

Tenderfoot Summer Camp Parent Guide

SUMMER CAMP OFFICE HOURS

June 19-August 12, 2016
Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday - Office Closed
Sunday - 1:30 - 6:30 PM

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Closed Saturday and Sunday
218-575-2240
www.shamineau.org

We look forward to having you join us at Camp Shamineau this summer! This parent guide contains information that you need to know to prepare your child for summer camp. Feel free to contact us in the camp office during our regular office hours if you have any questions.

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK - We want to hear from parents of campers and even campers themselves as they are a great resource of how we are doing and how we can better serve you in the future. Please call or write us with any concerns, questions or ideas on how to improve.

GETTING TO CAMP

Directions to Camp - 2345 Ridge Rd, Motley, MN. Camp Shamineau is located about an hour north of St Cloud (just south of Motley) on Highway 10. Watch for the "Camp Shamineau" or "Ridge Road" signs at mile marker 120. Camp Shamineau is 1 1/2 miles east of Highway 10 on Ridge Road

CHECK IN AND CHECK OUT FOR TENDERFOOT CAMPS RUNNING SUNDAY - WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY CHECK IN 4:00 PM

Park by the gym - follow the signs. Campers will be given their cabin assignments in the parking lot unless there is a balance on their account.

Go to the gym if you need:

- To add a Care Package to your registration
- To pay your camp bill
- To drop off mail or packages for your camper
- To turn in all your medications (prescription and over-the-counter) to the nurse

5:00 PM - Campers begin their camp tours with their cabins

WEDNESDAY CHECK OUT

Optional Wednesday Activities for families and those picking up campers. **Reservations NOT necessary.**

- 9:00 AM - Meet the directors and camp tour
- 10:00 AM - Closing Chapel

11:00 AM Pack up and head for home!

Campers' luggage will be by their cabins. **Campers will only be released to someone listed on their registration forms as an approved person to pick up the child. PARENTS WHO ARE PICKING UP THEIR CHILD MUST ALSO BE LISTED ON THE FORM.** If you are not picking up your child at camp make sure that you have informed the office as to your arrangements. We will not release your child to someone not listed on their record as an approved pick up person.

CHECK IN AND CHECK OUT FOR TENDERFOOT CAMPS RUNNING WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY

WEDNESDAY CHECK IN 4:00 PM

- Park by the Dining Hall - follow the signs

Go to the front of the Dining Hall

- To get your cabin assignment
- To add a Care Package to your registration
- To pay your camp bill
- To drop off mail or packages for your camper
- To turn in all your medications (prescription and over-the-counter) to the nurse

5:00 PM - Campers begin their camp tours with their cabins

FRIDAY CHECK OUT

Optional Friday Activities for families and those picking up campers. **Reservations NOT necessary**

- 11:00 AM - Meet the directors and camp tour - meet by the gym
- 12:00 PM - Lunch in our Dining Hall
- 12:45 PM - Closing chapel

2:00 PM Pack up and head for home!

Campers' luggage will be by the gym sorted by cabin. **Campers will only be released to someone listed on their registration forms as an approved person to pick up the child. PARENTS WHO ARE PICKING UP THEIR CHILD MUST ALSO BE LISTED ON THE FORM.** If you are not picking up your child at camp make sure that you have informed the office as to your arrangements. We will not release your child to someone not listed on their record as an approved pick up person.

LATE ARRIVAL AT CHECK IN

If you do not think you will make it to camp by the end of check-in (5:00 PM) please notify the camp office.

EARLY DEPARTURE

We do realize that due to schedule conflicts a child might need to be picked up from camp earlier than the usual check out time. However, we would ask as a general rule that you do not check out your camper early unless it is absolutely necessary. On Friday mornings campers are still on a regular schedule finishing up their skills classes for the week as well as getting ready to leave. The camp staff is also busy preparing all the details that go into the last day of camp and getting campers ready to leave. If your child needs to be picked up before the scheduled check out time, please contact the camp office at least 2 days ahead of time. Thank you for your consideration.

WHEN IS THE BALANCE DUE ON MY CAMPER'S ACCOUNT?

Your balance is due 2 weeks prior to your camp session. Payment options...

