



Camp Concepts CDP (Communicable Disease Plan)

Updated version 5.23.20

PHILOSOPHY OF OPENING & OPERATION

Our decision to operate camp complies with the Orders of the Governor of Pennsylvania, guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bucks County Department of Health and the recommendations of the CDC and the ACA (American Camping Association). The American Camping Association hired the Environmental Engineering firm **Environmental Health & Engineering, Inc.** (EH&E), a Boston-based consulting firm specializing in environmental health. This expert panel has convened specialists in pediatric medicine, camp medicine and nursing, epidemiology, infectious disease management, biological safety, industrial hygiene, organizational design, and other technical specialties. In compliance and consideration of all contributing entities, we will implement the following safety enhancements. You may view the full draft of ACA recommendations here: <https://www.acacamps.org/resource-library/coronavirus/camp-business/camp-operations-guide-summer-2020>

To assist us in the decision making process we utilized the following ACA tool found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Camps-Decision-Tree.pdf>

We believe we can offer a wonderful and safe summer camp program for children.

Camp Concepts will make every effort to comply with any state orders from the Governor and any health regulations issued by the local health department officials for the protection of campers and staff.

Impact on Children

A May 8, 2020, review of recently published medical and scientific papers concluded that: *“COVID-19 appears to affect children less often, and with less severity, including frequent asymptomatic or subclinical infection. There is evidence of critical illness, but it is rare. The role of children in transmission is unclear, but consistent evidence is demonstrating a lower likelihood of acquiring infection, and lower rates of children bringing infections into households.”*

<https://acacamps.app.box.com/s/neyfun11bt7f8owymuj5u71d1eibyddw>

*Click here to review the PA Department of Health Statistics of impacted age groups.

This seemed to be a fairly presented and factually based article that may help provide some guidance for parents. One aspect that has failed to be talked about is the impact this pandemic has had on the emotional health of children. I believe summer camp will be a significant contributor to the restoration of a child’s emotional health. <https://www.propublica.org/article/what-parents-should-know-about-coronavirus-as-kids-return-to-babysitters-day-cares-and-camps>

We all realize that the connections made at camp are emotional bonds that are affirmed and encouraged by hugs, high-fives, and fist-pumps from staff and other friends. Whereas we will try to reduce these vital community support interactions we cannot eliminate them. We “do camp” to connect with each child in a powerful and meaningful way, not ostracize or deny them any human touch, affirmations of success, encouragement or to comfort their tears.

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This is particularly relevant in our youngest camper divisions where children intuitively seek hugs and affection from others including our caring staff. When a young child falls and gets hurt they naturally run to a staff member for a hug of reassurance, comfort, and love. This is what we do well! A camper who excels and is proud of their accomplishment is going to get a high five and a fist-pump of congratulations because this praise is essential to what we do! We cannot treat our campers like they have a plague and we cannot deny them all physical touch, emotional reassurance, congratulatory recognition, or comfort for their tears. This is at the heart of what makes camp so special and memorable in the life of a camper. We want to love on your child. We may be more mindful of how much this happens, but it cannot be eliminated. We will remind staff to do it with extra caution to manage the short-term need, but we want to protect your child physically AND emotionally because it is the essence of what makes camp such a special place.

PERSONAL CHOICE: Our goal is to be transparent and clear about how we plan to operate within this new context of adjustment so that all families know our plan. In this way, families will know what we plan to do and how we plan to do it so that you can make a more informed decision for your personal level of safety and comfort within our stated program. We love you and your child and respect your right to decide.

How do you 'social distance' at camp? This is a great challenge for us because camp is all about connection and close interpersonal bonding. I do not believe the term 'social distancing' and camp are synonymous terms nor remotely related. To accommodate and navigate through this temporary situation, we will put into practice many of the suggested recommendations for camp activities. In doing so we will remind campers of the current situational and social dynamics and try our best to resist the natural instincts for the types of connection that has made our camp community, and every camper experience, a special social place of play. We will not embrace these temporary changes as the 'new norm' but only out of the temporary need for caution. As the statistical impact, alarm and sensitivity continues to decrease, and certain orders removed or relaxed, we will also modify more towards what we are all familiar with what camp is about. At times, our accommodations may vary from those recommended by the CDC (see below). **If the overall social distancing danger in the camp setting is your greatest concern, then we may not be the best camp choice this summer.** We will make efforts to consider how campers mix and mingle but cannot guarantee the practical application as to how we know children play while at camp.

