



Camp Asbury

A Ministry of the East Ohio Conference
of the United Methodist Church



A Guide for Parents & Guardians

CAMP ASBURY: A PLACE OF FAITH

For sixty years Camp Asbury has been putting people in touch with creation and with God. Asbury's 450 acres of woods, streams, wetlands, and meadows invite a response of wonder, caring and thanksgiving. Asbury is a place where learning happens with hearts, minds, and hands. Camp Asbury provides a safe environment for campers and staff to explore and grow in the Christian faith through shared outdoor experiences and small group conversation. Helping people develop habits and a lifestyle that reflect Christ is the goal. At Asbury we care for one another, care for creation, celebrate the goodness of life and give thanks to God.

PRIOR TO CAMP:

Prepare your camper through conversation. Encourage your camper to develop realistic expectations about camp. Tell them how proud you are about their decision to go to camp. Let them know that they will do new things and meet new people at camp. Help them anticipate a new place and new routines. It often takes two or three days for first-time campers to adjust to camp.

A “**Get Acquainted Form**” is part of the online registration process. This is a confidential document to be used only by camp staff in preparing for your child's time at camp. Such items as birthdays, awards, special recognitions and other personal information will be helpful to your child's counselor. Please help Asbury staff work effectively with your camper by letting us know if there are behavioral, emotional, or physical concerns that we should be prepared for at camp. We expect all campers to be able to take care of their personal needs and to be able to effectively interact with members of their group.

Label camper's personal belongings. *Camp Asbury does not assume responsibility for lost, damaged or stolen personal belongings.*

Launder sleeping bags and bedding. Bedbugs have become a prevalent problem in northeast Ohio and across the United States. Camp Asbury wants to protect campers and their families and the camp itself from expensive and inconvenient treatments. Please make sure that all linens, sleeping bags and pillows are freshly laundered immediately prior to your camper's arrival at Camp Asbury. Laundering should include at least thirty minutes in a dryer on high temperature. Camp Asbury has a protocol in place to respond rapidly to any incident involving bedbugs. It's a good idea, between any overnight destinations, whether vacation or camp, to check luggage and launder all bedding, drying for at least 30 minutes at high temperature.

CAMPER CHECK-IN:

Check-in for week-long programs Sunday, 3:00-4:30 pm,
Check-out Friday, 7:00 pm, following the closing program.

Check-in for short-term “Discovery Mini” Sunday-Tuesday programs Sunday, 3:00-4:30 pm

(June 16-18, June 30-July 2, July 14-16)

Check-out Tuesday, 6:30 PM at Asbury Lodge

Check-in for short-term “Discovery Mini” Wed.-Friday programs, Wednesday 3:00-4:00 pm

(June 19-21, July 17-19)

Check-out Friday, 7:00 pm following camp-wide closing program:

Day Camp daily arrival at 9:00 a.m. and departure at 4:00 p.m. at Epworth Retreat Center. Day Camp families will receive specific day camp information.

AT CAMPER CHECK-IN:

Camp Asbury staff receive luggage in the main parking area and deliver it to camper living quarters. Vehicles will not be permitted to travel beyond the main parking area. After unloading luggage campers walk to Asbury Lodge with their parents/guardians where they will be checked in, receive a health screening and meet their counselors.

A parent or guardian is required to sign forms at check-in. If a parent or legal guardian is unable to accompany camper at check-in, please call Camp Asbury at 330.569.3171 or e-mail at bill@campasbury.org at least one week in advance.

If you registered online, you filled out a **Health Form** that Camp Asbury will print prior to camper check-in. If you registered by mail you need to bring a completed and signed **Health Form** with you for camper check-in. No camper can remain in camp without an approved current health form.

Bring to check-in at all over-night camps ...

- All medications (prescription & nonprescription)—
In Original Containers.
- Camp Store Money (optional)—for deposit at camp.
- Health Form—only if not completed online.

A limited health screening will be conducted at camper check-in. A check for head lice is routinely part of the health screening. The camp director in consultation with the camp medical staff reserves the right to turn away campers who in their opinion are ill or jeopardize the health of other campers e.g. fevers, flu, colds, contagious illnesses, head lice, or a health condition that cannot be treated in camp. If your camper is ill the director will be glad to suggest alternative camp events later in the summer.

At check-in, all medications (prescription and nonprescription) will be collected from campers. **The camp will only accept medications in their original labeled container.** Please bring only the amount of medication needed for the camper's length of stay at Camp Asbury. If a camper is on medication during the school year, it is suggested that the camper continue the same medication routine while at camp. Campers on psychotropic medication should be on the same medication at the same dosage for at least three months prior to their arrival in camp. Part of the fun of camp is adapting to a new environment and a new daily routine. Because campers experience so much change at camp it is generally not a good idea to alter normal medication routines during a stay at camp. Parents/Guardians may authorize the camp health care manager to administer **over-the-counter medication** by signing their camper's health form. The camp health care manager or designate follows a physician's standing orders in administering over-the-counter medication.

At Sunday check-in parents/guardians are invited to meet with a camp director (at 3:30 p.m. or 4:00 p.m.) in Asbury Lodge lower level for an introduction to camp and a question/answer session.

For mid-week check-in: Parents/guardians meet with a camp director at the Camp Office at 3:30 p.m.

