a note to the Counselor indicating the name(s) of the person(s) who have permission to pick up your child. NOTE: In inclement weather, such as thunderstorm, check-in and out procedures may be modified. We appreciate your patience on these days!

LATE PICK-UP POLICY

Campers are to be picked up from camp by 4:15pm and from Extended Care by 5:30pm. **Campers not enrolled in Extended Care that are not picked up by 4:15pm will be charged $15 for extended-care for the week. This rate will not be prorated. Extended Care campers will be assessed a late fee of $1 per minutes/per child for all campers picked up after 5:30pm.** Proper authorities will be called for parents who fail to pick up their camper(s) within 30 minutes of the camp closing time. No exceptions.

PARENT EVALUATION

At the end of the summer you will receive a parent evaluation via email. Your feelings and impressions are important to our commitment to quality camping. Please complete this evaluation. All comments are considered by our directors and help us plan for the following year.

Visitation Policy

No visitors please. This policy results in an improved program and is partially responsible for the elimination of homesickness problems.

Important Health & Camp Policy Information

HEALTH CARE PROCEEDURES

A child may not receive medication of any type at Eco Camp and/or from any staff or volunteer associated with the camp. Parents should make other arrangements if medications are necessary during camp hours.

Parents will be contacted immediately if their child(ren) show signs of illness. It is better to be overcautious than to risk exposing the rest of the children and staff. **Children must go home for:**

- Earache (if they have not been on medication at least 24 hours), Fever over 98.6 degrees. Children may return when they have been fever free for 24 hours, Strep throat (if they have not been on medication at least 24 hours), Stomachache, Anything contagious; i.e., chicken pox, hand, foot and mouth disease, Diarrhea/vomiting, Contagious rashes or rashes of unknown origin, Head lice, including visible nits. Staff will check head upon return, Pink Eye (conjunctivitis) if they have not been on medication at least 24 hours, Significant runny nose (discolored mucous)

If an emergency trip to the hospital or a doctor is necessary, a staff member will accompany your child and the EMT's and one of our staff will contact you as soon as possible. You will be expected to meet your child at the hospital and are responsible for any follow-up appointments that may be necessary. You and a physician must release your child in order to come back to camp. If your child becomes ill and a non-emergency visit to a doctor is needed, you will be contacted and asked to transport your child to the doctor.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Medical charges for any illness or injury at camp are your responsibility. Bills will be sent to you by the provider for submission to your insurance carrier.

ADHD MEDICATIONS

Hyperactive children on medications are not uncommon at camp. Normally these children present no special problem. However, these children do become a problem when a doctor or parent decides to change, reduce, or suspend the child's medication right before sending

them to camp. Children often have very dramatic behavior changes when their medication is adjusted or suspended. This is not the time to send a child to camp. Children with severe behavior disorders or whose medications do not substantially modify their behavioral disorder do not do well in a camp environment and parents should consult the Director prior to enrollment.

ALLLERGIES

Please notify us if your child has any allergies, especially insect or food.

REPORTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

In order to ensure the well being of the children in our care, our staff has a continuing duty under state law to report incidents of possible neglect or abuse, including physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, to the Department of Children and Families and to cooperate in any investigation of such possible neglect or abuse. All staff members are **mandatory reporters** and must follow Florida statute for mandatory reporting. Staff is not allowed to comment to parents, other staff or any other persons on the subject of reported child abuse. Parents may not accuse or question staff concerning child abuse allegations. Child abuse investigations are a matter for DCF or local police departments.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline is necessary for an effective program. The philosophy of our program is respect being shown to all. Praise and positive reinforcement are used to establish an environment of good will. Should a problem arise, the child will be spoken to in an effort to correct the problem. If unsuccessful, time–out will be used. If behavior does not improve after time–out and appropriate attention, then counseling with Director and counselors will follow. If a child continues to exhibit unacceptable behavior, then a conference with the parents will take place. Seminole County reserves the right to dismiss any child whose behavior is unacceptable, ***without refund of camp fees***.

Payment Procedures

BALANCE OF FEES

Payments are due no later than the Monday prior to the session. Spots in sessions cannot be reserved without payment. Failure to pay your balance will result in your child being dropped from the program.

REFUND POLICY

There will be no refunds given for Camp programs. No credits will be given for days missed, late arrival, early departure, or inclement weather during any Camp program.