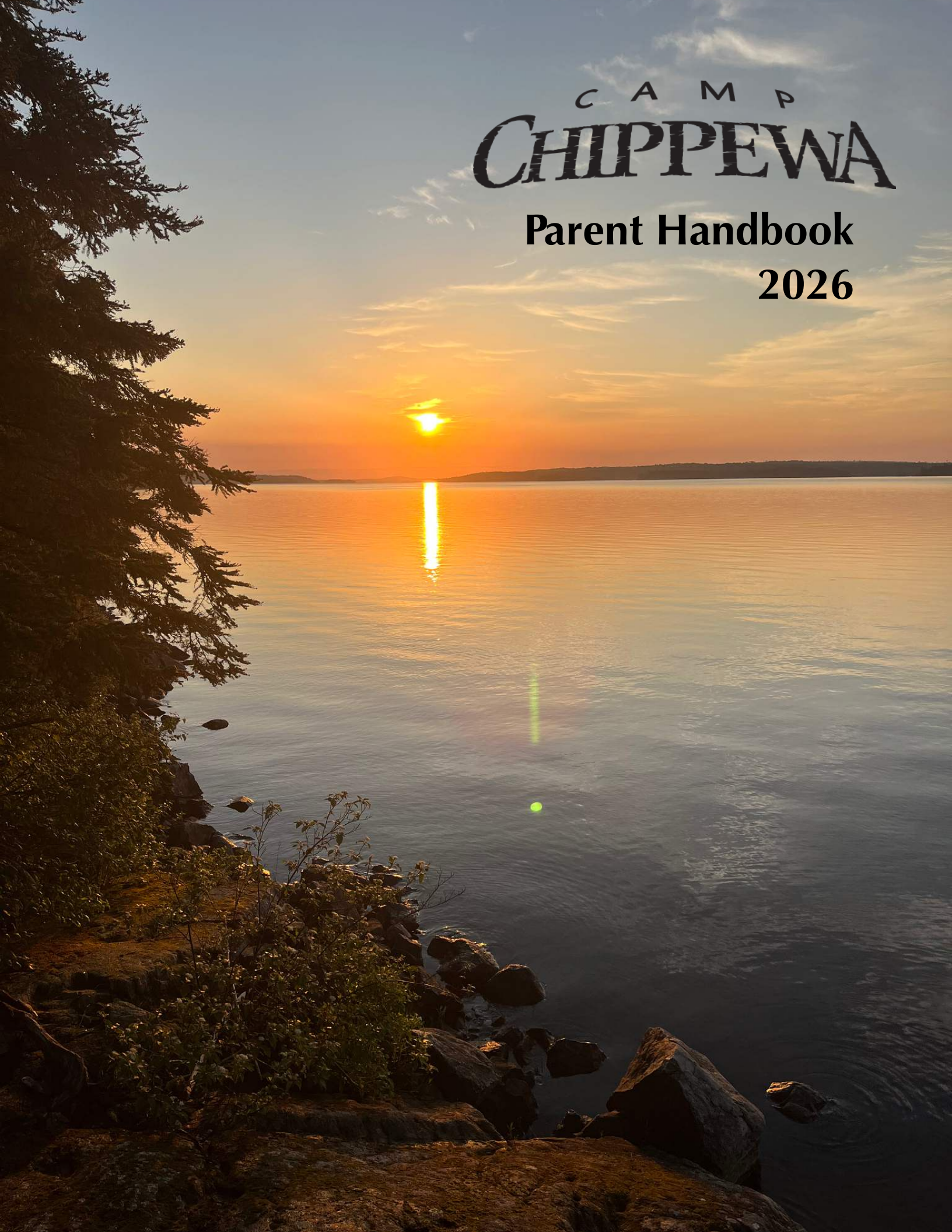


The background of the cover is a photograph of a sunset over a calm lake. The sun is a bright orange circle on the horizon, with its reflection as a vertical line of light on the water. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. In the foreground, on the left, there are dark evergreen trees and some smaller bushes growing on a rocky shore. The water is dark blue with some ripples.

CAMP CHIPPEWA

Parent Handbook
2026

The Adventure Begins

Welcome to Camp Chippewa's 91st Summer, The Year of the Woodsman! We are beyond excited to welcome your camper to their new summer home. The Northwoods are full of adventure, and this handbook is all about helping your entire family feel ready for what lies ahead. We've learned a lot over 91 years, and trust us when we say that this handbook contains the essentials. Please read each section carefully and don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions along the way!

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Dates, Rates & Contacts

2026 Camp Dates		
Session	Start Date	End Date
Full Session	June 17	August 10
Session I	June 17	July 13
Badger Camp I	June 17	June 30
Session II	July 15	August 10
Badger Camp II	July 15	July 28
CLT Session	June 17	August 10

2026 Payment Schedule				
Session	Tuition	Enrollment Deposit	Camp Store Deposit	Monthly Payments (Feb, Mar, Apr)
Full Session	\$13,720	\$950	\$150	\$4,257
Session I/II	\$7,890	\$950	\$150	\$2,313
Badger Camp I/II	\$4,740	\$950	\$150	\$1,263
CLT Session	\$12,620	\$950	\$150	\$3,890

