

C A M P
CHIPPEWA
Adventure. Tradition. Character.

A Guide to

Camp Chippewa for Boys
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Preparing for Summer Camp

**The Parent
Handbook**

What's Inside...

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Getting to and departing from Camp

Health Information

How to help ensure a fun and healthy stay

Our Environment

Help us make this summer even better

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Will your son camp out?
You bet!

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The Handy Checklist

Check it out now, and keep it handy

Equipment List

What and how much to pack for the summer



Travel



The safety of your son during his travel to and from camp is very important to us. Coordinating travel plans is one of the most difficult and important jobs that we will do all summer. As such, it is critical that we receive accurate and timely information regarding your son's travel plans to camp. The enclosed **Travel Supplement** envelope will help.

Parents make all travel arrangements to and from camp. We strongly recommend that you use **Travel One (800-245-1111)** of Minneapolis to make flight arrangements. Travel One works as a liaison between the camp, camp families and the airlines in providing discounted rates for air travel. By using Travel One, you will help us make your son's travel day move more smoothly and aid us in meeting him at the airport, while you will benefit from discount group rates in your ticket purchases. If you choose to use your own agent, please ensure your son's arrival and departure are within the times specified below.

Once your son's travel plans are made, please complete the online Camper Travel Form or email your sons itinerary to the camp office *by June 1st*. By completing the travel form promptly, you help to ensure a smooth travel day for your son.

The Details

Air Travel:

4- and 8-week campers

Campers will arrive into and depart from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. Upon arrival, a Chippewa counselor wearing a Camp Chippewa shirt will meet your son at his arriving gate and upon departure he will be accompanied to his departing gate by a Chippewa counselor. All campers arriving by plane will gather near gate C12. A chartered bus will transport the campers to and from camp. The cost of the bus is included in the camp tuition. Rest assured that campers will be carefully supervised by our staff during travel days.

On the way to camp, the camper's flight should arrive between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm. When leaving camp, the flight should depart between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Please make every effort to ensure that your son arrives and departs between these times. Late arrivals and early departures are difficult to accommodate.

(travel continued on next page)

Badger Camp (2-week campers)

Campers will arrive into and depart from the Bemidji, MN Airport on July 2nd or July 30th, depending on your session. Northwest Airlines operates several daily flights between Minneapolis and Bemidji. Travel on June 17th, July 15th, July 17th or August 12th may be arranged to arrive or depart from Minneapolis, traveling on the bus with the 4-weekers. Therefore, we strongly recommend you use Northwest Airlines in making travel arrangements. Again, contacting Travel One will be helpful in your planning. Be sure to indicate that you have a 2-weeker that will fly to or from Bemidji. A Chippewa counselor in a Camp Chippewa shirt will meet your son at the gate. Upon leaving camp, Chippewa counselors will accompany your son to the gate in Bemidji.

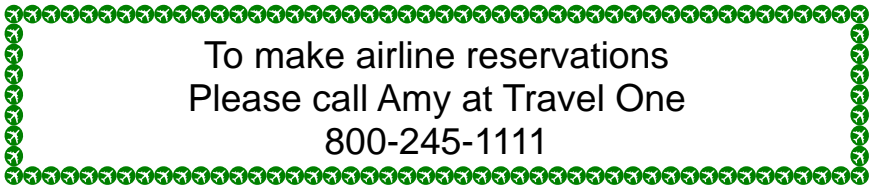
All campers

Campers must fly as “Unaccompanied minors.” Most major airlines require that passengers that are 14 years old or younger fly as “Unaccompanied Minors.” (This minimum age will vary by airline.) Though we realize that this service adds an extra cost, the safety and security of your son is ensured by this service. Please fill out the two separate forms (“UM”) that you may receive from the airline or Travel One; one for his trip to camp and one for his trip home. This is a critical parental responsibility. You will pay for this service either at the time of your reservation or at the time of check-in. If you do not fill these forms out, we will be required to do so, a tedious task for a small camp office. *Please help us by completing the forms.*

In the past, the airlines have been somewhat inconsistent with enforcing the “UM” rule. We ask that even if the airlines forget to designate your son as an “unaccompanied minor,” you insist on flying him as one. We will do the same, even if your son did not come to camp as an “unaccompanied minor,” to ensure your son’s safety.

The “UM” form will ask for the name of the person who will meet your son at his gate. Please indicate “Camp Chippewa Representative” on one form and the name of the person who will meet your son on his flight home for the other one. The person who picks up

(Travel continued on next page)



To make airline reservations
Please call Amy at Travel One
800-245-1111

your son on the flight home should have valid photo identification.

