



Welcome to the YMCA Day Camp Family!

Thank you for choosing the YMCA for your child's summer fun. We want this to be a summer your camper won't forget. Please review this important information to give them a great camp experience.



YMCA of
Hamilton | Burlington | Brantford
2018 Day Camps

COMMUNICATION TO FAMILIES

Communication between camp and our camp families is key to making this a great summer. Please keep this information for easy reference during your child's camp experience. You can also download this information at YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca. You will receive an email and phone call prior to your camp week to share some important information about your camp experience.



Follow the YMCA on Twitter @YMCAHBB, Facebook and through the YMCAHBB App available for iOS and Android devices.

CAMP TIMES

Day Camps operate Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. If your child is taking a bus to Camp Chippewa, please refer to the bussing times at YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca.

CAMP CLOSURE

July 2nd & August 6th, 2018-Civic Holiday

EXTENDED CAMP CARE

Extended camp care is available at several locations at an additional cost. If you require this service please fill out a Change of Status form found on our website at YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca and submit it to your local YMCA.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

All campers under the age of 16 must be picked up and signed out by a parent/guardian over the age of 16.

LATE FEE

If a child is picked up past the time of the camp closure (or bus drop off), a late fee of \$20 per half hour or part thereof per child will be charged to the parent's account.

REPORTING ABSENCES

For the safety of our campers, please call and leave a message if your child is going to be absent from camp. Please leave your name, camper's name, the program and location they attend and your phone number.

- Hamilton, Burlington, Flamborough, Brantford: 905-317-4929
- Helping Hands: 905-317-4907

WRISTBANDS

Wristbands will be given to each camper at the beginning of the week to identify your child as a YMCA Day Camper. These wristbands are colour-coded for safety and represent the camp program and bus route. Please ensure your camper keeps the wristband on for the entire week registered.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Please label all belongings and dress for the weather – camp operates in both the rain and heat! To ensure comfort and full participation, each camper should bring the following each day:

- Running shoes or strapped sandals (no flip-flops)
- Comfortable clothing
- Swimsuit and towel (plastic bag for wet belongings after swim)
- Hat & Sunscreen
- Bug spray (if attending Camp Chippewa)
- Litterless Lunch & Snacks (nut safe)
- Water bottle (drinking water will be available on site to re-fill)

Campers will be participating in a variety of activities and clothes may get messy.

* No electronic devices are permitted (i.e. iPods, cell phones, personal gaming devices). Please leave these at home.

PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR CAMP

For many children, going to summer day camp is the first time they will take a bus or meet a new group of children outside of their school environment. In order to prepare your child for a positive experience follow these tips:

1. Talk about the camp program and about some of the activities your child will be involved in
2. Visit the camp location ahead of time
3. If your child is taking the bus, visit the bus stop, drive the bus route and point out familiar landmarks along the way
4. Talk about the routine of the day, and get your child involved in packing their knapsack
5. Review Behaviour Guidelines with your child

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you are not available to pick up your child in the event of an emergency, please ensure that the emergency contacts you have identified are available in your absence.

CHANGING YOUR CAMPER'S REGISTRATION/INFORMATION

Should you wish to change any component of your registration i.e. add/delete a camp or extended care, modify bus stops or emergency contacts or any information related to the camper, please complete a Change of Status form (available at all YMCAs or YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca). Changes can be made up until Thursday at 4:00 pm (of the current week) for the following week.

Any refunds requested after May 15, 2018 will be subject to a \$35 administration fee for each registration. No refunds or cancellations will be accepted if less than 5 business days are given.

FAMILY NIGHT

Campers and families are invited to join us for our free annual YMCA Day Camps Family Night at Camp Chippewa. For one night, parents and friends will be able to enjoy a real day camp experience: singing camp songs, playing field games, paddling a canoe, and there is even a chance to hit a bull's eye!

Where: Camp Chippewa
(Christie's Conservation Area)

When: Wednesday, July 25th, 2018
6:00-8:00 pm

Rain Date: Thursday, July 26th, 2018
6:00-8:00 pm

Bussing Available: Busses will be departing from the Brantford, Hamilton Downtown, Les Chater (Hamilton Mountain) and Ron Edwards YMCA (Burlington), at 5:30 pm, Flamborough YMCA at 5:50 pm and returning at 8:30 pm.

