

CAMP KINGFISHER SUMMER 2025

Parent Packet & Camper Guidelines



Camp Co-Directors: Debby Head and Laura Viator
Camp Registrar: Sarah Martin

Camp Office:

(770) 995 - 2055 ext. 222

Camp Cell Phone: (404) 910 - 3692

s.marting@chattnaturecenter.org

www.chattnaturecenter.org

Located at:

Chattahoochee Nature Center
9135 Willeo Road
Roswell, Ga 30075

Mailing Address:

Camp Kingfisher
P.O. Box 769769
Roswell, GA 30076

Dear Camp Kingfisher Family,

Welcome to the 2025 Camp K Family! We know that you might have a lot of questions about your camper's experience with us here this summer. And this packet will answer them! We are so honored that you have chosen to send your kiddo(s) to Camp K this summer. We are all looking forward to meeting you. And if you're returning, welcome back! We cannot wait to see how your kiddos have grown this past year.

There is a lot to know about summer camp, and we are here to introduce you to Camp Kingfisher and everything you will need to know before your camper's session gets here. Be sure to check out the table of contents below, where you can jump to any section of the packet you would like. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to our staff with any questions you might have.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!!



Debby Head
Camp Co-Director

d.head@chattnaturecenter.org



Laura Viator
Camp Co-Director

l.viator@chattnaturecenter.org



Sarah Martin
Camp Registrar

s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org

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CAMP KINGFISHER POLICIES

Changes and Cancellations Policy:

1. **Customer-initiated cancellation:** All cancellation requests must be emailed to s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org at least 10 business days before the session start date. Cancellation requests that are not made via email will not be honored. Please read below for more information and be sure to carefully check your camper's session dates and group before submitting any requests.
 - i. Any cancellation emailed on or before April 15th will be refunded less a 15% cancellation fee.
 - ii. Any cancellation emailed after April 15th will be refunded less a 30% cancellation fee.
 - iii. Any cancellation emailed **less** than 10 business days before the session start date will not be refunded.
2. **Camp Kingfisher-initiated cancellation:** Camp Kingfisher may cancel a session/camp day due to the following:
 - i. Minimum registration requirements are not met.
 - ii. Acts of Nature that interfere with camper safety.

Should Camp Kingfisher deem it necessary to cancel a camp session/day: families will get the option to receive a full refund*, a credit to your account for future camp use, or the option to donate your refund to the Camp Kingfisher Scholarship Fund.

*A full refund will only be offered for full session cancellations.

Refunds are issued to the original form of payment.

Illnesses and Medication Policy:

1. If a camper's illness causes them to miss 3 or more days of camp in one week, they may make up the dates in a later week based on availability. A doctor's note is required to receive a Sick Day Credit. The remainder of the session must be purchased at a prorated rate. Sick Day Credits are valid until the end of the following camp season (2025 credits are valid through August 2026).
2. Camp Kingfisher does not employ a registered nurse. All camp staff are First Aid, CPR, and Epipen certified.
 - i. Campers with emergency medications, such as an Epipen or inhaler, must carry their medication on their person while attending camp. Action plans and medication instructions are required to be on file with camp administration. We recommend sending medication in a small bag or fanny pack that can be easily carried. —Action plans can be emailed to s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org

- ii. If a camper needs medication that is administered regularly, it should be given to camp administration with the child's name, medication name, and clear instructions. It will be stored in a secure location in the camp office.
- iii. If your camper requires a daily injectable medication, please contact Debby Head or Laura Viator, Camp Co-Directors, to discuss.

OWL GROUPS

Campers are divided into groups based on their Fall 2025 grade level. Programs are customized to fit these grade levels and group ratios vary by Owl Group.