Bus Travel:

We offer bus transportation to and from camp and the Minneapolis Airport. Parents may bring the campers to the airport **Transit Center, Level 1** at the Lindbergh terminal. When dropping your son off to go to camp, please ensure that he has already eaten lunch, then meet the camp rep between 12:00pm and 12:30pm. At the end of camp, please arrange to pick up your son between 11:30am and 12:00pm. While on the bus, the campers will be expected to: respect each other and the Chippewa staff, sit facing forward, remain seated unless using the restroom, not to yell or scream and not to litter. The campers will be under the supervision of the Chippewa staff during the bus trip.

Car Travel:

We are proud of Chippewa and we welcome parents who wish to drop off or pick-up their son at camp. If you are trying to decide whether to pick-up or drop-off your son, we would recommend picking your son up after camp. We find two benefits to this. First, on arrival at camp, he will have already met some other campers on the bus trip to camp. Second, when you pick him up at camp, he will have had a full summer's worth of stories and can show you around camp while sharing them. If you plan to tour camp, we strongly recommend you do so at the time of pick-up so that your son can show you around *his* camp.

If you do choose to drop off your son at the beginning of camp, please plan to arrive between 4:00 pm and 5:00 pm. By doing so, your son will have only a short wait before the rest of his cabin arrives on the bus. If you choose to pick-up your son after camp, plan to arrive between 8:00 am and 9:00 am. Directions are available on the camp website or by calling the camp office.



Some Good Ideas for Travel



If your son is flying, please attach the blue Camp Chippewa baggage tags to all of your son's luggage. Northwest Airlines will be looking for these tags to separate our camp's baggage.

Pack a backpack for your son with one change of clothes, toiletries and a swimsuit. This should be used as a carry-on if your son is flying.

Health



The health and safety of each camper is our primary responsibility while the boys are at camp. The camp program encourages good hygiene, from morning inspection of the cabins, to washing hands at the Oasis before each meal, to regular bathing. Meals are nutritious and each boy will be encouraged to try any foods presented during meals.

In preparation for arrival at camp, every camper must have a physical examination by a licensed doctor within the last 24 months. We ask that you **complete the green Health History Form within 6 months** of attending camp. In addition, please ask your son's physician to **complete the pink Health Care Recommendations form**. Both forms should be mailed to camp by June 1st. It is important to note any medication requirements on the form. If special medication instructions are required, please detail them on a separate sheet of paper. These health forms will be reviewed by the camp doctor or nurse. The information is kept confidential unless medical conditions necessitate notification of the Chippewa staff.

The camp Health Center is often a quiet place. Upon arrival at camp, each boy will be checked by the camp doctor or nurse. The Health Center is also open every morning after breakfast and again in the evening after dinner. The Health Center is always available for an emergency and all staff are trained in emergency procedures. Most Chippewa staff are trained in basic first aid and CPR, many have been trained in Wilderness First Aid and most are lifeguard certified. The camp doctor or nurse is always on duty while at camp for responding to any emergencies as well. In the event of serious illness or emergency beyond the expertise of Chippewa staff, care will be sought at the Urgent Care Center in Bemidji. Ambulance and First Responder service will also respond promptly to camp.

The camp doctor or nurse will distribute any regular medications during "Club Med," which occurs just after each meal. Though the camp doctor or nurse will get the medications to each camper, it is ultimately the responsibility of each boy to ensure he is taking his medications. Please discuss this with your son since this may be the first time he has taken on this responsibility. At no time will the camper be allowed to keep medication in his cabin. While out of camp, the lead counselor will be trained and be responsible for distribution of any medications.

Environment



Camp Chippewa is located in the Chippewa National Forest. The towering pines and crystal blue lakes are an ideal place for a boy to spend his summer. While at camp, we hope to instill a reverence for nature. Our beautiful natural surroundings are a wonderful classroom providing an opportunity to learn about weather, native flora and fauna. Living in this environment, however, is much different than living at home. Items like sunscreen and bug repellent will help smooth the transition from home to rustic cabin life at camp. Proper footwear and rain gear are also important. The camp equipment list located on the back of this handbook will guide you to providing the necessary equipment to help your son have a great summer.

It is our philosophy that time at camp is time free from many modern conveniences, like television, iPods, computers and cell phones. The opportunity to live without being tethered to your cell phone, email or television is rare today. Camp affords that opportunity. We ask that you help us preserve this tradition. **Please do not allow your son to bring a cell phone, stereo, iPod, cd player, gameboy or other electronics to camp.** While we recognize their importance to all of us, camp is a time to discover the pleasures of the wilderness environment, whether it be the sound of the wind blowing through the pines, the sight of a perfect sunset on Buck Lake, or the lull of the waves lapping at Cass Lake sending you to sleep. By tuning out these devices, your son will better tune into his surroundings, his friends and his counselors.

