



2021 CAMP WEKEELA COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN

Note: new information and guidelines will be added as an addendum and noted as updated versions of this document are published.

Hello Pioneers,

Camp Wekeela's plan to open is rooted in our belief that we can create a safe and sheltered environment for our staff and campers. We love our camp, our campers and believe children need camp right now more than ever. Our top priority this summer is to implement effective procedures to ensure the safety of every single one of our campers and staff. Camp Wekeela opened and operated safely during the summer of 2020. Many of the practices, protocols, and procedures to follow come from both learned experiences from summer 2020, the guidance of the American Camp Association, the CDC, and the State of Maine. These guidelines are subject to change at any time, and we will keep all families updated as we go along. Should the CDC or the state of Maine make any changes to the protocols for the opening of camp, we will make decisions and you will be contacted immediately. To read the most updated information regarding Maine's Keep Maine Safe plan, click [here](#).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Camp Dates	2
<i>How will we operate 2 sessions?</i>	2
Health/Medical Protocols	3
<i>Before Camp</i>	3
<i>Testing</i>	4
<i>Upon Arrival</i>	4
<i>If someone has COVID-like symptoms at camp...</i>	5
<i>What if someone tests positive for COVID at camp?</i>	5
Arriving at Camp	6
<i>Airplane Procedures</i>	6
<i>Bus Procedures</i>	6
<i>Drop-Off Procedures</i>	7
Departing from Camp	7
Cohorts & Schedule	8
<i>Cohorts/Households</i>	8
<i>Daily Schedule and Programming</i>	9
Housekeeping	10
<i>Cabins</i>	10
<i>Sanitation Procedures Across Camp</i>	10
New Operations Policies	11
<i>Off-Camp Trips</i>	11
<i>Visitors</i>	11
<i>Dining Hall</i>	11
<i>Laundry Services</i>	12
Staff	12
<i>Before Camp & Upon Arrival</i>	12
<i>Time Off</i>	12
Vendors	12
Vaccinated Individuals	12
<i>Percentages & Guidelines</i>	13
Forms	14
<i>Medications</i>	14
References	14

CAMP DATES

Based on current guidelines from the American Camp Association and the state of Maine, Camp Wekeela will operate during the following dates

- Staff Training: begins June 13th
- Opening Day: June 24th
- Closing Day: August 10th for campers, August 12th for staff

There are four session options for campers:

- Full season: June 24th-August 10th
- First Session: June 24th - July 17th
- Rookie session: July 18th - July 31st
- Second Session: July 18th - August 10th

How will we operate 2 sessions?

In 2020, we operated with one starting date. In the past, Wekeela has had 5 arrival dates for various rookie, full, and session options. To operate at the safest level possible, we will only allow drop off on June 24th and July 18th, 2021. No camper or staff (unvaccinated) will be allowed to arrive on any “off-day”. The second session begins on July 18th, allowing one full-day for sanitization, planning, and procedures for drop-off. Full session campers will be required to cohort and quarantine as necessary at the start of the second session.

HEALTH/MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

Before Camp

Both campers and staff will take necessary precautions to limit exposure outside of the house two weeks prior to the start of camp. Social gatherings should be avoided and trips outside of the house should be limited to necessities. This is the CDC guidance for vaccinated individuals during air travel:

- **During Travel**
 - Wear a mask over your nose and mouth. [Masks are required](#) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.
 - Avoid crowds and stay at least 6 feet/2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) from anyone who is not traveling with you.
 - Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol).
- **After Travel**
 - Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.
 - Follow all [state and local](#) recommendations or requirements.

You do NOT need to get tested or self-quarantine if you are fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months. You should still follow all other travel recommendations.

Quarantine before flying on an airplane will be required. Our expectations are that every family will commit and comply with social distance and quarantine measures. Your compliance greatly impacts our entire camp community and our safety.

