Amherst Recreation
Fun In The Sun Summer Day Camp

Welcome
Bizzy Bees
2021

Camp Administrative Staff

Director : Nicole Abelli

Assistant Director: Luis Gomba

Fun in the Sun Summer Day Camp

Amherst Regional Middle School

170 Chestnut St. Amherst MA, 01002

Amherst Recreation

Amherst Recreation office

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www.amherstmarec.org

Amherst Recreation
FUN IN THE SUN SUMMER DAY CAMP
INFORMATION PACKET 2021

Dear FUN IN THE SUN BIZZY BEE Families,

Thank you for registering your child/ children for Summer Camp!
We are excited to get to know you and have fun this summer. We feel that communication with parents and guardians is one of the most important tools that we can have in serving you and your child.
Please do not hesitate to, raise questions, concerns, complaints, or comments to our camp directors at any time.
Your input is valued, desired, and welcome!
Our camp directors and their contact information are listed below!

- This packet contains important information about camp staff, drop off and pick up information, COVID-19 protocols day-to-day camp activities, and more.
- All staff will be thoroughly trained in the prevention of COVID-19 and all standard summer camp safety protocols, all staff will be masked while working at The Fun in The Sun Summer Day Camp.
- Please read the following packet carefully and keep it for future reference.
- You will receive more detailed information regarding your camper's specific session on or before the first day of camp.
- You will be emailed with any new information before your child begins their camp session.
- In years past, you would normally find the **CHILD INFO PAGE** on the last page of this packet.
- Beginning this year we will gather your child's information using the **ePACT** platform. You will also be using **ePACT** to check your child(ren) in and out of camp each day. Paper copies of the child info form can be made upon request, though we are highly encouraging families to use the **ePACT** system in an effort to go green and streamline the process of receiving information about your child(ren).
- **ePACt** info sheets located at the end of this packet

BUS TRANSPORTATION UPDATE 2021 CAMP SESSION:
Unfortunately due to budgetary reasons, we will not be able to provide bus transportation to and from camp this year, we apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Camp Themes & Dates 2021

Week A Camp Kick-Off	June 28th-July 2nd
Week B Welcome To The Jungle (No Camp on 7/5)	July 6th - July 9 th
Week C Wacky Water	July 12th- July 16th
Week D Around the World	July 19 th-July 23rd
Week E Challenge Week	July 26th-July 30th
Week F Time Travelers	August 2nd-August 6th
Week G Carnival Week	August 9th-August 13th

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, parents/ guardians and visitors will not be allowed to attend special camp events. Alternatively, we will provide a digital version through a private link of any performance to guardians via email.

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BIZZY BEES Check List For Every Day at Camp

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	1. 2 CDC approved face masks or face coverings
	2. Sun Screen/ Insect Repellent
	3. A Life Vest or Puddle Jumper
	4. Morning & Afternoon Snack
	5. Lunch & Beverage (If not participating in the Free Lunch Program)
	6. Water Bottle (No Glass Please)
	7. Bathing Suit & Towel, Extra Bathing Suit & Towel (Optional, but recommended)
	8. Sun Hat, Baseball Cap, or Visor
	9. Sneakers or Sandals with Back-Straps
	10. A bag to place wet towel/bathing suit
	11. Note Regarding Pick-up (If Applicable)
	12. A Backpack
	13. A Smile

SUNSCREEN/INSECT REPELLENT & BELONGINGS

Please provide your Child/ Children with sunscreen and Insect Repellent.
This is highly recommended, especially with this year's intention to limit the time children and staff are indoors.
Please note that It is not the responsibility of the camp to provide sunscreen and that camp staff is prohibited from applying sunscreen lotion to children.
However, we continually remind campers to wear sunscreen and can instruct campers on how to apply it themselves.

The camp Lost & Found will be located outside the camp director's office at ARMS.
Amherst Recreation and Fun In The Sun Summer Day Camp assumes no responsibility for lost articles Including Electronic Devices.

*Please encourage your child/children to leave toys and devices at home.
Cell Phones must be kept at home or in your child's backpack at all times.

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DROP OFF/PICK UP INFORMATION (UPDATED 2021)ePACT

- **Campers CANNOT be dropped off without checking in with camp directors or staff via ePACT contactless check-in, this includes a daily health screening and temperature check. (ePACT Guide attached to packet)**
- **All children will not be allowed to check-in before 8:30 a.m.**
- **Regular Camp Day: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**
- **Extended Day Care: 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (*Must register for Extended Day at Amherst Rec.)**
- **Bizzy Bees begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m.**

