



2024 SUMMER CAMP GUIDE

GREAT SWAMP CONSERVANCY NATURE CENTER



Great Swamp Conservancy's Mission:

To foster environmental, cultural and natural history education; to promote outdoor recreation; to preserve biological diversity, and to conserve and manage natural resources in the Oneida Lake and Lake Ontario watersheds.

Dates

Kids going into 1st & 2nd Grade: August 6th-9th

Kids going into 3rd & 4th Grade: August 13-16th

Daily Schedule Arrival and Dismissal Times

Arrival time for camp is 10:00 am. Pick-up is at 3:00 pm. Campers must be signed in upon arrival and signed out by an approved adult at dismissal.

What to Bring

Campers should bring a lunch, reusable LARGE water bottle, sunscreen, a hat, bug spray, and a smile!
(No phones, electronics, or personal toys/games)

Camp Attire

Campers should dress for the weather, rain or shine, and wear comfortable close-toed shoes. Keep in mind that we will be exploring the woods, meadows, and ponds – clothes will get wet or dirty! Bringing rubber boots, extra clothes, and an extra pair of socks is a good idea.

Pricing

\$150 per child, \$125 for members

Multi Child: 2nd child \$5 off; 3rd child \$10 off

Registration

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration forms can be found on our website or at the GSC office. Applications for camp registration will only be accepted for review upon completion of all application components. Applications that are not complete will not be considered for registration and will not secure placement for camp(s) in any capacity. Upon receiving all components (camp registration forms and payment) applications will be considered complete, and enrollment will be secured.

Membership

Membership is crucial to the Great Swamp Conservancy Nature Center's existence. Your support enables the GSC to maintain the high standards in nature education we have established over the years, and helps us continue to grow and improve. Being a member, you will receive a discount for summer camp as well as additional benefits listed on our website.



Frequently Asked Questions

Can I drop my child off in the parking lot?

No. For the safety of all campers, drop off and pick up is in the museum. All children must be signed in and out.

What is the GSC's discipline policy?

We have a three strike policy. Strike one will be a time out with one of the counselors when a camp rule is broken. Strike two is a time out and a conversation with a camp counselor. Strike three will result in a time out and a conversation, and parents will be called and asked to pick up their child. Usually, after a time out, children can get back on track and enjoy the day. There is also a no-tolerance policy for bullying and behavior such as punching, hitting, or kicking.

What if my child takes medications?

Please contact the GSC staff so that we can create a health plan for your child. We cannot administer any medications directly. Children must be able to self-administer their medications, and all medication usage will be supervised.

What if my child has special needs?

Our primary goals are safety and a positive camp experience for all. We're a little different than school – we don't have one-on-one staff, we embrace spontaneity instead of following a strict schedule, and we emphasize teamwork and like to encourage kids to care for their belongings and be self-sufficient. Please understand that our camps are very active with multiple transitions and sensory changes throughout the day. There are times where kids play in mild physical discomfort (like mud, soggy socks from the pond, getting sweaty). If you have questions about whether this camp environment is a good match for your child, please contact the GSC so that we can plan ahead for your child so they are supported and safe at camp.

What is the GSC's weather policy?

Camps will not be cancelled due to inclement weather. Campers should come prepared to be outside, so bring rain gear on wet days and jackets on cool days! Refunds for activity cancellations that are weather-related cannot be provided. On extremely hot days we may have to take breaks inside for air conditioned nature games. We have indoor games and crafts in case of thunder and lightning.



Thank you for your interest in our summer camps! We are thrilled to be able to provide such a unique and exciting opportunity for your children to learn about their relationship to the natural world while supporting their physical, social, and intellectual growth. It is our goal to get your children outdoors to explore and enjoy what the Great Swamp Conservancy has to offer. With our 7+ miles of hiking trails, 300+ acres, live animals and nature museum there is plenty to explore!

If you have any questions, contact the GSC at (315)697-2950 or greatswampconservancy@gmail.com.