



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA CAMP ALEXANDER



**2024 SUMMER
DAY AND RESIDENT CAMP**



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Dear Campers and Parents,

Welcome to the **SUMMER CAMP PARENT PACKET!**

My name is Baxter Arndt, the Camp Director for Camp Alexander. Among all other things, our goal is to help your child grow throughout the summer and have fun. Camp is an opportunity for kids to find their personality and build lasting friendships. We are committed to providing the highest quality summer experience for your child.

From early childhood to young adulthood, campers benefit by participating in well planned, age-appropriate activities. One of the primary values we implement is the ability for the kids to choose which activities they wish to participate in. Throughout the summer, our goal is to advocate decision making and encourage active engagement.

As the Camp Director, I carefully select and train camp loving summer staff to implement the YMCA core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility in all aspects of programming to provide a safe and fun-filled summer experience for your children.

Whether you are looking for childcare for an entire summer or one week of great outdoor fun, Camp Alexander has a program to fit your family's needs. Financial assistance programs are available ensuring no one is turned away due to an inability to pay.

On behalf of the Summer Camp Staff, I would like to thank you for allowing YMCA Camp Alexander to be part of your child's summer.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Baxter Arndt | Sports & Camp Director
Email: arndt@swcymca.org Phone: (715) 818-6010
General Information | SOUTH WOOD COUNTY YMCA: 715.818.9622

CAMP ADDRESS (NO MAIL RECEPTACLE)

1053 Camp Road | Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494

MAILING ADDRESS

601 West Grand Avenue | Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495



PLEASE READ

To provide the best care for your camper, and to meet Wisconsin State Licensing Guidelines, we ask that you **thoroughly read** this packet and **correctly fill out and return any** completed forms required. We have designed this packet to help you prepare your camper(s) for their experience and to answer a wide range of questions. However, please feel free to contact us with any additional questions.

SOUTH WOOD COUNTY YMCA

601 West Grand Ave | Wisconsin Rapids | WI | 54495

Phone 715.818.9622

www.swcymca.org

SUMMER CAMP PARENT PACKET

About Camp Alexander

YMCA Camp Alexander is a State of Wisconsin licensed recreational and educational camp located on 33 acres of mostly wooded land on the south side of Nepco Lake. YMCA Camp Alexander was created in 1940 with funding from the Alexander family, central Wisconsin's paper industry pioneers. The camp, operated by the John E. Alexander | South Wood County YMCA, features 14 buildings including 6 bunk houses, a nature center, camp office/game room, main lodge and 4,800 square foot Lester Dining Hall which is used by campers and their families for large gatherings and activities staged during camp.

Campers

Day campers range from 6-15 years old. Resident campers can be attended by children 8-17 years old.

Special Needs Campers

Camp Alexander is designed to provide accessibility for children with moderate visual, auditory, orthopedic, mental and emotional challenges. Please discuss all situations with the Camp Director prior to registering.

Staff

Our camps are staffed with highly qualified adults that are certified in CPR and First-Aid, AED and Red Cross Lifeguarding who are eager to help your child have a week of learning and fun. We maintain Licensing Guidelines for staff and campers in accordance with the State of Wisconsin.

Authorized Persons to Pick-Up Campers

For the camper's safety, we will not release any camper to an unauthorized person. Authorized persons are either people designated on the registration form or people who are identified to the Camp Director by an authorized individual. **A photo ID is required for any non-parent or guardian** to check out campers at the end of each day. Please understand this is a safety measure taken for the well-being of **all campers** and is in no way a reflection of you.

If by the 5:30pm (5:00pm on Friday's) program ending time a camper has not been picked up by an authorized individual, camp staff will make every effort to contact authorized individuals until a person is contacted and pick up is arranged.

Registration

Bring in or mail the completed registration form with the payments for each camp week to South Wood County YMCA, 601 W. Grand Avenue Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495.

Most Frequently Asked Question

Do I have to complete the Registration Form, Health History Form and attach immunization records if I attended last year?

YES. State licensing requires that new forms be completed each year.

Financial Assistance & Camperships

Financial Assistance is available and accepted through the Northern Income Maintenance Consortium and in the form of scholarships, offered to qualifying participants. Families that qualify or would qualify for a school district's Free and Reduced Lunch Program will qualify for financial assistance. Applicants must provide information on household size and income. Applications are accepted beginning in January and Financial Assistance is granted on a first come, first serve basis until funds are exhausted. For more information contact Carlee Rendmeister at 715.818.6041 or rendmeister@swcymca.org

Payment

Each week must be paid in full at time of registration.



Cancellations and Refunds

- Contact the YMCA as soon as possible if you plan to cancel a camper registration.
- Upon cancellation, parents will have the option to transfer the amount to a different week of camp or receive a refund..
- ***To receive a refund, notification of the cancellation must be received in writing two weeks in advance to the YMCA. Cancellations more than two weeks in advance will be refunded minus the non-refundable deposit.***
- Children expelled from camp for behavior matters will not receive refunds.