Contact Us			
Ryan Hove Executive Director	Sam Endres Camp Director	Jacob Endres Trips & Operations Director	Will Norris Program Director
Contact me about: Finance, Fundraising	Contact me about: Program, Registration	Contact me about: Forms, Medical, Packing, Trips	Contact me about: Travel
ryan@campchippewa.com	sam@campchippewa.com	jacob@campchippewa.com	will@campchippewa.com
Camp Office			
Main	Fax	September - May	June - August
+1 (218) 335-8807 office@campchippewa.com	763-575-8117 <i>When was the last time you sent a fax?</i>	7359 Niagara Ln N Maple Grove, MN 55311	22767 Cap Endres Rd SE Cass Lake, MN 56633

The Camp Program

Camp Activities

Camp Chippewa offers a wide variety of activities in athletics, waterfront sports, wilderness skills, shooting sports, and large group activities. Check out our [website](#) for more details on each activity we offer.

Camping is a risky business! Healthy risk helps people grow, and the kind of risk we offer is carefully balanced with supervision and instruction from qualified staff. Our staff will teach activities with all required safety equipment and in a manner that is commensurate with camper age and ability.

Learning to assess and handle risk is a critical part of childhood, and campers must have some accountability in this process. Campers who are unable to follow safety instructions for an activity will not be able to participate in that activity. If there are any activities you want emphasized for your camper, or any activity restrictions for that matter, please list them in the online *Camper Confidential Questionnaire* form.

Wilderness Trips

Trips are designed to be both fun and challenging. Nothing builds character, resilience, and self-confidence like [wilderness canoe trips](#). Rain, wind, cold weather, muddy trails, and mosquitos are some of the best teachers. Their lesson? Building grit to overcome life's many hardships. Many Chippewa alums nurture a love for the outdoors for the rest of their lives. They look back at their trips with Chippewa as some of their richest memories, memories that are often forged in the most challenging and rugged of circumstances.

All campers at Camp Chippewa go overnight camping. Campers in elementary or middle school go on trips ranging from 1-4 nights. Campers in high school go on trips ranging from 6-20 nights. Trip length and difficulty is commensurate with camper age and ability.

Learning to assess and manage risk is a critical developmental milestone of adolescence. The wilderness is a perfect teacher of this skill, as campers are immersed in an inherently

uncontrollable outdoor setting. They learn to assess and manage risk from experienced trip leaders.

Trip leaders are selected based on backcountry experience and wilderness medicine certifications. Campers prepare for wilderness trips through canoe, camp craft, and swim classes. We provide campers with a paddle and PFD, and we provide every trip with canoes, tents, packs, food, cooking equipment, and first aid kits. Check out our packing lists on pages 22-27.

Parent Portal

Use CampInTouch (CIT) in your browser or Companion on your phone for your online connection to camp forms, resources, and summer photos. When you enrolled your camper, you created a CIT/Companion account. The great news is they use the same email and password, so you only have to remember one! Log in to [CIT here](#), and download the Companion app through the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

CIT and Companion are home to all your camp forms and resources. The resource documents are there with all the info you need on packing, travel, shipping luggage, medications, and purchasing camping gear. The forms are where we need a little more information from you and your camper to make sure we've got everything we need to give them the best summer experience possible.

Some forms can be completed entirely within CIT or Companion. Hooray for convenience! Other forms need to be downloaded, printed, completed by hand, and then uploaded using Companion. It's a little extra work, but technology hasn't quite been able to replace good old fashioned pen and paper.

Please remember that all forms are due on April 30.

Forms & Resources (change order, add camper photo)

[Camper Code of Conduct \(paper form\)](#): Camp rules and expectations. No better time to discuss accountability than when you review and sign this with your camper.

[Camper Confidential Questionnaire \(online form\)](#): Is there anything else you'd like us to know about your camper? This form is our "scouting report" to prepare our staff before your camper arrives.

[Camper Photo \(online form\)](#): Feel free to upload a current photo of your camper. It helps our staff greet them if they fly in to MSP.

[CampMeds \(resource\)](#): If your camper takes medications of any kind, read the Healthcare & Medications section on page 13 as well as this letter to get all set with CampMeds. They specialize in peace of mind.

[Canadian Gear Buyers Guide \(resource\)](#): If you're not too sure on the pros and cons of a synthetic fill versus down sleeping bag, or you maybe can't recall the best kind of footwear for extended wilderness canoe trips, then this guide is for you. Almost every question about gear is answered, and you'll walk into your local store with confidence.

[Health History \(online form\)](#): We take our camp community's health and safety seriously, and having complete and accurate medical information is the essential first step. This form can be described as somewhere between comprehensive and downright beefy. It saves information year to year, so please double check that everything in there is up to date and matches what your camper's medical provider puts on their *Physical Exam* form. Pro tip: Save after completing each page.

[Parent Authorization \(paper form\)](#): This form gives our medical staff permission to treat any minor injury or illness within their scope of practice. We need legible copies of your camper's health insurance card (and prescription insurance card if they have it) in case we have to take them to a clinic in town for further care.

[Parent Handbook \(resource\)](#): You're reading it right now! Thank you! I do a small dance of joy each time you find the answer you're looking for in here!

