

Are you a boy's camp? A girl's camp? A co-ed camp?

- We are actually a little of each. In 1886, the camp was founded as Incarnation Camp and was a summer program for boys. Over the years a program for girls was added – Pequot for Boys and Sherwood for Girls were born. For close to 100 years boys and girls have attended camp at the same time. Today campers attend almost all activities with children of the same age and gender. There are two periods each day where campers may choose an activity that could be co-ed. Evening activities are mostly with your tent & unit groups. Some evenings we host all camp, co-ed special events and each session there will be a campus wide special event as well. See, a little of each.

Is there transportation available to and from camp?

- Yes, a bus picks up campers on opening days and drops off campers on closing days at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine in NYC for a fee of \$50/ dollars each way. This is a fun way for campers to begin their camp experience!

How does the mail work?

- Mail is sorted and delivered daily to each Unit. Campers are required to bring stamped envelopes from home as they will write/send letters home 2x each week. Mail is distributed at lunchtime. It may take up to 5 days for a letter to get to and from camp, please allow for this delay. You will learn your campers Unit assignment on opening day.

Sample Address:

Joe Camper, Frontier Unit
Pequot/Sherwood Camp (please replace with Pioneer Village if your camper is in PV)
P.O. Box 577
Ivoryton, CT 06442

If sending a letter before your camper arrives, please replace the Unit name with the Session the camper is attending. Example: Joe Camper, Session 2A

- You may send one way emails to your child through the Bunk 1 service, we will distribute it with the regular mail, and your camper will be able to respond with a handwritten letter. Please note that Bunk 1 email letters received after 11:30am will be distributed with mail the following day.

www.Bunk1.com

May I send my child a care package?

- Yes. Campers love to receive packages from home! Some ideas are: games, books, small toys, stuffed animals, and things for them to decorate their tent with. However, we ask that you do not send any food as it invites unwanted critters into camper living spaces. If you wish to send food items then please send enough for your child and their tent mates. Please address any boxes containing edible goodies to your camper AND the director so that we can bring this fun surprise to the dining hall for your child to share and enjoy.

How do you celebrate birthdays at camp?

- Birthdays at camp are awesome! The birthday camper will have a delicious cake, complete with candles, to share with their tent mates at dinner time. Then entire dining hall serenades the birthday boy or girl with lengthy renditions of silly songs.

Can my child bring their cell phone?

- In a word, No. Campers are not allowed to bring cell phones. We understand that this may feel uncomfortable but we ask that you allow your child to experience this amazing outdoor, friend-filled, electronics-free experience. If you wish to talk to your child, please call the camp office and speak with a staff member to arrange a time. Know that our campus is made up of 740 acres and your child may not be in the immediate vicinity when you call. We will meet with your child during the next mealtime and make a phone date. Please note that we do not allow phone calls during the first three days of each session as this is an important time to acclimate to camp and speaking to mom/dad can make a camper homesick.

Is there a laundry service provided?

- Yes. Laundry is done once a week. Campers sort their clothing by “lights” and “darks” and place them in their tent laundry bags which they then bring to our laundry drop/pick-up spot. Our laundry service washes and returns the clothing within 24 hours.

What if my child becomes ill while at camp?

- We have 3 registered nurses on camp 24 hours a day and the health center is always open. The pediatrician's office and hospital are only a short 10 minutes away. If your child needs to stay in the health center over night or needs to visit the doctor, you will be notified immediately.

What if my child needs to take Medication at camp?

- Medication is given out each day during meals unless there are other instructions. You will need to bring this medication with you on check in day, or give it to the designated staff member riding the bus up to camp with your child. All medications need to be accompanied by a signed release form from you and your doctor. Nothing other than an EPI pen or inhaler, with doctor & parent consent, can stay with your child in their units. If your child becomes ill over the summer and is prescribed medication, the camp will use the insurance card provided by you, and then pay the co pay needed. You will then be billed for the amount of that prescription. The Health Center will have all necessary over the counter medications.

Does my child need to bring spending money to camp?

- No, we provide everything they need. The only exceptions are Beach Days and Off-Site Pioneer Village Trips. The Pequot/Sherwood Beach Trips take place during Session One and Session Two B. Campers are provided with meals and snacks but often like to visit the concession stand for a treat. You may send \$5 - \$10 to camp with your completed Welcome Kit forms and we will distribute the money on Beach Day.
- Pioneer Village campers experience 3 off-site trips each session. Often they like to purchase souvenirs. We suggest \$50 spending money which can also be mailed in along with your Welcome Kit forms. The cash will be distributed as the camper leaves for their hike, bike and canoe trips. See EXTRAS form in Welcome Kit.

What is the refund policy?

- If a camper is asked to leave the program due to behavioral problems, or if you withdraw your child from the program early no refund will be issued. If it is determined that your child is too ill or contagious to remain at camp a pro-rated fee will be negotiated. If that situation arises, documentation from a doctor will be required in order to determine if the situation qualifies for a refund.

May I visit my child at camp?

- If your child is attending camp for four or more weeks there is a scheduled Parents Visiting Day.

Will I be able to see photos of my child during the summer?