Medicine

If your child requires medication during the camp day, medicine and schedule for taking the medication must be provided on the first day of camp. An "Authorization to Administer Medication" form is located on the Health Form.

All medications that are being distributed at camp, need to be accompanied in a pill bottle with the child's name, specific instructions, dosage amounts, and times medications need to be distributed.

No over the counter medications may be given to campers by camp staff. All leftover medicine will be discarded or returned to a parent/guardian up to one week after camper's last day of camp. Insurance for health-related matters must be covered by the parent or guardian.

Illness and Absences

If a camper is feeling ill, keep him/her home and **notify camp at 715.818.6010** of their absence. Children cannot have a fever within the last 24 hours to attend camp.

If a camper becomes ill while at camp, we will notify parents/guardians to discuss whether he/she should be picked up or stay in a quiet resting area of camp. YMCA Camp Alexander is REQUIRED by state licensing requirements to send a child home who is suspected to have an illness, a temperature of 100.4 or a contagious disease.

If a camper does not arrive within 60 minutes of the program's start time without prior notice (9:00am), camp will attempt to contact the camper's parents/guardians to determine the camper's whereabouts.

Behavior Management

Camp staff are trained to implement behavior management techniques that include positive guidance, redirection, and the setting of clear limits and expectations with the goal of helping each child develop self-control, self-esteem, and respect for others. Campers are held responsible for their actions and are expected to follow the YMCA four core values of Honesty, Caring, Respect, and Responsibility. The Y and Camp Alexander have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy on bullying and disrespect.

Camper Behavior

Camp programming is designed for group participation and interaction. Attempts to correct behavior through action plans, character contracts and parent/guardian meetings will be held to instill positive changes. Behavior that disrupts programming, endangers self or others, disrespects property of others, or requires repeated one-to-one attention may result in the camper being suspended and/or expelled from camp.

General Behavior Management Guidelines are listed below:

- Problem behavior addressed by on site staff.
 - o Parents/guardians notified based on seriousness and/or if behavior persists.
 - o Suspension or temporary removal as deemed necessary by Camp Director.
- Action plans with set time line created and put into place for camper's continuation in programs.
- Follow up meetings are set.
 - o Based on outcome – decision made regarding continuation or removal from programs.



Pre-Care and Post-Care

Pre-Care and Post-Care will be offered. Pre and Post-Care offers a less structured time for campers to enjoy the outdoors and visit with their friends.

Pre-Care begins at 7:00am Parents may drop off their children at the camp office where camp staff will be on duty. All campers must check in upon arrival. Campers will not be checked in before 7:00am.

Post-Care is from 4:00-5:30pm Monday-Thursday Parents may pick up their children any time after 4:00pm (or earlier if prior arrangements made with Camp Director). Additional fees may be charged if campers are not picked up by 5:30pm.

Post-Care on Friday is from 4:00-5:00pm Parents must sign out their children at the camp office where camp staff will be on duty.

Non-parents/guardians must be on a pre-written approval list and show a photo ID daily to pick up a child.



Field Trips

Two weeks during the summer we will offer a field trip to a local destination. During these trips the campers will be supervised by counselors in accordance with the Wisconsin State Licensing requirements as they would be at camp. These weeks may have an increased fee to reflect the cost of the field trip and transportation.

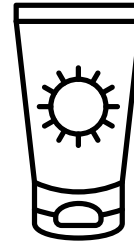
Transportation To and From Field Trips

Each vehicle has a Child Safety System that requires drivers and staff to conduct a vehicle sweep to ensure that no child is left on the vehicle upon arrival at the final destination. These procedures meet Wisconsin State Licensing requirements. You will also be asked to sign a Field Trip Consent Form for any weeks your child is attending that includes a field trip. Your child will not be able to go on the field trip without the form on file.



Insect Repellent and Sunscreen

We suggest you have your child apply a lotion or cream before arriving at camp. IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD OR CAMP STAFF TO BE ABLE TO APPLY SUNSCREEN AT CAMP, YOU WILL NEED TO FILL OUT AN AUTHORIZATION on the Registration Form. Pack extra sunscreen for your camper and be sure to clearly mark the bottle with your child's name. We also suggest that you teach your child the proper application of insect repellent and sunscreen, so it is applied safely.



Lost and Found

We highly recommend **writing the Camper's first and last name on everything they bring to camp**. All lost and found items will be kept for one (1) week after the last week of camp at the camp office. At that time, lost and found is donated to charity organizations.

Emergencies

If your camper is involved in an emergency situation, camp staff will follow emergency procedures immediately. First aid measures will immediately be put into practice and an ambulance contacted if necessary. Camp staff will call parent/guardian or emergency contact listed on the Registration Form.

