



## Summer Camp 2020 Frequently Asked Questions

***Here are answers to camp questions that are known at the moment. Please understand all of these updates will be based on how trends in our state continue this spring and are subject to change as governed by the state.***

**Camp Dates:** as of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020, our planned camp dates are July 6<sup>th</sup>-August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020. The ability to offer additional services in August will be determined by staff availability and the school calendar for 2020-2021.

**Camp Hours:** to provide adequate time for cleaning procedures, camp hours will be modified this year, running from 8:00am-5:30pm.

**Camp Sizes:** following CDC and state guidelines on group gatherings, camps will be limited to 50 total participants per week as we open registration. If group maximums are expanded and we have the ability to add additional seats in the summer, we will do so. Camps that in the past have had larger enrollments will have a wait list.

**Camp Locations:** planned as follows:

Kinder Kickstarters Camp: Saco Community Center

Pepperell Pathfinders Camp: Fairfield School Gymnasium and stage

Memorial Memories Camp: Burns School Gymnasium and cafeteria

Teen Trailblazers Camp: Saco Community Center; alternate: Saco Middle School

**Meals:** The Saco Schools Nutrition Program Free Breakfast and Free Lunch will be available to all children at all 3 sites, 7/6-8/21.

**Camp Format:** Camp will be offered as an on-camp experience focused on activities and camp events.

**Field Trips:** we are not planning on offering field trips this summer, at least to start. It is uncertain what venues will be open. In addition, our goal is to allow staff to focus on camper safety and fun while maintaining the proper cleaning and safety processes at camp without adding the pressure of travel and off-site locations. If we have the opportunity to add trips, they will be offered later in the summer and will feature local options.

**Schedules:** we will be working on schedules leading up to camp and plan to send info prior to camp towards the end of June.

**Camper Shirts:** campers will receive 1 camp shirt this year. You will be asked at registration for the size needed and style preference, cotton or dri-fit. Shirts will be available to pick-up at camp.

**Emergency medications:** for campers who require emergency medications such as inhalers or EpiPens, these can be turned in to the SPR Office during the weeks of June 15 and 22<sup>nd</sup>, with a deadline of June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Personal Protective Equipment for Staff:** we will be following all guidelines and recommendations for staff during camp. It is likely that counselors could be required to wear protective gear, for example masks. We have plans to help campers recognize staff and still create a friendly welcoming environment, and want to mention this now to help families prepare their children for that potential appearance.

**New Processes:** we will adopt all cleaning and social distancing requirements into programs. This will be an ongoing evaluation through the spring to develop the final process, based on trends for COVID-19 and incorporating all requirements from the CDC and recommendations from the emergency planning team for the City of Saco. Here are some of the areas we are currently working on – this is by no means a finalized or exhaustive list. We just want to provide an update on plans at the moment:

- Hiring a licensed nurse to support camp programs
- Portable handwashing stations at camps to provide additional access to handwashing
- Increased handwashing routines for campers and staff
- Disinfecting of all hard surfaces and equipment throughout the day
- Using bins to store and separate camper belongings
- Mapped out areas around bathrooms, water fountains, and lunch tables for social distancing
- Currently researching alternate options for check-in and check out, possibly moving to a digital process

**Daily Payment Option to register:** At the moment we are not able to offer this option. However, if we move later into the summer and there are still openings in camps we may consider adding it. This will be unknown until camp.

**Fee Waivers:** the fee waiver application for 2020-2021 programs is now available at [www.sacorec.com](http://www.sacorec.com) under “Department Info”. While our building is closed to the public, completed applications and supporting materials can be submitted via mail to “Attn: Ryan Sommer, Saco Community Center, 75 Franklin St., Saco ME 04072”.

**Refunds and Cancellations:**

- In the event of program postponement or cancellation due to COVID-19, all registration fees will be eligible for a full refund.
- If you are not planning to attend a week registered for, you will be eligible for a 50% refund of the week’s fee with a minimum of 3 week notice to the SPR Office.
- We are not able to provide a refund for last minute cancellations or illness this season.

**Will our policies go back to normal?** One commonly asked question is “Is this now a permanent change or will next year it be like how it used to be?” This is unknown. Changes this year are being adopted exclusively to be able to offer a program to support our families with all regulations considered. In an ideal scenario, we would love to be able to offer camp as we have in the past, with ample flexibility to register in the way that works best for your family and 2-3 field trips/events offered weekly. This is not possible given the current context of COVID-19. The capacity to return to our usual format in the future will largely depend on trends regarding this virus. We are hopeful!

**Additional questions:** please understand we are continuing to adjust, adopt and plan over the course of this spring. If you have any additional questions, please email [parksandrec@sacomaine.org](mailto:parksandrec@sacomaine.org). Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your support of SPR programs!