On Homesickness

If you are concerned about homesickness, know that this is not an unusual situation, even among returning campers and sometimes staff. We will handle it with an understanding approach that stems from years of experience. We ask that you talk to your son, letting him know that a telephone call is not a solution and might well exacerbate his woe. With a single phone line in camp, camper calls cannot be made nor accepted, birthdays being the exception. Trust us and know that our active program and dedicated staff will make your son at home at Chippewa.

Tripping



The lore of the voyageur is alive and well at Chippewa. Each boy, whether age eight or age seventeen, will have the opportunity to camp overnight. For our younger campers, trips range from one to four nights, while our high-school aged boys may be away from camp from six to nineteen nights.

Though these trips are optional, we strongly encourage each boy to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Few activities at camp do more for building camaraderie than tripping. Memories formed around a campfire can last a lifetime.

Each cabin will have a **canoe trip**. The routes and duration of the trips are commensurate with the age group of the cabin. For example, first year campers in our youngest cabin may paddle a few miles and camp overnight near camp, while our more experienced boys in high school may be paddling more than 200 miles for up to 19 nights in northern Canada. The “Common Canoe Trips” listed below is intended as a guide for the kind of trip your son can expect. These trips may change, however, due to weather, cabin experience or physical development, water conditions, or director’s discretion. We attempt to provide an experience that is both fun and challenging for the boys, no matter what age group a cabin may be. Our hope is that these trips will form the basis of a continuing interest in wilderness camping.

Common Canoe Trips:

<u>Cabin Age</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Trip Example</u>
3rd & 4th Grade	1 night	Camp Craft or Star Island
5th & 6th Grade	1 or 2 nights	Mississippi River
7th Grade	2 or 3 nights	Crow Wing River
8th Grade	3 or 4 nights	Voyageurs Nat’l Park
9th Grade	6 nights	Quetico Provincial Park
10th or 11th Grade	10 to 15 nights	English River
		Bloodvein River
12th Grade	18+ nights	Little Churchill River
		(Hudson Bay trip)

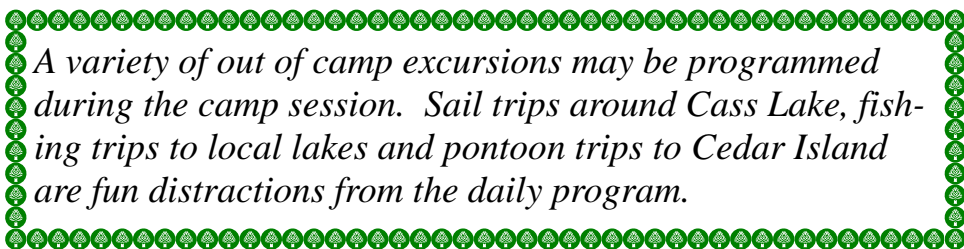
This table is simply a guide for the duration of trip your son can look forward to. The trip offered may be different than the one listed and may last longer or shorter by a few days.

In addition, boys entering sixth or seventh grade will have the opportunity to explore the Canadian wilderness from our lodge in Ontario's Rainy Lake. In some cases, we may open **Hook Island** to younger age groups. A two-hour van ride from camp brings boys to the international border. From there, a launch will take them six miles up Rainy Lake to Graham Lodge. They will spend four days, fishing, swimming and exploring the Canadian islands under the care of their counselors.

Our dedicated sailors may opt for a sail cruise among the **Apostle Islands** of Lake Superior aboard a 38 foot sloop. For five days, they will learn to sail this vessel, sleep and cook on board, and explore the beautiful and remote islands. Sailing in a 20-knot wind is an absolute joy.

The leadership of each trip is determined by the type of trip. The counselors leading your son have the skills and judgment necessary to provide a safe and fun adventure on the trail. In addition, your son will be prepared for the trip, whether it be through canoe classes before a canoe trip, or through swim instruction over the course of the summer. Each camper will have a paddle and PFD (personal flotation device) that he will keep through the summer. Camp will also provide all camping equipment such as tents, stoves and first aid kits.

The routes are well established and most we have paddled for years. Unless we indicate otherwise, the destination of a trip is known by camp and its leadership. This allows us to offer the most fun while being aware of any potential hazards and all safety valves.



A variety of out of camp excursions may be programmed during the camp session. Sail trips around Cass Lake, fishing trips to local lakes and pontoon trips to Cedar Island are fun distractions from the daily program.

A Note on Canadian Adventures

For boys headed to Hook Island (entering 6th and 7th grades) or those exploring Canadian canoe routes (entering at least 9th grade), the Department of Homeland Security requires that each boy crossing the US-Canada border have proper identification and proof of citizenship. Online, you will find a *Canadian permission slip* which asks for a photo of your son and all current information. This form, *along with a passport or copy of your son's birth certificate (see requirements on Checklist page)*, fulfills all Canadian and US requirements in allowing your son passage. For our international campers, a current passport is required. Please be sure to fill out this form completely and to include proper documentation. Thanks!

