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TOWANDA®

2021 COVID Protocols

as of April 15, 2021



Camp Towanda COVID Protocols

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Camp Towanda will be a controlled environment (“bubblicious”) where campers and staff will stay onsite and enjoy our over 400 acres. We will have in place a full summer of planned activities, adventure and variety to keep camp fun, entertaining, fresh and safe for campers and staff. We have created special, secluded “off-duty” zones for staff to relax, recharge and enjoy their time off.

Will there be testing and screening before camp?

We are very fortunate to have partnered with *PM Pediatrics*, one of the premier pediatric urgent care practices in the US. They are managing our testing and mitigation strategies, policies and procedures. 3-5 days before camp, our campers will visit one of *PM Pediatrics* locations in their area for a PCR Test (**June 21st for Floridians, June 22nd for all others**). The results will go straight to our office. More info will be shared in May on how to schedule this visit, which includes a telemedicine appointment.

We will provide you with your assigned *PM Pediatrics* location in your area. If there is not a location in your area, we will coordinate a location for pre-camp testing with you. International campers will be contacted separately for their procedures.

Campers will also visit *PM Pediatrics* for their Arrival Day Rapid Test.

- For Floridians, this will be on **Thursday, June 24th** in the afternoon (the day before the flight). If they test negative, they will receive a “golden ticket” to get on the plane the following day.
- For all other campers, on the morning of your arrival day, you will need to visit your *PM Pediatrics* location for a Rapid Test. If your camper tests negative, they will receive a “golden ticket” to come to camp. If the test is positive, they will be given a PCR test and we will need to await their results to determine when they can be brought to camp.

On **Friday, July 2nd**, all campers and staff will be getting PCR tested at camp.

	Arrival Day	Quarantine	Pre-Camp PCR	Arrival Day Rapid	At Camp PCR
International Campers	6/23	14 days prior to arrival	3-5 days before flight	6/23 at CT	7/2 at CT
Domestic Flying Campers	6/24	14 days prior to arrival	6/20 at PM Peds	6/23 at PM Peds	7/2 at CT
Florida Flight Campers	6/25	14 days prior to arrival	6/21 at PM Peds	6/24 at PM Peds	7/2 at CT
Upper Camp w/ Lower Camp Siblings	6/26	14 days prior to arrival	6/22 at PM Peds	6/26 at PM Peds	7/2 at CT
Lower Camp	6/27	14 days prior to arrival	6/22 at PM Peds	6/27 at PM Peds	7/2 at CT

If your camper tests positive before camp, they will need to isolate for 10 days (from the positive test). They can come to camp when they are symptom-free with documentation of recovery from a pediatrician and clearance from *PM Pediatrics*.

Any exposed siblings need to isolate for 10 days from date of exposure and receive a negative PCR test on Day 10 before coming to camp.

Will there be a COVID Fee?

While we are still working out the details and costs with both *PM Pediatrics* and the labs, we are committed to capping any COVID testing fee at \$150 per camper. This includes any testing fees applied at *PM Pediatrics'* offices. We have been advised that there is a chance that many insurance companies might cover those fees for you.

Regardless, any fees related to COVID that are above \$150 will be covered by *Camp Towanda*. There are no fees for costs incurred by camp to re-engineer, re-imagine and re-invent our operations and program; those costs are being 100% absorbed by camp.

What precautions should be taken prior to arrival at camp?

During the 14 days prior to arrival at camp, it is highly recommended that campers, staff and their close family members refrain from large group gatherings (e.g. weddings, bar mitzvahs, graduations, parties, etc.), unnecessary travel, and limited contact with non-household members. Face covering must be worn and social distancing must be strictly practiced in all environments when mixing outside the household. There will be a Daily Health Tracker on your *CampMinder Companion App* that must be completed on the days leading up to camp. More details to come.

Note from Mitch: I'm counting on all parents and staff to be partners in taking this very seriously and reducing the risk so you or your child can be at camp. There is no wiggle room for anything else!

How will my child get to camp this summer?

As mentioned in our mid-February video update, all campers (except those taking the Florida flight) need to be driven TO camp. Ideally the fewer people in the car, the better. No carpooling outside your household. If both parents are vaccinated we are okay if they both drive their campers. If only one parent is vaccinated, we suggest and request that the vaccinated parent drive and no "non-camper" siblings in the car. Only campers are allowed to get out of the car. Exact drop-off times and procedures will be explained prior to arrival.

There will be scheduled arrival times (more info to come):

- Wednesday, June 23rd - International arrivals
- Thursday, June 24th - Non-Floridian flying campers
- Friday, June 25th - Floridian campers
- Saturday, June 26th - Upper campers with lower camp siblings
- Sunday, June 27th - Lower campers

Campers can bring a small carry on bag with belongings that didn't make it into their trunks (tennis racket, lacrosse stick, stuffed animal, etc.). Your camper will be lice checked upon arrival and should be checked prior to coming to camp (lice is still not nice!). This year, we will be offering a pre-camp lice-checking webinar to avoid unnecessary trips outside the home for screening.

All baggage must be scheduled to arrive BEFORE camp (i.e. no driving bags on arrival day to camp).

What about going home?

We anticipate campers will be able to return home by bus or plane. You will be permitted to pick up your camper if you prefer. More details to come.

Will campers be in "cohorts"?

For the first 7-12 days, we anticipate campers' bunks will be considered their "pod". Activities will still run by age group (aka their "cohort"). Masks will not have to be worn inside the bunk. When and if we mix cohorts,

we will mask until we get the results of our all-camp PCR test. Mask use will be determined depending on the activity.

