

Overnight Camp Parent Guidebook for 2021

Covid-19 Requirements

(Please note that this document covers OVERNIGHT CAMP ONLY. Not day camp.)

You're coming to overnight camp, and we're so excited you're going to be with us! We can't wait to open up the gates and see you. We were so sad we couldn't open overnight camps in 2020, which is why we're viewing this year as a year of celebration and recovery. The pandemic has disrupted and affected the minds and spirits of children everywhere, and while we have many challenges yet to meet, The American Academy of Pediatrics tells us that with the right mitigation efforts, attending summer camp is not a significant risk.

Virginia officials have issued guidelines we are required to follow in order to safely open overnight camp this summer. This document is our effort to communicate these guidelines in a manner for your camper to be ready for camp. There are additional policies in place that can be viewed by clicking [here](#) and scrolling to page 32.

Please understand we are doing all we can to provide a safe, enriching week of camp for your child based on the requirements we must follow. We are happy to help clarify your questions, but ultimately, we are all bound by the governor's guidelines. Thank you in advance for working with us to adhere to these standards.

Before Camp

Getting ready for camp requires a new, important step this year. This state-mandated step will be worth it to attend an exhilarating week of camp. Campers will be in close contact with one another in their assigned "cohort" (cabin group). We want your child and your child's cabinmates to be healthy safe by complying with the pre-camp screening requirement.

State guidelines require:

"All camps must develop and implement a plan to decrease the risk of infectious campers and staff entering the camp environment. This plan must include, but shall not be limited to, the requirement for a negative molecular test within seven days prior to the beginning of camp, or 14-day symptom screening for the camper and all persons in the Family as defined in Executive Order 72 that have contact with the camper. Campers utilizing symptom screening must restrict their close contacts to those inside their Family as defined in Executive Order 72 for the duration of the 14- day period."

You must comply with this requirement in one of two ways:

- 1) **Option 1- Pre-camp Molecular Test**- these are available state-wide at doctors' offices and pharmacies. The test must be a molecular test; commonly known as a PCR test. Rapid

tests are antigen tests and are unacceptable. The test date must be within 7 days of your arrival date to camp. After the test you should limit the camper's interactions to only those within your household. Test results can take 1-3 days to receive. Please thoroughly research the costs and result timing before choosing this option, as the Option 2 requires 14 days and some advanced planning. If you choose this option, you will be asked to provide **printed documentation** of your negative test result. Please have this ready at camper drop-off.

Remember, after the test you should limit the camper's interactions to those just within your household.

Additionally, PCR tests are available at some CVS stores by appointment. Make sure you get a PCR test, not a rapid test. This is a good option. CVS states tests are often covered by insurance or a program for the uninsured. CVS typically reports results in 1-3 days. PRINT out your results.

OR

2) Option 2- Complete a 14-day symptom screening for your child and family members.

This option also states the requirement of limiting contact to your household family for this 14-day period. The health department has clarified that adults in the household can go to work. The camper, if employed (teens), should not attend work. For your convenience we have created a form you may complete to comply with this option. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/12qXnzisc-jE-mtQ6h7BuT9uZlzC9cKZ8Q3crN1ipeZ8/edit?usp=sharing>

With either option, if the camper was exposed to someone with Covid-19, they must comply with VDH quarantine guidelines and cannot attend camp. If the camper has a pending Covid-19 test he/she must wait to receive a negative result before attending camp.

What if my teen camper has received the Covid-19 vaccine? Since Virginia overnight camp guidelines do not distinguish between vaccinated vs unvaccinated campers we cannot either. We have written to officials to encourage them to clarify this point.

Camp Piankatank reserves the right to refuse admission to camp if you have not completed one of the above requirements. We really don't want to have to do that. Please plan well in advance.

Before camp, also read the packing list. You will need to bring masks this year and a reusable water bottle (with name on it). *Please bring 1-2 masks per day. Please read below for mask wearing info.

Please make sure your cabin buddy requests are submitted mutually and are correct! Buddies must also request the same "track". This can be checked and changed in the online registration system. Campers cannot switch cabins (cohorts) on check in day or during camp.

What To Expect At Camper Drop-Off:

1. We're SO excited you're here for a great week of camp! Drop-off meetings will be brief and physically distanced this year.
2. Those dropping off campers should bring and wear a mask for your brief interactions with camp staff.
3. Please double check that all of your campers' health forms have been submitted to us online. You can check this by logging into the registration portal on our website.
4. **Check that your pre camp Covid-19 requirements (test results or 14-day screening form) are ready to be turned in.**
5. Depending on the anticipated attendance for your camp session, you may be assigned a specific arrival time window. This is an effort to space out arrivals and give you less waiting time.
6. Parents should expect to stay in the car, with the exception of unloading baggage and a few hugs goodbye. You will likely get a brief chance to wave hello to the camp counselors. The camp counselors will help your camper set up their bunk and get settled in.
7. **All over the counter and prescription medication must be turned in to camp staff. (This is normal protocol, not Covid specific)** If you have medication to turn in- please double check that these are documented on your campers' health forms. This can be checked or changed by logging into your online registration account. To contain multiple medications, please use a gallon size bag with your campers name printed on the outside. Please include all prescription bottles so we can verify the dosage and patient information.
8. Expect camper drop-off to take some time, because of the number cars, campers, and luggage to move. Lines of cars might form, and that's okay; please be patient with us.
9. You will be asked the name of the person picking up the child at the end of camp. Photo ID is required for pick-up. (This is normal protocol.)

What To Expect While At Camp:

1. Campers will be grouped into "cohorts". This will be their cabin group and camp counselors. Our cabins are named for countries, this is your cohort.
2. Cohorts will stay 6-10 feet away from other cohorts.
3. While campers are only with their cohort (cabin group), they are not required to wear a mask like a family unit. While in the cabin, masks are not required.
4. We are attempting to maximize time with cohorts so that mask wearing can be minimal.

5. Please bring several facemasks; there will be times when masking will be required. Camp cannot wash masks, so please bring 1-2 per day of camp. A lanyard to hold the mask may be helpful.
6. Please bring 1-2 reusable water bottles with your name on the bottle, please. This avoids water fountain sharing. We can refill them throughout the day.
7. Hand washing and/or use of hand sanitizer will be increased. Including before each activity and before each meal.
8. Disinfecting high touch surfaces will happen regularly.
9. We are able to swim in the pool (yay!) only with the cohort group.
10. Staff members coming physically close to a cohort they are not a part of, like an activity leader, kitchen staff, or camp leadership will wear a mask.
11. Campers and staff will receive a daily health screening for Covid-19 symptoms.
12. If any member of your child's cohort tests positive for Covid-19, please be prepared to pick up your camper immediately and follow VDH quarantine recommendations.
13. There will be NO visitors. You will not be allowed to remove your child from camp for appointments and return them.

What To Expect At Camper Pick-Up:

A camp closing ceremony is one of the best parts of camp, but unfortunately, we can't gather closely this year. Campers will still receive "awards" within the camp session.

1. Adults will be asked for a photo ID, as this is normal protocol, not Covid specific. The pick-up person should be the name(s) given in the registration and drop-off process. If you need to change the pick-up person on file, please call us at least 2 days before pick-up.
2. Please stay in your car, except for a quick hug, of course. We will bring campers and their belongings to you.
3. Campers will be all packed up and ready to go.
4. You may be assigned a specific pick-up time window.
5. Please do not be in a hurry and be patient. We're moving lots of little people and their stuff, as safely as we can.
6. Expect to hear all about camp on the way home!