

# CAMP GUIDE




## THERAPUTIC RECREATION summer camp

520 S Main St., Cheshire, CT 06410

### CHESHIRE

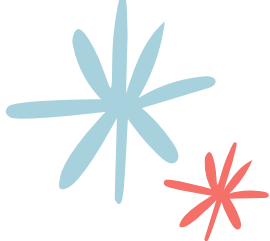
— Parks & Recreation —

Harmon Leonard Jr. Youth Center  
559 South Main St.  
Cheshire, CT 06410  
Monday - Friday  
8:30am - 4:00pm

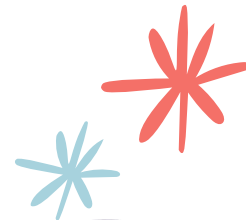
 (203) 272-2743

 recreation@cheshirect.org

 cheshirect.myrec.com



# Meet the Staff



## How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?

I've been the Cheshire Parks & Rec. TR Camp Director since 2014. During the school year, I work as a para educator in an elementary school, since 2005. I love my job!! In my free time, I really love to spend time with my family! I love to go camping, arts and crafts and anything outdoors

## What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?

The thing I love about camp is seeing the kids interact with one another, play games and just be themselves! I just love it! My favorite camp activities are the arts and crafts that I come up with to share with the kids. I love to see the "awe" on their faces and see them enjoying the activity!

## If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?

If I had a pool filled with one thing, I think it would have to be the plastic balls that you see in a ball pit. They make you feel light and free, like you're floating. What's better than that?!



PATTY

## How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?

I have been at TR Summer Camp for 10 years. I work at Parks and Recreation during the year. I have 3 daughters, 1 dog, & 1 horse. In my free time I like to knit, hike, do crafts, puzzles, and read.

## What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?

I love hanging out with all the campers, and my favorite activity is playing board games.

## If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?

Chocolate for sure!



BARBARA

## HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN AT TR CAMP, AND WHAT THINGS YOU ENJOY DOING IN YOUR FREE TIME?

I have worked at TR Summer Camp for 2 yrs and have volunteered 1 year.

## WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT CAMP AND WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CAMP ACTIVITY?

I love to see the growth in the kids throughout the summer. Seeing how the kids grow over the years is also rewarding to watch. My favorite camp activity is Speed Ball.

IF THE POOL WAS FILLED WITH ONE THING WHAT COULD YOU WANT FILLED WITH? BUBBLES



PATRICK

## How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?

Four years, but this is my first year as a counselor. During the school year I am a student at CHS and am super involved in soccer and Best Buddies. I enjoy hanging out with my friends and eating good food.

## What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?

I love camp because it's a fun way for campers to hang out with their friends. My favorite part of camp has to be swim time.

## If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?

If the pool was filled with one thing I'd want it to be blue jello.



MOLLY

## How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?

This is my third year at the TR camp, but my first year being an actual hired counselor. During the school year, I like to work and go to the gym. Some of my favorite hobby's are video games, watching sports and throwing the lacrosse ball with my little brother.

## What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?

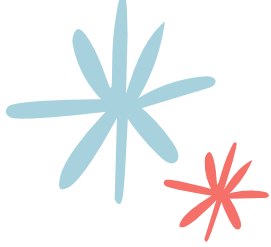
One of my favorite things about camp is getting to know all of the campers. I get to learn about all of the campers hobbies, and what they really enjoy. My absolute favorite part of camp is going to the pool. Every time I go, it's not only fun for the campers, but for me as well.

## If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?

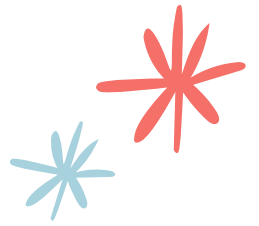
Personally, I would want a pool full of Reese's eggs but they have to be frozen. They taste so much better than non frozen Reese's egg.



MAX



# Meet the Staff



**How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?**

I have been at TR Summer Camp for 6 years. I love to go camping, metal detecting, reading, and listening to music.

**What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?**

My favorite activity at camp is being in the pool with the kids. I love to see them get more confidence in the water.