Owlets*: 4-Year-Olds

- ❖ Must be **4 years old** by session start
- ❖ 1 Counselor: 5 Campers
- ❖ 10 Campers per group

Screech Owls: Rising K / 1st Grades

- ❖ Must be 5 years old by session start
- ❖ 1 Counselor: 6 Campers
- ❖ 12 or 18 Campers per group

Barn Owls: Rising 2nd / 3rd Grades

- ❖ 1 Counselor: 9 Campers
- ❖ 18 Campers per group

Barred Owls: Rising 4th / 5th Grades

- ❖ 1 Counselor: 9 Campers
- ❖ 9 or 18 Campers per group

Great Horned Owls: Rising 6th / 7th Grades

- ❖ 1 Counselor: 10 Campers
- ❖ 10 Campers per group

Travel Program*: Rising 8th / 9th Grades

- ❖ 1 Counselor: 5 Campers
- ❖ 10 Campers per group

Featured activities available for each owl group

Owlets*: 4-Year-Olds

- ❖ Up-close animal demos

Screech Owls: Rising K / 1st Grades

- ❖ Canoeing on Kingfisher Pond

Barn Owls: Rising 2nd / 3rd Grades

- ❖ Specialty Camp Opportunities:
 - Mad Science and Art in Nature

Barred Owls: Rising 4th / 5th Grades

- ❖ Solo Canoeing on Heron Pond

Great Horned Owls Rising 5th / 7th Grades

- ❖ Splash Wars on Heron Pond

Travel Program*: Rising 8th / 9th Grades

- ❖ White Water Rafting, Hiking and Rappelling

**Owlet and Travel Program information will be sent in a separate document.*

FIRST DAY OF CAMP: WHAT TO KNOW

Here are our top 5 suggestions:

1. Label everything.
2. Wear clothes that can get dirty and shoes that cover your toes.
3. Don't forget your swimsuit and towel if you want to swim. We also recommend packing a change of dry clothes.
4. Leave toys, phones, smart watches, and other electronics at home.
5. Get ready to have fun at Camp!

Forms: The following items are required to be on file before you attend camp. If we are missing either your Camper Information Form or immunization records, you will be required to complete them before entering the carpool line. Please note, we **must** have current immunization records or exemption documentation before your child can participate in Camp Kingfisher.

- Camper Information Form
- Current Immunization Records or Exemption
 - If you attended in 2024, this is already on file. You may need to submit updates records if your camper had any recent immunizations.
 - Email records to s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org

Before Camp Email: A few days before the first day of your camp session, typically the Friday before the session start date, we will email you a digital pick-up pass and the schedules for the following week.

Camper Updates: If you need to make any updates or changes to your camper's information after you've registered and completed the Camper Information Form, please email s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org and we will make any changes necessary.

Buddy Requests: You may request to be paired with one or two other campers on your camper profile during registration or on your Camper Information Form. If you have already registered and submitted your Camper Information Form, please email s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org to add a buddy. While we will do our best, we cannot guarantee that campers will be paired together. Please note the following requirements:

- We must receive requests at least two weeks before your session starts.
- Campers must be registered for the same Owl (Age) Group and session.
- 1-week session campers and 2-week session campers cannot be grouped together due to the nature of the programs
 - Any session labeled numerically is a 1-week session.
 - Any session labeled with a letter (A – D) is a 2-week session.

CAMPER DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Drop-Off:

8:00am to 9:00am

Drop-off will be carpool-style. **We kindly ask that only campers exit the vehicle to ensure carpool continues moving.**

If you need extra time for goodbyes or getting ready, please park in a parking spot prior to entering the carpool line.

Adults will be asked basic information such as the camper's last name to complete camper check-in with staff.

Pick-Up:

3:45pm to 4:30pm

Drop-off will be carpool-style. **We kindly ask that only campers exit the vehicle to ensure carpool continues moving.**

One of the following is required to pick up your child:

- Digital pick-up pass (emailed to primary contact before the camp session begins)
- A photo ID that matches one of the primary, secondary, emergency, or pick-up contacts (originally set up during registration, may be updated prior to camp)

Helpful tip to make carpool run as smoothly as possible:

- Take a screenshot of your digital pick-up pass and add it to your favorites folder in your photos app.
- If someone else is picking up your camper, please forward your digital pickup pass via email or by sending a screenshot to your authorized pickup person.

After-Care:

3:45pm to 5:45pm

Campers can stay at camp a little longer and engage in games and activities in Kingfisher Hall for those whose parents need a little extra time during pick up. Please note that this time is not a continuation of the camp day. It is free play time that is led by a handful of counselors.

After Care options are available for a fee and can be purchased for certain days, or entire sessions.

