



  
**Whippoorwill**  
FARM DAY CAMP

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# Parent Handbook

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**Summer 2020**

updated on 6/21/2020

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## Message from the Executive Director

Hello Camp Families,

We are so excited to share Whippoorwill with your campers this summer. Camp is needed more than ever this year and we have been working tirelessly to create a safe program that everyone can enjoy.

For those who have enjoyed summers with us in the past, things will be different this year. And for new families, thank you for trusting us with your campers.

We created this handbook to share our new policies and procedures that relate to COVID-19 and how we plan to keep everyone safe. As we all know, the world is living with this virus and there will be a risk until there is

a vaccine. However, we feel we have taken all the steps recommended by the Health department, the CDC and the American Camp Association to keep that risk low.

Read through this handbook carefully so that you feel comfortable with our plans and what we will be asking of everyone this summer.

We look forward to spending time with your camper this year and for years to come.

Happy Camping!  
Shanelle Rauh

## Where We Get Our Guidance

Whippoorwill is an American Camp Association (ACA) accredited camp, which means we meet over 100 ACA standards for program quality and safety.

In response to the Covid-19 virus, ACA has developed a Camp Operations Guide with the help of specialists in pediatric medicine, epidemiology, infectious disease management, biological safety, and industrial hygiene. We are following the recommendations of this Guide.

We are also working with the Williamson County Health Department, our camp physician, and our camp RNs to implement policies and procedures to keep your campers and our staff safe this summer.

In deciding whether to open camp, and what capacities to use, we rely on Governor Lee's Tennessee Pledge and the Williamson County Health Department.

## Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedures

The ACA Camp Operations Guide goes into great detail about which products to use and how frequently to clean high-touch (and low-touch) areas of camp. The Guide also includes step-by-step instructions on how to clean and disinfect various surfaces.

At Whippoorwill we will:

- Use EPA cleaning products approved for Covid-19
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and

common spaces multiple times daily

- Clean and disinfect shared items between each use
- Clean and disinfect activity areas between groups
- Provide hand-washing stations, hand sanitizer, sani-wipes, and cleaning and disinfecting wipes throughout camp
- Post signs and give reminders about washing hands





## Transportation: Getting to and from Camp

Transportation is where we need your help the most! You have two general options this summer:

**Option 1: Whippoorwill bus.** Our bus drivers are experienced Williamson County school bus drivers. Each bus will be cleaned and disinfected before picking up campers and before leaving camp. Drivers, campers, and counselors will wear masks (camp will provide the masks or you can use your own). *Campers will be assigned a seat on the bus. No more than two campers per row and buses will run at half capacity. Siblings can sit together. We plan to keep this process in place all summer despite what phase the state or county may be in.*

**Option 2: Driving to camp.** You are welcome to drive your camper to and from camp. We will stagger arrival and departure times for car arrivals and bus arrivals. *We are grateful that Fernvale Community Church will let us use their parking lot for a screening area for campers in the morning. Car rider campers will ride a hay less hayride onto property each morning! Families will receive an email with additional details and directions before their session.*

**Best practice is to designate one parent/guardian to pick up and drop off campers every day.** Individuals who are at higher-risk for severe illness per CDC guidance should not drop off or pickup campers.

## Temperature Checks, Health Screenings

Part of the new normal for Summer 2020 will be temperature checks and health screenings for all campers and staff. This will happen at bus stops in the morning or, if you drive your camper to camp, when you arrive at camp. We will use infrared forehead thermometers and our staff taking temperatures will be trained by our camp RNs.

