



# WHAT TO EXPECT

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT OYM SUMMER CAMP

Your child can experience what could be one of the greatest weeks in their entire life. Away from the craziness and fullness of everyday life, campers are thrown into a realm of positive peer pressure encouraging them to pursue their relationship with God, build friendships, and stretch their comfort zone through daily activities. Camp is one of the best ways your child can be disciplined for a week by living 24/7 with others who love Jesus, influencing them towards a lifetime pursuit of Him.

So what does a week of camp look like? Can you say “Exciting”, “Intense”, “Extreme”? This is why camp is loved by many students. While at camp, they will play team sports outside (some messy games), swim in the pool, and have special services and sessions encouraging them in their relationship with God. During this time your student will be challenged and pushed to be a part of a team. Students will experience growth with their support staff member and others in their room through the games on the field and the services at night.

## ROOMING

- Bunk style rooms
- Restrooms and showers provided within building
- One adult leader per room
  - Middle School (18+ age minimum)
  - High School (20+ age minimum)
  - Combined (20+ age minimum)
- Highest student to leader ratio in a room (11 + 1 leader)
- Campers are automatically assigned to rooms with other campers from the same church unless otherwise requested.
- Campers attending without a church group are assigned to rooms with other campers of about the same age/grade.

## GENERAL CAMP RULES

These rules are given as guidelines for every student to follow. This code of conduct has been established for the protective benefit of each student. They must be observed at all times. Failure to comply with the camp rules can result in expulsion from camp with no refund.

- The daily schedule must be followed and attendance at all activities is required.
- No one is to leave the campgrounds without specific permission from the Camp Director and the appropriate forms completed.
- Students are expected to observe habits of personal and group cleanliness, courtesy, and Christian conduct.
- Males and females are not allowed in each other’s housing dormitories.
- Dress Code: Guests are to be modestly attired at all times. While comfort is important, all shorts, pants, shirts, and dresses are to be “size-appropriate” with no objectionable or suggestive slogans, artwork, or revealing style. Modest swimwear is required by anyone using the pool area. \*See Dress Code section for further details.
- **Cell phones**, MP3/CD players, radios, air soft guns, and paintball guns are **not** permitted. All such items will be

- collected from campers and returned at the end of camp.
- Special Government/Camp Statement: Fireworks, smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages, and drugs are NOT allowed on the campground.
- We reserve the right to inspect the contents of all personal belongings. The holding and/or disposal of improper contents are the right of the camp staff.
- Camp Activities are open only to registered campers and staff. **No visitors allowed.** Evening services are not open to the public, visiting youth groups, friends or family members. Any persons coming on the grounds must have the approval of the District Youth Director or Camp Director.
- Profanity will be NOT tolerated on the campgrounds at any time.

## **CAMP DRESS CODE**

Our dress code at camp is based on the biblical principles of modesty, neatness, and appropriateness/safety for activities. The following guidelines are for both students as well as Camp Staff. Please help us by setting an example for your campers and communicating these guidelines to them. If camp security deems an outfit inappropriate, they will ask the individual to promptly change into something better suited for camp.

1. No undergarments or midsections showing.
2. Shorts must be "Fingertip Length". This means that the hem of these articles of clothing must be the approximate length of the campers' fingertips when the hands are relaxed at their side.
3. No short skirts. In general, skirts are probably not the best attire for camp; pants and shorts are great for all camp activities.
4. No clothing with inappropriate symbols or messages on it (including alcohol, tobacco, or sexually suggestive language or images)
5. No halter tops, tube tops, bare midriff tops, or spaghetti strap tops.
6. Only modest swimsuits are permitted to be worn at camp. Campers could be asked to wear a dark color t-shirt if the suit is deemed inappropriate.
7. When walking back and forth from the pool, all swimmers must wear shoes/sandals and a cover up over their swimsuit.
8. Shirts must be worn at all times, unless swimming
9. Shoes or Flip-Flops must be worn at all times (except when swimming)
10. Open-toed shoes are not permitted to be worn during activities (Team Sports and Smash Hours)
11. Tattoos and body piercings must be unobtrusive and of a non-controversial content. Some piercings may need to be removed for safety purposes.

## **YOUR STUDENT MAY BE EXPOSED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- Sun
- Water
- Mud
- Physical activities outside/inside
- Rock climbing wall
- Low ropes course
- High ropes course
- Loud music
- Flashing lights
- Hazers (smoke machines)
- Loud crowds (cheering during games)

# SCHEDULE

Sample Schedule from years past (THIS IS NOT OUR FINAL SCHEDULE)

## MONDAY

9:30 Registration begins  
 12:00 Camper Welcome  
 12:30 Cabin Group Meeting  
 1:00 Lunch  
 2:00 Opening Ceremonies  
 2:30 The Opening Event – **3 Smash Hours**  
 5:00 Clean up/Free Time (pool open)  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Support Staff Meeting in Oakwood Tabernacle  
 7:30 Service  
 10:30 The Wrap  
 11:00 Late Night  
 12:00 In Rooms  
 12:30 Lights out