This Year We Will Be Implementing A NEW Check-In Camp System

We will require parents and guardians to check-in via a drive-through system located at the front of the Middle School.
We will be using our new check-in and information portal **ePACT**. Once you register your child through Amherst Recreation you will be emailed a link to register an account through **ePACT**. A detailed letter will be emailed to parents on how daily check-ins will operate prior to the first day of camp. Keep in mind daily health checks will need to be completed by the parent or guardian before your child/children attend camp each day. We will also be complying with local and government health official's guidance with daily temperature checks before campers enter the building and other COVID-19 rules/regulations.
https://epactnetwork.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/47000663839-sharing-your-emergency-information

DROP OFF (more in-depth details to follow).
Parents and Guardians will pull into a designated check-in line that will be clearly marked with their child's age group each morning.
Parents/Guardians and children must stay in their vehicles until they are checked-in via **ePACT** by an Amherst Recreation staff member (please wear a mask or face covering when interacting with our staff).
At that point, a staff member will take your child's temperature and if all is well they will line up with their group counselor outside under large tents to ensure adequate social distancing. Once everyone in the group is accounted for, the group will move on with their daily schedule and activities.

PICK UP (more in-depth details to follow).
If your child is signed up for a standard camp day (8:30 am-4:00 pm). You will be able to pick up your child outside under a large tent, again using the **ePACT** system to sign your child out.
Campers will only be released to those with written approval from their primary guardian
If someone other than the primary guardian will be picking up your child, please inform the director with a written note including the date, the person's name and phone number, and your phone number and signature. This policy is for your child's own protection and we appreciate your cooperation. It is very important that the camp director be notified if a camper will be dropped off late or picked up early.
Extended day Pick-Up procedures TBA. We thank you for your patience and flexibility.

LATE FEE
Due to staffing and space requirements, campers must be picked up from camp no later than the end of their program (4 pm for Bizzy Bees and 5 pm for Extended Day Program Campers).
The charge for late pick-up is $10 for the first 5 minutes late and an additional $1 for each minute thereafter. Notification of the late pick up will be sent to The Amherst Recreation Office and the parent or guardian will be billed by the Amherst Recreation Office. Continuous late pickups may result in the termination from the program and/or the inability to register for other Amherst Recreation programs in the future.

CLOTHING AND BELONGINGS:

Children should come to camp in weather-appropriate clothing and ready to PLAY!

Please leave "good clothing" at home. Make sure that all clothing and belongings are clearly labeled with your child's full name.

FREE SWIM & LIFE JACKETS

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and with the guidance from state/ local health officials, and in the interest of safety to our campers and pool staff we, unfortunately, will not be conducting swim lessons this year.

- Bizzy Bee and Epic Explorer campers will enjoy free swim at least once a day at the War Memorial Pool.
- Before your child begins free swim they will be tested for swim level and placed appropriately in an area of the pool that reflects that level to ensure safety. The swim level evaluation will be conducted by Amherst Recreation swim instructors. After your child is evaluated they will receive a bracelet to wear that corresponds with their current swim level. In the event, your child refuses to take the test they will be deemed a "non-swimmer" essentially a swimmer that has little to no experience, in turn, they will receive a pink bracelet, deligating them to the shallowest end of the pool.
  Again all of these mitigations are in place for the well-being of your child.
  So please remind your child/children to keep it on during their weekly session. :)

- Bizzy Bees will have free swim at the War Memorial Pool; either in the morning or afternoon, we may rotate the times to ensure all of our campers, Bizzy Bees, and Epic Explorers have an opportunity to enjoy free swim

We highly encourage families to send their child(ren) with a life vest or Puddle Jumper.

- In the interest of safety, Bizzy Bees will be required to wear either a Puddle Jumper or Life Vest while attending free swim and if advised by pool instructors.

- The pool may have extras on hand (this cannot be guaranteed). The life vests or puddle jumpers from the pool will be sanitized before and after use.

- Have no worries about your child(ren) missing out on pool time, we plan on supplementing our normal swim lesson time slot with various outdoor water activities!

- We anticipate that next year our 2022 camp session that we will be able to safely conduct swim lessons.

NOTE: Campers may or may not participate in a swim on a field trip or special event day depending on their swim schedule.

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CAMP ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF/ CONTACT INFORMATION

Director: Nicole Abelli, Abellin@amherstma.gov
Assistant Director: Luis Gomba
Amherst Recreation Office (413) 259-3065
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LUNCH & SNACKS

(We are a Peanut and Tree-nut Free Facility due to life-threatening allergies of campers and or staff)

FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH ALL SUMMER!

We're excited to announce that all campers participating in the Amherst Recreation FUN IN THE SUN SUMMER DAY CAMP program this year will be offered Free Breakfast and Lunch Every Day! This is part of a partnership with the revamped ARPS Food Nutrition department whose mission is to provide every camper with access to healthy, local, and flavorful meals. The Summer Food Service Program begins June 28th, 2021, and culminates with the last day of programming, ending on August 13th, 2021. No Pre-registering for Free Lunch required!!!