[Permission to Visit Canada \(paper form\)](#): This form is VERY IMPORTANT if your camper is entering 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade. Your camper can cross into Canada with an unexpired US passport OR a US birth certificate (the real deal only, no copies, please) with accompanying government/school photo ID. Please read below if your camper does not have a US passport or US birth certificate.*

[Physical Exam \(paper form\)](#): Please have your camper's medical provider complete this form at their next visit (or based on a recent visit done no more than 12 months before your camper arrives at camp this summer). It is crucial that the medications listed on this form match what is entered in your camper's online *Health History* form.

[ShipCamps \(resource\)](#): An airline that will remain nameless lost one of my bags a few years ago. I think we can all imagine how not fun that is. We recommend using [ShipCamps](#) to get your camper's luggage to camp a few days before they arrive. Another company that specializes in customer service and peace of mind.

[Travel Form \(online form\)](#): How are your camper and their bags getting to camp? Planes, trains, or automobiles? Upon further review, you should swap train with bus.

[Travel One \(resource\)](#): If your camper will be flying to MSP or BJI, we recommend going through Travel One: Camp Kids. Have we mentioned peace of mind?

[Unaccompanied Minor \(resource\)](#): It seems like the UM rules change each year. Read this so you know with certainty if your camper needs to travel UM. Pro tip: Connect with other parents in your area so all your campers can fly under one UM fee.

***Non-US citizens**: You may be required to obtain a Canadian visitor visa alongside your passport to enter Canada. The Canadian visitor visa process can be months long, and it may require submitting certain biometrics, such as fingerprints. Visit the [Canadian government website](#) to see exactly what is required for your camper to enter Canada.

Packing

Please follow the Camper Packing List on page 22. It has been tested and tuned for over 90 years and will serve your camper well. Extra items make fitting everything on the shelves somewhere between a real challenge and downright impossible.

Pro tip: Pack in one or two soft-sided duffel bags and one backpack. Suitcases and trunks are too difficult to store in the cabins during the summer.

We provide weekly laundry service, so don't be surprised that the packing list shows less than a month's worth of clothes! The company we go through doesn't provide any special handling options, so please only send things that can go through a standard wash/dry cycle.

Please double check that every single item you pack from socks to sunscreen is labeled with your camper's name. Try packing with your camper so they can see all the stuff they're bringing to camp.

It's our dream to have an empty Lost & Found at the end of the summer. Feel free to purchase clothing labels from [CIT](#). Unlabeled and unclaimed items in the Lost & Found get donated to local thrift stores at the end of the summer.

Travel & Luggage

How are your camper and their bags getting to camp? Arranging travel to camp is your responsibility, and your options include car, bus, and air.

We provide a free charter bus to and from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP) on the first and last day of Sessions I & II. The bus makes no stops to/from camp. Campers are expected to remain seated while the bus is moving; be respectful of counselors, the driver, and other campers; and to follow all instructions from adults while on the bus.

Badger Camp campers may be picked up at camp by car or fly home from the Bemidji Regional Airport (BJI) on the morning of the last day of their 2-week session. We do not offer transportation to MSP at the end of Badger Camp.

If your camper is flying, we highly recommend shipping bags to/from camp. Lost bags are a nightmare, and ShipCamps specifically provides excellent service. Be aware that campers flying into MSP Terminal 2 *must* ship their bags to camp because we are unable to collect and transport bags from MSP Terminal 2.

No matter how your camper gets to camp, please make sure they have a nutritious lunch during their day of travel. A pack lunch is generally more effective than a twenty dollar bill and instructions to *not* go to McDonalds. Dinner is the first meal served at camp on the first day of each session.

Car Travel

So you want to get straight to the source? We respect that decision, and the drive is indeed beautiful. Drop off your camper anytime from 4:00-5:00pm. Pick up your camper from 7:00-8:00am. Please note that the pickup time for Badger Camp is 10:00am.

Bus Travel

Did you know that modern coach buses began as horse-drawn omnibuses in France around 1826? Anyway, if you will be accompanying your camper to MSP either by car or

plane, you'll probably want them and their bags to ride the bus to camp. Drop your camper off at the MSP Terminal 1 Buses/Off-Site Shuttles area between 12:30-1:00pm. Pick them up from the bus at the exact same spot from 11:00-11:30am.

Air Travel

Not fancying a cross-country road trip? Drop your camper off at your local airport and wave goodbye. When you book your camper's flight, please make sure it arrives at MSP between 9:00am-12:00pm. For their return flight, make sure it departs MSP between 1:00-4:00pm. Campers flying to/from MSP will automatically be placed on the charter bus to/from camp. Pack a change of clothes, swimsuit, towel, empty water bottle (gotta love TSA), and nutritious lunch in their carry-on backpack.

Please contact the Camp Office if you would prefer to your camper to fly into or out of BJI instead of MSP. Badger Camp campers not getting picked up at camp by car must book the 6:45am flight from BJI to MSP.

We highly recommend using Travel One of Minneapolis (link coming soon!) to make your camper's flight arrangements. For great service and some peace of mind, call +1 (800) 245-1111 and review the *Travel One* document in [CIT](#) for more details.

If you are flying with your camper to/from MSP, please keep the following in mind. Plan on dropping them off and/or picking them up at the MSP Terminal 1 bus station. The drop off and pickup times are 12:30-1:00pm and 11:00-11:30am respectively. Please retrieve/check their bags with them at the airport. When completing their online travel form, select their travel method as "BUS" since that's where you'll be meeting us and we do not need any of your flight information.