- 1). If you registered online you can pay online by going back into your child's record and click on the gray "Make a Payment" button in the Financial section.
- 2). You can call the camp office and pay with a credit card over the phone.
- 3). You can mail a check to our office: PO Box 244, Motley, MN 56466.

HOW DO I PUT MONEY IN MY CHILD'S SPENDING MONEY ACCOUNT?

NEW THIS YEAR – ALL CAMPER BANK (Camp Store) MONEY MUST BE DEPOSITED PRIOR TO YOUR CAMP SESSION. CAMPER BANK DEPOSITS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT CHECK IN. This change is to help us make sure we have an accurate accounting of all camper bank money.

Using the camper bank IS REQUIRED for Tenderfoot Campers and campers are limited to no more than \$15 in their camper bank (camp store) account. Tenderfoot Campers go to the "camp store" each morning and the staff helps them choose their items to buy.

You will not be able to add money to your child's camper bank once their camp week has begun.

- Deposit money only in whole dollar amounts.
- If you did not register online you can call the camp office to deposit money to your camper's account using a credit card or by sending a check in the mail.
- **To deposit money in your camper's bank online (if you registered online):**
 1. Log in to your camper's account.
 2. In the "Financial" box on the right side of the screen click the "Make Payment" button.
 3. Click on the "Camp Store" button and indicate the amount of money you will be depositing.

HOW MUCH SPENDING MONEY DOES MY CAMPER NEED?

The Pine Cone Shoppe is open during check in and check out for you to purchase items such as t-shirts or sweatshirts for your camper. It features postcards, t-shirts (from \$10-\$15) sweatshirts (from \$25-\$40) and much more! The Snack Shop is available to Tenderfoot campers each morning and they are limited to a snack and something to drink and a small camp item.

PICTURES and CARE PACKAGES

During each camp session our photographer takes a great photo of each cabin group. These **cabin pictures** will be available at no cost for you to download and print. You will be emailed a link at the end of your child's camp week to use to access these pictures. **Shamineau Care Packages** are an easy way for your child to receive a midweek treat. A Care Package contains items handy for camp, snacks and Shamineau souvenirs. They can be purchased for \$20. You can order these items with your registration or add them at check in.

WATERFRONT

Our waterfront has a dock system that divides the shallow part of the swim area from the deeper part. Tenderfoot campers are only allowed in the shallow part of the swim area. Certified lifeguards supervise all swimmers. Lifejackets are provided by Camp Shamineau for all watercraft activities.

HOW MANY CAMPERS WILL BE IN THE CABIN WITH MY CHILD? HOW MANY COUNSELORS?

Camper/Staff Ratio

Children are placed in cabin groups of 10-14 campers with 2 counselors to each cabin. Along with these counselors our support staff - made up of wranglers, lifeguards, program staff and kitchen crew - are assigned to a cabin as a "cabin friend" and participate with the campers in many activities throughout the week.

Staff Selection and Training

All staff are chosen on the basis of their personal commitment to Jesus Christ, maturity, character and love for kids. Staff attend a minimum of a week-long training session and are regularly evaluated. If you like you can check out our Summer Staff Application with its extensive questions in the "Forms" section of our website. Interviews, references and background checks are part of our hiring process.

HOW DO I CREATE AN ONLINE ACCOUNT IF I REGISTERED WITH A PAPER FORM IN THE PAST?

We would love to help you create an online account if you registered with a paper form in the past. Just give us a call and we can set that up for you.

"HOW TO" ONLINE... This section is for those who registered their campers online. If you registered with a paper form you will need to call our office to make changes.

I FORGOT MY USERNAME AND PASSWORD. NOW WHAT DO I DO?

Call the camp office and we will help you reset it. **DO NOT** create a new record with new usernames and passwords as you will end up with duplicate accounts and that is very confusing!

To add a Care Package

Log in to your camper's account.

In the "Enrollment" box on the right side of the screen click the "Sub Program" button.

Check the Sub Program(s) you want to add or subtract a Care Package.

Be sure to click "Save" to save your choice.

To add money to Camper Bank

Log in to your camper's account.

In the "Financial" box on the right side of the screen click the

"Make Payment" button.

Click on the "Camp Store" button and indicate the amount of money you will be depositing. **You will not be able to deposit money into your child's bank account once their camp week has begun.**

To add an "approved pick up person" to your child's record

Log in to your camper's account.