2018 Camp Weeks and Dates

Week One: July 3-6* short week

Week Two: July 9-13

Week Three: July 16-20

Week Four: July 23-27

Week Five: July 30-Aug 3

Week Six: Aug 7-10* short week

Week Seven: Aug 13-17

Week Eight: Aug 20-24

Week Nine: Aug 27-31

CANCELLING A CAMP REGISTRATION

If your camper is no longer able to attend a day camp session, we require written notification 5 business days prior to the start of your registered camp week. Please complete a Change of Status form (available at all YMCAs or YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca) and submit to your local YMCA.

HEALTHY/LITTERLESS LUNCHES

All campers are required to bring a litterless lunch to camp every day. With high energy activities, children will require lunches plus additional snacks and drinks.

- Please pack lots of extra water and frozen juice boxes
- 3-4 healthy snacks, such as fruits and vegetables; lunch which does not require re-heating

**Please send nut free lunches

TIPS FOR A LITTER LESS LUNCH

- Purchase a reusable drink container (label it) and fill each day with water
- Avoid single-serve snack items in disposable packaging. Use reusable containers for snacks
- Use an insulated lunch bag to preserve freshness

BUSSING REMINDERS

Please arrive at least 5-10 minutes before the bus time and wait until the bus arrives to sign in your camper(s). Children cannot be left unsupervised at the bus stop.

- Each bus route has a bus monitor that rides the bus from beginning to end – all children under the age of 16 must be signed out by an adult (over the age of 16) from this person.
- While we make every effort to adhere to the bus schedule, we place an emphasis on safety and ask parents to arrive 5-10 minutes before the scheduled time.
- Please include cell phone numbers for all authorized pick-ups in the event of a delay.
- The bus stop selected must be the same for pick up and drop off for the entire week.

- Busses will wait 5 minutes for children to be signed out before moving on to the next stop. Adults who arrive after the bus has departed must then pick up their child at their local YMCA (for Hamilton – lower city routes will go to the Downtown YMCA; mountain routes will go to the Les Chater YMCA). The late fee will be applied.

WHAT IF YOU MISS YOUR BUS IN THE MORNING?

In the event that you miss your bus in the morning you have two options:

1. Drive to the next stop on the route to catch the bus there.
2. Drop off your child(ren) directly to the camp site. You can drop off as early as 9:00 am at Christie Conservation Area.

PARENT/CAMPER FEEDBACK

We value your opinion! We will provide the opportunity for you to provide written feedback on each camper's experience – we want to hear from campers too so please review this with your child. We will be sending out a satisfaction survey via e-mail for feedback on your camp experience. Should you have some suggestions on how we can improve our camps, please do not hesitate to contact the day camp office (905-317-4929).

BEHAVIOUR GUIDELINES

It is our goal to provide a healthy, safe, and secure environment for all campers. The YMCA Behaviour Guidelines are based on our Core Values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Campers are expected to follow the behaviour guidelines and interact appropriately within the group. The following guidelines are put in place to ensure all campers enjoy their camp experience. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in suspension or removal from Day Camps:

- People are responsible for their actions
- We respect each other and the environment
- Honesty will be the basis for all relationships and interactions
- We will care for ourselves and those around us

IF YOUR CAMPER REQUIRES MEDICATION WHILE AT CAMP

Day Camp staff can administer drugs/ medication to a child when the parent/ guardian has completed the Administration of Medication Form. All medication must be in the original container labeled with the child's name and prescription number (when applicable). Medication will be collected on the first day and returned on the last day of the camp week. Please send only enough medication for the week. If your child requires an inhaler, please indicate whether your child's counsellor or your child will carry and administer the inhaler.

If your child requires an Epi-Pen please complete the Anaphylaxis plan package found at YMCAHBBDayCamps.ca or through the online registration.

LOST AND FOUND

The YMCA is not responsible for lost, damaged, or misplaced belongings – so please do not send anything of value to camp. All lost and found articles will be kept at the camp site for up to two weeks after the session. Any unclaimed belongings will be donated to a local charity after the 2 weeks has passed. Parents may visit the camp Mon-Fri from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm to look through the lost and found.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Reporting Absences:

- Hamilton, Burlington, Flamborough, Brantford: 905-317-4929
- Helping Hands: 905-317-4907

Brantford YMCA: 519-752-6568

Ron Edwards YMCA: 905-632-5000

Hamilton Downtown: 905-529-7102

Les Chater YMCA: 905-667-1515

Flamborough YMCA: 905-690-3555



REACH