Luggage

Who likes lost luggage? No one. That's why we highly recommend shipping your camper's bags to/from camp if they are flying to MSP. ShipCamps is our company of choice. They have provided excellent service and peace of mind over the years. How long does it take to speak to a human if you call UPS or an airline? ShipCamps has an entire customer service team ready to go at a moment's notice. Check out the [ShipCamps](#)

[website](#) or [CIT](#). Please make sure all shipped luggage arrives at camp at least three (3) business days before your camper.

Campers flying into MSP Terminal 1 will receive Camp Chippewa luggage tags in the mail in May if you elect to send their bags with them on the plane. Attach them to your camper's bags, and make sure you accurately describe your camper's bags in the online *Travel Form*.

Please note that if your camper's bags are not collected at MSP Terminal 1 for any reason (lost, delayed, no tags, etc.), they are your responsibility to get to camp.

If your camper is flying into MSP Terminal 2 and you are not escorting them to the bus, you *MUST* ship their bags to camp. We are unable to collect and transport bags from MSP Terminal 2. Current MSP Terminal 2 airlines are: Frontier, Icelandair, Southwest, and Sun Country.

Unaccompanied Minor (UM)

Most airlines require passengers age fourteen (14) or younger fly UM. Delta allows up to four (4) children, family or not, to travel under the cost of one (1) UM service, but they must check in at the airport together. The UM form requires the name, address, and phone number of the person meeting your camper at their gate. Use the following information for your camper's UM flight to camp:

Will Norris

22767 Cap Endres Rd SE

Cass Lake, MN 56633

Primary phone: +1 (207) 650-6824

Secondary phone: +1 (218) 335-8807

Healthcare & Medications

The health and safety of our campers and staff are very important to us. Every day at camp offers lots of outdoor physical activity, three nutritious meals, midday rest, and a good night's sleep. Our kitchen cooks whole-food, balanced, and delicious meals from scratch. There are no freezer meals at Camp Chippewa!

We encourage nutritious eating, but it is your camper's responsibility to eat the food that is cooked for them. The online *Health History* form is the best place to list all allergies and medical dietary restrictions, such as lactose-intolerance or celiac disease.

Alongside daily physical activity and a nutritious diet, we also have medical staff who live onsite in our health center throughout the summer and help keep our campers healthy.

Healthcare

We focus on injury and illness prevention, but accidents still happen. Our medical staff have treated all sorts of minor injuries and illnesses over the years. All of our counselors are trained in emergency procedures, first aid, CPR/AED, and lifeguarding, and we have two AEDs positioned around camp. In the event of serious injury or illness, the Bemidji Hospital/ER is 25 minutes away. Ambulance and first responder services respond promptly to camp property.

We will contact you if your camper spends a night in the health center or is taken to Bemidji for evaluation or treatment. Please send an email to the Camp Office if you will be away from home and cannot be contacted during any part of the summer. Make sure your listed emergency contacts know of their responsibility to make decisions on your behalf if we cannot get ahold of you.

Back on the topic of prevention, we advise all campers and staff be immunized in accordance with CDC and Minnesota Department of Health recommendations. If your camper will not be up to date with tetanus specifically, we require an immunization waiver be signed because of how much time we spend outside. Please help keep our community safe by sending a healthy camper to camp!

Medications

Meds at camp can be a confusing topic. At Camp Chippewa, **we categorize all drugs, vitamins, and supplements as meds** in accordance with American Camp Association guidelines. Let's begin with some definitions.

Rx - Prescription, a signed doctor's or other licensed prescriber's note saying an individual needs a certain med.

OTC - Over the counter, a med that can be purchased without a prescription.

PRN - As needed, taken on a non-regular basis when the need or symptoms arise.

Daily* - Taken each day at the same time.

**We distribute daily meds four (4) times throughout the day: breakfast, lunch, dinner, and bedtime.*

In order to correctly administer meds to your camper, the medical information you list on their online *Health History* form **MUST MATCH** the medical information their provider lists on the *Physical Exam* form. Discrepancies between what you say about your camper's meds and what your camper's provider says about your camper's meds make for enormous headaches for us all. And no one likes headaches.

The good news for you is that we stock our health center with a comprehensive list of OTC meds (see the online *Health History* form for the full list), so you don't have to send your camper with their own personal pharmacy. ***The only meds you should send are daily Rx meds, daily OTC meds, and Rx PRN meds.***

Sending meds to camp

Please send the following meds to camp with your camper: epinephrine, inhalers, nasal sprays, any liquid-only or droplet-only med. Send them only if your camper already has a Rx for them; there's no need to go out and get your camper an epipen if they don't already have one. Again, any med sent to camp with your camper must be listed on the online *Health History* form and the paper *Physical Exam* form.

All other meds must be pills/tablets/chewables and sent to camp through CampMeds. CampMeds is a professional summer camp medication supply company, and they

provide both excellent service and peace of mind. You have to [register with CampMeds](#) each year, and registration fees increase the closer you get to the start of summer. Please read the *CampMeds* resource in [CIT](#). We highly recommend registering with CampMeds as soon as possible. In fact, you should register with CampMeds today.

Work with your camper's provider, your insurance company, and CampMeds to ship the meds your camper needs for the summer to camp. CampMeds works with most insurance companies, and they will alert you if your insurance does not work with their pharmacy. Contact us immediately if that happens.

