

CHESHIRE

Parks & Recreation



Therapeutic Summer Camp Camper Handbook

We look forward to an amazing, fun filled summer camp experience with your child!

Hours of Camp:
6/15-6/26 10a-2p
6/29-8/7 12-3:30pm
Bartlem Park

Contact Info

Barbara Costello

bcostello@cheshirect.gov

203-887-0534-cell

203-272-2743-office

559 South Main St, Cheshire CT

Meet Our Staff

We are extremely lucky to have experienced, devoted staff who work at the TR Summer Camp. They love working with the campers, many returning year after year. This year we have Emily C, Mike R, Emma S, Madi S, Ella P, Patrick O, Max C, & Deb S.

Registration

Must be done in advance online. The deadline to register for camp is typically the Thursday before a session begins, but when Friday is a holiday the deadline is pushed back to Wednesday.

Facilities

TR camp is held at Bartlem Park under the pavilion by the playground. All our supplies are kept in the shed adjacent to the pavilion. We utilize the restrooms at the town pool. At Bartlem we use the:

- Pavilion
- Pool
- Playground
- Fields
- Water hoses by the garden

Goals of Camp

- To provide and increase social opportunities
- To provide recreation opportunities and improve leisure skills
- To have meaningful experiences & have fun

Camp Policies

Camper possessions and supplies must be labeled in their backpacks and keep resupplied periodically. If needed, supply an extra set of clothing. Staff works hard to assist campers with their organization of items. We have supplied laundry baskets for campers to put their items to stay organized. No electronics or other expensive devices should be brought to camp. Campers with cell phones should keep them in their backpacks, in a plastic Ziplock bag, staff is not responsible for these items. *Please check their backpacks at dismissal, it's much easier to find items than the next day.*

Refund Policy

Full refunds will be issued if a program is cancelled by the Town. Participants who withdraw from a program at least 2 weeks prior to the start of the program will receive a full refund. No refunds will be given once a program begins, unless for medical reasons and accompanied by a doctor's note. All refund requests must be submitted using this online form:

http://cheshirect.myrec.com/info/household/members/custom_forms/add.aspx?FormID=16.

Sunscreen must be supplied by the parent or guardian along with a signature that the Camp Director will have on the camper's first day. Campers will be prompted to apply sunscreen themselves unless it is deemed unsafe for them to do so.

Pre-Camp Prep

Paperwork such as medical forms must be completed prior to the start of camp. Medications must be organized and labeled with pharmacy labels & in their original containers. Campers with medication must provide a [Medication Administration Authorization Form](#) signed by both the prescriber and parent.

First day of camp a parent or guardian must drop off medications, sign the form indicating you have dropped it off, and must educate camp director how to administer the medication. Also allow time to demonstrate how to assist campers with any braces, walkers, or supportive devices.

New campers are welcome to visit the park and pool to look at the space. If meeting staff would be helpful for your child email bcostello@cheshirect.gov to arrange a meet and greet.

State funding or outside funding should be brought to Elizabeth Mayne's attention at emayne@cheshirect.gov.

Camp Life

Campers should bring each day a *water bottle, towel, lunch, bathing suit, and water shoes*. If possible, please have campers wear their bathing suits to camp. They should wear loose-fitting clothes that are appropriate for warm weather, a sweater shirt for cooler days, and hats are optional. It is highly recommended that campers do not bring cell phones to camp. Staff are not responsible for keeping track of it, keeping safe, or keeping it dry.

Independence is a big part of camp life. Staff work hard to assist campers become responsible for themselves as much as possible. Campers must be independent with feeding and toileting; staff will give only verbal support. Females should be also able to take of their own feminine needs. Campers are expected to participate in all activities and be part of the group. If for some reason they can't swim, staff will play board games off to the side of the pool.

Inclement weather happens occasionally. For sudden weather we will relocate to the lobby of the town pool until the storm passes. If inclement weather is forecasted there may be a change of venue (to Parks and Rec) prior to the start of camp. Parents/guardians will be informed ahead of time.

