



PARENT INFORMATION PACKET



YMCA Camp Ocoee's Mission

YMCA Camp Ocoee is fully committed to the overall well-being and health of our campers and guests. **We commit to provide an excellent Christian focused camper experience for all of our participants.** We uphold the YMCA's mission of putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Christian Emphasis

YMCA Camp Ocoee sees the development of Christian character as the primary objective of a camper's experience. Each day an interdenominational chapel service or devotion is given by staff and cabin groups. The opportunity to discuss the day's activities provides a meaningful tool in developing a stronger Christian faith.

Prior to Camp

- **Payments & Registration:** must pay and turn in \$150 deposit along with camper registration form PRIOR to camp. Balance is due 2 weeks prior to camper arrival.
- **Health Form:** must be signed by a physician and hand delivered on opening day
- **Camper Information Form:** filled out completely and hand delivered on opening day



Arrival at Camp

Parents are encouraged to bring their child to camp, meet the staff, tour the camp facilities and help get their campers settled into their cabin. In the best interest of your child, please do not help make your camper's bed on the first day.

Please adhere to the check-in schedule:

Check-In Time: Sunday, 1:00-3:30pm Eastern Daylight Time
Departure Time: Saturday, 9:30-10:30am Eastern Daylight Time

Campers not picked up within 30 minutes of check-out time will be charged a \$25 late fee for every hour after 11:00am to cover the cost of staff who must stay to supervise them.

Cabin Assignments

Cabin assignments will be made on the basis of age and school grade. One of the goals of camp is to encourage new friendships and experiences to emerge, therefore we recommend that close friends not always be placed in the same cabin. To comply with this policy, please only request ONE individual for your child to room with (same age or grade level). If the person requested does not request your child, and if more than one camper is requested, we may not be able to honor the request. Cabin mates will be assigned prior to camper's arrival.

Camp Store (The Outfitter)

Several items may be purchased by our campers from the camp store. Each camper has a store "charge account", which is a set amount that is paid either with registration or upon check-in. **Campers do not need to bring cash** to camp. Change may be brought for drink machines, when available. Camp is not responsible for providing change or for monies lost. We recommend \$35 per week for each camper's store account. Any money not spent is refunded during check-out (if over \$20, a refund will be mailed).

Camper Laundry

Camp provides a laundry service only to campers who stay for **more than one week**. The charge will be deducted from the camper's store account. The cost is \$1.00 per pound with a \$5.00 minimum charge. All clothing and laundry bag should be labeled with camper's name.

CAMP OFFICE & CONTACT INFO

Tel: 423-338-5588
Fax: 423-338-5507
Address: 111 YMCA Drive,
Ocoee, TN 37361
Web Site: www.campocoe.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm
During the summer, staff will be in the office each night to check messages on camp's voice mail

CAMP LEADERSHIP

Director: **Neil Rosenbaum**
neil@campocoe.com
Group Services: **Ashley Crookes**
ashley@campocoe.com
Office: **Sandy Kinser**
sandy@campocoe.com
Facilities: **Daniel Parson**
General Email: info@campocoe.com

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PAYMENTS & REFUNDS

A \$150 partially refundable deposit is due with each registration (per child per session). The balance for the registration is due two weeks prior to camper arrival.

No refunds of any fees will be given if the child cancels within one week of his/her session unless cancellation is due to accident or illness. Withdrawal less than 30 days prior to a session will result in the loss of the \$150 deposit. Any camper leaving prior to the end of stated period of session is not entitled to a refund except in case of illness or accident.

Camp management reserves the right to refuse acceptance or program continuance of any participant deemed undesirable or not in the best interest of participant or Camp Ocoee.

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What to Bring List

***Note:** Please **LABEL** all items so they may be identified in case they are misplaced or left at camp. Camp is not responsible for any items left behind. All left items will be donated to charity.

