WHITEWATER

CAMP

Parent Information Packet
2027

Program Inquiries: campstaff@whitewater.org 704.391.3900 x287
Registration Help: campbooking@whitewater.org 704.391.3900
whitewater.org

Table of Contents

Parents and Guardians, ... 3
Before Your First Day Checklist 4
Drop-Off and Pick-Up 5
Lunch & Snacks 6
Packing List 7
Lost and Found 8
Behavior Expectations of Campers 9
Parents and Guardians on Property 10
Weather Policy 11
First Aid 11
Required Registration Paperwork 13
Optional Add-Ons. 14
Refund, Transfer, & Cancellation Policy 14
Camp Programs and Prerequisites 16
Day and Spring Break Session Overview 16
Summer Camp 16
Ages 4-7 Program Overview 16
Ages 8+ Program Overview 17

Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for choosing Whitewater Camp. We look forward to providing your child with an outdoor experience focused on adventure, learning, and personal growth.

This packet contains important information about camp programs, daily operations, risk expectations, and policies. Please review it carefully before your child's first day.

Whitewater follows the Challenge by Choice principle. Campers are encouraged to try new activities but are never required to participate beyond their comfort level. Our staff will assess each group's abilities and adjust activities accordingly.

Our camp is committed to honoring every camper and staff member. Through thoughtful programming, we work to create a welcoming environment where everyone can learn, grow, and contribute with confidence.

Families of first-time campers will receive an informational video before camp begins, highlighting daily procedures, programming, and helpful reminders.

We look forward to a great camp season.

Thank you,
Whitewater Outdoor School Team

704.391.3900 ext. 287 | campstaff@whitewater.org

Before Your First Day Checklist

Please complete or review the following before your camper's first day:

☐ **Registration and Forms:** Complete the Camper Health History Form and activity waiver; confirm emergency contacts, and medical information. Add authorized pickups to your child's Pickup Patrol portal.

☐ **Arrival and Departure:** Review drop-off and pick-up instructions and the designated pickup application; arrange early drop-off or dismissal if needed.

☐ **What to Bring**: Review the packing list, label belongings, and pack a refillable water bottle, sunscreen, suitable footwear, and weather-appropriate clothing.

☐ **Meals:** Pack lunch and snacks or purchase available summer camp meal options.

☐ **Camp Expectations**: Review behavior and safety expectations, the refund policy, and any program-specific prerequisites.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Authorized Pickups

- Whitewater Center will use a secure application to handle Drop Off, Pick-Up, and Authorized Pickups. Details will be sent to registrants prior to the start of camp.
- Parents and Guardians will be asked to provide photo identification each time they pick up.
- Campers over the age of 16 with a valid license may drive themselves to camp with written permission from parents. Parents must specify their campers as the authorized pickups in the secure application.

Drop Off

- Drop off occurs between 8:00am-9:00am daily at the Base Camp.
- Early drop-off is available beginning at 7:30 AM for an additional fee of $25 per child, per week. This option may be purchased during registration or at camp drop-off and pick-up.
- Please follow the signs to use the car line.

Dismissal Changes

- Parents/guardians can take advantage of our early drop off for a fee of $25 per week/child. Purchases can be made during registration and at drop-off and pick-up.
- If your child is leaving early, let the Camp Team know by 1:00pm using the application.
- Late arrivals should check in at Base Camp where a camp staff member will escort the camper to their group.

Pick-Up

- Pick-up begins no earlier than 4:00pm and ends at 5:00pm daily at Base Camp. Pick-up for morning half-day campers occurs between 12:00pm-12:30pm.
- A late pick-up fee of $15 per child will be charged for every 15 minutes.
- Please follow the signs to use the car line.

Lunch & Snacks *(Available for Purchase for Summer Camp Only)*

Lunch & Snack Options

- Campers may bring their own lunch or purchase a boxed lunch during registration.
- If you need to purchase lunch after registering, please notify camp staff. Lunch is also available for purchase at drop-off and pick-up.
- Campers should bring a few snacks each day.

Storage Guidelines

- A soft cooler with an ice pack is recommended, as there is no refrigerated storage during the day.
- Lunch coolers will be kept in each group's storage area for the duration of camp.

Half-Day Camps

- Morning campers should bring or purchase lunch.