OUR APPROACH TO RESPECTING PERSONAL SPACE: It is impossible to maintain a 6' social distance at camp. Knowing that, our approach will be to remind campers of the current conditions and ask them to be respectful of the personal space and personal feelings of others as it pertains to personal and community safety. Without question we want each camper to feel safe and each child's perception and feeling of safety is important to us. We have always taken the philosophical approach that each member of our camp community has personal and communal responsibilities. For those who ask for greater distance to feel safe, we will work to great effort to help them feel safe. To those who express and feel safe in a different comfort level, we hope to deliver a program more similar than dissimilar to our known brand of camp. Obviously, anyone choosing to attend camp does so with mixed levels of caution and concern and we will respect and teach community respect for individual feelings but also not abandon the full integrity and belief in the camp's concept of community.

EMPOWERING THE INDIVIDUAL & THE COMMUNITY- We have always taken the approach to empower campers to take personal responsibility for their actions and behaviors. Likewise, in this case, campers should still feel empowered to live and express their choices to wear certain personal protective equipment according to their personal or parental wishes. It is NOT recommended or required that campers wear masks or gloves

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but may choose to do so. Please have a discussion with your child as to how you would like them to deal with the area of personal space and the use of PPE so they understand your parental expectations for their personal health and safety while voluntarily participating in our camp community. Please recognize that many kids love to tag, touch, hug and be friendly with camp friends. This type of expressions is a powerful but currently counterculture considering recent events. For the time being, we will encourage campers to express themselves displayed more in words and less in actions until things subside.

As a career teacher I have always lived with the exposed risk of infection and 'community spread' because of being in and around children and adults. I viewed the 'hazard of the job' as my choice to accept when taking the job as teacher. So too, attending camp is a voluntary choice. We embrace the right that each parent/family must decide to do what they think is best for their child and family.

PROCEDURAL ADJUSTMENTS

Each process and procedure will be evaluated for both practicality, effectiveness, and considering how it complies or clashes with recommendations. We may amend or relax these as the summer goes on.

Social Distancing

As previously stated, camp and social distancing are not synonymous terms. We will make realistic efforts to practice social distancing where possible. If practicing strict social distancing is a big concern or even demand, then we would not be the best camp choice for you this summer.

This is what the CDC recommends promoting social distancing:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf#page=45>

The Pennsylvania Health Department (May 22, 2020) states:

“Social distancing in summer programs may look different than the common practice of maintaining six feet of distance between individuals. In the case of summer programming for children and youth, the social distancing considerations SUGGEST that when “possible, groups should include the same group members each day, and the same staff providers should remain with the group every day.”

*You may see the May 22 PA department of Health FAQ document here.

Our practice will be as follows:

Anticipating that we will begin the summer in the Yellow phase, we may consider using reduced group sizes and subgroups to achieve a lower camper to staff ratio. The good news is that has always been our practice. The group and sub-group may be mixed or mingled at times, but we will reduce the intra-group exchange and activities until such time as we move to the Green phase or such recommended restrictions are lifted. We will try to ensure groupings are as static as possible by having the same group of children stay with the same groupmates as much as possible. For certain activities, the smaller group size will be fine and make for increased camper activity level and participation. For other such games, we may consider the involvement of a “sub” group compared to the activity space used so that certain games can be enjoyed by larger numbers but also in larger space. We will evaluate this on an ongoing basis.

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Hand washing before and after each activity

To reduce the risk of infection or community spread, we will continue to encourage campers to use simple but effective hygiene methods such as frequent and mandatory hand washing. To accommodate, we will have several outdoor handwashing stations to accommodate the frequent and mandatory washing of hands before and after activities.