Bedding

- 1 Sleeping bag
- Sheets
- Pillow
- Laundry bag for soiled clothing

Clothing

- Undergarments
- Shorts
- T-shirts
- Socks
- Shoes (tennis shoes)
- Sandals with backs (water-proof)
- Raincoat or poncho
- Swim Suit (girls: 1-piece suits only)
- Pajamas
- Hat or bandanna
- Belt
- "Mud Games" clothing
- Sweatshirt for cool nights
- "Fun" outfits for evening programs

Toiletries

- 2 Towels
- Wash cloth or loofa
- Soap (and soap dish/box)
- Toothbrush & toothpaste
- Deodorant (no spray cans)
- Comb or brush
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent

Other Items (optional)

- Bible
- Notebook
- Camera
- Bookbag or Backpack
- Sports equipment (ball glove, frisbee)
- Flashlight
- Book for rest period
- Stationary, stamps and envelopes
- Musical instrument
- Camp Chair
- Signed Health Form w/ insurance info

What **NOT** to Bring Items

- Ø Electronics such as Radios, iPods, MP3 players, CDs, laptops
- Ø Cell phones
- Ø Knives or guns
- Ø Food, candy or chewing gum (they attract insects and rodents into the cabin areas)
- Ø Fireworks
- Ø Items with profanity or any inappropriate logos

We recommend giving your child a checklist of all items packed so on check out day they can double check to make sure all items are packed.

Ranger Camp Overview

(ages 7-15)

This is the traditional in-camp residential camp program. Campers come for 1 or 2 week sessions. Campers stay in cabins and participate in a variety of camp activities within camp's facilities (with exception to some special electives).

Daily Schedule for Ranger Camp (Monday - Thursday)

morning

- 7:00 Rise + Shine, Clean Cabins
- 7:45 Flag Pole
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:45 Morning Assembly (songs & morning devotion)
- 9:15 Skill Activity Period 1 (see below)
- 10:45 Healthy Morning Snack
- 11:00 Cabin Zone Period 1 (see below)
- 12:00 Cabin Zone Period 2

afternoon

- 1:00 Lunch
- 1:50 Rest Period
- 2:30 Cabin Zone Period 3
- 3:30 Cabin Zone Period 4
- 4:30 Skill Activity Period 2
- 6:00 Dinner
- 6:45 Camp Duties/Clean Up
- 8:00 Evening Program & Devotion
- 9:45 Campers in Cabins

Skill Activity Periods: Campers attend 2 skill periods each day (2 different activities) to get advanced instruction in program activity. They attend the same activities all week.

Cabin Zone Periods: Cabins will join other cabin groups for group activities. Cabins may collectively choose to do a special cabin activity during these times as well.

Evening Programs: Each night offers a different camp activity. Some nights are camp-wide and involve everyone, while other nights campers are split by either gender or age level. Activities include: luaus, Ocoee Groove dance, scavenger hunts etc.

Land Activities

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Archery | Horseback Riding |
| Arts & Crafts | Mountain Biking |
| Basketball | Nature Study |
| Bible Study | Pottery |
| Ceramics | Riflery |
| Cheerleading | Sand Volleyball |
| Climbing Tower | Sugarloaf Mtn. |
| Dance | Soccer |
| Flag Football | Ultimate Frisbee |
| High Ropes | V-Swing |
| Hiking | |

Water Activities

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| Banana Boat | Snorkeling |
| Blob | Swim Games |
| Canoeing | Water Polo |
| Funyaks | Water Slide |
| Fishing | Water Trampoline |
| Ice Berg | |
| Kayaking | |
| Keowees | |
| Rope Swing | |

All campers are required to take a swim test on the first day of camp

Special Elective Activities: Campers may participate in these activities at an extra charge. Must sign up prior to camp or during check-in (spaces are limited).