Lunch – $55 per child/week

- Lunch is available for purchase and follows a pre-set weekly menu.
- Each lunch includes: a sandwich, chips, fruit, and a cookie.
- Sandwich options rotate weekly and may include:
  - Ham & cheese
  - Turkey & cheese
  - Chicken Caesar wrap
  - Peanut butter & jelly

Allergies/Dietary Restrictions: Please list any restrictions in your child's registration health history notes. Lunches can be modified to accommodate dietary needs.

Snack – $20 per child/week

- Campers receive 2 snacks per day.
- Snack options vary daily but typically include items like granola bars, pretzels, chips, and more.

Packing List

We recommend that all items be labelled with the camper's first and last name. Campers should not bring any valuable items they do not want to lose to camp.

Campers should bring the following:

- Refillable Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Bug Repellent
- Closed-toe shoes with a heel strap
- Secure water shoes with a heel strap
- Extra Dry Activity Clothing
- Rain/Wind gear
- Personal toiletry items
- Bathing Suit or Water Activity Clothing (March-October)
- Towel (March-October)
- Warm Clothes & Mittens (November-February)

4–7-year-old participants should also bring:

- One change of clothing and baby wipes stored in a large Ziploc bag with the child's first and last name.

Packing List FAQ:

- ***What should my camper wear each day?***
  Your camper should arrive in comfortable clothes. Quick dry material is best for outdoor activities.
- ***Does my camper need to bring a bathing suit and change of clothes each day?***
  In the months of March-October, your child will have the opportunity to participate in both water and land activities. During this time, we advise that your child has a change of clothes for each day of camp.
- ***What type of shoes should my camper bring?***
  Land activities and Deep-Water Solo climbing require closed toe shoes with a heel strap. Shoes will get wet at Deep Water Solo. All other water activities require secure shoes with a heel strap. Ex: Chaco's, Keens, Teva's, other secure water shoes. We recommend shoes with a rubber sole.
- ***Will they be carrying a backpack to the activities all day?***
  Campers are encouraged to take only a water bottle to activities. Personal belongings that are left unattended at activities will be taken to Lost and Found. Campers will have access to camp storage to store their personal belongings. Please note that these storage locations are not locked. Valuable items should be left at home.
- ***Is a water hydration pack appropriate?***

Campers can bring a backpack with a water hydration pack, but it cannot be worn with gear such as harnesses or PFDs. We recommend bringing refillable water bottles.

- ***Can my camper bring their own gear/equipment?***
  The Whitewater Center provides all necessary gear and equipment, but your camper can bring their own mountain bike, whitewater kayak, etc. if they would like. If space allows, overnight storage is available for $10 per night. During the camp day our storage locations are not locked, so we recommend bringing a bike lock or other way to secure any gear you bring. Certain personal gear will be inspected for required certifications and approved by staff.

Lost and Found

- We advise writing your child's first name and last initial on all personal items.
- Items such as socks and undergarments may be thrown away daily if not claimed.
- Lost and found items will be kept at Base Camp during the week; then the items will be placed with Lost and Found at Guests Services at the Outfitters Store. If you are inquiring about an item lost after the session, please contact Guests Services on our main phone number 704.391.3900.
- Whitewater is not and cannot be responsible for any guest's personal property.

Behavior Expectations of Campers

We expect good behavior from our campers to provide the most rewarding and enjoyable experience for all campers as well as other guests attending activities at the center. This includes our campers' cooperation and ability to follow instructions and rules. We ask that campers interact positively with their fellow campers and camp staff and come to camp with a willingness to try all tasks and activities.

Unacceptable behavior includes the following:

- Fighting or horseplay.
- Abusive or foul language, personal put-downs, or bullying.
- Destruction of Whitewater Center property or others' personal property.
- Breaking of rules/regulations.
- Disruptive behavior that interferes with the rights of other participants to receive program services, or that draws significant attention away from staff to the point of endangering others.

Unacceptable behavior may result in any of the following disciplinary measures:

- Individual or group warning.
- Staff may contact the camper's parent or guardian to discuss the situation and possible solutions.
- Campers may be asked to sit out of an activity, especially when they are not following the safety guidelines.
- Suspension or dismissal from camp. Campers may be suspended or dismissed from camp for behavioral issues, failure to follow camp rules, or violations of safety expectations. Parents or guardians will be required to pick up their camper immediately if dismissed. No full or partial refunds will be issued for suspensions or dismissals, regardless of when they occur.

