

Cairo Summer Recreation Handbook



Welcome

The Cairo Summer Recreation program is a six week program for children in Kindergarten - Grade 6. There is also a supervised park program for grades 7-9. The Program runs Monday thru Friday, 9:00am -11:45am. The program is free to residents of the Town of Cairo and its Hamlets. A daily event calendar will be available on the first day of the program. Updates, sneak peaks and more will also be posted on our closed Facebook group page. See the program director for access. This program is licensed by the New York State Health Department and provides an opportunity to use summer leisure time constructively.

- It is your responsibility to drop your child off and pick your child up on time. Counseling staff is not available to watch campers before or after camp

Services Provided:

The Cairo Summer Recreation Program offers children a variety of appropriate and diverse activities. Activities include arts and crafts, sports and games and playground time. A daily calendar is provided at the start of camp.

Mask Usage:

New York State Department of Health guidelines for camps do not require masks for children at this time. However, if a parent wants their child to wear a mask during camp, this is acceptable.

Drop Off & Pick Up Times:

Staff are hired to supervise children from 9:00am until 11:45am. It is your responsibility to drop your child off at these times. If you need to pick your child up earlier, please provide the Camp Director with a written note stating what time and who will be picking your child up.

Arrival and Departure Policies:

- Parents must escort campers in grades K-5 to the check-in table and sign them in. At the end of camp, campers in this age group must be signed out by a parent or their approved representative. Campers in grades 6-9 can sign themselves in and out of camp.
- Campers may only leave with an authorized person listed on the registration form. If someone else is to pick up your child, you must send in a written note in advance notifying the camp staff. Phone calls are only accepted in case of an emergency. Our staff will require identification from anyone picking your child up that they do not recognize. Anytime you need to make a change to the registration form, call the Camp Director at 518-423-9934.

Program Orientation:

Orientation is held for campers on the first day. Orientation includes general information, rules, tour of the park, special activities and an explanation of possible site hazards. Campers not present on the first day will receive their orientation on the first day that they attend.

What to Bring/Wear:

- Summer Recreation is an outdoor program, wear clothing appropriate for an outdoor setting. For your child's protection, gym shoes are required. Sandals or flip-flops are not allowed.
- Bring a **LABELED WATER BOTTLE** daily.
- Please do not send your child with personal items and electronics. Everything is open to view/hands of all campers. There are no separate areas to keep money, toys, etc.. ***The Town is not responsible for lost or stolen property. Campers are not allowed to use cell phones.***
- Sunscreen is recommended and should be applied before the start of the program. Counselors can not apply sunscreen.

Responsibilities of Parent and Child:

Please prepare your child for Summer Recreation. Explain all rules and regulations to him/her. Talk to your child about wanting or not wanting to spend his/her summer with us. Please let us know of any problems your child may be experiencing at summer recreation.

Appropriate Recreation Behavior:

- Respect for others, counselors and property
- Use of appropriate language
- No hitting, tripping, pushing, tackling, kicking, fighting or wrestling
- Children may not leave the recreation area without permission from a counselor
- Children may not leave the program without signing out
- Everyone is expected to help in picking up after games and activities

Discipline Procedures:

Campers must display acceptable behavior and must be accountable for their actions. Parents must know and understand the rules that their child is expected to follow and be aware of the consequences for any violations. The following procedures are followed regarding disciplining children:

- If a child does something unacceptable, the counselor will try to redirect the child by getting them interested in another activity and an explanation will be provided as to why the child cannot behave in that manner.
- If the child persists, if the behavior warrants it, a time out will be used as a cooling off period. After the timeout period, the behavior and appropriate choices that should be made will be discussed with the child.
- The counselor will discuss recurring discipline challenges with the parent.
- In cases of recurring or severe misbehavior, parents will be contacted for a conference to discuss the behavior to try to work things out.
- If the misbehavior continues, the Director may place the child on a probationary period.
- If the situation does not improve, or a plan cannot be implemented for improvement during the probationary period, parents may be requested to withdraw their child from Camp.
- Any child who intentionally destroys camp property may be dismissed from the program. Any vandalism charges will go directly to the camper involved and to his or her parent(s) or guardian.
- Any child who intentionally injures or is a threat to another child may be dismissed from the program.

Behavior Rules on Field Trips:

- Always listen for directions from Counselors
- Make sure you can see your counselors at all
- Always go with a buddy, never alone
- Keep money in a labeled sealed envelope
- Wear appropriate clothing

Emergency Procedures:

When children are in Camp, they run, yell, play hard and occasionally fall and skin their knees. We do not call you for every bump and bruise unless the child is upset. Otherwise, if a camper is injured, a health problem arises or professional medical help is needed, the following steps are taken:

- 911 is immediately called;
- immediate first aid is administered by our trained staff until professional help arrives;
- you, or if not available, your emergency contact person is notified;
- a staff member accompanies your child to the hospital until a family member or an emergency contact person arrives.

Emergency Drills:

Emergency fire drills are held two times during the program.

Inclement Weather Policy:

On occasion camp may be canceled due to severe weather in the forecast. A decision to cancel will be made by 8:30am the day of camp. In the event of cancellation a notification will be posted on our Facebook page. There will be camp if weather conditions call for a light drizzle. If conditions change to extremely heavy rain, wind, or an electrical storm, all parents/guardians must pick up their child immediately.

Volunteers

Parent volunteers are always welcome and appreciated. If you would like to volunteer please see the program director.

Non-Residents

Non-residents may join the program if there is room. There will be a \$50.00 activity fee when registering. Field trip fees will be separate. All rules and policies for Recreation will apply.

Junior Counselor Program

A Junior Counselor is a volunteer position that includes assisting counselors with various activities and general supervision of children during the program. The Junior Counselor position is open to teens 13 to 15 years old. A junior counselor must exhibit qualities of leadership, maturity and responsibility. See the Camp Director if interested or for more information.