Free Breakfast will be served from 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM each day

Free Lunch will be served from 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM each day

We will receive menus for Hot Lunch from the ARPS School Nutrition department at the beginning of each week's session and email parents/ guardians a copy. Hot Lunch changes day to day, however cold Lunch option is always the same two choices a Bagel with cream cheese /sun butter or Sun-Butter and Jelly Sandwich accompanied by fruit yogurt and or cheese stick.

Parents/Guardians can still provide their children with a nutritious lunch, a morning and an afternoon snack, and beverages each day if the Free Lunch does not appeal to or suit you/your child's dietary needs. Refrigeration and microwave access are not available; therefore, perishables should be packed in thermoses or cold-pack lunch bags. Please be sure to label all lunch boxes and food containers with your child's full name. No Glass bottles or containers, please.

DISCLAIMER

We kindly ask for your understanding as we transition and adjust to our "New Normal". Camp Dates, Locations, Events, Protocols, Procedures including check-In/pick up may be subject to change with little to no notice.

We thank you in advance for your flexibility and willingness to work with us so that we may provide a great, and greatly missed summer camp experience. Thank you.

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ePACT
your emergency network

EPACT VS PAPER FORMS

Amherst Recreation

How is using ePACT better than using paper forms?

There is often a misconception that paper is more secure and easier to manage for organizations. But this simply is not true.
Paper forms can easily be mishandled, lost, damaged or simply inaccessible during an emergency.
They also can be incomplete, illegible or out-of-date, meaning organizations do not have the right data to provide to medical responders in a crisis.
Using ePACT ensures organizations have accurate data so they can best support you in any type of emergency, from earthquakes to allergic reactions.

Reduction on paper waste:

- Although forms can be printed as redundancy, using electronic forms means less paper is printed and photocopied
- families can always see what data the organization has by simply logging into ePACT, so no need to complete duplicate forms to have a copy.

Efficiency:

- Paper forms mean the same information needs to be completed for each program and can be difficult to update.
- Using ePACT, you enter information only once and you can quickly log in to make any changes. As the information is live, your connected organizations will gain access to this new information immediately.

Quality of data:

- Signing paper forms often means that the forms are incomplete, illegible, and can fall out of date quickly.
- Using ePACT means health records are uniform-information is clear, complete, and easy to read, so organizations can best support your family in any type of emergency.
- This can be critical when/if there is an urgent medical situation (for example: if a participant has a severe allergy. If the form is incomplete or illegible-organizations can not provide medical responders with the information they need.

Redundancy:

- In many emergencies, paper forms can easily be damaged or destroyed or will become inaccessible if stored in a location that is affected.ePACT ensures organizations never lose access to this critical information, regardless of the circumstances.
- If internet access is available, you can securely log in from any device. If no internet access is available you can still access this data in offline mode on your mobile devices and can still print paper copies as an additional redundancy

Support from Contacts:

- Using paper forms means that families add information for emergency contacts, but are also responsible to alert them and update their contact information. Using ePACT, contacts can be emailed with the system so they already know responsibilities and can verify their information so it is up-to-date

Security:

- Paper forms can be lost, misplaced, or stored insecurely. With ePACT, information is stored more securely and encrypted at the highest levels.
- Organizations can limit access and ensure that your data is only accessed when needed and only by those who have the authority to view it

ePACT

Amherst Recreation is proud to announce the adoption of ePACT Network, a health and safety software to better support our community and make it easier to submit critical data securely! ePACT is a secure digital solution that allows you to quickly share the health and emergency information we need, and also provides us with powerful communication tools to ensure we have a way to message you in the event of an illness, injury, or larger scale emergency. ePACT also offers health screening and contactless checkin tools, ensuring we can properly mitigate risks of exposure to COVID-19.

Why are we using ePACT? Download

- To save you time - With ePACT, you only need to complete your child's information once, and then verify that it is still correct for additional programs or subsequent years (which can be done in just two minutes)! And if you need to update something quickly, just log in and update it and we'll be notified immediately.
- To eliminate high-touch processes- Collecting data electronically and checking members in /out using contactless methods that ePACT offers means a significant reduction in close human contact and shared items like pens and paper sheets.
- For better security & privacy- ePACT's high encryption levels and commitment to security means your data on ePACT is safer than on paper- where it can be misplaced or accessible to people who shouldn't have access to it. ePACT allows us to limit and track access. **How does it work? (Content available: Watch video)** You'll receive an email invite to share information with Amherst Recreation. Click 'Complete Request' to create a free account, or log-in if you already have an existing ePACT account. Enter the required information, like medical conditions, and share it with Amherst Recreation so that program staff have access.

ePACT makes it far easier for you to share emergency information with us, while also ensuring we have access to records anytime, anywhere with the mobile app – even without an internet connection. Rest assured that you always own your account and the information in it. Have questions or feedback? Please contact us at rec@amherstma.gov or visit www.epactnetwork.com