CampMeds will need a Rx from your camper's provider to fill and ship daily Rx meds, PRN Rx meds, and melatonin. CampMeds does not need a Rx to fill and ship all other OTC meds, but you should double check that the directions you give CampMeds matches what you put on the online *Health History* form and what your camper's provider puts on the paper *Physical Exam* form. In 99% of cases, you do not need to send any PRN OTC meds to camp because we already stock it in our health center.

When administering meds of any kind, we will follow provider instructions, parent instructions, and the instructions on the bottle in that order. While away from camp on canoe trips, your camper's trip leader will administer all meds as directed by our medical staff.

Please keep in mind that camp is not the place to explore changing meds for your camper. If you have any questions about healthcare or meds, please contact the Camp Office.

Communication

Our philosophy of unplugging from technology is a core pillar on our approach to camping. We want our campers to fully engage in camp life, and that desire helps determine the way we approach everything from mail and packages to homesickness and camp visits.

Mail

When was the last time you sent letters back and forth with someone using snail mail? Communicating with your camper by mail is certainly slower than what we are used to, but you wouldn't believe how excited they get when an envelope shows up with their name on it. The USPS is slow, but it's the best way to stay in touch during the summer.

We've determined that 2-4 letters each week from friends and family strikes the perfect balance between too little and too much communication. Yes, there is such a thing as too many letters. Your camper having full ownership of their summer adventure is so valuable! In your letters, it's best to ask about the things your camper is doing at camp and avoid writing about what they might be missing at home. We'll talk more about homesickness later.

We have campers write a letter home each Sunday. They can certainly write more frequently and to other people if they wish. Your camper's counselor will also send a letter home each week. That letter will highlight how they are acclimating to life at camp, accomplishments in activities, and any potential concerns. You might not get a letter on a week where your camper is away from camp on their canoe trip.

Please send your camper with paper, pencils, and pre-addressed envelopes. If you're feeling ambitious, you can try teaching them to address envelopes. Additional stationery and postage can be purchased at the Camp Store. Your camper's mailing address is:

[Camper's Name]
Camp Chippewa for Boys
22767 Cap Endres Rd SE
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Email

We will email you with important camp updates throughout the summer when they arise. If you don't hear from us consistently, that's good! It means camp is going well and there is nothing unusual to report. If you need to get in touch with us about something pressing, call or email the Camp Office.

If you do not live in the continental US, you have the option of sending emails to your camper instead of using the USPS. We will print and deliver emails from you and scan and email letters from your camper each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Email communication is not available for extended family, friends, or if you live in the continental US.

Packages

If your camper forgot something important at home, please send a package to camp. We ask that you avoid sending toys, candy, snacks, gum, nonessentials, or other care package items. Please share our package policy with friends and family.

Campers love writing home and asking for something cool their friend has that they "just can't live without." It's a trap; they'll be fine.

Camp Visits

We'd love for you to see the place your camper calls home during the summer. Camp is special for so many reasons, but the biggest reasons are the experiences and the memories. We encourage you to visit camp if you pick up your camper by car at the end of their session. That way they can share all sorts of stories as they give you a tour around camp.

If you are looking for a place near camp to stay, there are several resorts on Cass Lake, a couple hotels in Bemidji, and Airbnb/Vrbo may reveal a gem or two. Delta has two flights between BJI and MSP each day, but if you love a good drive, the four and a half-hour trip from MSP is truly beautiful.

Homesickness

Missing home is common. Even returning campers and counselors get homesick. The good news is homesickness is treatable—and even beneficial. We spend a lot of time teaching our counselors to guide their campers through homesickness. A little help from you before camp starts goes a long way in seeing the feeling of “I miss home” for what it really is: a hurdle your camper can clear to help them grow and become more resilient!

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. Talk with your camper before the summer. Your camper should know that homesickness is normal. They should know they can miss home *AND* have fun at camp at the same time. Your camper should know their counselors know all about homesickness and how to help. And they should know you trust them to go to camp. We will be giving them the same messages once they arrive!
2. Resist the temptation to bargain with your camper. Promising to pick them up if they're homesick may seem like a small or reasonable concession to you, but it contradicts the above message of, “We totally trust you to go away on your own.” Knowing they are committed to two, four, or eight weeks is empowering! Give your camper the courage to grow!
3. Find opportunities for your camper to spend time away from home before coming to camp. Have some sleepovers at friends' or relatives' houses, and maybe even camp out in your backyard or a state park if that's an option for your family.
4. Once your camper arrives, write letters to them focusing on all the exciting things they get to do while at camp. Reaffirm that they have what it takes to enjoy their time at camp. Tell them you are proud of them. Avoid writing about what is happening at home or what they might be missing while at camp. “We had the greatest time ever doing this thing without you,” is not a good message for them to hear. Most of all, don't panic if a homesick letter arrives after the first few days! That's normal too. Growth doesn't happen without discomfort.

Tuition & Fees

Camp tuition is all-inclusive; there are no extra fees or add-ons to participate in the entire camp program. You will notice a \$150 Hudson Bay Account deposit billed alongside tuition. That deposit is for the Camp Store where your camper can purchase Camp Chippewa clothing, candy, toiletry items, fishing tackle, stationery, and small camping items. We are happy to accommodate your preferences for your camper's shopping. Just let us know!