We ask that you will complete a daily health form beginning on June 17 for one week leading up to your arrival, including temperature checks and tracking any other reported symptoms. This form must be completed for one week in order to attend Wekeela. **The form can be found linked here** [Daily Self-Evaluation Form](#) and will also be sent to your email as opening day approaches.

Any person with pre-existing conditions (asthma, diabetes, heart condition, kidney, liver disease, etc.) should speak with their doctor regarding their level of risk for summer 2021.

Testing

Under current guidelines, the American Camp Association and the Maine CDC do **NOT** require that campers or staff complete a diagnostic test in order to attend overnight camps. However, **we strongly feel testing in camp is something extremely important and the reason we were so successful in 2020.** Although there are many tests available, we have chosen the Abbott testing and the Quidell testing to administer to our campers and staff this summer. Testing will be provided to your child at camp at no cost to your family.

We are **requiring** that you seek out a diagnostic test at a walk-in clinic or from your primary care physician 72 hours prior to your arrival. **The most reliable test that is currently available is the viral RNA swab test also known as the PCR test**, as it has very few false positives. This is the test that we require prior to your arrival at camp. We will ask you for proof of results from this test via email which we will record into our database. We ask that if a test you receive indicates a positive result that you contact us immediately, and more details about next steps will be provided to your family. We will be sending updated information on testing and charting as we go forward.

Upon Arrival

All campers and staff will be directed to a holding area at the top of the hill at Camp Wekeela upon their arrival. A detailed health screening will be completed by our health center staff who will be in PPE. Campers will also be tested once again for Covid and have a lice check by our lice team. Once individuals are cleared, they will be taken to their bunk by staff members from Camp Wekeela.

We ask that all parents remain in their cars during this time, no parents will be permitted to join their camper down at camp, including vaccinated parents.

If someone has COVID-like symptoms at camp:

- If a camper or staff member (patient) presents any symptoms that could indicate a COVID infection, they will be properly isolated away from the group until their COVID status can be determined.
- Our health center staff will be trained to identify all known COVID symptoms, which include: cough fever, shortness of breath, loss of smell/taste, muscle aches, sore throat, diarrhea, headaches, fatigue, sores on the feet.
- A camper will be allowed to return to the camp population after a determined negative COVID status and no signs of previous symptoms for 24 hours.
- If a positive case is suspected, all members of the cabin and division will be monitored.

What if someone tests positive for COVID at camp?

- Wekeela will have a dedicated building that will act as a satellite health center in the event that there is a suspected or confirmed COVID case on camp.
- If a case is confirmed, health center staff will be in contact with the patient's family to decide if they will return home or stay in camp for treatment. **Wekeela is allowed to treat positive cases on site, and we are confident that we can treat a positive case on camp, if necessary.**
- If our health center staff determines that a patient who tests positive needs further care is needed to treat symptoms, Camp Wekeela is located a prompt 16 miles from St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, Maine and 18 miles from Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, Maine.
- A patient who has tested positive for COVID is required to stay quarantined for at least 10 days (subject to change) from symptom onset and 72 hours of being symptom-free.
- A patient may return to their cabin after CDC recovery guidelines have been met.

If a positive case is confirmed, Camp Wekeela will notify state and local health officials as well as staff and families while maintaining confidentiality as mandated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). We will not be contacting the entire camp community at large as it breaks confidentiality laws.

ARRIVING AT CAMP

The State of Maine has determined that transportation to and from summer camps should be, when possible, direct-to-camp and direct-to-home. We strongly recommend that all families either drive directly to our drop-off point on opening day or only use our authorized charter bus and/or plane options described in more detail below.

Airplane Procedures

All travellers will have to clear a pre-boarding health screening and temperature check completed by one of our chaperones. No camper will be able to get onto a flight unless they have submitted a negative covid test to us within 72 hours prior to flying. All flights will require the usage of masks. We encourage parents to fly with their child if they have concerns and bring them directly to Maine.