- **Paintball** (\$30, ages 10+): one afternoon of splattering paintball activities
- **Paintball Plus** (\$20, same age): additional afternoon session of paintball
- **Horseback Riding** (\$120, any age): Introduction to grooming and riding horses around an enclosed arena
- **Water Skiing** (\$110, any age): 4 days of 1 hour waterski/knee board instruction. Campers share instruction period with 2-3 other skiers.
- **Hiwassee Rafting** (\$50, ages 10+): introductory rafting on scenic and slow moving Hiwassee River
- **Ocoee Rafting** (\$70, 12+): intermediate to advanced rafting on the Ocoee River, site of the 1996 Olympic white water events
- **Hiwassee Rafting** (\$50, ages 10+): introductory rafting on the scenic and slow moving Hiwassee River

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Ocoee Wilderness Adventures

(ages 13-17)

Our adventure camp sessions offer our older campers opportunities to explore the lands around camp while participating in exciting outdoor adventure activities. There are a variety of camps, each with a specific focus. All of the adventure programs are led by safe-minded and qualified adventure guides.

- *Kayak Camp (1 week)*: Campers in this program get hands-on instruction on white water river kayaking. They will visit 2-3 different rivers, ranging in difficulty level, where the instructors will teach them new skills.
- *East Tennessee Mountain Adventure (1 week)*: ETMA is our sampler adventure program, where campers will spend each night (but one) at camp, but will do a variety of adventure activities throughout the week, including rafting, climbing, mountain biking and backpacking.
- *Ocoee East Adventure Trek (2 weeks)*: The Ocoee East adventure trek takes campers out of camp for 2 weeks to areas outside southeastern Tennessee. During the two weeks, campers will participate in a variety of adventure based activities.

*Note to all Adventure & Teen Leadership Academy Campers:

Each Adventure & TLA program involves an element of outdoor camping and may involve backpacking. Please make sure to bring well-worn-in hiking shoes/boots that you can wear during your camping experience.

Teen Leadership Academy

(high school students)

Camp Ocoee's Teen Leadership Academy is aimed at helping young adults develop vital leadership skills that will prepare them for future roles on camp staff and various leadership roles they'll play in their home community. The TLA's focus is on servant leadership, focusing on what it means to be a Christian leader while putting the interests of others before themselves.

- *Counselors In Training (rising 11+12 grade)*: CITs spend two weeks at camp, where they will get daily instruction on the methods used to guide a camper's experience while they are at camp. As part of their training, each CIT will spend a week shadowing a cabin and their counselors where they'll learn the skills needed to care for children at camp. They also will assist in the instruction of various program activities.
- *Ocoee Ambassadors in Review (rising 12 grade and up)*: Ambassadors spend three weeks at camp and serve as non-paid, volunteer staff. During their three week period, they are able to refine their leadership and instruction skills to help prepare them for future staff roles at camp.

NOTE: All campers interested in attending a TLA session must fill out a TLA application and be accepted into the program by Camp Ocoee management. An interview and references are a part of the selection process.

Airport/Bus Transportation

All incoming campers must arrive in Chattanooga by 12:00pm on Sundays. Staff

won't be available to pick them up after this time due to check-in. Our transportation service is only available to Chattanooga Airport, Chattanooga & Cleveland Bus stations, Nashville (Hickory Hollow Mall, Macy's Parking Lot 11:30am CST) and Atlanta (Costco, Cumberland Mall, 11:30am EST).

A transportation fee of **\$35 one way** or **\$60 round trip** is due with registration balance along with trip details/flight #s.



Visitation

Campers staying for two weeks or less should not have visitors. For campers staying more than two weeks, family and friends may visit on Saturday and Sunday afternoons during the session breaks. An approval letter signed by the child's parent or guardian must be submitted for approval for any visit.

Camper Care

Health: All campers must check-in with the camp nurse during scheduled arrival time. Any medication a camper is taking must be turned into the camp nurse. The medication must be in the original container. The nurse must be notified of any illness the camper has had during the previous week. Routine scrapes and cuts will be treated by our resident nurses using standard first aid procedures. Campers needing additional medical attention are taken to our camp doctor, a physician in Cleveland or the closest Hospital (Bradley Memorial). In the event of a serious accident or illness we will make every attempt to notify parents.

Discipline: Camp rules are designed to enhance the happiness and safety of all campers. Children who do not demonstrate appropriate behavior in the judgment of camp management will be sent home without a refund of camp fees.