An emergency number will be available for parents in case you need to reach staff or your camper while at camp.

Severe Weather/Rain

Camp has early warning and communication steps in place in case severe weather strikes. Campers will be moved inside to an appropriate area upon first warning of dangerous weather. Please do not come to camp until the severe weather has passed. In the event of rain during pick-up/drop-off kids will be housed in Lester Hall. In the event of extreme temperatures, campers will be moved into a temperature-controlled building and camp will go on indoors!



Resident Camp Drop-Off and Pick-Up

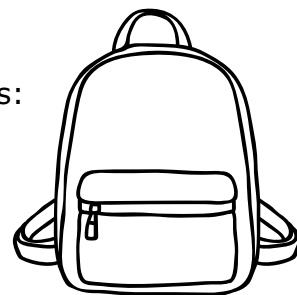
Campers arrive at camp on Monday between 7:00am-9:00am and depart on Friday between 12:00-1:00pm. Contact camp at 715.818.6010 with any questions.



What to Bring

Day Campers should bring the following labeled items on a daily basis:

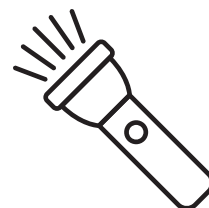
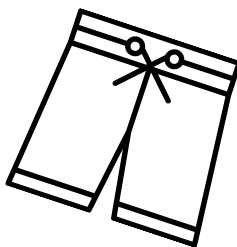
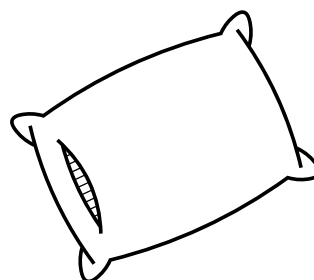
- A day pack or duffel bag to carry everything in
- Swimsuit/towel
- Tennis shoes that are closed toed
- Raincoat
- Sweater, sweatshirt, or light jacket when cool
- Extra change of clothes on a rainy day
- Water shoes or aqua socks for the waterfront (NEPCO Lake has an abundance of zebra mussels)
- **Bag** lunch (lunches will be stored in a refrigerator during the day)
- A **refillable water bottle**
- Sunscreen



OPTIONAL ITEMS: 6 year old's may want to bring a kids pillow and blanket for rest time.

Resident Campers should bring the following labeled items:

- Sleeping bag
- Pillow/pillow case
- Towels
- Toothbrush/paste
- Shampoo and soap
- Clothes for each day – plus extra! (undergarments, socks, pants/shorts & shirts)
- Swimsuit/towel
- Sweatshirt
- Extra pair of shoes
- Water shoes or aqua socks
- Rain gear
- Bug spray
- Brush/comb
- Flashlight
- A water bottle or money to purchase one in the Trading Post
- Sunscreen
- Medication



OPTIONAL ITEMS: Cap/hat, book, sunglasses, camera (disposable or digital)

Be sure to mark all items clearly with the camper's first and last name. If your child does lose something at camp, please contact staff as soon as possible to assist in checking lost and found. YMCA Camp Alexander is not responsible for lost items.



Do Not Bring

Radios, iPod/electronics/cell phones, toys/valuables, camping knives, and soft drinks are not allowed.



Wildlife at Camp

YMCA Camp Alexander offers campers the opportunity to experience the outdoors and the wildlife that inhabit camp in its natural state. Camp programs are structured so that both the campers and creatures that are a part of camp can cohabitate together. Camp staff will ensure the safety of the campers and contact parents/guardians and local authorities if there is ever a problem. We'll have kids keep an eye out for the family of deer that live at camp and the many species of birds flying overhead!

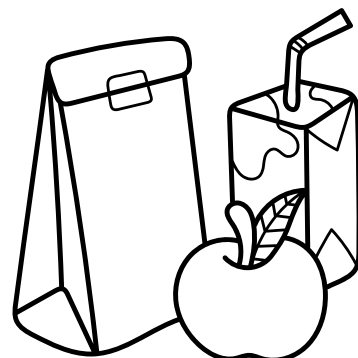


Rainy Days

Camp will go on! If the weather is warm and the rain is light, we will be outside for at least some portion of the day. We suggest packing a spare set of dry clothing and a raincoat for these days. If we cannot be outdoors, games and activities will be held in the lodge or Lester Hall, along with stories and songs.

Lunch

Campers bring a sack lunch daily. It is recommended the lunch be nutritional. **Lunches with perishable food will be refrigerated.**



FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT

Saturday May 18 | 10am - 12pm

Join us in a fun, family scavenger hunt!
Snacks are provided before the hunt.
*Registration opens in March

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday May 18 | 12 - 4pm

Gather with friends and family to take a tour of camp! Then enjoy marshmallow and hot dog roasting over the camp fire!