End of day disinfecting of equipment and major hand touch surfaces

We will use an EPA and CDC approved disinfecting cleaner and sanitizer to help protect campers and staff. BIOESQUE (EPA product 87742-1-92595) We will have both during the day and end of day cleaning enhancements, especially in “high-touch” zones and hand-held supplies.

*Click here to see the BIOESQUE Safety Data Sheet

Disinfecting of waterslide

We will use an EPA and CDC approved disinfecting cleaner and sanitizer BIOESQUE (EPA product 87742-1-92595) to help protect campers and staff. We will not discontinue use of campers playing on swings, playground equipment or using balls, bats, sticks, etc. Any camper may choose NOT to participate in activities if they felt the use of shared equipment made them uncomfortable. Campers could also request the use of barrier protection (gloves) if they wanted this added level of precaution. This equipment will be disinfected during the day as well as in the end-of-day procedure.

*Read more about Pool and Water Activities

Lunch changes

These are the recommendations from the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>

We will continue to offer our tuition included hot lunch program in much the same way as before. Campers will be called to receive their lunch plate but in smaller groups. We may begin the summer with a revised lunch shift schedule that will allow for increased spacing of tables and an overall reduced number gathered in our large cafeteria space. We will NOT be separating campers from one another at this socially isolating 6' distance unless you select this for your child. Strict distance seating will be arranged for those who request this option.

Camp arrival & dismissal

We believe our current arrival and dismissal system provides for the ultimate safety of our campers to arrive and depart. In evaluating what we have always done, (always have cars arrive and depart in a staggered way) we think this meets the recommendations made. The only alteration will be temperature checks upon arrival (discussed below). We will also not alter where or how our campers gather while waiting for pick up. We will remind them more often about hands to self and a personal respect for personal space during this time.

Big Oak campers will continue to have the end-of-day snack shack option, but we will simply alter the number of campers waiting in line at one time.

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AM or PM Care- Many of our families utilize this extended care service. As a change from our usual procedure, upon **AM care arrival drop off**, we ask that parents PARK & ESCORT the child into the gymnasium doors. We will have a staff member stationed inside the door with a handheld infrared temperature check. Any child with a reading of at least 100.4 will not be permitted into camp. Parents suspecting their child does not feel well may want to check the temperature at home first. After about 8:35 a.m. that staff member will be positioned outside in the carpool drop off-line to continue monitoring arriving campers.

PM care- Using additional staff we will work to create smaller subgroups within the PM extended care population to reduce the number of campers gathered in one space.

Camper & Staff Pre-screening

We have a procedure suggested for all camper and staff to follow beginning 2-weeks prior to their start at camp. This will follow the ACA recommendations and sent to each registered family and staff member. ***This separate document will be sent by PDF to all registered families and hired staff prior to the start of camp. See document here.**

Temperature checks of campers

We ask that parents perform temperature checks of their child PRIOR to leaving for camp if you suspect they are feeling ill. Following suggested recommendations, we will be conducting temp checks on each camper BEFORE getting out of the vehicle. Any child posting a readable temp of 100.4 will be asked to return home and remain for a 24-hour temperature free period before returning to camp. This process will continue until we move to the green phase.

Policy for nurse calling home or for parent pick up during the camp day

We will have a heightened sensitivity to any camper showing visible signs or posting a temperature reading of 100.4 or higher. A recording of the camper's high temperature will be recorded and kept with the nurse along with the date and time of the recording. ***We follow the same procedure for staff.** Based on the sensitivity of the issue, we will need to call home and ask that a camper be picked up from camp. Whereas staff will be trained in the visible symptoms associated with the virus, our nurse and Executive Director and Directors may meet to make the final decision if, and when to call home.

Based on the symptoms displayed, screening questions, it will be determined if the camper patient is considered an elevated level of concern for the COVID-19 virus. If so, protocols will be enacted for keeping that camper isolated and safe until the family is contacted.