Packing



The Equipment List (on the last page of this handbook) offers a guideline for what to pack. Though your son may want to bring more of one item and less of another, **the important point is that all items fit into two bags and one carry-on backpack.** Soft, large duffel bags work best and a carry-on backpack should be packed with one change of clothes and a swimsuit. **Please do not use footlockers or trunks.** The packing list provides more than enough for a 4-week session and remember, *laundry is done every week.*

The boys sleep on cots while at camp. Please pack the recommended number of sheets, blankets and pillows detailed on the equipment list. Cot-sized, colored sheets work best (available through Campmor and other retailers) as do small fleece or wool blankets. Sleeping bags will be used only when on canoe trips or at Hook Island. Since every boy will be on a canoe trip and many will go to Canada, a quality sleeping bag is an important item. Sleeping bags that pack small work best, while bulky cotton ones are the least desirable.

For Canadian canoe trippers (high-school aged campers), a supplemental equipment list will be sent separately.

In preparing to pack for camp, the single most important task is to label or mark every item of clothing and equipment, down to each sock and shoe, with your son's name or initials. This will help prevent the loss of any clothing or equipment and help us to find the owner of lost laundry.

Other thoughts:

- *Chippewa is free from the distraction of technology. **Do not send radios, cell phones, iPods, cd players, gameboys, PSPs or electronic games.***
- *Do not send clothes that are delicate or require special handling. Camp is a great place to wear out old clothes.*
- *A poor rain jacket is worse than none at all.*
- *For younger campers, please pack pre-addressed, stamped envelopes.*
- *Hudson Bay Trading Post is the camp store where we offer toiletries, shirts, snacks and other items. It is open about twice a week. Please advise us of any limitations to purchases at Hudson Bay Trading Post.*

***Please Remember to
Label Everything!***

Checklist



- Make travel arrangements, **including completing and paying for the Unaccompanied Minor forms for all flights**
- Complete the online Travel Confirmation form
- Arrange for your son's physician to complete the pink Health-care Recommendation form
- Complete and return by mail **before June 1st**
 - the green Medical History form and pink Health-care Recommendation form
 - the Camper Confidential Questionnaire
 - any special directions for camper medication

*For boys going to Canada, **entering 6th grade, 7th grade***

- download and complete Canadian Permission form
- include a **certified** copy of your son's Birth Certificate or passport

*For boys going to Canada, **entering or in high school***

- download and complete Canadian Permission form
- include passport
- Review Camper Equipment List and order necessary items
- Make plans for packing, **including labeling every item of clothing or equipment**
- Attach blue Chippewa Baggage Tags to all baggage

Please note that all required forms can be downloaded or completed online at www.campchippewa.com/forms.htm

Camp Chippewa for Boys

Equipment List

Camper _____

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sweatshirt * or fleece pullover | <input type="checkbox"/> flashlight and extra batteries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 long sleeved shirts | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 towels (one beach towel) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 underpants | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 flat sheets (non-white, cot size preferred) ** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 t shirts * | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pillow cases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 pair socks | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 small pillow ** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 jeans or long pants | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 blankets (cot size preferred) ** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pajamas | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 laundry bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair tennis shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> toilet articles, sun screen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair trail shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> camera and extra film * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> slippers, sandals or tevas | <input type="checkbox"/> tennis racket and balls * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 hats or caps * | <input type="checkbox"/> fishing rod and small tackle box * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> ball glove |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 swim suits | <input type="checkbox"/> water bottle or nalgene bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wind breaker | <input type="checkbox"/> bug repellent * |
| <input type="checkbox"/> warm jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> letter writing materials |
| <input type="checkbox"/> rain jacket or rain suit | <input type="checkbox"/> good books |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tennis warm-up or "sweats" | <input type="checkbox"/> small backpack as carry-on ** |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sleeping bag ** | |

* May be purchased at Hudson Bay Trading Post.

** See "Packing" section of the Parent Handbook.

Hook Island (6th and 7th grades): No special equipment is necessary

Canadian Canoe Trippers (High School-aged): A supplemental equipment list can be found on our website, www.campchippewa.com, navigate to "Forms."

Please Do Not Send:

- Money. If boys need spending money for Bemidji Day or some special occasion, it will be advanced from their Hudson Bay Trading Post account.
- Cell Phones, iPods, Gameboys, or other electronics. They will be sent home
- Candy, gum, "care packages", comic books. They too will be returned. Please share this request with grandparents.

➔ *The Camp assumes no liability for loss of or damage to camper's personal property.*