Any travel, personal, or medical expenses your camper incurs over the summer, such as an Unaccompanied Minor fee for the flight home, will be added to this account at the end of the summer. Log in to [CIT](#) and click on "Accounts" to view any financial activity. Statements will be sent out in August. Credits can be donated, rolled forward to the next year, or you can opt to receive a check in the mail if the credit is \$20 or more.

Payments

Tuition payments can be made by eCheck or card. Credit card payments incur a 3% service fee, which is less than the fee we pay the credit card company. You have the option to pay your camper's tuition in full or in three (3) installments.

If using the payment plan, the \$950 tuition deposit is due at the time of enrollment. Invoices are sent via email in January, February, and March for payments due on the first of February, March, and April respectively. Custom payment plans can be arranged by emailing ryan@campchippewa.com.

Tuition is due in full on April 1. A 95\$ late fee plus 1.5% per month service charge will be assessed on overdue accounts. If a payment is declined, a \$35 service fee may be added to your account. Make sure the "Financial Management" page in [CIT](#) is up to date with your preferred payment method.

Cancelations

We want your camper to have an amazing time at camp, and we will work with you as best we can to accommodate your family's summer schedule, but we understand if you

need to cancel their enrollment. You may cancel your camper's enrollment for any reason at any time before the start of their session. Please notify us of any cancelations as soon as possible.

Refunds

For cancelations made prior to December 1, all payments will be fully refunded minus a \$95 administrative fee.

For cancelations made on or after December 1 and before April 1, all payments will be refunded minus the \$950 enrollment deposit. The enrollment deposit will be held and can be used for tuition for the following summer. If your camper does not enroll for the following summer, the \$950 will be donated to the Camp Chippewa Scholarship Fund and you will receive a donation tax receipt.

For cancelations made on or after April 1, no payments will be refunded. All payments will be held and can be used for tuition for the following summer. If your camper does not enroll for the following summer, all payments will be donated to the Camp Chippewa Scholarship Fund and you will receive a donation tax receipt.

There is no discount or refund for late arrival or early departure from camp. No refund will be issued if your camper is dismissed.

Camp Rules

The *Camper Code of Conduct* details behavior expectations and our response if campers fail to meet them. Below is a summary of what we expect from both you and your camper.

1. Every camper and staff member is entitled to enjoy their summer at Camp Chippewa free from discrimination, violence, intimidation, harassment, and abuse.
2. Language, attitudes, and behaviors that intimidate, threaten, harass, debilitate, abuse, or discriminate against campers or staff members are not tolerated.
3. Behavior that affects any camper's ability to participate in the summer program, behavior that significantly disrupts the summer program, consistent behavior that is inappropriate, or abuse of any kind is grounds for dismissal.
4. Campers and staff are taught to and must report any instance of abuse to a counselor or adult at camp.
5. For the safety of the camp community, our policy prohibits the possession or weapons, fireworks, alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, vapes, e-cigarettes, or any other recreational or illegal drug while at camp or under camp supervision.
6. Any camper suspected of possessing prohibited items will have their belongings searched, prohibited items will be seized, and the camper may be dismissed at the discretion of the director.
7. For the protection of all campers and staff, we reserve the right to dismiss any camper whose behavior we deem inappropriate, including but not limited to: disrespecting camp or camp property, disrespecting campers or staff or their property, possessing or using prohibited items, violence or abuse of any kind (physical, verbal, emotional, sexual, bullying).
8. You will be notified if your camper is dismissed from camp and are responsible for picking them up from camp within 48 hours of being notified.
9. We expect all campers and staff to be positive, contribute to the camp community, participate in the summer program, adhere to behavior policies, demonstrate respect at all times, and handle themselves appropriately.

Please contact the Camp Office if you have any questions or concerns about your camper's ability to adhere to our camp rules.

Camper Packing List

Clothing

The absolute best protection against rain, sun, heat, cold, and bugs—The Great Outdoors. Here are the clothes your camper should have for an excellent summer.

- ❑ **Undershorts (12)** - We want to avoid running out before laundry gets back.
- ❑ **Socks (12 pairs)** - We recommend crew length to deter those ankle-biting insects.
- ❑ **T-shirts (8)** - Camp is a great place to wear out old shirts.
- ❑ **Long sleeve shirts (2)** - Long sleeves are perfect for chilly mornings/evenings, and they help keep the bugs off.
- ❑ **Pants (3)** - Jeans, sweats, and lightweight joggers are a winning combination.
- ❑ **Shorts (3)** - Athletic shorts with pockets for tennis.
- ❑ **Sweatshirt (1)** - For cold mornings or general lounging.
- ❑ **Jacket (1)** - Go for a warm top layer like a windbreaker or a fleece pullover.
- ❑ **Trainers/court shoes (1 pair)** - Good for running and various sports.
- ❑ **Sandals (1 pair)** - We've found that sandals that fully attach to the foot—Crocs, Chacos, Teevas, Keens, etc.—work better than flip flops. Yes, like at home, Crocs are the most-worn shoe at camp.
- ❑ **Canoe shoes (1 pair)** - What shoes do people wear for canoeing? Sturdy for walking through the woods. Breathable and quick-drying for when they get wet. An old pair of running shoes is a perfect place to start. We do not recommend waterproof boots.
- ❑ **Swimsuits (2)** - We get in the water at least once a day at camp.
- ❑ **Rain jacket (1)** - Waterproof and big enough to fit over a PFD while canoeing.
- ❑ **Rain pants (1)** - Paddling in the rain can be fun! And it's even better when wearing waterproof pants.
- ❑ **Hats (2)** - A cap for sports and a beanie for cold mornings.
- ❑ **Pajamas (2 pairs)** - Or whichever sleepwear your camper fancies.