Camper visiting the nurse policy

Our nurse sees many campers in any given day of camp. The overwhelming majority of nurse visits are "healed" with a short rest, cool space, and at times a piece of candy. Our nurse will continue all such typical protocol. Before a camper is brought into the nurse's office, a simple protocol of screening questions may be asked to rule out any obvious signs and symptoms that may be related to the virus.

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Disinfecting of bus seats

If we do any off-campus trips (still unclear at this time) we will ask the bus company to provide pre and post camper spray down of bus seats. We will offer use of our supply of BIOESQUE (EPA product 877421-92595) Daily disinfecting of the leased vans will also be maintained.

Consideration for off campus trips

Until we move to the green phase, we do not plan any off-campus trips to locations where large gatherings typically can be found. The only exception to this would be off-campus swim to our typical pool locations or van trips to nearby locations deemed safe. It is our hope to resume these much-anticipated trips for all campers and especially our oldest campers. If you are not comfortable with your child attending an off-campus trip, please contact Steve Haines directly to discuss: 267-261-4098.

VR headsets (use, disinfecting, training)

Each time the headset is put on a protective paper eye-shield must be inserted into the headset. After use, camper discards their protective paper and the Headsets will be wiped down with disinfectant. WE DO NOT SPRAY onto the headset lens.

Following the class, all headsets will be wiped down, chords, chairs and any table surfaces or controls that were used.

Outside Programming or Guests

We have a robust on campus program but there are times we utilize outside vendors who have equipment, talents, or things that make our camp program better. Before any off-campus guest is permitted to entertain or interact with the campers, we will conduct go through a brief **pre-screening** process as recommended here: <https://acacamps.app.box.com/s/p1leb3prty40utd3s22a6y1hzz4i5hya>

Disinfecting of Yoga mats

Using gallon size pressure sprayer, we will use an EPA and CDC approved disinfecting cleaner and sanitizer to help protect campers and staff. BIOESQUE (EPA product 87742-1-92595) Mats will be disinfected after each use and again at the end of day cleaning.

Disinfecting of Martial arts mats and pads

We have had a great relationship with Tri-State Kickboxing and Martial Arts Academy for the past several years. We have utilized their nearby site for activities and we also welcome members of their staff to our camps to conduct fun and valuable programming. We will follow the pre-screening protocol mentioned above before they come and, providing they are open, before we go there.

Disinfecting of nap mats

If numbers dictate, we may move our Little Buds 2 & 3- year old nap room to provide 6' space between campers. We will use an EPA and CDC approved disinfecting cleaner and sanitizer- BIOESQUE (EPA product 87742-1-92595). Nap mats will be disinfected after each use. Any personal blanket and pillow will be stored in a sealed-plastic bag and only touched by the camper or staff member who is wearing gloves.

Little Bud Diaper Changes: Our diaper changing, and bathroom policy and procedure has always included the use of gloves worn by staff. Obviously, gloves are changed after each camper.

Use of masks and PPE

According to the CDC recommendations, “Face coverings **should** be worn by staff and campers (particularly older campers) as **feasible** and are **most** essential in times when physical distancing is difficult.” <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/summer-camps.html>

Face coverings make for an extremely uncomfortable teaching/work environment for our activity leaders and especially uncomfortable for those who work near campers such as CITs, JCs, ACs and Counselors. We interpret the above wording to mean that if staff are outside of the given ‘social distance’ proximity of 6’, they would not have to have the face covering over their mouth and nose. We care about all campers and staff. The heat, humidity, and perspiration caused from active games and activities may pose a greater risk to the health and safety of our staff. We will evaluate this on an ongoing basis. Any camper or staff MAY voluntarily choose to wear a face covering or gloves.

For any parent who always expect face covering on staff, we may not be the right camp choice for you this summer.

Campers do not have to wear face coverings but may choose to do so if they prefer.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf#page=45>

Sunscreen

Although this represents an exceptionally low risk, applying sunscreen is one way we can reduce the staff to camper contact. To make this easier, we ask that only spray on protection be used. As has been commonplace, our staff will remind and help apply sunscreen but spray on will be much easier and allow for self-application for those able to do so. As always, hats are a good idea for added protection.

