



Monday, June 23, 2014

RVR Campers and Families,

Summer is here and we're thrilled that it's almost time for Day Camp at River Valley Ranch! We are excited to announce that our huge theme for this summer is Olympics: Camp Style! Each week we will be exploring the different characteristics of Olympians: **strength, endurance, patience, adventure driven, courage and cooperation** as we learn from the best teacher, Jesus. We are THRILLED about this upcoming summer!

For your convenience, and to maximize your child's day camp experience, we have put together the following packet of information. We hope you will find it helpful as you plan for an amazing week at River Valley Ranch!

Morning Drop Off: 9 am every morning

Afternoon Pick Up: 5 pm every afternoon*

**Please refer to our afternoon pick-up policy*

What to Bring to Camp

Everyday:

- A pair of long pants and closed toe shoes to be kept in your child's cubby all week.
- A water bottle

Due to the nature of the adventure activities that will happen periodically throughout the week it is recommended that these items be left at camp throughout the week.

Monday

- If your child is 4-6 years old you may send rest items to camp. We take a 30 minute siesta each day for these campers and some campers find it helpful to have a mat, a pillow or a favorite stuffed animal with them during this time.
- Water Bottle

Tuesday

- White t-shirt for tie-dye
- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Long Pants for Ranchers (8-11 year olds)

Wednesday

- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Long Pants for Ranchers (8-11 year olds)

Thursday

- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Closed toe shoes for creek (Keens, Crocs, Water Shoes, old tennis shoes or sneakers)
- Long Pants for Ranchers (8-11 year olds)

Friday

- Long pants (all)
- Closed toe shoes for Horseback riding (NO CROCSI)

**If our needs for the next camp day change due to weather or scheduling, we will notify you at pick-up.*

Day Camp Registration:

Registration will be held on Monday morning at 8:30. Please meet our camp registrar, nurse, and Day Camp Directors on the porch of the Muddy Creek Lodge to register your child and turn in the requisite forms. If you have completed your health forms online, please bring a printed copy of the profile. If you are unable to complete forms online, you can print them out at www.rivervalleyranch.com/campforms. You do not need to bring a copy of immunization records for Day Camp.

Before and After Care:

River Valley Ranch offers convenient before and after care programs. Before Care is from 8:30-9 a.m. and After Care is from 5-5:30 p.m. Each service is \$15/day. You may add this service to your account online or by calling the Ranch Office at (443) 712-1010. Please see the enclosed information on our Afternoon Pick-Up policy.

Additional Information Enclosed:

- Day Camp Behavioral Management Plan
- Day Camp Rules *(we encourage parents to go over these rules ahead of time with your campers)*
- Day Camp Afternoon Pick-up Lateness Policy
- Friday Finale Invitation

Meet Your Day Camp Directors and Counselors!

Hello! My name is **Jennifer Walters**, and I am excited to come to Day Camp as one of the Program Directors. This is my first year working with the Ranch and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the day campers! My husband, Jeff Walters, and I are very excited to have the opportunity to co-direct Day camp this year. I am a kindergarten teacher for Carroll County Public Schools. I graduated from Towson University with a degree in Elementary Education and certification in Early Childhood Education. This summer will be the perfect opportunity for me to share my love for the Lord and passion for teaching. I am looking forward to seeing what God has in store for us this summer! Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Hi, my name is **Jeff Walters**. I am very excited to be one of the Program Directors for Day Camp this year. This is my first year working with the Ranch. I look forward to working with my wife, Jennifer Walters, in co-directing the program. I am a 7th grade Social Studies teacher for Baltimore County Public Schools. I graduated from Towson University with a degree in Social Sciences and Secondary Education. I recently graduated with a Masters in Educational Leadership also from Towson University. My goal this summer is to share my excitement for learning and the Lord. I am looking forward to meeting your children and families this summer!

My name is **Megan Ganovski** and in the fall I will be starting my sophomore year at Liberty University. I love anything and everything you can do in the summer- swimming, hammocking, hiking, etc. I love to write and spend time worshipping Jesus through that. I'm excited to spend my second summer as a Day Camp counselor at RVR to share the love of Jesus with all of the campers and to make their time at the ranch the best experience ever!

Hi! My name is **Shoshannah**, but everyone calls me Shoshie. I am originally from Cape May, New Jersey; however, I now live in Lynchburg, Virginia as I attend Liberty University. I will be a sophomore next semester and I am excited to see what God has in store for me in the coming year. I am working at the ranch this summer because I have a passion for kids, I love the outdoors, and I love Jesus! I hope to become a teacher one day and that is why I am stoked to be working with kids this summer.

