



Camp Winnebago Branch • 5804 N. Main St. • Rockford, IL 61103



Kinder Camp Family Handbook

Summer 2010

YMCA of Rock River Valley
We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

WELCOME TO KINDER CAMP

We are looking forward to a fun and exciting week of summer camp with your child. This handbook is provided to help answer questions regarding policies and procedures at Kinder Camp. Your child's safety, well being and program enjoyment are our primary concerns. If you have any questions, please give us a call 815-489-1112.

Camp Winnebago is located just minutes from downtown Rockford. Camp Winnebago's 150 wooded acreage includes three beautiful lodges, pavilions, climbing wall, and many natural features including ponds, marsh, streams, fields, prairies, and natural spring.

YMCA of Rock River Valley Mission:

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

Camp Winnebago Mission:

To develop leadership and life skills through fun, progressive programs delivered in nature's learning environment for Rock River Valley youth, teens, and families.

KINDER CAMP OBJECTIVES:

- The development of confidence and self-esteem in each participant.
- The acquisition of knowledge and the development of skills and interest in outdoor activities.
- The development of an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment.
- The formulation of socially constructive habits and attitudes.
- Personal growth in working and playing cooperatively with other children.
- The participation of parents to strengthen family relationships.

VISITOR POLICY

We welcome family visitors at any time during our camp programs. In consideration of the camper's safety, we ask that all visitors register at the camp office.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The \$25 per week deposit (applied toward weekly fee) is for administrative expenses and is not refundable. The payment balance must be received by 7:00 pm on the Monday of the week prior to the week of attendance. Payment can be made at the YMCA Member Service Center or mailed. Please write your child's name and week # in the memo section of the check and send to Camp Winnebago, 5804 N. Main, Rockford, IL 61103.

CANCELLATIONS/CHANGES

Cancellations will be accepted up to one week (7 days) prior to the first day of the week of camp without responsibility for payment of the balance of that week. The deposit is not refundable. The deposit is not transferrable with less than two weeks notice and is subject to availability. Cancellations with less than one week (7 days) notice will not be accepted. Payment for that week of camp is still the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Failure to make such payment will result in forfeiture of the remaining registered weeks of camp. Refunds are made only if a camper cannot attend for medical reason, verified by a physician's statement, or because of a death in the family.



HEALTH FORM/ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

The completed health form MUST be on file upon the camper's first day of camp.

The form is **REQUIRED** for your camper to participate in camp activities, even if your camper has no medical concerns. Doctor's signature on the health form is not required. You need only fill out one form for the entire summer. You must let us know if the health information- including phone numbers - needs to be updated at some point during the summer.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

You will be contacted in the event of illness or accidents. In the case of a life threatening emergency, a member of our staff will immediately call 911, administer first aid, and notify you as quickly as possible. If you cannot be reached, your designated emergency contact will be notified. You may contact your camper for an emergency situation by leaving a message with camp staff at 815-489-1112.

MEDICATION

If your camper needs to take medicine during the morning, the medicine must be given to the staff in the **prescription bottle** with a completed medication release form for each medication to be given. For safety reasons, children may not carry medicine with them. Please discuss any medical concerns with Kinder Camp leadership staff prior to camp.



WHAT TO WEAR AND BRING

Dress your camper according to the weather and expect him/her to **come home dirty!** Tennis shoes or other sturdy footwear are required. Open-toed shoes like flip-flops and sandals are not allowed.

PLEASE LABEL ALL BELONGINGS!

The YMCA is not held responsible for lost or broken personal items.

Sunscreen and insect repellent are recommended daily during your child's week at camp. Parents should apply sunscreen and repellent prior to the child boarding the bus.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

To ensure a positive outdoor experience, please do not allow children to bring toys, money, or any items that may be misplaced.

TYPICAL MONDAY HALF-DAY AT KINDER CAMP

- 8:00 Meet at the picnic table near the sand volleyball courts (located south of the gazebo along the river by the Log Lodge) and ride the bus.
- 8:30 Bus arrives at camp. Meet campers who are driven directly to camp. Explanation of safety, beads and name tags.
- 9:00 Archery
- 9:45 Snack and story time
- 10:15 Hike to the artesian well
- 11:00 Learn songs, play games, or do an environmental activity
- 11:15 Give out beads
- 11:30 Parents pick up camper at Camp Winnebago

SNACK TIME

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, please send a morning snack and drink for your camper. Kinder Camp will provide s'mores and a drink on Thursday morning.

WEDNESDAY SPLASH FOUNTAIN DAY

We will enjoy the cool waters of "Splash Fountain," the camp's wet, water fun area. Campers will have fun splashing and playing with the counselors. Campers will need to wear water shoes or old tennis shoes while playing in the splash fountain.