After Care can be added to your camper's session at any time by contacting the camp office at s.martin@chattnaturecenter.org or (770) 992-2055 ext. 222

Late Drop – Offs and Early Pick – Ups:

Camp cell phone: Camp Cell Phone: (404) 910 – 3692

If you need to drop off your camper late or pick them up early, please let us know in advance by telling the check-in staff, [emailing the camp office](#), or by calling the camp cell phone. When you arrive at camp to drop off or pick up, please pull into a Camp space (in the drop-off zone by the red canoe) and follow the signs to the Camp office, from there an admin staff member will assist you. Important note: the camp cell phone cannot receive text messages.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP EVERY DAY

Necessities

(PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING)

- **Water Bottle:** Reusable with only water
- **Comfortable Clothing:** Clothing that is appropriate for hot weather, outdoors, and water activities.
- **Closed-toe, Closed-heel Shoes:** Tennis shoes, sneakers, hiking shoes, etc.
- **Lunch and 2 Snacks:** Packed separately and labeled.
- **Swimsuit and Towel**

Extras

- **Change of Clothes/Shoes:** (including underwear) Your camper may get wet/dirty.
- **Sunscreen, if Needed:** We will apply 2 or 3 times daily.
- **Rain Jacket:** If rain is in the forecast.

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME

(PLEASE DO NOT BRING TO CAMP)

- **Bug Spray:** You may apply before coming to camp, but staff cannot assist your camper in reapplication.
- **Toys, Electronics (Including Smart Watches and Phones), Trading Cards, and/or Money are not Permitted and may be confiscated.**
- **Valuables:** We cannot replace lost or stolen items.

LOST AND FOUND

Camp Kingfisher cannot be held responsible for lost items. Please help your camper(s) take responsibility for their belongings, do not bring valuables to camp, and **LABEL EVERYTHING**. We try to match labeled items to campers and will have a Lost and Found table set up during pick-up every Friday. Lost and Found items are held in the camp office for two weeks after each session before being donated to charity.

LUNCH AND SNACKS AT CAMP

Campers will eat lunch every day at 12pm. We are not a nut-free facility, so to help keep our campers with allergies safe, we do not allow any food sharing.

Lunch reminders:

- Lunches are stored indoors, in the air-conditioned gym, but not refrigerated.
- Campers do not have access to a microwave.
- Please pack any necessary eating utensils - Camp Kingfisher is not able to provide silverware.

Snack reminders:

- Campers will have two snack periods per day.
- If your child is staying for after care, we recommend packing an additional snack.

At Camp Kingfisher, we encourage campers to be friends of the earth. Our goal is to have as little trash as possible, and we appreciate any effort your family makes to reduce waste at camp.

CANOEING AND SWIMMING AT CAMP

Canoeing

- Canoeing takes place on Kingfisher, Beaver, and Heron Ponds and is led by certified canoe instructors.
- All campers and staff are required to wear Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) on the docks and ponds at all times.
- Screech and Barn Owls canoe twice per week with an adult or teen supervisor in the boat.
- Barred Owls canoe 3 times per week with staff supervising from boats.
- Great Horned Owls canoe 3 times per week and have the option of adding on a river trip during their second week of a two-week session. Staff supervises from boats.

Optional River Trip

- Campers in our Great Horned Owl age group, who are also registered for a two week session, have the option to add a river trip to their session.
- River trips will take place during the late nights for our older age groups.
- A certified canoe guide and a counselor will lead the campers on a 2 hour evening river trip down the Chattahoochee.
- Parents of eligible campers will receive an email the first week of their camp session with more information and the option to sign up.
- River trips are \$50 per camper per session.

Swimming

- All groups swim daily in our Junior Olympic-sized pool (3ft. to 12 ft. with a rope divider)
- At least two American Red Cross-certified lifeguards are on the pool deck at all times, with counselors stationed in the water and on the pool deck.
- Deep End Swim Check: Available to Barn, Barred, and Great Horned Owl campers who wish to swim in the deep end (5ft. to 12 ft.). On the first day of the session, campers swim the width of the pool without stopping or touching and tread water for 60 seconds.
- Campers who choose not to swim will have limited self-directed activities in the shade.

If your child requires a floatation device to swim, they must bring it with them.

