



CAMP WA-TAM

Summer 2023

INFORMATION LETTER

GREETINGS FROM THE CAMP WA-TAM STAFF! We look forward to a week of exploration, discovery, fun and excitement with your child. To help us make help make your child's camp week a special one, please read the following program information.

SCHEDULE: Monday-Wednesday, camp runs 9:30am – 3pm. Please send a healthy sack lunch with your child each day because campers get lots of exercise while hiking, swimming, playing games and canoeing. Each Tuesday the entire camp hikes to Spring Lake Lagoon for an afternoon of swimming, games, crafts and fishing. If your child is interested in fishing, please send a pole and bait with him/her on Tuesday morning. We ask that you send **barbless** hooks because we release all fish. Thursday is the overnighter, so camp begins at 1pm and ends Friday morning at 10am. Thursday dinner and Friday breakfast are provided.

MONDAY MORNING CHECK-IN: Please allow a few extra minutes on Monday morning to check-in your child. We need to set your child up with her/his assigned group, confirm emergency information and your child's counselor will have a few questions to ask you directly. Check-in on Tuesday and Wednesday begins at 9:30am. A camp photo (8x10 color) can be ordered during this time for \$5. The photo will be sent home with your child Friday morning. Please make checks payable to *SRRP*.

DROP-OFF, PICK-UP AND PARKING: Each day the children are dropped off and picked up in the upper parking lot of Howarth Park (at "Mr. Pipe"). Howarth Park is located on Summerfield Road between Montgomery and Sonoma Avenues. Please be prompt with all drop off/pick up times. ***Please note that we will be enforcing a \$5 late fee for every 15 minutes you are late in picking up your child.*** Due to the popularity of Howarth Park, we understand that parking can sometimes be difficult. Please allow for extra time to drop off and pick up your child. During pick up and drop off, please find an open designated parking space and then check your child in/out *in person*. You are required to CHECK-IN your child, *in person*, all week. You are required to CHECK-OUT your child, *in person*, every day. Please plan ahead for this procedure.



EXTENDED HOURS: For those parents who prefer longer hours, we offer extended hours Monday - Wednesday from 3pm until 5:15pm. There is an additional \$50 fee for this service. **You must register one week in advance for the extended hours service.** Extended hours participants can be picked up at "Mr. Pipe" starting at 4:50pm. *If you plan to pick your child up before this time, please make prior arrangements with the Camp Director and your child's counselor. You may also contact the Extended Hours Director on the camp cell at 888-5267.*

ZERO WASTE: In January of 2020, City Council passed the "Zero Waste Food Ware Ordinance". In an effort to comply with the City of Santa Rosa's ZERO WASTE ordinance, we are asking all campers (& staff) to bring their own reusable plate & fork for the Thursday cookout. These will be scraped & rinsed after dinner, but will not be cleaned/sanitized. Please label all belongings. Souvenir reusable cups are already provided. Single use, disposable paper plates & silverware will be available on a limited basis for campers who forget theirs. ***ALL CAMPERS WILL RECEIVE A SOUVENIR FRIBEE DINNER PLATE AS PART OF THEIR FIRST REGISTRATION FOR THE SUMMER!***

REQUEST A FRIEND: You may request to be grouped with one friend, however, in order for requests to be considered **BOTH campers must request one another. We will do our best to accommodate one request, but we cannot guarantee it.** In an effort to reduce the hectic nature of Monday morning registration, **we will only honor requests that have been made in advance.** We do ask that the children be of similar ages (within a year of each other). If you would like to make a request after you have registered your child, call the Recreation Department at least a week in advance (543-3282), and we will add this information to your child's enrollment form.

SWIM DAY: Please inform your child's counselor of any swimming requests or restrictions your child may have. Also remember to apply and pack sunscreen with your child as swim days are full of fun under the sun! Finally- sandals are allowed at Spring Lake, but please make sure your child has closed toed shoes for the hike over.

ACCOMODATION REQUEST: If you or your child has a **special** need or accommodation request, please contact the Camp Coordinator at the Recreation Department (543-3428) at least one week prior to your camp session. Every effort will be made to reasonably accommodate your request.

PARENTS NIGHT PROGRAM: You are invited to our **Parent's Night Program on Thursday. Please plan to arrive at 6:15 pm, to allow time for parking.** This exciting activity gives the children a creative chance to show their parents and friends what they have been doing during the week. Please wait down the hill at "Mr. Pipe" in the parking lot. The children love to walk down the hill and escort you to the campfire area. **The program begins promptly at 6:30pm.** If you bring younger brothers or sisters to the program, please keep them on your laps, while the program is in progress. You **may** also check them into our free childcare program at the stone tables. After the program, the campers have time to give you a tour of the camp and introduce you to the staff. Children are not allowed to leave the camp area unless the Camp Counselor has been notified, so please let him/her know if you are taking your child home with you. *Finally we ask that you do not send any candy with your child for the overnight. A sweet evening snack is provided already.*

PHOTOS: Staff reserves the right to photograph activities and program participants for potential promotional use. All photos will remain the property of *Recreation & Parks* and may be used for publicity or promotional purposes only. If anyone in your family should not be photographed, contact the Camp Coordinator (543-3428).

LOST AND FOUND: We ask that you label **everything** your child brings to camp with cloth name-tags, puffy paints, indelible ink, etc., including backpacks, duffle bags, towels, sunscreen, lunch bags, etc. Please do not send anything valuable such as electronic games or cell phones to camp. There will be an on-site lost and found. If necessary, please see the Camp Director or Assistant Camp Director for assistance. Any items left over two weeks will be donated to a non-profit organization or thrown away.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT: Our goal is to provide a safe and fun environment for every camper. We are committed to your child, and will do all that we can to help them have a good experience. We do reserve the right, however, to remove a child from the camp if their behavior becomes too disruptive. If your child has a potential behavior problem that we can assist with or should be aware of, please inform us at least one week in advance. Contact the Camp Coordinator at the Recreation Department (543-3428). It is also necessary to speak with your child's Camp Counselor when you check in on Monday morning.

TAX ID NUMBER: To write off your daycare expenses, please save your receipt and use the Santa Rosa Recreation & Parks Department Tax ID number: **#94-6000428.**

REFUND POLICY: PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR REFUND POLICY HAS CHANGED: All Camp Wa-Tam registration cancellations will incur a 25% penalty up to 3 days before or less the course start date, at such time all fees paid will be forfeited.

THINGS TO BRING TO CAMP:

Every day

- Tennis/Hiking shoes (no sandals)
- Lunch *-except Thursday-* (please label)
- Sweatshirt or sweater
- Sunscreen** *(please apply to child prior to drop off at camp. * Staff are not responsible for the application of sunscreen)*
- Masks for indoors or bus rides

Swim Day (Tuesday)

- Swimsuit
- Towel
- closed-toed shoes (no sandals)
- Sunscreen *(please apply to child prior to drop off at camp, Staff are not responsible for the application of sunscreen)*

Overnighter* (Thursday)

- Sleeping Bag
- Warm clothes
- Jacket or sweater
- Pillow
- Personal items
- Ground cloth/tarp
- Foam pad (optional)
- Flashlight (optional)
- Sturdy plate, fork and spoon.
- Reusable plate, fork, spoon, knife

**Items can be brought at 1pm check in.*

Please label all items!