



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 over sixty-five 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, 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 ALL week-long programs:
Sunday, 3:00-4:30 pm

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

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.

The camp director will be available during check-in to answer any questions or concerns from parents or guardians.

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 info@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 and fever 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.

CAMPER CHECK-OUT:

Check-out for week-long programs: Friday at 7:00pm following the closing picnic/worship.

Check-out for short-term "Discovery Mini" programs (Sunday – Tuesday): Tuesday at 6:30pm at Main Parking Lot

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.** (*Location is subject to change depending on weather.*) Reservations are requested and can be made at the time of camper check-in. The cost of the picnic for guests is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children ages 4-10, children 3 and under are free. **Closing worship begins at 6:00 p.m. at Asbury Lodge.** 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, **a 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.EOCSSummercamps.org
- Attend Asbury's Open House & Summer Preview: April 7, 2024, 2:00-5:00 PM
- Contact camp director or assistant director at 330.569.3171 or info@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-\$40. 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-out on Friday (cash, check and credit cards accepted at this time).

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. An email address will be provided at check-in for parents/guardians who wish to e-mail their campers during the week. **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. The camp director's cell phone number will be provided to parents/guardians at check-in if they should have an emergency after-hours. At Camp Asbury, campers do not have direct access to a phone to call home. Campers will be given permission to call home on a designated phone in any scenario deemed appropriate by the camp staff. Camp Asbury can also be reached by e-mail at info@campasbury.org. **Please limit phone communications to emergencies only.**

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:

Deep End Swimming and Water trampoline—Must pass a swim test (all campers will be eligible to take the swim test)

Archery—for resident campers 4th grade and older

Low ropes—for campers 4th grade and older

Climbing Tower—for campers 4th grade and older

High ropes—for campers 6th grade and older

Giant swing—for campers 6th grade and older

**campers participating in high ropes must be able to fit into a seat harness*

Off-site trips—for designated campers as described in summer 2024 program descriptions. Parents may need to fill out permission slips at check-in.

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
- cinch sack or backpack
- Bible
- pens/pencils
- flashlight
- insect repellent (non-aerosol)
- medications (in original containers)
- raincoat/poncho
- camera
- spending money for camp store

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

Camp Asbury
10776 Asbury Road
Hiram, OH 44234
Telephone (330) 569-3171
Fax: (330) 569-3148
E-mail: info@campasbury.org
www.campasbury.org