FRIDAY PROGRAM

On Friday there will be a short family program at Camp Winnebago . The program for 3 year olds will be in Webster B Lodge. The program for 4 - 5 year olds will be in the Johnson Environmental Center. We will sing songs, and tell of our week's experiences. Information on the Friday program will be sent home on Thursday with your child. Grandparents, family, and friends are encouraged to attend.



BUS INFORMATION

PLEASE be at the bus drop off location no earlier than 5 minutes before the bus arrives.

If you choose not to take advantage of our bus service, you may drop off your child at 8:30 am at Camp Winnebago Webster B Lodge. Pick-up for all Kinder Campers is at 11:30 am at Camp Winnebago Webster B Lodge.

Please include carpool information on the health form authorizing who may pick up your child. This must be on file before the child may be released to someone other than their legal guardian.

First Student provides the daily Kinder Camp bus service. Their drivers have clean driving records, participate in safety training and mandatory meetings covering safety issues. The busses used are 172 times safer than riding in a passenger car according to the National Safety Council. First Student transports over 2.3 million students safely to and from school every day. The YMCA camp counselors and leadership staff ride with the children and also help ensure safe transportation.

FORMS

Please return the car pool/health form to the counselor on Monday mornings.

ABSENTEE

Please notify Kinder Camp if your camper will be absent. Call camp at 815-489-1112, and leave a message on the voice mail line.

ILLNESS

Kinder Camp cannot knowingly accept children for camp when they are ill. YMCA staff will observe each child upon daily arrival and if your child is experiencing any of the following symptoms, we will call you and ask that other arrangements be made for his/her care. We will separate your child from the other children and make him/her as comfortable as possible until you can arrive:

- 1. Fever*
- 2. Vomiting*
- 3. Diarrhea*
- 4. Draining Rash*
- 5. Lice or nits*
- 6. Eye discharge or pink eye*
- 7. Too tired or sick to participate in daily activities.*

We will report communicable diseases as necessary to the local Health Department. We will also notify other parents so that they can take appropriate action to protect their children.

RAINY DAYS

Camp is held rain or shine! Activities in the lodge are a fun way to dodge the raindrops. If the weather looks like rain, please wear a raincoat, boots or old shoes. Please label your child's belongings. (No umbrellas please.)

SEVERE WEATHER

The camp leadership staff may change the program schedule due to severe weather. If the weather conditions and forecast are extremely severe (i.e. dangerous thunderstorms, tornado possibilities, or severe heat) certain activities may be cancelled. Parents will be notified if there is a change. Although weather conditions may change, we believe to err on the side of safety is always best for the campers.

INSURANCE

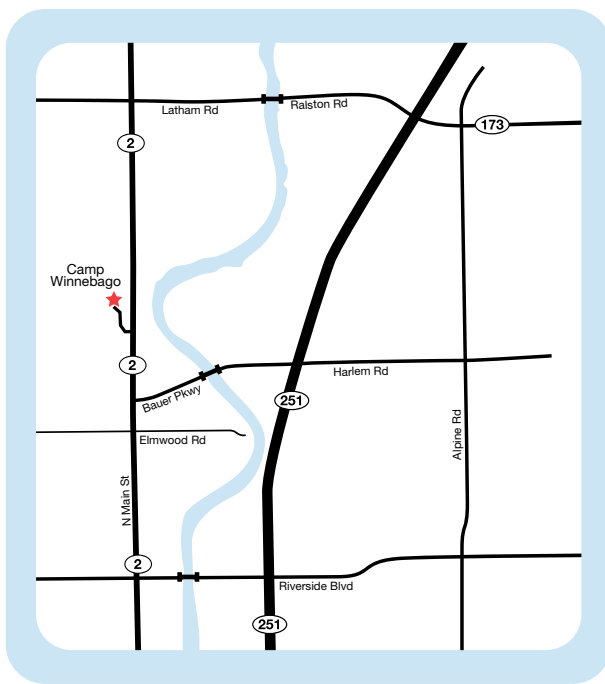
It is the responsibility of every individual, their parent, or legal guardian to provide for their own accident and health coverage while participating in all YMCA activities. The YMCA of Rock River Valley does not provide any accidental or health coverage for its participants.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING LAW REQUIREMENTS

YMCA staff are required by Illinois State law, as with other child-oriented agencies, to report immediately to the police or the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) any instance when there is reason to suspect the occurrence of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse, child neglect or exploitation. We may not notify parents if this occurs except upon the recommendation of DHS or the police.



Map to Camp Winnebago



Louise Krist - Kinder Camp Coordinator
Kinder Camp Voice Mail - 815-489-4112

A.D.A. Statement

The YMCA of Rock River Valley supports, to the best of its resources, the intent and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act as a Title II Provider. If you need special assistance or accommodations (*such as providing a communicator or physical assistance*) please call Susie Johnson at the YMCA, 815-489-3380, two weeks prior to the event so that any possible accommodations may be made.



CAMP
gives kids
a world
of good.

TM © AMERICAN CAMPING ASSOCIATION