



CAMP WEKEELA COVID-19 2022 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 is rooted in our belief that we can create a safe and sheltered environment for our staff and campers. We love our camp and our campers, and we believe children need camp right now. Our top priority this summer is to implement effective procedures to ensure the safety of every single one of our campers and staff.

We want to make sure that you and your family can have access to our plan. As always, we appreciate your patience and support as we develop a set of best practices.

Please note that our action plan reflects the provided guidance from the state of Maine, the American Camp Association, and the CDC. 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.

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CAMP DATES

Based on current guidelines from the American Camp Association and the state of Maine, Camp Wekeela 2022 dates are as follows:

- Staff Training: begins June 13
- Opening Days: June 25 and July 18
- Closing Day: August 9

There are four session options for campers (**Note: June 25 and July 18 are the ONLY dates that campers will be allowed to arrive**):

- Full season: June 25 - August 9
- First session: June 25 - July 17
- Rookie session: July 18 - July 31st (camper must be picked-up in Maine or fly out of PWM)
- Second session : July 18th - August 9th

HEALTH/MEDICAL PROTOCOLS

All campers and staff must have the Covid 19 vaccine (two doses) and booster if possible, and it must be uploaded with your medical records.

Before Camp

Both campers and staff will take necessary precautions to limit exposure to Covid (as it is back in our communities) outside of the house one week prior to the start of camp. Large indoor social gatherings should be avoided and trips outside of the house should be limited to necessities. Our expectations are that every family will commit and comply with our rules. Your compliance greatly impacts our entire camp community and our safety.

Any person with pre-existing conditions (asthma, diabetes, heart condition, kidney, liver disease, etc.) should get clearance to join us this summer and it should be indicated on the health form.

Testing

We strongly feel testing in camp is something important and the reason we were so successful in 2020 and 2021. Although there are many tests available, we have chosen the Abbott test to administer to our campers and staff this summer. Testing will be provided to your child at camp at no cost to your family this summer.

***We did not require PCR testing last year for those who were vaccinated. Due to the vaccines being administered a while ago for older campers and staff, and the uptick of new cases of Covid, we are requiring a PCR test this year for everyone.**

We are **requiring** that you seek out a PCR diagnostic test at a walk-in clinic or from your primary care physician **72 hours** prior to your arrival. 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.

You can choose to test with an at-home saliva based test. Camp Wekeela has partnered with Vault Health for this test:

<https://learn.vaulthealth.com/summer-camp-2022/>

You can go to their site and order the test to be received at any time prior to taking the test. The vault test, to be administered before arrival, must be sent immediately to the lab via their preferred method of shipping. Vault will send you the results as well as Wekeela. We have used this company for the past two summers. This is an easy and great way to get a PCR test and get results to camp in a timely fashion.

Upon Arrival

All campers will be directed to a health center area at Camp Wekeela upon their arrival. A detailed health screening will be completed by our health staff. Campers will be tested 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.

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, headache, sore throat, congestion, etc.
- A patient 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, if necessary.**
- If our health center staff determines that a child who tests positive needs further care, Camp Wekeela is located 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 5 days (subject to change) from symptom onset and 72 hours after being symptom-free.
- A patient may return to their cabin after recovery guidelines have been met.

If a positive case is confirmed, Camp Wekeela will notify the family 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

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. Upon arrival at camp, they will be brought to camp to receive a detailed health and lice screening by health center staff and lice professionals. They will also take another Covid test upon arrival and then again on days 3 and 5 (camp will supply all Covid tests to your child at no cost). Once campers have been cleared, they will be taken to meet their friends and counselors.

Bus Procedures

Wekeela offers chaperoned charter buses from White Plains, New York and Boston. Upon arrival at camp, they will be brought to camp to receive a detailed health and lice screening by health center staff and lice professionals. They will also take another Covid test upon arrival and then again on days 3 and 5 (camp will supply 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, you will be given a designated time to arrive at camp for drop off. You will meet our staff at the designated area at the entrance to the camp and your car will be directed onto the Wekeela loop road. You will drive your car to the lower camp soccer field where you will drop off your camper/s to us. You will not be permitted to come out of your car. Campers will receive a detailed health screening by health center staff and lice professionals. They will also take another Covid test upon arrival and then again on days 3 and 5 (camp will supply all Covid tests to your child at no cost). Once campers have been cleared, they will be taken to meet their friends and counselors. We ask that you limit your time in indoor public places on your drive up to camp and practice a few days of careful behavior if you plan on driving up to Maine prior to our opening day.

NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOWED TO BOARD A PLANE, GET ON A BUS, OR ENTER CAMP WITH ANY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS.

DEPARTING FROM CAMP

Closing day is August 9th. All campers departing that day will be chaperoned by staff either on buses or to the airports. 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.

Daily Schedule and Programming

This year's schedule will not be modified, we will have the activities and traditions you all know and love! Trips off camp TBD dependent on Covid protocols.

HOUSEKEEPING

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. Camp will label all WekeelaWear for the camper.

➤ If the weather permits, windows will always be opened to increase ventilation of fresh air through the cabins. Most cabins have had air conditioning installed in 2021.

➤ 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 could be extended in the daily activity schedule as needed.

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 and housekeepers.

➤ Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available at every bunk and activity departments and hand soap will be readily available at all times.

➤ All shared items in activity departments like sporting equipment and lifejackets will be properly sanitized before and after each use.

➤ Bathrooms, dining hall, and public restrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day by our housekeeping staff.

NEW OPERATIONS POLICIES

Off-Camp Trips

We will be having off-camp trips this summer. As of the time of this notice campers will also have the opportunity to go on hikes, camping, and have special activities around camp. We have many beautiful trails, campsites with tents, and campfire pits on our 200+ acres property that are waiting to be explored! We will also allow for optional camper programs off camp such as ice skating/hockey, horseback riding, golf, and surf trips.

Visitors

Visitors will be allowed at Camp Wekeela this summer. **Our Visitor's Day, barring any changes in Covid outbreaks, will be held on July 16th.** We ask that all visitors be vaccinated and that each family fill out a Visitor's Day form on our website prior to arrival in July. **Upon arrival, we will be administering a rapid Covid test to all.** Commuting staff (maintenance and health center only) are fully vaccinated and will be adhering to our safety guidelines.

Packages & Deliveries

Camp Wekeela has a no-package policy, meaning that campers should not receive packages unless approved and confirmed with Lori and Ephram. When packages arrive at Wekeela, they will be opened before being given to your child. Wekeela receives deliveries from food vendors, laundry services, and other local companies that are essential for the camp to operate. All delivery people will not directly interact with campers or staff members. They will be making deliveries in a separate area of camp away from the campers and staff.

Mail

Campers will still be able to send and receive Wekeela Notes via our email system and letters through USPS.

Dining Hall

Food will be brought to tables family-style on trays. All plates, silverware, and cups will be disposable. We will have a salad bar and breakfast bar in place.

Dining hall staff will be required to wear 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 bunks.

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 also be stocking water bottles for purchase at our camp store.)

Laundry Services

We will be using the same laundry service for our campers and staff that we have 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.

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. All staff have been vaccinated.

Time Off

All staff will still have their allotted days off, but will be staying together and away from crowds. We also have the ability to rapid test staff upon arrival back to camp. We will ensure that staff have a safe place to relax and feel refreshed in order to give our campers the best experience possible!



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