In the "Forms" box on the right side of the screen click on "Approved Person to Pick up Camper from Camp".

Make any changes in the box provided for this information.

To add or change a Cabin Mate request

Log in to your camper's account.

Find the "Optional" box on lower right side of the screen.

Make your changes in the Cabin Mate section of the box. You will not be able to make Cabin Mate changes online beginning 10 days before the start of your camper's camp due to housing assignments. **If you have any Cabin Mate changes to make 2-10 days prior to your child's camp please call our office and we can make those changes over the phone. We will house campers with up to 2 friends and reserve the right to separate large groups if needed.**

HOW DO YOU HANDLE MY CHILD'S HEALTH NEEDS?

We take every precaution to ensure the health and safety of each camper. Your child's health is our nurses' main concern. Campers are welcome to see them at any time. We want to keep campers healthy and happy so they can have a great week of camp! Should your child require off-camp care, every attempt will be made to contact you first.

- **Each camper is required to submit the completed medical information form.** If you register online this form is part of your registration process. If you use the paper registration you will need to fill out the paper form.
- A well equipped Health Center is located on site and staffed by medical personnel.
- Clinics and emergency room care are located within 12 miles of camp and many of our staff are Emergency Medical Technicians and First Responders.
- Camp Shamineau carries secondary medical coverage on campers. Medical bills resulting from injury while at camp must first be submitted to the camper's personal medical insurer.

Medications

When packing, have all medications in a zipper locking bag clearly marked with the camper's name. All medication (prescriptions, vitamins, over the counter medications, etc) must be turned in to the nurse during check in and will be administered as scheduled. Medications will be returned to campers prior to departure. Campers with inhalers should bring two, one to keep in their cabin and one to leave with the Camp Nurse. Bring an anaphylactic kit for severe allergies.

Special Dietary Needs

We often have campers with special dietary needs and our Food Service works to accommodate them as much as possible. Parents of campers with serious food allergies or dietary concerns are asked to call camp to discuss the menu with the Food Service Director 2 weeks prior to their child's camp date. Special dietary items needed by your camper will be kept in the camp kitchen.

Poison Ivy

Let your campers know that Poison Ivy grows abundantly in our area. Help them learn to identify it and encourage them to stay on well-traveled paths. Campers should always wash well after being in areas of possible poison ivy contact or use an alcohol-based waterless hand sanitizer. This will neutralize the oils on the skin.

HOW DO I CONTACT MY CAMPER DURING THE WEEK?

Phones

At Camp Shamineau campers are only permitted to make or receive phone calls in emergency situations. Campers will also not be allowed to keep cell phones. Parents are requested to call for campers only in the case of an emergency. After 5:00 PM an answering machine will provide an emergency number. A Camp Shamineau staff member will answer this phone after hours. This after-hours phone is for emergencies only.

Visitors

Due to the brief stay the campers have at camp there are no scheduled visiting days during the week. For security purposes visitors are not encouraged.

Camper Emails!

Emails can be sent to: shamineaucamper@gmail.com. Be sure to put your camper's full name in the subject line of the email. Emails will be printed off each morning at 9:00 AM and delivered to campers during mail call. Due to system constraints campers will not be able to respond to your emails and the office staff will not be able to reply to emails directed to your camper. We also would request that you don't send multiple emails each day. With 300-350 campers here each week we just don't have the staffing to print off hundreds of emails each day. Keep your emails positive and encouraging as that will help keep your camper from feeling homesick.

Mail/Packages

Campers love to receive letters and packages while at camp. If you are sending mail or a package be sure to allow at least 3-4 days for the mail to arrive.

Address your mail: Camp Shamineau
 Camper's Name
 PO Box 244
 Motley, MN 56466

For letters or packages going through the US Post Office please use our PO Box number, NOT the street address. We pick up our mail each morning at the post office and they prefer our box number.

If you are sending a package through FedEx or UPS you will need to use our location address: 2345 Ridge Rd.

Many parents bring their camper packages and letters with them when they drop their camper off at camp. We will keep your camper's letters and packages in our office and deliver them during the week. Be sure they are well marked with your child's name and drop them off at check in.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD GETS HOMESICK?