Behavior & Discipline

- Any information you can provide regarding your child's behavior will be greatly appreciated along with any behavior plans/techniques that works for your child.
- Camp staff will be able to support your child best with this insight. Reinforcement, redirection, prevention, and the development of self-discipline will be strongly encouraged.
- Campers who have behavioral issues such as elopement, aggression, or inability to follow directions may not be able to remain at camp.
- Campers must be able to toilet and feed themselves.
- All campers are expected to stay with the group and participate in activities.
- Staff will support issues to be resolved with natural consequences.
- Incapability to comply with camp guidelines may result in suspension of camp participation.
- DO NOT bring cell phones to camp, it always becomes problematic.
- Campers who attend should be able to participate in at least 70% of the activities provided. TR summer camp cannot support a camper needing 1:1.

Lunch must be sent every day and will be eaten at camp with their peers. Please enter any food allergies on the medical forms and tell staff verbally. Handwashing stations are provided at the pavilion. *****No**

Tree Nuts Or Peanuts

Participation in all activities is expected. Campers must stay with the group and attend all group activities.

Mentors are teen volunteers who choose to spend time at camp with the children. They love spending time at camp, bringing a lot of enthusiasm & support, are great role models and we are grateful for their assistant.

Please notify us of any absenteeism

Drop off

Transportation is provided for ESY students to camp from Cheshire's summer school program. In the past there have been several buses that drop off at camp, it takes transportation a bit to streamline the bus runs to camp.

Drop off for non-ESY or out of town campers is at 10a on weeks 6/15-26 and 6/29-8/7 @12p at the Bartlem Pavilion. If time allows, please put on their bathing suit.

Pick up

Camper pick up is at 6/15-26 2p and 6/29-8/7 @ 3:30p at the Bartlem Pavilion. Staff assists campers to keep their items organized, *parents should check for all items before leaving*. Be prepared to show a photo ID for anyone on your "authorized pick up" list. If they aren't on the list but are picking up your camper, please send in a note with the pickup person's name.

Late fee is charged if pick up is late. Staff must be paid for their extra time waiting for pick up.

Wet bathing suits will be worn by campers' home, please plan accordingly.

Camp Rules

What to wear

- Temperature appropriate clothing.
- Bathing suits covering all private areas completely.
- Sneakers (no crocs), water shoes for the pool, hats are encouraged.
- Sunscreen

Medications

- Meds must be dropped off on the first day of camp and a Medication Administration authorization form must be completed.
- Meds that will be dropped off in their original bottles clearly labeled.
- Medical forms must be filled out prior to camp.

Swimming

- Bathing suits, water shoes, and towels should be provided daily
- If diapers are needed; water diapers are a must. Camp staff will not be changing diapers.
- Your child will be dismissed in their bathing suit, staff will not change campers after swimming
- Please notify staff if your child can't swim on a particular day
- Let staff know your child's swimming ability, which will be assessed on the first day of camp.
- Please make staff aware of any nose/ear plugs and demonstrate how to put them on.
- All pool rules apply to campers

What to bring to camp **LABEL ALL ITEMS**

- Water bottles
- Lunch
- See swim supplies above**
- Sweatshirt
- Sunscreen

Arrival

- Campers will be dropped by Cheshire Transportation or guardians
- They will be eating lunch upon arrival and changed into suits after.
- Please notify staff of any absenteeism by contacting Barbara Costello at 203 887 0534.

Acceptable behaviors

- Campers must be able to follow directions from staff, mentors, and lifeguards
- Must have self-control enough to refrain from eloping, swearing, using cell phones, and being verbally or physically abusive.
- Must be able to feed and toilet themselves.
- Must be able to stay with the group and participate in camp activities.
- Stay under or in designated areas.
- Parents will be consulted on any negative behavior by staff and will be involved with strategizing resolutions.

Dismissal

- Parents and anyone picking up your camper, must show a photo ID.
- Please check your campers' items to make sure they have everything (staff is NOT responsible for cell phones).
- Late pick up will be subject to a \$25 fee each day.
- Provide all phone numbers of authorized pick up persons.