For campers flying without parents, they will be brought to camp to receive another detailed health and lice screening by health center staff and lice professionals. They will also get their Covid test (camp is supplying all Covid tests to your child at no cost). Once campers have been cleared, they will be taken to meet their friends and counselors. **NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOWED TO BOARD A PLANE OR ENTER CAMP WITH ANY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS.**

Bus Procedures

Wekeela offers chaperoned charter buses from White Plains , New York and Boston. Everyone riding the bus will receive a health screening and temperature check prior to boarding. Proper social distancing measures will be taken at the busing area and on the bus for the duration of the ride. At this time - all individuals riding the bus will be required to wear a mask for the entire trip, unless they are eating or sitting with a sibling. A more detailed protocol will be shared as camp approaches.

Upon arrival at camp, they will be brought to camp to receive another detailed health and lice screening by health center staff and lice professionals. They will also get their Covid test (camp is supplying all Covid tests to your child at no cost). Once campers have been cleared, they will be taken to meet their friends and counselors.

Drop-Off Procedures

If campers are going to be dropped off via car, they will meet our staff at the designated area at the entrance to the camp. You will be given a designated time to arrive at camp for drop off. Campers and family members will be required to wear face coverings. Campers will receive a detailed health screening by our health center staff, and will be taken down the hill after they have been cleared to meet their friends and counselors. No parent or family member will be permitted into camp this summer - this is unfortunate that we are unable to share our beautiful camp with you, but in order to maintain protocol, you will have to be respectful of our rules and regulations set forth by the ACA and CDC.

We ask that you limit your time in public places on your drive up to camp and practice a few days of “quarantine” if you plan on driving up to Maine prior to our opening day.

The State of Maine has determined that transportation to and from summer camps should be, when possible, direct-to-camp and direct-to-home. We strongly recommend that all families either drive directly to our drop-off point on opening day or only use our authorized airplane and charter bus options described in more detail below.

DEPARTING FROM CAMP

Closing day is August 10th. All campers departing that day will be chaperoned by staff either on buses or to the airports in proper PPE and using social distancing guidelines once outside of camp property or vehicles. Campers departing via parent pick-up will meet at the top of the hill at camp. You will be given a designated time to arrive for pick-up.

If your camper is leaving before closing day on either July 17th or July 31st,, **the only way that the camper will be able to depart from camp is via parent pick-up.**

COHORTS & SCHEDULE

Cohorts/Households

Cohorting is a grouping strategy used to help reduce the risk of disease transmission by creating smaller groups out of a single larger group. The American Camp Association and the State of Maine approve of the use of cohorts of an appropriate size in order for overnight camps to operate. In May 2021, Governor Mills issued Maine guidelines that will allow outdoor capacity to 100 percent. There will be no limit on the amount of people engaging in outdoor activities. Governor Mills also issues Maine guidelines which allows for our large indoor spaces to be at 75% capacity (these include our dining hall and our new lodge). We will be allowed to have all of our facilities occupied by the amount of registered children and be in compliance with the new rules.

- Wekeela will use the terms cohorts and “households,” and will be organized by bunk/division (ex: Middie girls campers and counselors are a “household”, the entire Middie division is a cohort).
- Households and cohorts will be able to interact without social distancing requirements or usage of face masks. **Wekeela will have cloth face masks available for all campers and staff.**
- Outdoor activities where households and cohorts are able to properly space themselves from other groups will not require masks. The state of Maine has lifted the mask mandate for outside setting unless we are unable to safely distance or avoid crowds.
- In places where households and cohorts will share spaces (in some indoor activity periods), proper social distancing measures will be taken and face masks may be used.
- Maine’s cohort policy is designed to relax as time passes.
- Wekeela will start camp and activities in “households” and will ease these guidelines as requirements are met. We will also lift these requirements after a sufficient amount of testing will be conducted.