Preventing homesickness starts at home with you! Homesickness is an affliction that can affect a child's camping experience. Once at camp we do our best to help campers work through the feelings, but here are some suggestions that can make things easier for your child.

- Send your child with a good friend. Good supportive friends are a great prevention.
- Discuss what camp will be like. Talk about the fun activities, the idea of growing up and the adventure of it all.
- Plan an overnight for your child before camp. This will help you evaluate if your child is ready for camp.
- Write them often while they are at camp. Keep your letters cheerful!
- If your child is significantly struggling with homesickness a staff member will call you to discuss the situation.

FOLLOW UP

While your child has been at camp they have learned a lot about God and their personal relationship with Him. It doesn't stop there. We want them to continue growing in that relationship long after their time here is done. We believe that for your child to continue growing spiritually they need to be connected with a local church who will encourage, support and challenge them in their faith. Camp is just a step in the process.

CAMP ACCREDITATION

Shamaineau Ministries is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America, but campers of all beliefs and denominations are welcome. Christ and a personal relationship with Him are the core beliefs communicated. Camp Shamaineau is accredited by CCCA, Christian Camp and Conference Association. Key staff members have certifications within their area of expertise. Many of our staff are Emergency Medical Technicians, certified First Responders and Fire Fighters.

TYPICAL TENDERFOOT CAMP SCHEDULE:

7:30 Wake up
8:00 Breakfast
8:45 Cabin Clean up
9:15 Morning Devotions
10:00 Ball Field Games, Gift Shop, Snack Shop
11:00 Bible Lesson
11:50 Mail Call
12:00 Lunch
12:30 Rest Time
1:14 Waterfront
2:30 Games, Crafts, BB guns, or Nature Center
3:30 Pony Rides or Ropes Course
5:00 Dinner
5:45 Chapel
7:00 Evening Activity
8:00 Snack
8:15 Get Ready for Bed
8:30 Evening Devotions
9:00 Good night!

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO PACK FOR CAMP?

Bringing what your child needs can help to ensure a good camp experience. **Remember to mark all clothing and gear with the camper's name using nametags or permanent ink. If an item ends up in our lost and found we will then know who to contact to return it.** Keep in mind that no laundry service is available.

When it comes to clothing, pack items that are modest. To us this means that swimwear adequately covers a camper's body, pants stay up, and we don't see their underwear. All girls should pack a one-piece swimsuit or modest tankini since most camp water activities are very active. Clothing that advertises alcohol or tobacco products is not allowed. If you don't think something will be right for camp, you should leave it at home. If a camper is wearing something that is inappropriate camp staff will ask them to change.

Be sure to pack typical camp clothes - the kind you could afford to lose and don't mind getting really dirty!

Days can be very hot and nights can get cool, so pack accordingly. Due to the active nature of camp, all campers must have at least one pair of athletic/tennis shoes. Please make sure your bag for dirty clothes is marked "DIRTY CLOTHES" and labeled with your child's name so it is not mistaken for trash.

- Jeans/Shorts
 - Water Bottle
 - Swimsuits (for girls - one-piece or modest tankini only)
 - T-shirts
 - Sweatshirt/Jacket
 - Pajamas/underwear/socks
 - Athletic/running Shoes
 - Dirty Clothes Bag
 - Sleeping Bag/Pillow/ OR Bedding that will fit a bunk or twin size bed
 - Towels/Toiletries
 - Bible/Notebook/Pens
 - Stamps/Envelopes/Postcards for letters home -
- Optional items: camera, sun block, flashlight, bug spray

LOST AND FOUND

Mark all items with your child's full name with permanent ink. All Lost and Found items are discarded after 10 days. It is your responsibility to call camp and give us a detailed description of your lost items. If the reported items are found we will call to make arrangements for your payment of the packing and shipping costs. Any towels, socks, undergarments, pillows, toiletries and wet or foul smelling items will be discarded immediately.

DO NOT BRING

Excessive snacks, music devices, cell phones, electronic games, immodest clothing, weapons of any kind, alcohol, fireworks, expensive items/clothing. If they are brought they may be collected, stored, and if appropriate, returned at the end of the week. Camp Shamineau is not responsible for lost, broken or stolen items brought by campers.