Pool Rules:

The pool is an area of camp with an increased potential for fun as well as for injury. It is important for all campers to abide by the following rules when using the pool and locker rooms:

- Always listen to lifeguards and counselors.
- Walking only.
- No horseplay (wrestling, chasing, etc.)
- No teasing, bullying, or name calling.
- Leave your things in a cubby, not on the ground.
- Change and exit the locker rooms without playing.

LATE NIGHT OPPORTUNITIES

Campers who are registered for two week sessions in our Barred Owl (BDO) and Great Horned Owl (GHO) age groups will have the option of staying at camp after hours one evening during their session. This experience is completely optional and included in the price of camp. During the late night, campers will get extra swim time, have a pizza dinner provided by camp, an evening activity and a bonfire with s'mores. More information will be sent out to families the week before each late night.

2025 Late Night Dates

Wednesday, June 11th

Wednesday, June 25th

Wednesday, July 9th

Wednesday, July 23rd

Available for the following sessions

{**BDO**: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, AiN 2D}

{**GHO**: 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, Survival 2A, Grow 2B, Survival 2C, and Survival 2D}

CAMPER BEHAVIOR AND EXPECTATIONS

We want every camper to have an unforgettable, fun-filled experience at Camp Kingfisher. To succeed in this, we have established expectations that must be followed by all campers. Please make sure that your child is familiar with these expectations prior to attending camp with us. These expectations also extend to the internet and social media.

Respect Yourself:

- Drink water and always bring your water bottle
- Let a counselor know when you need help
- It's okay to make mistakes and learn from them

Respect Others:

- Speak kindly (no disrespectful language)
- Bullying of any kind, including online, is not tolerated

Respect Camp:

- Listen to your counselors, lifeguards, and all other instructors and follow their directions
- Walk in the gym and at the pool
- Take only what you need

Respect Nature:

- Observe, but do not bother living things (use eyes, not hands, sticks, etc.)
 - Explore and learn without disturbing habitats
 - Stay on the trails
-

When campers have difficulty meeting expectations, we will help them get back on track by:

- 1. Reminders and Positive Feedback:** Counselors will help campers remember what is expected of them and give positive feedback for good choices.
- 2. Discussion of Consequences:** When expectations are regularly not met, we explain the consequences of each camper's choices and give them another opportunity to succeed.
- 3. Removal from Group:** A camper who continues to not meet expectations is removed from the group for a short time. This time is supervised by a staff member at a designated spot.
- 4. Administrative Attention:** Continuous issues are brought to the attention of an administrator. If an administrator intervenes, you will be notified at pick-up or via phone call. Administrators at camp include the two Co-Directors, the Registrar, the Program Coordinator, and the Head Counselors.

5. **Parent Conference:** If behavior does not change, the camper, parents, counselor, and administrator will meet to discuss solutions.
6. **Contract:** In rare cases that the behavior still does not change, the camper, parents, counselor, and administrator will develop a behavioral contract.
7. **Dismissal from Camp:** If a behavioral contract is broken, the camper will be asked to leave camp and return the following summer, making new and better choices. In rare cases, a camper may be dismissed from camp without being placed on a contract. Families of dismissed campers will not be given a refund.

CAMPER BIRTHDAYS

If your child's birthday falls on a camp day, we would love to celebrate with them! Due to the amount of campers we have each week, we are not able to sing to campers whose birthdays fall on the weekend.

If you would like to bring birthday treats, please check with your counselors regarding any allergies or food restrictions in your group. Please make sure they are pre-packaged.

DRESS UP DAYS

We celebrate the end of each week with the opportunity to dress up. Participation is optional and at your child's comfort level. Please ensure outfits are weather appropriate and can get dirty.

Please do not send props or cover your child's face.

2025 June Dress Up Days

- Friday, May 30th:** Crazy Head to Toe Day
- Friday, June 6th:** Favorite Character Day
- Friday, June 13th:** PJ Day
- Friday, June 20th:** Beach Day
- Friday, June 27th:** Camouflage Day (camouflage as an animal, plant, or wear camo print)

2025 July Dress Up Days

- Thursday, July 3rd:** Decades Day
- Friday, July 11th:** Tie Dye Day
- Friday, July 18th:** All One Color Day
- Friday, July 25th:** Favorite Team Day
- Thursday, July 31st:** Animal Day