How will we prepare and protect our staff?

Our Staff will arrive for their orientation at least two weeks prior to the start of camp, depending on their department (in fact, some departments are already at camp!). All Staff will need to produce a negative PCR test 3-5 days before their arrival and a negative rapid test on their arrival day. They will get a PCR test approximately 5 days after arrival and then again with the all-camper PCR test on July 2nd. In addition to an extensive staff orientation, they will receive training in COVID preparedness and procedures. We are strongly suggesting all staff be vaccinated in accordance with CDC guidelines prior to the camp season. We are hopeful that the majority of our staff population will be vaccinated prior to camper arrival; regardless our plans are not changing based on vaccination status.

Will campers and staff need to wear masks?

There will be times that campers and staff will need to wear a disposable mask, especially during the first 7-10 days and at times when/if we are indoors or social distancing is not possible. Once we have the results of our July 2nd tests, we anticipate we will be able to ease mask and social distancing restrictions.

What happens if someone tests positive for COVID-19 during the summer?

If a camper or staff member experiences COVID symptoms during the summer, they will be isolated, rapid and PCR tested. In the event a camper or staff member tests positive for COVID, their cohort will be quarantined as we await their test results and monitor symptoms. An affected pod will be able to participate in separate camp activities. *PM Pediatrics* and our own medical staff will help evaluate quarantining protocols and contact tracing while we await test results. We have prepared supervised isolation housing just in case.

A COVID-positive person must be picked up within 12-48 hours (depending on distance from camp) and **return home for 10 days** (from the time of testing positive). We strongly suggest parents do not plan a vacation within the first two weeks of camp and/or you have a pre-designated family member or friend that could pick up your camper if necessary. They can return when they are symptom-free with documentation of recovery from a pediatrician and clearance from *PM Pediatrics*.

**This is all based on current guidance and recommendations from the CDC and PM Pediatrics and is subject to change.*

How will the Mess Hall work?

As mentioned in our February video update, we plan to eat outdoors as much as possible, socially distanced, using our BBQ-style seating, picnic tables and new food tents. All serving will be cafeteria style.

What will the Towanda program be like?

Our fun and diverse programming will continue, along with some special new planned activities and flexible, routine-busting events (and a few surprises!). As mentioned in previous communications, we will not be participating in intercamp games or off campus trips. We have setup exciting intracamp leagues and tournaments.

Will there be a Visiting Day?

As we mentioned in our February video update, Visiting Day will be virtual. We are finalizing those details and guidelines including packages, FaceTimes, Zooms, special event live streams and more!

Note from Mitch: It will be awesome!

Will there be Tours this summer?

There will be individual, socially distant, COVID safe, *PM Pediatrics*-approved, “safari style” tours this summer. Tours will be one family at a time, must present negative COVID tests before arrival, checked upon arrival, proper PPE, etc. We will use our limo style golf carts to tour “safari style”, meaning they can observe camp and campers from a significant distance; will not be interacting, going in buildings (we will have a designated tour only restroom if needed) or getting off the golf cart. We will not be offering our *S’more Tour Rookie Days* this summer.

Are there any special Packing Tips?

Less is more and stick to the packing list (and our awesome *Annual Packing Tips* supplement in *CampMinder*). Remember, since there is no in-person Visiting Day, you will not be able to bring home all those extra clothes your camper never wore! We also suggest that your camper’s non-uniform clothing has some “red” and “blue” so it can be worn during Olympics. Many of our seasoned parents are accustomed to bringing Olympics clothing on Visiting Day.

Note from Mitch: *If there is Olympics!* 😊

Each camper needs to bring 200 medical-grade disposable masks (keep your Towanda mask at home!). We will be providing campers with a drawstring bag and mask chain. If you would like to send your camper with a fanny pack, that works too!

What are the procedures for housekeeping, hand washing, and hygiene this summer?

Don’t forget your hand sanitizer is the new “don’t forget your sunscreen” (well, bring that too!); We will have posters promoting proper hygiene and safety. Every building and activity area will have a hand sanitizer station. All bunks have soap pumps, hand sanitizer pumps and fans. We have installed additional outdoor hand washing stations. Our cleaning staff and Activity Specialists will have strict protocols for cleaning equipment. Campers will use their bunk bathrooms. Any public bathrooms will be under strict hygiene supervision. Water fountains will only be used as contactless refill water stations. Everyone should bring two labeled water bottles; bottles will be washed regularly. We have five hydrostatic sprayers that we will be using in all areas of camp.

How will the Infirmary work?

Our Team of Doctors, Nurses, EMT and Medical Interns have been trained by *PM Pediatrics* on all protocols and procedures. We have added new periodic temperature checks, medication and vitamin distribution procedures, triage tents for non-COVID screening and treatment, a new in-patient facility, a separate isolation facility and air purifiers. These are just some of the many things we have re-engineered to make sure our Infirmary keeps everyone healthy, comfortable and ahead of the curve!

What’s next?

While the start of camp is just around the corner, there is still so much that can change between now and then. We continue to monitor CDC and Pennsylvania guidelines, consulting with our medical advisors, including *PM Pediatrics* and our on-site staff, Wayne Memorial Hospital and our camp colleagues. Please be patient and flexible. We will continue to be transparent and spoon feed you information.

We will be hosting a Webinar with *PM Pediatrics* on **Thursday, May 6th at 7pm EDT** to take you through our latest COVID protocols and answer your questions.

We are looking forward to a very special and safe summer, reunited with our *Camp Towanda* Family.

This is all based on current guidance and recommendations from the CDC and PM Pediatrics and is subject to change.