Campers and staff in their respective households and cohorts will still be able to interact with others in a different household or cohort the entire summer. This will be done with proper social distancing and a lot of outdoor activities. Proper social distancing measures only need to be taken until the requirements have been met to ease these guidelines from the state.

Daily Schedule and Programming

This year's schedule will be slightly modified to lessen community transmission and interaction. Even though we will be making some modifications, we will still have the activities and traditions you all know and love!

Adjustments to the overall daily schedule will include:

- Reveille at 8:15 am instead of 7:30 am.
- An extended cabin clean-up period.
- 5 scheduled activity periods instead of 6, with each period lasting 15 minutes longer.
- The aforementioned scheduling change will give staff additional time to sanitize all equipment before and after use.

We believe that it is best practice to begin the summer by having all households (bunks) travel to scheduled activity periods together. Cohorts (divisions) may be at the same department, but will participate in separate activities. If for any reason a camper or staff from different cohorts interact, proper social distancing measures or mask usage will be implemented. During the “quarantine” period, evening activities will be household-focused, but will still have the chance to interact with the entire camp using social distance and keep crowding to a minimum.

If after the testing and cohorting period it is determined that camp has met the guidelines for relaxing cohort protocols, we will move back to regular programming with specialized instruction and interaction!

HOUSEKEEPING

Cabins

- Children will be sleeping in head to toe configurations throughout the cabins.
- Campers and staff will not be permitted to share items like towels, toothpaste, or personal care items and will each have a designated space for their things to be stored in. It is extremely important to label all of your camper's belongings.

- If the weather permits, windows will always be opened to increase ventilation of fresh air through the cabins.
- All cabin members will frequently wash their hands with provided hand sanitizer or soap when they enter the cabin and dining hall.
- Cabin clean-up time will be extended in the daily activity schedule.

Sanitation Procedures Across Camp

We will be taking extra precautions to make sure that all of our facilities across camp are cleaned and sanitized to prevent the spread of infection through shared items and living spaces. We will have a surplus of cleaning supplies, including electrostatic sprayers that can efficiently sanitize large surface areas in a matter of minutes.

- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available at every bunk and hand soap will be readily available at all times.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available at all activity departments. ➤ All shared items in activity departments like sporting equipment and lifejackets will be properly sanitized before and after each use.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day.

Additionally, our housekeeping staff will ensure that all shared spaces such as the dining hall and public restrooms are frequently sanitized throughout the day.

NEW OPERATIONS POLICIES

Off-Camp Trips

To minimize all risk, Wekeela has cancelled our overnight teen-camp trips to Montreal, Vermont, Boston, and Bar Harbor. We have not charged parents for these trips. Wekeela plans to offer off-site activities such as hiking and ice-skating, all of which are deemed “low risk” activities for campers and staff. Campers will be required to wear a mask and will be chaperoned by a vaccinated staff member. All off-site locations that Wekeela works with, including the Norway Savings Bank Arena and Turner Highlands Golf Course have ensured the highest level of safety procedures and vaccination rates amongst their staff. Campers will still have the opportunity to go on hikes, go camping, and have special activities around camp as well. We have many beautiful trails, campsites with tents and campfire pits on our 200+ acres property that are waiting to be explored! An exception for off-camp travel will be made for medical emergencies.

Visitors

No visitors will be allowed at Camp Wekeela this summer. All commuting staff (maintenance and health center only) are required to be vaccinated and will wear proper PPE and practice social distancing guidelines for the entire duration of the season. No tours for prospective families will occur, and Visitor’s Day has been cancelled for the 2021 season to ensure the highest level of safety. All parent drop-off and pick-ups will occur at the top of the hill.

Dining Hall

Meals will be served in the dining hall with modified procedures. Food will be brought to tables family-style on trays. All plates, silverware, and cups will be disposable. We will have salad bar and breakfast bars in place after everyone has tested negative.

Dining hall staff will be required to wear proper PPE such as masks and gloves when preparing and serving food. All food trays and service pieces will be disposable.

