NSYMCA Summer Camp
COVID-19 FAQ

Q: Is summer camp happening?

Yes! Our Leadership Team is hard at work planning for the safest summer ever! Our plan is to begin camp on **Monday, June 29**. This is three weeks later than originally advertised. Camp will run for seven total weeks (6/29-8/14). You can register for half-day (9 am-Noon or 1-4 pm) or full-day (9 am-4 pm) sessions by camp week. We will not be offering any virtual camps.

Q: How did you decide on a June 29th start date?

We have decided the safest decision for our campers and staff is to begin once we enter Phase 4 of the Governor’s “Restore Illinois” plan. Phase 3 is expected to begin May 29th and we are hopeful that Phase 4 will begin on June 29th. If the state does not reach Phase 4 by June 29th, we may push back the start of camp.

Summary of Phase 4 (per Governor Pritzker):

- Health Care Facilities: all open
- Gatherings: 50 people or fewer allowed, following CDC guidelines
- Schools: all schools, universities can open
- Childcare: childcare can open with guidance
- Outdoor Activities: all allowed

Q: How do I register?

Complete our [Registration Form](mailto:registrar@nsymca.org) and email it to Nicole Hatfield at registrar@nsymca.org. Additionally, you can mail-in or drop off your registration at the NSYMCA front entrance mailbox. Please contact Nicole with any questions, comments or concerns about your registration.

Q: Will I get a refund if camp is cancelled?

Yes! We will refund any camp days that get cancelled due to the stay-at-home order. If we are able to run camp but you would prefer not to send your child, we will refund those who provide us with advance notice. There will be a $25 processing fee for those requests. A cancellation deadline will be determined once the stay-at-home order has been lifted.

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Q: What will you be doing differently this summer to keep everyone safe?

The CDC recently released a camp Field Guide specifically for day camps that we will be following. In addition to these guidelines, we are implementing “cohorts”; which are smaller permanent group sizes (20 campers max) within each camp. We will also provide more outdoor hand washing stations, mandatory face masks (where social distancing cannot be accommodated), frequent EPA approved campground sanitization and a strict rotation schedule.

Staff and campers will be (non-touch) temperature checked every day upon arrival. Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be sent home and must remain symptom free for 48 hours before returning to camp. A doctor’s note may be required.

Additional measures we are taking to ensure safety this summer:

- Mandatory hand washing upon arrival and frequently throughout the day.
- A questionnaire screening will be administered to everyone prior to camp and to anyone who discloses symptoms throughout the summer.
- Mental health specialists will provide trainings, resources and guidance for campers and staff.
- Field trips have been cancelled.
- Little Pioneers (2-3 yrs) and Pathfinders (4-5 yrs) camps have been cancelled.
- No bussing or van usage (exception for HAWKS Camp).
- No outdoor portable restrooms.
- Sports and games that cannot accommodate social distancing will be prohibited.
- Disinfecting all equipment, supplies and crafts after each usage.

**EPA Approved Disinfectant**

Pictured to the right is the Ryobi cordless 2-gallon disinfectant sprayer that we will use this summer.

The sprayers will be used frequently on our playground equipment, locker rooms, and any other high contact areas.

In addition to the Ryobi, we will also use plenty of soap, hand sanitizer, individual all-purpose cleaner spray bottles, individual EPA disinfectant spray bottles and disinfectant wipes.

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Q: Will the pool be open for camp usage?

Yes! Open swim will be held 3 days/week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (official swim schedule coming soon). However, we will not be offering lessons.

Only two “cohorts” will be allowed in the pool at one time (40 campers max). Lane lines will be used to divide the pool in half, creating extra distance between the two groups.

Any life vests used will be properly disinfected after each use.

Ten campers will be allowed in each locker room at one time. The locker rooms will be disinfected after each group.

Q: How will I get updates about camp?

We will send email updates to all registered families prior to the start of camp. Please make sure we have your current and correct email address on file. You can also visit us at http://www.nsymca.org and on Facebook for news, updates and announcements.

*This document will be updated as news changes and more information becomes available. Last updated: 5/22/20.