Prohibited Items:

- Pocket knives
- Smoking devices
- Electronics (see cell phone policy below)

Cell Phone Policy:

To help campers fully engage in the outdoor experience, we encourage leaving cell phones at home. Campers should not use phones during camp hours.

- Parents/ Guardians can always reach the camp office to relay important information or in case of an emergency.
- Staff will promptly contact parents or guardians if needed.

- Medical Exceptions: If your child needs a cell phone for medical reasons, please contact the camp office in advance to make arrangements.

This approach helps ensure campers stay present, engaged, and connected to all camp activities.

Parents and Guardians on Property

For the safety and security of all campers, we ask parents and guardians to refrain from the following during camp hours:

- Interacting with or following campers and camp staff during activities
- Taking photos or videos of campers
- Picking up campers from areas other than the designated drop-off/pick-up location

This ensures a safe, structured, and focused environment for all campers and limits camper interaction with the public and Whitewater guests.

Weather Policy

Rainy Weather

- Most camp activities continue in light to moderate rain.
- Camp staff will provide alternate games, activities, and crafts indoors for campers to enjoy during weather breaks.
- Please have your child bring a rain jacket and an umbrella on days when rainy weather is forecasted.

Severe Weather

- Weather is closely monitored online and with an onsite lightning detection system.
- If thunderstorms or high winds are anticipated, campers will be moved to hard-cover pavilions under staff supervision until activities can safely resume.
- Parents will be notified if severe weather is expected to impact camp operations.

Extremely Hot Days (95°F and above)

- Campers will take numerous breaks to cool off and replenish fluids during the day. Campers are also advised to take water with them for all activities.
- The activity schedule may be modified to include more scheduled water activities, with opportunities for rest and shade.
- Campers with mild heat-related illnesses (headaches, stomach aches, exhaustion, etc.) will be given a brief break in the Air Conditioning before reevaluating their condition.
- For campers who show signs/symptoms of extreme heat-related illnesses, parents will be notified via phone and emergency services will be contacted if necessary.

First Aid

Whitewater Camp Management is committed to keeping families informed about matters that affect their camper's well-being and experience at camp.

Minor Injuries

- Whitewater Camp staff are certified in First Aid and CPR.
- Minor scrapes or routine first-aid treatments may be documented internally without immediate notification to parents or guardians.

Serious Injuries

- In the event of an injury, illness, or behavioral incident, parents or guardians will be notified as soon as it is appropriate after the situation has been assessed by camp staff.
- If appropriate, a parent may come and transport the child to the hospital.
- If necessary, the child will be taken to the hospital via EMS accompanied by the Whitewater Camp Management staff and a parent/guardian can meet us there. Supervision of the remaining group will be provided.

Your child will be sent home if any of the following symptoms are present:

- Fever greater than 100 °F.
- Untreated ear infection or pain.
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea.
- Untreated orthopedic injury.
- Untreated skin infection/rash.
- Lice.
- Any viral or contagious condition that may be transmitted to others.
- Your child must be fever free for 24 hours without taking fever reducing medications – additional restrictions will apply for COVID symptoms.
- Please review the COVID recommendations for attending camp on American Camp Association and the CDC's websites.

Required Registration Paperwork

Camper Information

- All camper information will be completed during the registration process.
- A Camper Health History Form is **required** for every child attending camp. If a child is attending multiple camps in the 2027 season, only one health history form is required.
- To edit camper information, log into your Whitewater account and navigate to the camper's profile.
- Any edits to camper information need to be made **at least 7 days prior** to the start of the registered session.
- Communicate any special needs directly to the camp management team at campstaff@whitewater.org

Assumption of Risk, Release, and Indemnity Agreement (Activity Waiver)

- All campers must have submitted a signed waiver. All online registrants will fill out a waiver at the time of registration.
- Campers attending multiple camps during the summer of 2027 only need one signed waiver.

Administration of Medicine

- The safety and well-being of your child is of utmost concern when participating in Whitewater Center Summer Camps. For this reason, policies for administration of medications have been designed to protect participants. Only those medications that are necessary and cannot be scheduled outside the hours of the camp will be given during the program. The expectation is that all campers self-administer their medication. We understand that some cases may arise when the camp's part-time/full-time staff may be requested to administer medication. By completing the information in the camp registration, the Whitewater Camp Staff is authorized to administer physician-prescribed medication(s).
- It is the Parent/Guardian's Responsibility to:
    - Complete the registration form.
    - Provide medication in a current prescription container, which includes the participant's name, physician's name, medication name, dose, and time to be given, and how it is to be administered.
    - Provide new, labeled containers when medication changes are made.
    - Transport medication to program site and give to staff.
    - Know that medications will not be stored over the weekends and recreation employees will dispose of empty containers (unless otherwise instructed).

