

Erie County Extension
4-H Youth Development2900 Columbus Ave
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION - PLEASE READ

TO: 2024 Campers and Families
RE: Erie County Junior 4-H Camp, June 7-10, 2024

We are excited that you are joining us for camp! This letter contains lots of information so please read over it carefully with your parent/guardian.

This year, you completed an online health history form when you/your family submitted camp registration. Updates can be made to these forms at camp check-in on Friday, June 7th. If you would like to speak to one of our nurses about a health or behavior concern prior to camp, please contact the Extension Office at 419/627-7631 and we will have one of the nurses reach out to you.

Please keep in mind, we cannot administer any over-the-counter medication (aspirin, etc.) unless you 'check' that medication on the health form. This will be reviewed with you at check-in. All prescription medication must be brought in the **original container** with the **original prescription label** and given to the nurse at the boat dock (**this includes inhalers**). At that time, the nurse will speak with you and your family member regarding the condition(s) and medication(s). No medication (prescription or non-prescription) is to be kept in cabins at camp.

We will be taking the Kelleys Island Ferry to camp. Check-in will take place at the Village of Marblehead lot located on your left just **before** you go under the LAFARGE conveyor and **before** the entrance to the Kelleys Island Ferry – same check-in location as in the last couple of years. Families will turn left into the city lot and then exit by the Dairy Dock. See map in this packet. **We are planning a drive through drop off again this year.** Parents will pull up to the first station and do a general check-in, find out what cabin they are in, and submit a kayaking waiver form (if participating in that session). The second station will be a check-in with the camp nurses and a drop-off of any medication the camper has (stay in your car). Third will be a luggage drop off. At luggage drop off, families bid their camper(s) farewell and exit the area!

We will take two boats to the island. One will leave at 11:30 a.m. and the next at 12 noon. Please plan on meeting us in the Village of Marblehead lot between 10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please ensure campers have a good breakfast that morning. By the time we get settled at camp, we won't eat lunch till around 1:45 p.m.

Pick up is Monday, June 10th. Half of the camp will arrive at the dock at 12:30 p.m. and half will arrive at 1:00 p.m. **NEW: This year, pick-up will take place in the paved lot (close to the water) at the Kelleys Island Ferry Boat dock.** Campers will be fed 'brunch' around 10:00 a.m. on Monday.

****Attention Families:** We **highly** discourage and limit campers from leaving camp for reasons other than medical. If you have any situation in which your camper must leave, you must contact our office ahead of time and fill out release forms. You will be responsible for making the travel arrangements to and from the 4-H Camp, not simply the boat dock in Marblehead. This means you must bring your car across on the ferry boat and come to camp to pick up your child. This will be at your cost. If you leave camp for any reason, you are NOT permitted to return.

Camper Check Out – We will have an official check-out process for picking up your camper. **When we return from camp and get off the ferry boat, your camper must remain with his/her cabin group. Once we have walked from the ferry to the paved lot at the Kelleys Island Ferry, you will need to go to your camper's group/cabin.** The counselors will have a sheet with each camper's name. If your camper's name is highlighted, you must proceed to the nurse to pick up medication before you sign out your camper. Your camper will be asked if this is their pick-up person. You will then print and sign your name as the person who has picked up that camper.

OVER

Additional Information

The canteen/camp store will be open once or twice during camp for the purchase of snacks, pop, t-shirts, etc. Your camper will be responsible for his/her own money. He/she will simply pay cash at the camp store. Parents, you will want to consider this when you give your children money. They do not need a large amount!

The camp discourages consuming food in the cabins. Therefore, we ask that you don't bring food and snacks with you (or at least LIMIT the snacks you bring). Food attracts critters into the cabins, creates waste at meals, and makes for a lot of upset stomachs and trips to the nurse. You can purchase LIMITED snacks at the camp's canteen.

NOTE: Campers are NOT permitted to have cell phones at camp. Please do NOT send your camper to camp with a cell phone! If a camper is found with a cell phone, the phone will be confiscated until the end of camp. In addition, campers are NOT permitted to use the camp phone to call home. Part of the camp experience is learning to be away from home and away from family members. And there are simply too many campers to allow the use of the camp phone to call home. Families will be contacted by the adult camp staff if there is an emergency. If you need to contact the camp (only in case of an emergency) you can call the camp phone at 419/746-2794. *Campers are also NOT permitted to have any electronic devices such as mp3 players, iPods, iPads, Apple watches or similar, gaming devices, or eReaders. Leave these at home!*

Please be aware that camping is a privilege and not a right. We expect appropriate behavior from all campers; this includes, but is not limited to, full time participation, no use of foul language, respect for others and their belongings and following camp rules. If a camper is dismissed from camp early due to inappropriate behavior, it is at the expense of the camper's parent or legal guardian, and they will be responsible for picking the camper up at camp on Kelleys Island.

Clothing must be appropriate for camp – dress for comfort. Short shorts/skirts or tops and t-shirts with offensive graphics or tasteless language are inappropriate for the camp setting. Campers will be asked to change their clothing if the staff deems their outfit to be inappropriate. While flip flops are popular, there are some camp activities which require a pair of sturdy shoes. This does NOT include flip flops! We typically have many toes scraped or scratched each year because of flip flops.

After Camp – Although Kelleys Island 4-H Camp is currently a bed bug free zone, it lies right in the middle of a bed bug hot spot. Cincinnati, Detroit, Columbus, and Cleveland rank in the top ten of most highly infested areas! Because of the amount of people we bring together in a shared space during camp, we recommend that families consider washing all clothes that come home from camp in hot water (at least 120° F) and/or placing wet or dry items that come home from camp in the clothes dryer set at high heat for twenty minutes. Both of these processes will kill bed bugs.

Following camp, if you discover you are missing a sleeping bag, pillow, item of clothing, etc., please contact the Extension Office at 419-627-7631 immediately. Lost items will be kept at the Extension Office until July 1st after which time they will be donated to Goodwill or discarded.

The camp counselors and staff are looking forward to a fun and exciting week at camp. This year's theme is *Keep Calm and Hula On* (a Hawaiian theme)! Be sure to pack your enthusiasm for all the activities we have planned. See you Friday, June 7th! Also, please look at your checklist for additional items to bring with you.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Albright

Mary Beth Albright
Extension Educator
4-H Youth Development

Enclosures: Family Page with Map/What to Bring Checklist, Camp Rules, Super Session Lists, Kayak Waiver