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 12:00 In Rooms  
 12:30 Lights out

## FRIDAY

8:00 Support Staff Meeting in Cafe  
 8:30 Breakfast  
 9:30 Cabin Clean up  
 10:30 Free Time (no pool)  
 12:00 Closing Ceremonies  
 1:00 Camp Dismiss

## TUESDAY

8:00 Support Staff Meeting in Cafe  
 8:30 Breakfast  
 9:30 Cabin Clean-up  
 10:00 Morning Session #1  
 11:00 Team Sports for Girls  
 Free Time for Guys (pool open)  
 12:00 Team Sports for Guys  
 Free Time for Girls (pool open)  
 1:00 Lunch  
 2:30 Midday  
 3:00 Back-to-Back Smash Hours  
 5:00 Clean-up/Free Time (pool open)  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Support Staff Meeting in Oakwood Tabernacle  
 7:30 Service  
 10:30 The Wrap  
 11:00 Late Night  
 12:00 In Rooms  
 12:30 Lights out

## WEDNESDAY

8:00 Support Staff Meeting in Cafe  
 8:30 Breakfast  
 9:30 Cabin Clean-up  
 10:00 Team Sports for Girls  
 Free Time for Guys (pool open)  
 11:00 Team Sports for Guys  
 Free Time Girls (pool open)  
 12:00 Free time (pool open)  
 1:00 Lunch #1  
 2:30 Midday  
 3:00 Back-to-Back-to-Back Smash Hours  
 5:00 Clean-up/Free Time (pool open)  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Support Staff Meeting in Oakwood Tabernacle  
 7:30 Service  
 10:30 The Wrap  
 11:00 Late Night (Free Time/pool open)  
 12:00 In Rooms  
 12:30 Lights out

## THURSDAY

8:00 Support Staff Meeting in Cafe  
 8:30 Breakfast  
 9:30 Cabin Clean-up  
 10:00 Morning Session #2  
 11:00 Team Sports for Guys  
 Free Time for Girls (pool open)  
 12:00 Team Sports for Girls  
 Free Time for Guys (pool open)  
 1:00 Lunch  
 2:30 Midday  
 3:30 The "Pony Express" (pool open)  
 5:00 Clean-up/Free Time (pool open)  
 6:00 Dinner  
 7:00 Support Staff Meeting in

## SCHEDULE DEFINITIONS

### Services

Our services start out with 15 minutes of focused prayer, then worship, preaching and an altar call. We feel that the nightly services are one of the most important aspects of camp and we will move the schedule around to allow for extra time for the Holy Spirit to move.

### Smash Hours

High Intensity Group Activities. Examples:

- **Acid Rain** - This treasured relay race has every team facing a large barrel that will be filled with balls and guarded by an angry fire hose. The object of the game is to, in relay race fashion, send one person at a time to go through an obstacle, take a ball out of the barrel, and then return with the ball (not through the obstacle). The next person in line will put the ball back into the barrel. The balls are your baton and the students are your horses. Giddy-up!
- **Pony Express** - This final event separates the winners from the whiners as you attempt to conquer this legendary camp race. It's an entire-team encompassing, entire-camp encompassing, gigantic relay race. 35 individuals compete in events and then hand the baton to the next team member until all are accomplished. Your entire team will then run across the finish line. You will need to use your time wisely during the week to prepare for this final event. Start your recruiting NOW!

### Midday

After lunch every day, there will be a "hyped" time for the activity guys to announce the results of games, room checks, and scores in the Multi Purpose Room. You will need to have your team ready to cheer loudly, be unified and enthusiastic.

### Room Checks

Every day during Team Sports, every room can score points for your team with clean rooms. The activity directors will be checking your rooms for these 3 C's = Cleanliness, Creativity and Caring. Cleanliness is a good smelling and tidy room. Creativity is doing something creative to your room to make the activities directors smile, like decorating it to a theme (please ONLY use blue painters tape or sticky tack to decorate the walls). Caring is leaving some snacks and drinks for the Camp Staff (optional). If you "WOW" the activity directors, you'll get even more!

### Late Night Activities

There will be events after the evening services on Monday and Tuesday night that are required attendance for all campers and Support Staff. If there are any special instructions, the activity guys will notify you that day.

### Free Time

There will be free time each day for swimming and relaxing.

### The Wrap

The Wrap is a small group discussion about the service that takes place following the service each evening.

## WHAT TO BRING

- Bible
- Pen and notepad
- Towels and washcloths
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Soap and all toiletry items
- Comb or brush
- Sheets and pillow
- 2 blankets or sleeping bag
- Sweater or jacket
- Modest Swimsuit
- Swimsuit cover-up or robe
- Practical camp clothes
- Spending money for snacks, the camp store, and special mission's offerings
- Athletic shoes (will get muddy)
- Shoes that stay dry for indoor use
- Clothing and shoes for outside water and mud sports
- Recommend aqua shoes for outside water sports
- Flashlight
- Alarm clock (cell phones are prohibited)
- A large trash bag for the camper's dirty clothes.
  - Label the bag with the camper's name, church name and city, and a phone number.
- Medication in its original packing
- Money for Speed The Light offering, Snack Shack, or Merchandise

\*Be sure to label all items with the camper's name. It is recommended to also label all luggage with the camper's name, church name and city, and a phone number.