Over-The-Counter Medication Policy

- All medications taken during camp programming must be included in the online camper registration.
- We encourage all parents/guardians to administer over-the-counter medication(s) to their child before or after a Whitewater sponsored program.
- All medications taken at camp must be self-administered, prescribed by a licensed professional, and packaged in the original labeled pharmacy container. The pharmacist or physicians label, which must be on the bottle, will serve at the physician's order.

Optional Add-Ons *(Available for Purchase for Summer Camp Only)*

The following add-ons are available on the website upon registration and at check-in and check-out. No cash or checks are accepted.

Early Drop Off: $25 per child/week

- Extend early morning drop-off times from 8:00-9:00 AM to as early as 7:30 AM.

Lunch: $55 per child/week

- Lunches are available for purchase, and the menu is pre-set for each week.
- Lunches consist of a sandwich, chips, fruit, and a cookie.

Snack: $20 per child/week

- Snacks are available for purchase. Campers will be provided with 2 snacks a day.
- Snacks vary each day, but will usually consist of granola bars, pretzels, yogurt, and more.

Overnight Storage: $10 per night

- For campers who wish to bring their personal mountain bike or kayak, overnight storage is available upon request and dependent upon capacity.
- Whitewater and the camp staff are not responsible for lost or stolen Items.

Camp Merchandise

- Camp Merchandise is available for purchase at the time of registration and at the Outfitters store.

Refund, Transfer, & Cancellation Policy

- **All camp registrations are final and non-refundable.**
- **Refunds:** Whitewater does not issue full or partial refunds for cancellations, missed camp days, illness, injury, scheduling conflicts, weather conditions, or other circumstances that prevent a camper from attending.
- **Behavioral Dismissal:** Campers who are suspended or dismissed from camp due to behavioral issues, failure to follow camp rules, or violations of safety expectations are

not eligible for full or partial refunds, regardless of when the suspension or dismissal occurs.

- **Transfers:** Requests to transfer to another camp session must be submitted at least 14 days before the original camp session begins. All transfers are subject to availability and are not guaranteed.
- **Whitewater Cancellations:** If Whitewater cancels a camp session, families will receive a full refund for the canceled session.
- **Registration Assistance:** For questions regarding registrations or transfer requests, contact campbooking@whitewater.org.

Camp Programs and Prerequisites

Day and Spring Break Session Overview

- Day Sessions are offered as full day options for 4–12-year-olds on select days throughout the year.
- Spring Break Camp is a week-long day camp focusing on outdoor activities such as whitewater rafting, climbing, ziplines, and ropes courses. The sessions are aligned with the local school calendars to match their Spring Breaks and follow the summer camp programming for Tiny Trekkers, Adventure Camp, and Kayak I and II.

Summer Camp

Ages 4-7 Program Overview

Farmhand Camp
A summer camp designed for younger camps to learn about agriculture, animals, and nature through Whitewater Farms.

- Activities:
    - Farm-based experiences focused on animal care, gardening, and agricultural exploration
    - Wildwoods and Obstacle Challenges
    - Campers over 40 lbs. will have the opportunity to participate in select aerial activities

Little Leaf Camp
A learning-based camp that blends environmental education with classic camp programming and select Whitewater pass activities.

- Activities:
    - Classic Camp Programming: Sensory play, environmental education, guided hikes, arts & crafts, water games and more
    - Wildwoods and Obstacle Challenges
    - Campers over 40 lbs. will have the opportunity to participate in select aerial activities

Tiny Trekkers Camp
A scaled-down adventure camp designed for younger campers who are ready for a more active, challenge-based week.

- Activities:
    - Campers over 40 lbs. will have the opportunity to participate in aerial activities each day
    - Wildwoods and Obstacle Challenges
    - Other Activities: Scavenger hunts, team building activities, water and field games, arts & crafts and more

For a full list of activities, visit: Activities - Whitewater Center.