Homesickness: Staff make a concentrated effort to help campers overcome homesickness. We keep our campers busy and try to interest them in fun activities. The camp management will contact you if staff need assistance in dealing with difficult cases.

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Medical Exams

Every camper is required to have had a physical within the last 24 months and a current health form on file at camp. Health forms must be signed by a physician and mailed into the camp office prior to the camper's arrival. No camper will be allowed to remain in camp without a completed health form.



Insurance

All campers should provide their own health insurance coverage. This must be noted on the health form with complete insurance information provided. If your child needs medical attention other than what can be handled at camp, your insurance will be the primary coverage. Camp only provides secondary insurance.

Letters, E-Mails, Faxes

Letters/Packages:
All campers love to get letters from loved ones while they are at camp. Please feel free to mail them letters or packages (no food or candy items) to the camp address.



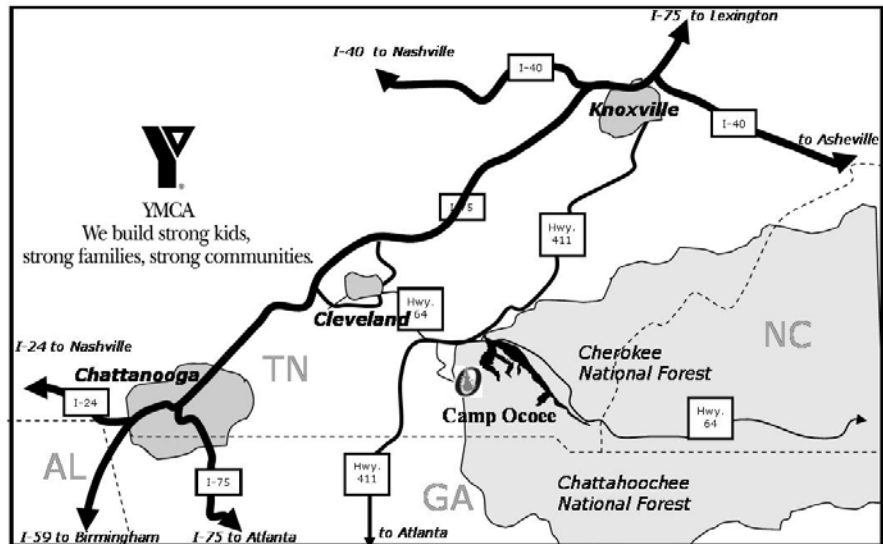
111 YMCA Drive, Ocoee, TN 37361

Make sure to label the letter or package with camper's name AND cabin. Packages with candy or food will be confiscated and eaten by camp management.

Faxes: We charge \$1 for the first page of a fax and \$1 for each additional page. These fees will be deducted from your child's store account. Cover sheets serve as a page. Please put camper name and cabin on EVERY page you fax.

E-Mails: For \$1/page, you may also email your child at camper@campcoee.com. Put your child's name and cabin in the SUBJECT line of your email.

Because of logistics and camper experience, we do not permit campers to email, call or fax during their stay at camp.



Directions to YMCA Camp Ocoee

For directions from your location, go to www.mapquest.com and type in "Camp Ocoee" in the City category and "TN" in the state.

To Camp Ocoee from Chattanooga:

1. Take I-24 East toward Knoxville/Atlanta
2. Take I-75 North toward Knoxville
3. Take first Cleveland exit (Exit 20) - Highway 64 Bypass
4. Turn right off of exit ramp toward Cherokee National Forest
5. Travel approximately 7 miles. You will pass Food Lion and BI-LO grocery stores on right.
6. Take Highway 64 EAST to Ocoee River/Cherokee National Forest toward Murphy, North Carolina
7. Travel approximately 8 miles.
8. Highway 64 will go from a 4 lane to 2 lane highway just after Highway 411 junction.
9. Keep traveling on Highway 64 for 2 miles.
10. You will start seeing "white water rafting companies" on both sides of the highway
11. Turn RIGHT onto Cookson Creek Road at the gas station ("Cherokee Corners")
12. Travel on Cookson Creek road for approximately 4 miles. *Very curvy road
13. YMCA Camp Ocoee Main entrance will be on left

