



CAMP VOYAGER SUMMER 2026

LETTER TO PARENTS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Brookfield Parks & Recreation Department's Camp Voyager Program. We are excited to offer four weeks of trips this summer. The destinations feature a mix of beloved annual favorites, new establishments and some classics that camp has not visited since pre-Covid. Your middle schooler can look forward to trying something new each day while having a great time with friends.

Kayla Rushforth takes the helm as our Camp Voyager director this summer. Kayla has been an outstanding Camp Voyager counselor and recently graduated from the University of Connecticut. Kayla is excited to steer the ship this summer and looks forward to welcoming your child. Kayla will be joined by camp veterans, Jim Flanagan, Maggie Lyons, and James D'Amico along with some recent BHS alumni counselors. We have a great mix of counselors with different interests who are excited to meet your camper and lead them through some excellent summer experiences.

Each day campers should be dressed for the weather and for the scheduled activity. Because of the variety of daily activities, we encourage campers to wear shorts, t-shirts, and sneakers. Campers should also bring a backpack each day packed with a bathing suit, towel, and sunscreen. Sunscreen should be applied at home each day before camp. Brookfield camps and staff are not responsible for lost items. Please do not bring anything valuable to camp. We recommend labeling all personal items to avoid confusion. Campers must wear their Camp T-shirt on specific trip days, as they make the group easily identifiable (These are distributed on the morning of the trip they will be asked to wear them). If your camper is participating in multiple weeks of camp, please wear your Voyager shirt given out the first week.

Pack a lunch and snacks for your camper each day, unless otherwise specified on the schedule. *We are an allergy aware camp and ask that you do not send in any snacks or lunches containing peanuts or tree nuts.* Since we do not have a refrigerator at our disposal, lunches should be packed with ice packs or in coolers. It does often become quite warm during activities, so we encourage you to pack extra drinks and refillable water bottles (no glass bottles). Many locations offer snack bars and campers are welcome to purchase lunch/snacks. The group will make a stop, if necessary, for food. Please do not provide your camper with more money than necessary. The camp staff will not be responsible for holding any camper's money.

Our staff is looking forward to a fun and safe summer with your child. To that end, some rules have been put in place to maximize every child's enjoyment of Camp Voyager. The rules are found on a behavior contract which is linked in the email body. We institute the contract every year to make sure that all campers and parents are clear of our expectations from the start and feel that they are invaluable in helping us keep your child safe. **We are asking that you take the time before camp begins to review the rules on the online form with your child and acknowledge you both read it.** Your camper will

review the rules again with our staff as part of our first day orientation and be reminded daily as they pertain to the trip.

Along with the contract, make sure you have completed the **camper information questions**. This was completed during registration. A link will be sent before camp for you to update any necessary information. It is very important that you complete these items before the *first day of camp*. Please feel free to discuss any information with the director, particularly any allergies, medical conditions, or medications that affect your camper. The more we know, the better we can serve your camper. If your child has an epi-pen, please inform Kayla at drop off the first morning in addition to listing it on your camper information form. If they can self-administer, a note should be included in their camper information form. These products must be in the original prescription containers and accompanied by an emergency plan or orders from the doctor, as appropriate. Our counselors have also been trained in first aid, CPR, and epi-pen administration. Parents should also check or have their child check for ticks each day when they arrive home.

The location for drop-off each day will be at Whisconier Middle School (17 W. Whisconier Rd.) in the gyms. Parents should pull around the back of the school and drop off at the double doors leading to the gyms. 5:00pm pickup is at a different location. **Pickup for Camp Voyager is always at the Cadigan Park Pavilion, 465 Candlewood Lake Rd.**

Some of the activities planned will depend upon good weather. In case of inclement weather, an alternative indoor activity will be substituted at the discretion of the Parks & Recreation Department. Camp changes will be communicated at drop off. If changes in the schedule should occur after sign in, detailed information will be emailed to parents.

Please do not drop off campers prior to 8:50am or pick them up later than 5:00pm. We do offer early drop-off (8:00am) and late pickup (6:00pm) at an additional cost each week. If you are more than 15 minutes late picking up your camper, it is Parks & Recreation policy that you will be charged \$5.00 for every fifteen minutes that you are late. Also, if anyone other than a parent is going to be picking up a camper, please give a note stating this to the staff in the morning. The person picking them up will be asked to provide a photo ID. Campers need to be signed in and signed out from camp each day. Those picking up a camper must get out of the vehicle and come to our sign-out table each day.

We have worked very hard to give your camper the opportunity to have many varied experiences, to make new friends and most importantly to have lots of fun during their week in Camp Voyager. We understand the important role that we will play for a short time in your child's life. Should you have any questions before the start of the camp, please feel free to contact me, or any other staff member at the Parks & Recreation Office, at 203-775-7310. Once camp begins, Camp Director Kayla Rushforth, will be available to you at drop off and welcome any suggestions, questions, or comments that you may have.

Brookfield Parks & Recreation