## WHAT NOT TO BRING

- ∅ Short shorts or cut-off shorts
- ∅ Tight fitting clothing (non-opaque leggings are okay with extra-long shirt)
- ∅ Low-cut shirts
- ∅ Any clothing exposing the midriff
- ∅ CD players, radios, MP3 players
- ∅ Cell phones (Note: students must turn in cell phones at registration. They will be returned on Friday. Cell phones discovered in students' possession during camp will be collected by the room leader and turned in to the Camp Office)
- ∅ Electronic games
- ∅ Skateboards
- ∅ Non-essential Medications. This includes Tylenol, vitamins, etc.

**Please Note:** Heartland Conference Retreat Center and Ohio Youth Ministries Camp Leadership are not held responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## MEDICATIONS

All medications must be turned in to the Camp Nurse during registration. **Medications MUST be brought in their original containers! No exceptions!** The Nurse will be available throughout the week to dispense medications as prescribed. \*Your student will NOT be able to self-carry their medication. This is including an inhaler, epi-pen, ect if this [form](#) is not filled out by a doctor and brought to camp.

## CAMP BANK

A camp bank exists so campers can avoid accidental loss of their money. Campers may deposit their money during registration on Monday. The Camp Bank will be open during free time and after the evening service each day. Any remaining balance can be picked up from the bank on Friday morning before leaving camp. Money not picked up from the Camp Bank on Friday will be donated to Speed the Light.

## SPEED THE LIGHT

Each year we take time before our evening services to focus on our Ohio Missionaries that count on Speed the Light to do what God has called them to do. Please be prepared to give at the beginning of these services.

## MAIL

Campers enjoy getting mail! Here are three1000 ways to send mail to your camper:

1. Mail letters and cards to:

(Camper's Name and which camp)  
Heartland CRC  
3201 CR 225  
Marengo, OH 43334

Please allow sufficient time for the mail to arrive during camp by mailing at least a week in advance. Please indicate on the envelope which camp your camper is attending. The Camp Staff makes every attempt to deliver mail to campers, but this delivery cannot be guaranteed. Do not send money or valuable items.

2. Place cards, letters, and small gifts in your child's luggage to find during camp.
3. Give your mail and care packages to your church group leader who is bringing your students to camp. They can give the mail to the campers Room Leader to deliver during the week of camp.

\*Note about Camp email: In the past an email address was provided to parents to send email to campers during camp. Due to very heavy use of this system, it became necessary to discontinue this practice as the email load was far too great to manage. Campers will not be able to receive emailed messages during camp.

## LICE TREATMENTS

The [Lice Center of Ohio](#) will perform a lice check on every camper during registration on the first day of camp. If lice are found, the Lice Center of Ohio staff can provide immediately effective treatment to the camper and their belongings for a charge of \$45. Following the treatment, the Ohio Ministry Network staff will email the campers parent [literature](#) from the Lice Center of Ohio detailing the method of treatment, information about [follow up treatments](#), and a bill for the \$45 (payment to be remitted to Ohio Ministry Network).

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Ohio Ministry Network will retain a volunteer photographer to capture pictures and video of the camp activities. These pictures and videos may be posted to the Ohio Ministry Network and Ohio Ministry Network social media accounts. The purpose of sharing pictures and videos of camp is to give parents and friends of OYM a glimpse of the exciting happenings at camp. Campers love to see the pictures and videos after camp! If a campers picture may not be shared on social media due to custody issues, foster child status, or other safety concerns, please alert Ohio Ministry Network in writing to [oym@ohioministry.net](mailto:oym@ohioministry.net). Campers who may not have their picture shared on social media will be given a special wristband to wear during camp to help photographers and those posting pictures to social media be sure that their identity is protected.

## PHONE CALLS

Campers are not permitted to call home without the Director's permission because this promotes homesickness. Parents should not call camp and expect to speak to their child. In case of an emergency, camp directors can be reached at 740-747-0220. There are no public phones available for campers to use.

## NO VISITORS

For safety and security reasons, the campgrounds are closed to all visitors. This includes evening services.

## LOST & FOUND POLICY

There is a \$15.00 handling charge to return any lost and found items, regardless of size, weight, etc. A check must be received at Heartland before the item(s) can be returned. Lost and found items will be held for 7 days after an event. After the 7-day period, items will be discarded or donated depending on the item.

## CAMPER DROP OFF AND PICK-UP

Registration for Summer Camp is Monday morning from 9:30-11:30AM at Oakwood Lodge. Campers can be dropped off at any point during that time.

Campers must be picked up at 1PM on Friday.

**For additional information regarding Summer Camp, please contact your church group leader. If your child is not attending Summer Camp as a part of a church group, you can contact Ohio Youth Ministries directly at [oym@ohioministry.net](mailto:oym@ohioministry.net).**