**If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?**

I'd love to have the pool filled with whipped cream so people can make beards and fun hats with it.



DEB



EMILY

**How many years have you been at TR camp, and what things you enjoy doing in your free time?**

I have been at camp since 2010 as a mentor and 7 years as a staff member. During the school year, I am an elementary school art teacher. I enjoy painting with my free time.

**What do you love about camp and what is your favorite camp activity?**

I love seeing all the smiling faces when they come to camp. My favorite activity is arts and crafts.

**If the pool was filled with one thing what could you want filled with?**

I would like the pool filled with oobleck.

IN ADDITION TO OUR AMAZING STAFF WE ALSO HAVE MENTORS WHICH ARE TEEN VOLUNTEERS WHO CHOOSE TO SPEND TIME AT CAMP WITH THE CAMPERS. THEY LOVE SPENDING TIME AT CAMP, BRING A LOT OF ENTHUSIASM & SUPPORT, ARE GREAT ROLE MODELS AND WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THEIR ASSISTANT.



YOUR CHILD WILL BE GOING TO THE CHESHIRE POOL DAILY. THEY WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH THE COMMUNITY AND POOL STAFF. CAMPERS OFTEN SEE FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL OR MAKE NEW FRIENDS.

EACH SUMMER WE TRY TO INVITE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO CAN BECOME INVOLVED IN CAMP.





# Contact Info

Camp Coordinator-Barbara Costello

[bcostello@cheshirect.org](mailto:bcostello@cheshirect.org)

203-887-0534-absentee line







203-272-2734 office

520 South Main St., Bartlem Park

## SUMMER CAMP

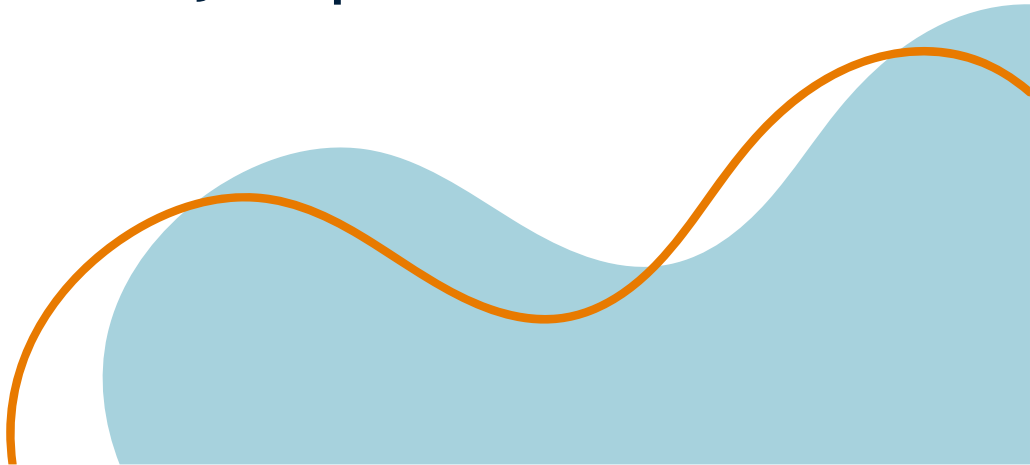
*goals.*

### WE STRIVE TO:

-  *provide and increase social opportunities*
  -  *provide recreational opportunities*
  -  *improve leisure skills*
  -  *have meaningful experiences*
  -  *have fun!!*
- 



# **SUMMER CAMP** *checklist*

- Backpack
  - Sneakers
  - Water shoes (NO CROCS)
  - Comfortable Clothing
  - Refillable water bottle
  - Bagged Lunch with Ice Packs (We do not have a refrigerator)
  - Snack
  - Bathing suit and towel
  - Sunscreen
  - All Necessary medication and appropriate paperwork to be given and held onto by camp staff
- 



# DROP OFF & PICKUP

Camp staff are not responsible for campers prior to the drop-off time listed below

Drop Off Time	Pick Up Time
12:00 PM	3:30 PM

Campers must be signed out by an authorized person.  
The individual picking up your child (even if it is YOU!), must show their photo ID every day.