- Yes, you must sign up for Bunk 1, a password protected online service only available to parents and family of our campers. A camp photographer takes pictures each day and uploads them to the website every few days. It is through this same website that; for an additional fee you may sign up for the one way email service. Please note that the pictures uploaded onto Bunk1 are fun candid shots of activities happening at camp. We simply want you to be able to get a sneak peek into the everyday happenings around camp. With this said, please note that not every camper will end up in the forefront of a photograph. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the camp office.

What should I pack my child's belongings in?

- We recommend that each camper bring a hard trunk no more than 12 inches high. These are easily stored under the beds in the tent. There are numerous websites on which you can find "camp trunks" all year round. Upon registering your child for camp you will receive a welcome packet with a packing list included.

Can I request my child be in a tent with their friends?

- We understand how important camp friendships are, and how important it is for new campers to feel comfortable in their tents. With that being said our Tent Requests policy is fair and simple, we will do our best. We ask that you trust our decisions regarding this friend requests and tent mates as we take many aspects into consideration when doing tent placements. If you would like your child to be with a friend please let us know in your welcome packet paperwork. All requests must be mutually exclusive (Emily requests Jennifer, Jennifer requests Emily). Please note that having more than two children who know each other together in a tent creates a situation in which another child may feel lonely or left out. Because of the way our program works, most activities are done with the campers from the same unit. Your child will still be able to spend time with friends they already know – regardless of their tent assignment.

How do I get in contact with the Director or Head Counselors?

- During the camp season we operate out of our camp office which is centrally located on the property. This is not the same physical office we use during the school year. The Camp Office is open everyday from 9:00am-6:00pm. If you need to speak with someone after office hours please leave a message in the Camp Office and we will get back to you the following day when the office re opens. There is an emergency phone number you may call should a serious emergency arise. This Emergency Number will be provided on the Opening Day flyer and is also on the Camp Office voicemail.

Main Office: 860.767.0848 (Answered all year Monday – Friday)

*Please use Main Office line for billing questions during the summer months.

Summer Camp Office: 860.581.4560 (June 21-Aug 21, 9am -6pm everyday)

*To reach the Director, Head Counselors, camper phone calls, etc. Billing questions ONLY need to be directed to the Main Office # listed above.

When should I call the emergency phone?

- The emergency phone is for use after the camp office closes for the evening and you need to get in touch with someone regarding a serious emergency. Please do not call the emergency phone to ask how your child is fairing at camp. Our Boys and Girls Head Counselors will be happy to discuss this with you during Camp Office hours. Please DO call the Emergency phone if there is a family emergency or an urgent situation needing assistance right away. The Senior Staff take turns keeping the emergency phone with them at night so that someone will always answer.

What if my child is flying to camp?

- We request that all international and national travel be planned to arrive into JFK. All travel MUST be coordinated and approved by the camp office BEFORE booking your tickets. All flights MUST arrive into and depart from JFK between the hours of noon – 3pm on the start and end date of the session the camper is attending. Parents MUST pay the unaccompanied minor fee at the time of ticket purchase directly with their airline. Please send proof of purchase of the fee paid, we may need to provide this to your airline on departure days.

What is the setting like and where will my child live?

- Our camp is situated along our mile-long private lake surrounded by 740 wooded acres. Campers live in our eco-friendly platform tents – wood platform structures, covered by a canvas tent. These tents are very sturdy – they are not pop-up camping tents. There are four bunk beds in each tent. Tents are situated into groups called “Units”. Units are designated by age. Each Unit has a wash house with five toilets, five showers, and six sinks, as well as a “Rec. Hall” – a spacious indoor space for activities, rainy day games, and for the campers to just relax and enjoy each other’s company.

How are units decided?

- Units are decided by age. Woodlands (girls) and Colony (boys) are the youngest units, for campers aged 6-9. Highlands (girls) and Reservation (boys) are the units for middle camp, for campers ages 10 and 11. Winds (girls) and Frontier (boys) are the oldest units, for campers ages 12 and 13. Fourteen and fifteen year old campers attend Pioneer Village, our teen program.

What happens after I enroll my child?

- When we receive your registration we will immediately send you an invoice and confirmation letter letting you know what to expect. You will then receive our Welcome Packet, which includes; a camper profile, health forms, physical exam forms to be filled out by your doctor, and a form for your camper to fill out telling us a little bit about themselves. All forms need to be completed and received by the dates specified in the Welcome Pack in order for your child to attend camp.

What should we expect during the summer?

- You should expect for your child to have a fun and enriching experience. Coming to camp may be cause for a brief stint of homesickness. This is a completely normal and healthy response to being away from home in an unfamiliar place. Our staff is sensitive to this issue and encourages those campers to talk out their feelings and become involved in camp activities. Experience tells us that in just a few days the homesick camper will be fully engaged in camp happenings and be comfortable in their new surroundings. Often time’s homesick campers will write letters home describing their homesickness and asking to be picked up. Please know that as stated earlier the mail can take up to five days to get to and from

camp, and by the time this letter reaches you, your child will most likely be fully adjusted to camp life and having a great time. If your child continues to send you letters that raise a concern, please contact the Camp Office and let us know.