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

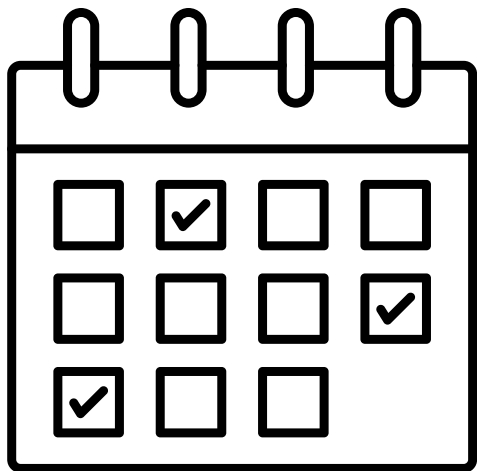
Thursday June 27 | 5:30-7:00pm WEEK 3

Thursday August 22 | 5:30-7:00pm WEEK 11

Family Night is a time for family members and campers to share in the activities and excitement of camp. Enjoy smores, play camp games, meet the counselors, and take a camp tour.



Daily Schedule



Monday-Thursday:

7:00am-9:00am Check In/Pre-Camp FREE BEFORE CARE

9:00am-9:30am Snack and Full Circle

9:30am-10:30am All Camp Activity

10:30am-11:45am Breakout 1

12:00pm-12:30pm Lunch

12:30pm-12:45pm Full Circle

12:45pm-2:00pm Breakout 2

2:00pm-3:30pm Swimming

3:30pm-4:00pm Snack, Clean up, Reflect

4:00pm-5:30pm Check Out/Post Camp FREE AFTER CARE

*Friday:

4:00pm-5:00pm Check Out/Post Camp

Full Circle – Announcements, icebreaker games, songs, etc.

Breakouts – Selection of several different activity options to allow the campers to choose their own adventure.

Ex. Frisbee golf, tie-dying, baking, knot tying, axe throwing, shelter building, fishing, etc.



Week Schedule and Pricing

2024 Summer Camp Schedule

Week 1 June 10 - 14

Week 2 June 17 - 21

Week 3 June 24 – 28 *Family Fun Night 5:30 – 7pm, Thursday June 27

Week 4 July 1-3 *Mini Resident Week

Week 5 July 8-12 *WR Water Park Field Trip

Week 6 July 15-19

Week 7 July 22-26 *Resident Week

Week 8 July 29 – August 2

Week 9 August 5-9

Week 10 August 12-16 *WR Water Park Field Trip

Week 11 August 19-23 *Family Fun Night 5:30 – 7pm, Thursday August 22

Week 12 August 26-30



Pricing

Early Bird: Save \$10 by signing up prior to April 1st

Weeks 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11 & 12

Member	Non-Member
\$160	\$180

Weeks 5 & 10: Including Field Trip

Member	Non-Member
\$175	\$195

Week 4: Mini Resident Week

Member	Non-Member
\$240	\$260

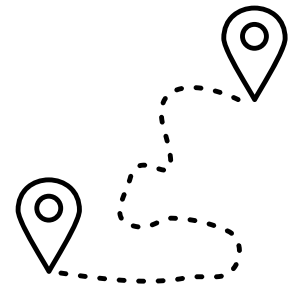
Week 7: Resident Week

Member	Non-Member
\$430	\$450



Directions to YMCA Camp Alexander

Camp Address 1053 Camp Rd, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494



Coming from I39 By Plover

Take exit 153 and go West on Hwy 54 for approximately 15 miles. At Home Depot turn right on East Riverview Expressway, go 1 mile and take a left on Hwy 13S/8th Street. YMCA Camp Alexander is about 3 miles down the road on your right, just after you pass Nepco Lake.

By Plainfield

Take exit 136 and go North on Hwy 73 for approximately 16 miles. Turn right on Hwy 13N and go approximately two miles and YMCA Camp Alexander will be on your left just before Nepco Lake.

Coming from I94 By Osseo

Take exit 88 and go East on Hwy 10 for about 32 miles. Turn right on Hwy 73S for about 45 miles (you will be taking a left and right turn but stay on 73S). At the railroad tracks, take a right on Riverview Expressway and go about 2 miles. Take a right onto Hwy 13S/8th Street and you'll find YMCA Camp Alexander about 3 miles down the road on your right just after you pass Nepco Lake.

By Black River Falls

Take exit 116 and go East on Hwy 54 for about 51 miles (you will be taking a right and left turn but stay on 54E). Turn right on Hwy 73S, go approximately 6 miles (you will take a left but stay on 73S). Turn left on Hwy 13N and YMCA Camp Alexander will be about 2 miles up on your left.

We are looking forward to the BEST SUMMER EVER!