**Drop off:** For non-ESY and out of town campers, drop off is at 12p at the Bartlem Pavilion. If time allows, please put on their bathing suit prior to arrival.

**Pick Up:** Camper pick up is at 3:30p at the Bartlem Pavilion. Staff assists campers to keep their items organized, parents should check for all items before leaving.

## PICKUP AUTHORIZATION

Your camper will only be released to someone you have listed as having permission to pick them up on their registration form. Alternatively, you can identify a different individual who will be picking up your camper with a written note that is signed and dated by a parent/guardian.

Make sure whoever is picking your camper up knows that valid photo identification is required every day. The name on the photo identification must match a name on your campers list of people authorized to pick up. This policy has been designed to safeguard our campers and their families.

## EARLY DISMISSAL

If you will be picking your camper up early, send a dated, written and signed note with the approximate time of pick up to the camp staff. Check in with camp staff when you arrive to pick up, so that your camper may be properly signed out. If your plans change during the day, call the camp director.

## UNSCHEDULED LATE PICKUP

Unscheduled late pickups will be subject to a \$25 charge every day to every camper who is picked up after their scheduled dismissal. .

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

For sudden bad weather we will relocate to the lobby of the town pool until the storm is 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.

## CAMP ATTIRE

**Clothing:** Please make sure your camper is dressed for active outdoor activities. We suggest loose-fitting clothing appropriate for warm weather, a sweater for cooler days, and hats are optional. Please have campers wear their bathing suits to camp each day.

**Shoes:** Campers should always arrive wearing sneakers. Water shoes are recommended for water activities.

**\*Bare feet, open-toed shoes, sandals, dress shoes, crocs, and wheelies are not permitted\***

## SNACK/LUNCH

Lunch time will be around 12:30 p.m. Parents/Guardians must provide all food and drink for their campers. All campers should bring **plenty of water** or a refillable water bottle daily. Please enter any food allergies on the medical forms and tell staff verbally. Please refrain from sending peanut butter. Please keep in mind that refrigeration is not available, so pack food and drinks with ice. There are also no facilities available for heating food.

## SUNSCREEN & INSECT REPELLANT

Campers should have sunscreen applied before arriving at camp. If you would like sunscreen reapplied by a counselor during the day, make sure you signed the form. You must provide your camper's sunscreen; sharing supplies will not be permitted. If your camper can independently apply their sunscreen, a note is not necessary.

## CAMPER POSSESSIONS

Camper possessions and supplies must be labeled in their backpacks and 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. No electronic devices such as iPods, iPads, or handheld gaming systems are allowed at camp. Any toys, games, or cards are also not allowed at camp and should be left at home. Campers with cell phones should keep them in their backpacks, in a plastic Ziplock bag.

Staff is NOT responsible for keeping track of phones. Please check their backpacks prior to dismissal, it's much easier to find items at that time, rather than the next day.

PLEASE label towels too!

## CANCELLATION POLICY

Participants who withdraw from a program at least 2 weeks prior to the start of a 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 on a Program Cancellation/Refund Request Form. These are available online ([https://cheshirect.myrec.com/info/household/members/custom\\_forms/add.aspx?FormID=16](https://cheshirect.myrec.com/info/household/members/custom_forms/add.aspx?FormID=16)) or in our office. If you need to withdraw from a session, please do it as early as possible so that the space can be available for another child.

## 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.
- 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.

### IMPORTANT:

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 care of their own feminine hygiene needs. Campers are expected to participate in all activities and be part of the group. If there is a reason a camper can't go in the pool or swim, then staff will play board games off to the side of the pool.

## MEDICATION

If your camper will need medication during the camp day or has been prescribed any emergency medication, the Authorization for the Administration of Medication Form must be completely filled out and on file, including the signature of the authorized prescriber and the parent/guardian. Regardless of whether your camper will self-administer, or the medication will be administered by the camp staff, this form must be completed in its entirety; this applies to both prescription and over-the-counter medications.

Medication must be signed in at the beginning of each week and signed out at the end of each week, but may be kept at the campsite overnight over the course of a single week. Any camper who may or will need medication and arrives at camp without the medication or the authorization form will not be permitted to stay at camp.