Hello my name is **Sarah Hess** and I am redeemed child of the living God. I love to be outdoors and in God's creation. I love to make crafts, sing songs and play games. I am from the wonderful state of Washington and I am also a freshman nursing student at Cedarville University in Ohio. I am working at the ranch this summer to let God work through me to touch the lives of the people I interact with, especially the kids. I am so excited to work with kids because in this time in their lives they are full of energy and particularly eager to learn. I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for the kids this summer. It is going to be an incredible experience.

Hey, I'm **Kelly**! I graduated from Manchester Valley High School in 2013 and just finished up my year-long internship at River valley Ranch! I love this place and the people so much that summer just wasn't enough for me. I am going to start at Towson University in the Spring of 2015 and will be getting my degree in Family and Human Services. I am so excited for this summer and spending some time getting to know and pouring into your children. I will be turning 19 years old this July and I love the Lord Jesus Christ with all my heart. I also adore kids. I worked at a daycare for a little over a year during high school and loved it. I worked in the infant room, but helped multiple times a week in the 3- 4 year old's classes and worked with the school-aged children as well. I can't wait to meet all your little ones and see what God has in store for this summer!

Behavior Management Plan 2014

Day Camp at RVR

Step 1- Rebuke

When disruptive or inappropriate behavior occurs, clearly communicate the fact to the child.

- Be specific about the correction. For example: "Joe, in our group you have times to talk and times to listen. Right now it is your turn to listen, because the counselor is talking."
- Allow only 1 or 2 incidents in which you give verbal correction. Then warn the child that if the misbehavior continues, you will remove him/her.

Step 2- Restrict

For a child who continues to disobey, increase the accountability by removing the child from the activity or moving the child next to a counselor.

- The director may choose to turn the class over to another counselor and take the child outside for a few minutes to talk in private with the child.
- Allow the child to re-enter an activity only when you believe it's appropriate. Ask the child if he/she is willing to behave properly. Expect an affirmative answer before allowing the child to return.
- If more misbehavior occurs, warn the child that the next incident will result in removal from the room/location and a meeting with his/her parents at the end of the day.

Step 3- Remove

In the event of further disruption or inappropriate behavior, remove the child from the group and if possible, transfer custody to the parents.

- The director should take this action and should ask the counselor to temporarily assume leadership.
- The director should contact the parents and ask them to assume custody.
- Arrange a time to meet with the parents to discuss the child's behavioral problems. This should be arranged as soon as possible and include the director.
- Inform the parents that this meeting is necessary before the child will be permitted to return to the group.

Step 4- Restore

The director and counselor shall meet with the parents- or with the parents and child- to discuss the child's behavior together.

- Ask the parents for their support by taking whatever action is appropriate to motivate the child to change.
- If the parents and leaders cannot agree, they may request the director or programming to mediate.
- The leaders should communicate again with the parents to provide a progress report on the child's behavior.
- After receiving the child back into the group, seek to compliment and encourage good behavior. Try to catch the child doing the right thing, give praise.

River Valley Ranch Day Camp Rules:

1. Listen quietly when a leader is speaking
2. Use kind words and actions toward others
3. During a lesson, please sit with legs crossed and hands in your lap
4. Respect camp furnishings/equipment
5. Stay safe by following directions and staying with the group

RVR Day Camp Afternoon Pick-Up Lateness Policy

To ensure that the hard work and on-the-job hours of our dedicated counseling staff are respected, please know that we have instituted the following policy for afternoon pick-up unpunctuality:

For campers being picked up at 5:00:

- If the lateness extends beyond 5:20, there will be a lateness charge of \$10 and then an additional \$1/minute for after 5:30.
- We will offer a onetime grace period, however; we will need to be notified in advance to apply the exemption. Please call the Ranch Office at (443) 712-1010 so the receptionist can inform the day camp staff.

For campers being picked up at 5:30 (After Care Program):

- There will be no exemptions to the lateness policy
- The charge is \$1/minute after 5:30

For questions concerning the lateness policy, please direct all inquiries to:

John Zeigenfuse
Director of Programming
443.712.1011 ext. 16
jzeigenfuse@riversvalleyranch.com



You are invited to...

The River Valley Ranch Day Camp

Friday Finale

When: 5:00 PM, Friday of each camp week

Where: The Buffalo Lodge

Parking: The main parking lot, across the street from the dining hall tent

What: A spectacular rally and cookout that celebrates an exciting week at the Ranch, starring your campers!

- Please come to see art projects, mini performances, and an amazing video starring your very own day campers!
- After our presentation, you and your campers are invited to join us at a delicious cookout near the sycamore tree by the creek! Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.
- Feel free to visit the Trading Post for official RVR gear before you leave camp, open until 6:00 pm!