

WHAT DO CAMPERS NEED TO BRING TO CAMP GROW EACH DAY?

Since most of the camp's activities are outdoor, we ask that campers come **every day** with the following items (labelled with your child's name):

- Backpack
- Sunscreen and bug repellent (Please apply each morning before camp.)
- Water bottle (Water is available for refills so large-capacity, **heavy** water bottles are not necessary.)
- A lunch and a snack in a lunch bag/box. (Campers work up a big appetite.)
- Sneakers. No open-toe or Croc style shoes are allowed.
- An extra change of clothes – in case campers get wet
- Raincoat if calling for rain (A fold-up rain poncho is easy to keep in camper backpacks.)
- A mask / face covering
- Other helpful items are a towel, a hat, and gardening gloves.

Camp Hours

Half-day Sprouts camps 9am-1pm

Full-day camps 9am-4pm

Check in / Check out

Morning camper check in is from 8:45am-9:00am at the Visitor Center. If your child will be late, please call our Visitor Center and leave a message at 703-255-3631 x0.

Afternoon camper check out is 1:00pm-1:15pm for the half-day Sprouts camps and 4:00pm-4:15pm for full-day camps. *Both check in and check out require a signature from an adult (with ID) who is on your child's Pick-Up Authorization List. Be sure to include parents on your Pick-up Authorization form.*

Late parent policy

If a parent/authorized adult is 15 minutes late in picking a camper, a late fee of \$2.00 per each additional minute may be applied thereafter. If a child is consistently picked up late, the child may be dismissed from the program. A staff member will remain with the child for up to one hour after the program ends. After one hour, Child Protective Services will be called if parents cannot be reached.

Late Arrivals and Early Departures

Parents/Guardians may inform camp staff of schedule changes for your camper or call our Visitor Center to leave a message at 703-255-3631 x0. Most likely camp will not be at the Visitor Center during the camp day. Parents/Guardians should plan to drop off or pick up their campers at the current location of the campers as staff is not available to leave the other campers to transport campers to/from the Visitor Center. Please check in at our Visitor Center so our admissions staff member can contact our camp counselor for the location of your camper for drop off/pick up.

Medication and Sunscreen/Bug Spray

Staff is not permitted to administer medications or apply lotions to campers except for medical emergencies.

Illness at Camp

Campers Showing Symptoms of Illness will not be permitted to check into camp or must be picked up immediately if symptoms appear during the camp day.

Children's Belongings

Please label ALL belongings. NOVA Parks and the site staff are not responsible for lost/stolen items. Personal belongings should be kept in a bag or backpack. Electronics, toys, and other similar items should not be brought to camp. It is required that lunches and snacks are brought from home and are not to be shared with others.

Behavior and Safety

If a child brings a weapon to camp, intentionally harms or threatens to harm themselves or others, vandalizes property, or displays other extreme behavior, he/she will be dismissed from the program and no refund will be given. For inappropriate behavior, parents will be notified verbally and/or in writing with notification of further action. NOVA Parks reserves the right to immediately dismiss a child from any program. All participants enrolled in NOVA Parks program must meet the code of conduct, which is included in this packet.

Staff Will Never use physical punishment, be verbally abusive, force, withhold or substitute food, give any child the authority to punish another child, place a child out of visual/hearing sight, in the dark, or in an unvented place, or punish a child for a bathroom incident.

Reporting Child Abuse & Neglect

If it is suspected that child has been abused, neglected, or exploited, NOVA Parks is required to report it to Youth and Child Protective Services.

Refund Policy

There are no refunds for missed days due to changed work/vacation schedules or sick days. Refunds, minus a \$25 administrative fee, are only permitted at least 45 days prior to the first day of your camp session.

Special Needs/Accommodations

Our staff is committed to providing a week of enriching activities that will engage all campers. Parents/guardians are welcome to communicate their children's special needs (extreme shyness, fears, learning or social challenges, services received at school, special accommodations required) with Program Manager Jules Maloney at 703-255-3631 x103 or jmaloney@nvrpa.org.