A camper with a temperature of over 100.4 degrees will not be able to attend camp for 48 hours. A camper must stay home for 48 hours if they have:

- A temperature over 100.4
- A sore throat, cough, or runny nose
- Loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Shortness of breath
- Been in contact with someone who may have symptoms in the last 14 days

- Have family members who traveled to a place that had COVID-19

*It has been recommended that only campers who live in the immediate middle Tennessee area be allowed to attend camp. We are also asking that families do not fly in an airplane within two weeks of their session. This is best practice from the CDC and agreed upon by our Camp doctor. If you are traveling out of state, we ask that you drive only and be aware of social distancing and mask wearing guidelines.*

In light of the current pandemic, we are recommending that campers with preexisting health conditions wait until next year to come to camp. Likewise, if a camper is living with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or is medically fragile, that they wait until next summer to attend.

## Fevers or Symptoms While at Camp

If a camper has a fever of 100.4 or above, or other Covid-19 symptoms, our on-site RN will isolate the camper in our isolation tent. A staff member with appropriate PPE will stay with your camper until you can drive out to camp and pick up your camper. It is asked that you pick up your

camper within an hour of being notified.

We will notify the Williamson County Health Department and ask for guidance about whether the camper should be tested for Covid-19 and if members of the camper's Den should be tested.

## General Health Information

All campers are required to fill out an updated health history form each summer. A doctor's signature is not required.

We generally have 3-5 nurses rotate throughout the summer. They are Registered Nurses with a background in School Health or Emergency Care. They come to us with current certifications and go through training sessions on site to learn our procedures. Our healthcare policies are

reviewed annually by a local pediatrician and meet all ACA standards.

If your child needs to take prescription or non-prescription medication while at camp, please download the Medication Form at [whippoorwill.com/health](http://whippoorwill.com/health). A nurse will contact you before your summer session to go over the medication instructions.





## Small Groups and Social Distancing

Like previous camp seasons, your camper will be part of a small group, which we call a Den. Each den will have 6-9 campers and 1-2 counselors.

Unlike previous camp seasons, your camper will stay with their Den all week. This is because CDC guidelines say staying in the same small group will reduce the spread of infections and will allow for more rapid identification of suspected or confirmed cases of Covid-19.

Dens will use social distancing when around other groups of campers and counselors. Whippoorwill's 44 acres give us plenty of elbow room!

While we follow the CDC guidelines for small groups and social distancing, we're also planning ways to add fun and connection to the camp day. We will not lose the magic and fun of camp while following the guidelines.

## Interest Activity Groups

Whippoorwill has always been about free choice, with campers choosing their interest groups during sign-ups.

This summer will still offer activity choices, but in a different way. Instead of sign-ups for activities, your camper's counselor will offer a selection of activities to the entire Den. Then, as a group, the Den will decide which activities to choose. The entire Den will participate in activities together while keeping a social distance from other Dens. Campers will participate in 4-5 activities most days.

We understand that some campers are more energetic

about expressing their opinions. Whippoorwill's counselors are trained to help quieter campers get their voices heard. If you have concerns that your camper's choices are getting lost in the crowd, please email or call the office.

Shared items will be cleaned and disinfected before another group uses them. Certain activities, like the climbing tower and swimming, will have specialist counselors. These counselors will wear masks and gloves if they are within 6 feet of your camper.

## What to Bring to Camp

Each camper should bring as little as possible! Items have a way of losing their owner at camp. Please label everything and, if it is not labeled, we will not be able to return the item. A lunch, water bottle, sunscreen and bug spray are all that is mandatory. Please don't bring any favorite items from home as they tend to get lost.

Camper will get dirty and wet throughout the day.

Shoes that can get wet are best (no crocs) and closed-toed shoes are mandatory for pony rides and rope activities. A swimsuit and towel are great if your child goes to the pool or splashpad.

Recycling and composting are an important part of camp; please consider this when packing a lunch.

## Visiting Camp

We love it when parents visit camp and see their kids in action! We also love it when our new families visit camp and see what everyone is talking about.

This summer, though, we ask parents to only come to

camp if you are dropping off your camper or picking up your camper. We hope to resume family days and special events throughout the year when guidelines allow. This will give your family the chance to visit camp later!