CAMPER CHECK-OUT:

Friday Picnic and Closing Worship

Residential camps, ending on Friday, conclude with a picnic and closing worship. Parents/guardians, family members, and friends are encouraged to attend these closing events. **The Friday picnic begins at 5:15 p.m. at the Lake Picnic Pavilion.** Advance reservations are requested and can be made at the time of camper check-in. The cost of the picnic for guests is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children ages 4-10, children 3 and under are free. **Closing worship begins at 6:00 p.m. on Communion Hill.** Campers depart for home around 7:00 p.m.

Camp Asbury encourages all campers to participate in the entire program of their specific camping event. Temporary absences are not only difficult for the individual camper, they are also difficult for the other campers in the small group. If a camper must be temporarily absent, depart early from camp, or travel home with someone other than the camper's parent or guardian **temporary absence form/release form/early dismissal form** must be signed at check-in.

Where do I find answers to my questions about Camp Asbury?

- For FAQ's— Visit website: www.campasbury.org
- Registration process/cancellation policy— visit www.EOCSummercamps.org
- Attend Asbury's Open House & Summer Preview: April 14, 2019, 2:00-5:00 PM
- Contact camp director at 330.569.3171 or bill@campasbury.org
- Meet with camp director on day of camper check-in

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Food Service:

Asbury food service provides campers with three nourishing meals per day plus an evening snack. **Please contact Camp Asbury at least two weeks in advance regarding any special dietary needs or food allergy information.** (e-mail info@campasbury.org or call Asbury dining hall at 330-569-7585) Food allergies may affect the menu choices of all campers in some camp sessions.

Camp Store:

Asbury's Camp Store sells souvenir items. The Camp Store does not sell snack items or beverages. Camp store items generally range from \$5-\$25. Camp store money will be collected at check-in (cash only), establishing an individual Camp Store Account. No camper should carry money in camp. Unspent money will be returned to the campers at check-out. The camp store will also be open during camper check-in on Sunday and camper check-out on Friday (cash or check only).

Communication:

Handwritten notes are the best way to encourage your camper. A "letter writing station" will be available at Sunday camper check-in for families who wish to leave notes for distribution during the week.

Mail: A letter mailed from home brightens a camper's day. Please address camper's mail to:

Camper's Name
Program Name ("Explorer", "Adventurers", etc.)
Camp Asbury
10776 Asbury Rd.
Hiram, OH 44234

E-mail to campers: One time per day, Camp Asbury will distribute one-way e-mails to campers. Send e-mails to **info@campasbury.org** with your Camper's name and program in the subject line. Please limit e-mails to five per week per camper.

If you need to reach a camper with an emergency message, call the camp office at (330) 569-3171, 8 AM-5 PM. After 5 PM call director on cell (330) 235-3418. At Camp Asbury, campers do not have direct access to a phone to call home. Camp Asbury can be reached by fax at (330) 569-3148 and by e-mail at **bill@campasbury.org**. **Please limit phone and fax communications to emergencies.**

Parents/Guardian Notification by the Camp Asbury director or camp nurse:

- ❖ In the event of an emergency or serious accident
- ❖ Before a camper is transported off-site for medical treatment
- ❖ When more info is needed to deal with homesickness or an issue of physical or emotional health.
- ❖ When a camper requires referral to a medical professional beyond Camp Asbury

The health care manager or their designee will be available at camper check-out if parents or guardians have questions about a camper's healthcare during a session of camp.

Age and Stature Requirements:

Camp Asbury operates a progressive program of activity options. Some camp activities have age and physical stature requirements:

- Archery**—for resident campers 4th grade and older
- Off-site trips**—for resident campers, as described in summer 2019 program descriptions.
- Low ropes**—for campers 4th grade and older
- High ropes & climbing tower**—for campers 6th grade and older (must fit in seat harness)
- Giant swing**—for campers 6th grade and older (must fit in seat harness)
- Mudslide**—for campers 6th grade and older

WHAT TO BRING: (please identify items with camper's name using permanent marker)

- sturdy shoes for hiking
- old tennis shoes for water/rain (2nd pair of shoes)
- socks
- underwear
- sweatshirt, fleece or jacket
- tee shirts
- shorts
- long pants
- pajamas or sleeping clothes
- water bottles (2 one-liter bottles recommended)
- swimsuit & beach towel
- freshly laundered sleeping bag or sheets & blanket
- freshly laundered pillow
- toiletries including: sun screen, soap, shampoo, toothbrush & toothpaste, dental floss
- towel & washcloth
- Bible
- pens/pencils
- flashlight
- insect repellent (non-aerosol)
- medications (in original containers)
- raincoat/rainsuit/poncho
- camera
- spending money for camp store
- For campers, 6th grade and older: throw-away mudslide clothes: must include long-sleeved shirts (more than one layer is recommended), long pants, socks, old shoes. ("To mudslide or not to mudslide" is a small group decision—some groups of campers choose not to do the mudslide).

For Horseback riding programs: campers should bring long pants and boots with heels. (Hiking boots are okay). Camp Asbury or Sand Hill Stable will provide a riding helmet.

DO NOT BRING: snacks or candy (Food will attract animals and insects) Electronic Equipment*Cell Phones *Tablets or Wireless Handheld Devices

PROHIBITED AT CAMP:
Fireworks*Tobacco/Alcohol Products*Illegal Drugs or Paraphernalia*Firearms, hunting knives, and other weaponry

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E-mail: info@campasbury.org
www.campasbury.org or
www.facebook.com/campasbury

Let Camp Asbury host your next retreat, leadership conference or outdoor education event.