Campers and staff will be seated with their households and cohorts with proper distancing measures between tables. There will be less people seated at each table,

and we will utilize outdoor seating for the oldest campers.

We will continue to accommodate campers and staff with food allergies and special dietary needs.

Please remind your child not to share water bottles at camp this summer - we will be stocking water bottles at our camp store.

Laundry Services

We will be using the same laundry service for our campers and staff that we have always used in previous years. We work with a company that has been following strict protocol wearing proper PPE to wash and dry clothes and has been authorized by the state of Maine as essential and able to work with us safely.

STAFF

All staff will receive detailed training during Staff Week on all of the proper protocols, hygiene, and action plans. This is to ensure that they are able to practice and enforce our specific guidelines.

80% of the Wekeela 2021 staff are returning from 2020. These staff members had the first-hand experience to maintain a safe environment in 2020 and will continue to use their experience to provide the safest protocols for this summer.

Before Camp & Upon Arrival

All Wekeela staff will be subject to the same requirements as campers listed above for health and screening protocols before and upon arrival at camp, during the testing and quarantine period. Vaccinated staff members will likely be able to participate in screened safe-off site activities to maintain the highest level of safety. Safety for both arrival and departure for all campers and staff will be of the highest priority.

Time Off

All staff will still have their allotted days off and time off. As guidelines for the state of Maine change, as of now, staff who have received a full COVID-19 Vaccination will be

allowed to leave campus to participate in safe, screened, and organized Wekeela activities to minimize interaction with non-community members. (For example: a rented out restaurant in Norway, Maine). Staff will not be permitted to large gatherings or high risk areas. Staff will also be permitted to take their time off/days off on Wekeela campus, as they did in 2020. We have ample land on our property and will ensure that staff have a safe place to relax and feel refreshed in order to give our campers the best experience possible!

Vendors

Wekeela will still limit outside vendors for summer 2021, to minimize all risk. Certain vendors, such as food & mail delivery, waste management services, etc. will be permitted to complete their services, but do not interact with the campers. We will not permit any “special events” vendors for the safety of our community.

Vaccinated Individuals

As of this writing (May 1), 91% of 2021 Wekeela Staff have received a COVID-19 Vaccination. Guidelines for the [State of Maine and the CDC](#) are as follows and Camp Wekeela will be following these guidelines as well for fully vaccinated individuals:

- Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Visit with unvaccinated people (including children) from a single household who are at low risk for severe COVID-19 disease indoors without wearing masks or physical distancing.
- Participate in outdoor activities and recreation without a mask, except in certain crowded settings and venues.
- Resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel.
- Refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States.
- Refrain from testing following a known exposure, if asymptomatic, with some exceptions for specific settings.

- Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic.
- Refrain from routine screening testing if asymptomatic and feasible.

For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:

- Take precautions in indoor public settings like wearing a well-fitted mask.
- Wear well-fitted masks when visiting indoors with unvaccinated people who are at [increased risk for severe COVID-19](#) disease or who have an unvaccinated household member who is at increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease.
- Wear well-fitted masks when visiting indoors with unvaccinated people from multiple households.
- Avoid indoor large-sized in-person gatherings.
- Get tested if experiencing [COVID-19 symptoms](#).
- Follow guidance issued by individual employers.
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations.

FORMS

All camper and staff forms must be completed and **submitted by May 1st**.

Medication

if your child takes any medications, they MUST be registered and sent through PackMyRx by June 7th.

Medication for campers will be delivered safely and with minimal, glove-protected contact by nursing staff to avoid grouping in the health center.

REFERENCES

1. [American Camp Association Field Guide](#)
2. [Maine Guidelines for Camps](#)
3. [CDC Guidance](#)

CAMP WEKEELA



1 9 2 2

1750 Bear Pond Rd.
Hartford, ME 04220
207-224-7878
info@campwekeela.com