To Camp Ocoee from Nashville:

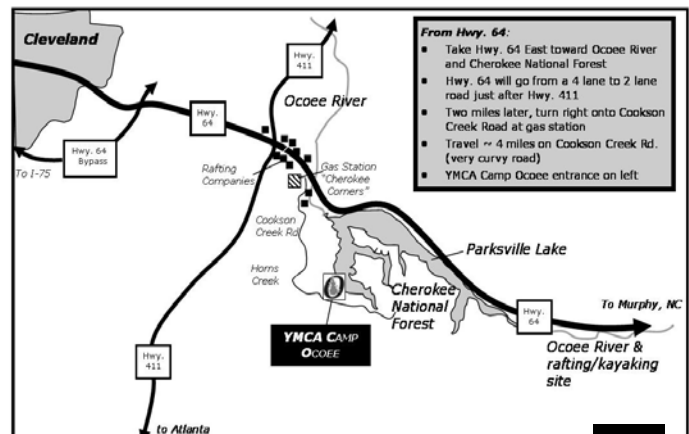
1. Take I-24 East toward Chattanooga
2. Follow steps 1-14 above

To Camp Ocoee from Knoxville:

1. Take I-75 South toward Chattanooga
2. Take the 1st Cleveland Exit (Exit 25) - Highway 60 toward Cleveland, Dayton, Lee University
3. Turn right onto Georgetown Rd. NW—this becomes Hwy. 64.
4. Follow Steps 6-14 above

To Camp Ocoee from Atlanta:

1. Take I-75 North toward Dalton
2. Take I-75 North to exit 293 (Chatsworth/White) which is 411 North.
3. Travel on Highway 411 North toward Cleveland, TN
4. Take Highway 64 East to Ocoee River/Cherokee National Forest toward Murphy, North Carolina
5. Follow Steps 8-14 above





CAMPER INFORMATION FORM

Mail to:
111 YMCA Drive
Ocoee, TN 37361

This is to be completely filled out by the Parent/Guardian of the Camper in order to help our camp counselors better facilitate a meaningful camp experience for your child, and sent back before the child arrives at camp.

Please print

SESSION: _____

Camper Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Nickname (if any): _____ Age: _____ Grade (in Sept): _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Dad's Name: _____ Mom's Name: _____

Sibling Names and Ages:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Family Pets (type and name): _____

With whom is camper living: Both Parents Mother Father Other: _____

Camp Information

1. Has child ever been to a sleep-away camp before? Yes No
If yes, when and where?

2. How many years has camper been to YMCA Camp Ocoee: First time

3. What do **YOU** especially hope your child to get out of camp:

4. Camp activities that you want your child to try:

5. Camp activities that you absolutely do NOT want your child to participate in:

6. What are **YOU** most nervous/anxious about regarding your child's camp experience:

7. Does your child know how to swim: Yes No

Habits, Health + Behavior

8. What food does your child *refuse* to eat:

What is your child's *favorite* foods to eat:

9. Has there been any situation, challenges or hardships that your child has faced in the past 2 years (death of loved one, death of pet, divorce, held back at school etc.)? If yes, explain how you feel Camp Ocoee staff may help.

10. What school does your child attend: _____

11. What activities (school or leisure) does your child enjoy:

12. Does your child participate in church or religious services? If yes, please explain:

13. What is the name of your child's closest friends: _____
To your knowledge, are they attending camp at the same time?

14. Does camper ever wet the bed? What methods have you found to be effective in preventing it?

15. What form of discipline do you usually use with your child:

16. What kind of problems will the counselors most likely have to deal with regarding your child?

17. Does your child have any *health or medical* problem that camp staff should be aware of:

18. Has your child had an allergic reaction to any of the following:
 Bees Peanuts Milk/Dairy Other:

19. What other plans do you have for your family this summer that staff can discuss with child:

20. Other suggestions or comments to help staff prepare for child's camp experience:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date