FYI: T-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, and hats can be purchased at the Camp Store.

Linens

Nothing beats getting into bed at the end of a long, fun day at camp. Campers sleep on cots (CLTs sleep on twin XL mattresses). The following linens will make sure your camper stays warm, dry, and comfortable.

- ❑ **Fitted sheets (2)** - One is ready to go when the other goes in on laundry day.
- ❑ **Flat sheets (2)** - Ditto.
- ❑ **Pillow cases (2)** - Ditto (again?).
- ❑ **Pillow (1)** - Pillows are a commonly forgotten item; don't let it happen to you.
- ❑ **Blankets (3)** - Relatively lightweight for ease of packing. Wool or fleece are best.
- ❑ **Towels (3)** - Go for a thinner fabric so they dry faster. Plush bath towels are a mistake.
- ❑ **Laundry bag (1)** - It helps with wrangling all that dirty laundry into one place.

FYI: We provide international campers with blankets, towels, and pillow cases upon request. We also provide international CLTs with fitted sheets, flat sheets, and pillow cases upon request.

Toiletries

Only the essentials. You and I might have a forty-minute skin care routine at home, but camp is all about maximizing time outside with friends. Here's what we've found every camper needs to stay clean and healthy.

- ❑ **Toiletry bag (1)** - A shower caddy may work as well, but a toiletry bag packs down nicer when taken on a canoe trip.
- ❑ **Toothbrush (1)** - Camp Chippewa is proud to support the cause in eliminating pediatric gingivitis.
- ❑ **Toothpaste (1)** - It's hard to brush your teeth well without it.
- ❑ **Floss (1)** - Have you ever lied to your dentist about how much you floss? Here's your camper's chance to start up (or continue) this healthy habit.
- ❑ **Deodorant (1)** - Thank you.
- ❑ **Nail clippers (1)** - We love to wrestle in the water during free swim, and short nails are required for entry.

- ❑ **Biodegradable soap (1)** - We do our best to keep our lakes clean and clear, and the following brands are easier on the aquatic ecosystem: Dr. Bronner's, CampSuds, WilderWash.
- ❑ **Sunscreen (1)** - We can't put it on for your camper, but we sure can belabor the importance of skin health. Lotion works best. SPF 30+
- ❑ **Lip balm (1)** - We encourage sharing at camp, but this is something you should have for yourself. SPF 15+
- ❑ **Bug repellent (1)** - The best bug repellent is long sleeves, pants, and socks, but a bug repellent lotion is another option.

FYI: Select toiletries can be purchased at the Camp Store.

Miscellaneous

A few extra items to make sure your camper has everything they need. The items marked with an asterisk are optional, but you should send them if your camper already has them.

- ❑ **Sleeping bag (1)** - Get a mummy-shaped bag rated between 25 and 45 degrees Fahrenheit that packs down to about the size of a toaster oven or smaller, and don't forget the stuff sack! Our favorite brands are REI, Big Agnes, Marmot, Mountain Hardwear, NEMO, Sea to Summit, and The North Face.
- ❑ **Headlamp (1)** - LEDs are best, and don't forget spare batteries.
- ❑ **Water bottle (1)** - At least 1 liter in size. We recommend the tried and true Nalgene.
- ❑ **Good books (2-4)** - Depending on how fast your camper reads, you may need to send extra.
- ❑ **Letter writing materials (1 per week, plus extra)** - Stationary, pre-addressed/stamped envelopes, and a writing utensil. Send more than 1 per week if your camper plans to write to grandparents or friends back home.
- ❑ **Backpack (1)** - It's best to have this be your camper's carry-on if they are flying to camp, and no need for a fancy pack, a school backpack is fine.

FYI: Flashlights, batteries, water bottles, and letter writing materials can be purchased at the Camp Store.

Optional

The following items are nice to bring if your camper is already into these activities. Please don't feel the need to purchase any of these things for the summer.

- ❑ **Fishing rod and small tackle box (1)** - Buck Lake is full of pan fish, and a patient angler can even land a rare northern pike.
- ❑ **Water shoes (1 pair)** - A little foot protection from rocks and shells goes a long way.
- ❑ **Swim goggles (1)** - Sometimes it's nice to see underwater.
- ❑ **Tennis racquet and balls** - If your camper plays at home, they will love hitting on Bear Paw tennis court.
- ❑ **Baseball and glove (1)** - The Ivy Bowl boasts a handful of fine sporting events throughout the summer, and softball is a camp-favorite.
- ❑ **Camera (1)** - Don't forget a spare battery if it's digital.

Prohibited items

The following items are not permitted during the summer program, and they are impossible to securely store in the Camp Office due to their size. Please refrain from sending these items with your camper to camp. Thank you!