- Staff-to-Camper Ratios for Ages 4-7:
    - Ages 4-5: 1:6
    - Ages 6-7: 1:8

- Important Reminders for Ages 4-7:
    - Must be able to change independently and use the restroom without help.
    - Bring a fresh change of clothing and baby wipes in a labeled Ziploc bag.
    - Must be at least **4 years old** by the first day of their camp.
    - Must be able to follow directions, receive instructions, and obey safety rules.

Ages 8+ Program Overview

Adventure Camp
Introduces campers ages 8–13 to all Whitewater has to offer, combining adventure activities with traditional summer camp experiences. Campers are grouped by age to foster peer connections.

- Staff-to-Camper Ratio: 1:10

Homesteaders Camp
Campers ages 8–12 will explore traditional homestead trade skills, participate in hands-on farming experiences, and enjoy select Whitewater pass activities.

- Staff-to-Camper Ratio: 1:10

Survival Camp
Campers ages 10–12 learn survival skills, including fire and shelter building, while participating in Whitewater pass activities. The week culminates in an overnight tent camping experience on Thursday.

- Staff-to-Camper Ratio: 1:8

Rock, Ride, & Paddle Camp
Campers ages 12–16 receive beginner lessons in mountain biking, rock climbing, and whitewater kayaking. Focus on skill development in both land and water activities.

- Prerequisites:
  - Comfortable riding a bicycle on uneven terrain
  - Basic swimming skills
  - Comfortable being submerged
- Staff-to-Camper Ratios:
  - General: 1:10
  - Paddling: 1:4

Activities for ages 8+
- The goal is to incorporate at least one water activity each day.
- Your child will have the opportunity to raft on Class II–IV whitewater at the Whitewater Center. Whitewater rafting involves inherent risks, including falling out of the raft. Participants must have the maturity and physical capability to follow guide instructions and properly fit in and wear all required safety equipment.
  - Please watch the Trip Talk video for details and participant expectations. Trip Talk Video
- For a full list of activities, please visit the website: Activities - Whitewater Center
- Please reach out to campstaff@whitewater.org with any questions or concerns regarding your camper's participation in any of our activity offerings.

Kayak I: Intro
An introduction to the sport of whitewater kayaking in a fun and encouraging environment. Campers will learn basic paddle strokes and river maneuvers, beginner self-rescue techniques, and will be introduced to the roll.

- Prerequisites
  - No previous kayaking experience required.
  - Comfortable swimming
  - Comfortable being submerged underwater

- Core Skills:
  - Wet exit and underwater comfort
  - Basic paddle strokes
  - Basic river maneuvers: ferry, peel out, eddy catch
  - Self-rescue

- Defensive and offensive swimming in whitewater
- Rolling introduction
- River terminology and basic hydrology

Kayak II: Intermediate
Campers will progress beyond basic skills to get comfortable paddling on Class II and begin running Class III rapids. Campers will learn to navigate the river independently with intermediate river maneuvers while practicing important self-rescue techniques.

- Prerequisites
  - Experience paddling in class II whitewater.
  - Ability to roll in flatwater and >50% success rolling in class II whitewater

- Core Skills:
  - Draw strokes
  - Brace strokes
  - Development of consistent flatwater rolls
  - Combat roll progression
  - Cross current momentum
  - Surfing
  - Self-rescue in class II+ whitewater

Kayak III: Advanced
Campers will advance their skills in an encouraging environment while establishing principles that will enable them to be future stewards of the sport.

- Prerequisites
  - Experience paddling in class III whitewater.
  - Reliable combat roll (>80% success rate in class II whitewater)

- Core Skills
  - Varied styles of more advanced boating (playboating, slice boating, etc.)
  - Advanced paddle strokes and compound strokes
  - Boofing, surfing, and jet ferrying
  - Off-side, back deck, and hand rolls
  - Edge control maneuvers: stern squirting, stern stalling, and pivot turns
  - Safe river running and setting safety
  - Basic boat-based rescue

Kayak Staff-to-Camper Ratio: 1:4

*Kayak instructional camps are solely focused on building whitewater kayaking skills. ***Kayak campers will not experience land-based activities.***

If you have concerns about your camper's ability prior to camp, please contact the camp management team. If campers have never participated in Whitewater's Kayak Camp, please call to confirm what camp they're ready for. Our instructors may move campers to another camp based on skill level.