Swimming and Waterplay

The novel coronavirus SARS-CoV2 is not waterborne. There is no current evidence that COVID-19 can be spread to people through the water in a pool, hot tubs, spas, or water play areas. Proper operation and maintenance of pools and related facilities will likely inactivate the virus in the water. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states “**there is no evidence showing anyone has gotten COVID-19 through drinking water, recreational water, or wastewater. The risk of COVID-19 transmission through water is expected to be low.**” However, it is important to follow safe physical distancing and proper hygiene practices at lake and pond recreational areas.

<https://acacamps.app.box.com/s/kbjdwneqovu7aa9uigfwkip3x703ay5x>

To support these recommendations, we will enforce campers and staff to practice proper hand hygiene prior to entering and leaving the facilities (pool or waterslide)

We are currently awaiting word as to whether Neshaminy or Pennsbury School District will open their pools. The YMCA runs the Pennsbury pools and, if they do open, we will follow their prescribed recommendations for swim. We have used Neshaminy School District pools in the past, but we suspect they are not going to open their pool.

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Waterslide and Little Bud waterplay pools will follow the above practices. Additional pools have been ordered for Little Buds.

*Read more about Pool and Water Activities

When, Not If- Dealing with the virus in our community

Sadly, our communicable disease plan factors in the possibility for when a member of our camp community shows visible signs, is presumptive positive, or tests positive or finds out that they may have been exposed to or has come in contact with someone who has the virus. Calculating the risk of attending camp should include the “what if” scenario that the individual who has been exposed to or infected with the virus is your child. How will you feel or react? **If, or when, this happens**, you anticipate that your reaction may be to blame the camp, or someone in the camp, as the cause for catching or exposing your child or family to the virus, then we will not be the right camp choice for you this summer. We certainly do not wish this scenario to happen but as a community we recognize the possibility. Please carefully consider if your child falls under the HIGH-RISK POPULATION.

In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in the building and poses a risk to the community, we may consider closing the camp for a short time for additional intensive cleaning. If there were to be an apparent high rate of infections within our community, long term closure may also be considered.

This is our CDP for positive or presumptive positive cases in our community and follows the CDC recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf#page=45>

We will identify and isolate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. Camp nurse will use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.

We will notify parent or guardian of the camper or staff. We will notify local health officials and staff immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality consistent with HIPPA and other applicable privacy laws.

Once determined who else has been exposed, we will notify those families who have shared the same group and exposure.

We will close off areas used by a sick person and will not use it again before cleaning and disinfection. We will wait if possible (not more than 24 hours), before disinfecting this area. We will advise any sick staff members and/or children to not return until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

*See below : Self isolate care

- Inform those who have had close contact to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms and to follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop. If a person does not have symptoms follow appropriate CDC guidance for home isolation

People with COVID-19 who have stayed home (home isolated) can leave home under the following conditions**:

- **If you have not had a test** to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
 - You have had no fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever **without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
AND
 - other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved)
AND
 - at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared
- **If you have had a test** to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these three things have happened:
 - You no longer have a fever (**without** the use of medicine that reduces fevers)
AND
 - other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved)
AND
 - you received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. Your doctor will follow [CDC guidelines](#).

People who DID NOT have COVID-19 symptoms, but tested positive and have stayed home (home isolated) can leave home under the following conditions**:

- **If you have not had a test** to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after these two things have happened:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the date of your first positive test
AND
 - you continue to have no symptoms (no cough or shortness of breath) since the test.
- **If you have had a test** to determine if you are still contagious, you can leave home after:
 - You received two negative tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart. Your doctor will follow [CDC guidelines](#).

Note: if you develop symptoms, follow guidance above for people with COVID19 symptoms.

In all cases, **follow the guidance of your doctor and local health department. The decision to stop home isolation should be made in consultation with your healthcare provider and state and local health departments. Some people, for example those with conditions that [weaken their immune system](#), might continue to shed virus even after they recover.