- ⊗ **Large electronics** - Please refrain from sending laptops, tablets, handheld consoles, E-readers, external speakers, etc.
- ⊗ **Over-the-ear headphones** - Please send earbuds instead.
- ⊗ **Knives not suitable for backcountry camping** - Too small can be just as dangerous as too big. A good multitool goes a long way.
- ⊗ **Drugs and alcohol** - Camp is not the place for alcohol, nicotine, tobacco, marijuana, or recreational/illegal drugs. Camp is a smoke-free and vape-free environment. Drugs of any kind are not allowed in cabins. Please send all Rx, OTC, and PRN medications to camp through CampMeds and NOT with your camper. Thank you for helping keep Camp Chippewa safe and welcoming to all campers!

Canadian Gear List

Below are items needed for your camper's wilderness expedition to Canada. Only campers entering 9th-12th grade will go on these trips, so go ahead and skip this section if you have a younger camper. Items marked with an asterisk are already on the Camper Packing List. Don't double up, but please make sure they meet the specifications listed here.

- ❑ **Sleeping bag (*)** - Please make sure it is rated to at least 35F and has a good compression/stuff sack. Bulky bags are a nightmare to pack.
- ❑ **Sleeping pad (1)** - A good sleeping pad makes a huge difference in the backcountry. Go for one suited for backpacking; the other ones don't pack down small enough.
- ❑ **Rain gear (*)** - Make sure it is indeed waterproof and large enough to be worn over a PFD while canoeing.
- ❑ **Canoe shoes (*)** - Feet will get wet on the trail, and having shoes with good traction and that dry quickly are what's important. We don't recommend waterproof boots because of how long they take to dry after getting wet. Go for old running shoes!
- ❑ **Campsite shoes (*)** - Old trainers or sandals are perfect.
- ❑ **Wool socks (2-4 pairs)** - Cotton is the enemy in the backcountry. Please make sure your camper's trail socks are made of wool. *9th grade: 2 pairs; 10th-11th grade: 3 pairs; 12th grade: 4 pairs.*
- ❑ **Undershorts (2-4)** - Do not fall for the skullduggerous allure of cotton! Go for a polyester spandex blend. *9th grade: 2; 10th-11th grade: 3; 12th grade: 4.*
- ❑ **Trip shirts (1-3)** - Long sleeves are a must for sun and bug protection. Try to find a lightweight, quick-drying material. NO COTTON. *9th grade: 1; 10th-11th grade: 2; 12th grade: 3.*
- ❑ **Trip pants (1-3)** - Which material would you guess we recommend avoiding? It's denim. And cotton. Try to find a lightweight, quick-drying material. *9th grade: 1; 10th-11th grade: 2; 12th grade: 3.*
- ❑ **Jacket (*)** - A fleece or puffy are a welcome layer on cold mornings. We've had more than one trip wake up with frost on the ground.
- ❑ **Sun hat (1)** - One that covers the entire face and neck helps prevent sunburns.
- ❑ **Sunglasses (1)** - Sunglasses sink! Pro tip: A safety strap will keep them high and dry.

- ❑ **Bug net (1)** - Either a head net or a full jacket. *Head net for sale in the Camp Store.*
- ❑ **Pack towel (1)** - Towel specific for camping that is super lightweight and packs down to the size of a small envelope.
- ❑ **Base layer, beanie, gloves (1)** - These are only for campers entering 12th grade if they are going on a trip to Hudson Bay. Synthetic gloves tend to work best when paddling. Avoid cotton like the plague. *Beanies for sale in the Camp Store.*
- ❑ **Journal (1)** - Memories fade over time, but a trip journal will allow your camper to look back on some of the greatest adventures of their life. *For sale in the Camp Store.*

Optional

The following items are nice to have on extended wilderness trips. None of them are absolutely required, and we will note which ones are recommended more than others.

- ❑ **Pack pillow (1)** - Find one suitable for backpacking. Full-size pillows just won't fit in a portage pack. A jacket rolled up in a stuff sack is a dandy substitute.
- ❑ **Dry bags (1-3)** - These are amazing for keeping gear dry and organized. We highly recommend one around 35 liters in size and another around 20 liters. A 100-150 liter bag will line an entire portage pack. *Required for campers entering 12th grade.*
- ❑ **Day pack (*)** - This can be a school backpack or one specific to backpacking or water sports. Canoe partners share a pack and use it to store sunscreen, cameras, bug nets, fishing tackle, and rain gear.
- ❑ **Tent (1)** - Only have your camper bring a tent if they already have one or they will be camping for many years to come. We use 2-3 person tents suitable for backpacking.
- ❑ **Fishing rod and small tackle box (*)** - Canada boasts some of the best fishing in North America. A spin casting reel, 2-piece rod, and tackle box full of jigs and tails are all you need to catch heaps of walleye and pike. *Tackle for sale in the Camp Store.*
- ❑ **Compass (1)** - Backcountry navigation is an invaluable skill, and campers who bring their own compass tend to pick it up quite quickly. *For sale in the Camp Store.*
- ❑ **Camera (1)** - Photos from these trips are some of our alumni's most precious possessions. A small, digital, and waterproof camera with extra batteries will be the best investment your camper ever makes.
- ❑ **Playing cards (1 deck)** - A layover day is the perfect setting for a Hearts tournament. *For sale in the Camp Store.*