
OUTDOOR CONNECTIONS

CAMP SEALTH

Parent Handbook –Spring 2021

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Welcome to Outdoor Connections! Camp Sealth is proud to support our Vashon community by providing a program for outdoor learning and engagement, social connection, skill building, and academic support, especially during this time when kids and families are being impacted by COVID-19.

We encourage all families to read through this confirmation packet to get all the details about how our program works, what to bring, and more.

ABOUT CAMP SEALTH

Camp Sealth is owned by Camp Fire Central Puget Sound. In a typical year, we operate overnight and day camp during the summer, and outdoor education and retreats the rest of the year. Camp Fire also runs traditional club programs for youth, and leadership and service learning for teens. Camp Sealth serves around 7,000 youth and families annually.

We have over 350 acres of pristine forest, wetlands, and private saltwater beach on Colvos Passage, on the southwest shore of Vashon Island. On site are over 40 buildings, three large playfields, covered picnic shelters and firepits, and outdoor amphitheater seating which allow for flexibility with both indoor and outdoor programs.

Camp Sealth
14500 SW Camp Sealth Road
Vashon, WA 98070
www.campfireseattle.org
206-463-3174

Camp Fire Central Puget Sound
2414 SW Andover Street, Suite D-105
Seattle, WA 98106

Camp Sealth is accredited by the [American Camp Association](#). We meet hundreds of standards in health and safety, risk management, staffing, and program quality, to ensure that we are following the best practices in the camp industry.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Camp Fire strives to continuously provide diverse, inclusive, and equitable environments throughout our organizations and programs. We recognize that both access to and success in our programs requires intentional work, to cultivate respect, eliminate systemic barriers, and address injustice head-on. We at Camp Fire believe that words must be followed by progress, action, and accountability. We recognize that our efforts will be ongoing and evolving as we continue to grow, learn, collaborate, and press for an equitable future.

PROGRAM GOALS

Camp Fire and Camp Sealth believes in empowering youth to grow in confidence, social and emotional skills, leadership, and compassion. We are proud to be a welcoming place for all kids to come together to learn, play, and grow into successful and caring adults. The specific goals in offering the Outdoor Connections program are:

- To provide an opportunity for kids to get outdoors for exercise and free play
- To supplement kids' educational needs with the ability to interact with peers and gain social skills
- To fill a need for childcare for parents who need to work
- To prevent the spread of COVID-19 by implementing the highest possible safety measures, while still allowing kids to have fun and connect with each other

We also understand that the situation around COVID-19 is constantly changing. Our plans and program offerings will be flexible depending on family needs, school district reopening plans, and county/state requirements.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

Spring Term Dates: January 25 through May 28

Registration

We offer the flexible option to sign up for just the days that you want. Choose the days of the week that work best for you, and pay only for those days. Registration will be ongoing throughout the term, so you can register anytime. Register online at <https://campfireseattle.org/outdoor-connections/>.

Half-Day (grades K-8):

The half-day program runs Monday through Thursday. This is an all-outdoors program that includes camp activities and free play in small groups. There are two options provided:

- For students attending **in-person learning** with Chautauqua:
 - Students attend Sealth opposite the time they are at Chautauqua. Bussing is provided either from Chautauqua (for morning CES students) and to Chautauqua (for afternoon CES students). Parents provide transportation by either picking up or dropping off their student from Sealth.
- For students attending **distance learning** with Chautauqua:
 - Students attend Sealth after their distance learning ends for the day, from 1:30 – 5:00. Parents provide transportation to and from Sealth.

Days	Option	Schedule
Monday through Thursday	Half Day AM AM Sealth/ PM School (<u>In-Person</u>)	8:30 a.m. Parent Drop-off at Sealth
		8:30 – 12:00 p.m. Outdoor Connections at Sealth
		12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Bussing to Chautauqua
		1:00 – 3:40 p.m. PM classes at Chautauqua
	Half Day PM AM School/ PM Sealth (<u>In-Person</u>)	9:00 – 11:40 a.m. AM classes at Chautauqua
		11:40 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Bussing to Sealth
		12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Outdoor Connections at Sealth
		5:00 p.m. Parent Pick-up at Sealth
	Half Day PM AM School/ PM Sealth (<u>Distance Learners</u>)	9:00 – 1:00 p.m. Distance Learning Classes
1:30 p.m. Parent Drop-off at Sealth		
1:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Outdoor Connections at Sealth		
5:00 p.m. Parent Pick-up at Sealth		

Full Day (grades K-5): Full-day students attend on Fridays from 8:30 - 3:30. Students attend their distance learning classes in the morning, and then participate in camp activities and free play in the afternoon.

Pre-K: The pre-K program is for kids aged 3 to 5 who are not yet in kindergarten. Pre-K is offered Tuesday through Thursday from 8:30 – 12:30. The pre-K program will include indoor and outdoor free play time, age-appropriate camp activities, and structured social time. Pre-K must be at least 3 years old as of January 1st and potty-trained.

Teen Program (grades 6-12): This program is for teens (and tweens), and is offered on Fridays from 1:30 – 5:00. The program includes outdoor camp activities, service learning, and leadership development.

REGISTRATION & COST

Choose Your Days

We offer the flexible option to sign up for just the days that you want. Choose the days of the week that work best for you, and pay only for those days. Registration will be ongoing throughout the term, so you can register anytime. Register online at <https://campfireseattle.org/outdoor-connections/>.

Cost

Camp Sealth wants all families who need it to participate in our program. Fees are determined on a self-selected sliding scale based on the following eligibility. Determine your category by using the number of people living in your household and your *expected income for 2020*. You may self-select your category and we do not require proof of eligibility.

<i>Household size:</i>	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	7 people	8+ people
Category A	Up to \$23,250	Up to \$26,600	Up to \$29,900	Up to \$33,200	Up to \$35,900	Up to \$38,550	Up to \$41,200	Up to \$43,850
Category B	\$23,251 to \$46,500	\$26,601 to \$53,160	\$29,901 to \$59,820	\$33,201 to \$66,420	\$35,901 to \$71,760	\$38,551 to \$77,100	\$41,201 to \$82,380	\$43,851 to \$87,720
Category C	\$46,501 to \$61,800	\$52,161 to \$70,600	\$59,821 to \$79,450	\$66,421 to \$88,250	\$71,761 to \$95,350	\$77,101 to \$102,400	\$82,381 to \$109,450	\$87,721 to \$116,500
Category D	\$61,801 or more	\$70,601 or more	\$79,451 or more	\$88,251 or more	\$95,351 or more	\$102,401 or more	\$109,451 or more	\$116,501 or more

	Category A	Category B	Category C	Category D
	<i>Cost is per day of the week selected</i>			
Full Day	\$5	\$40	\$45	\$65
Half Day	\$5	\$20	\$30	\$40
Pre-K	\$5	\$25	\$40	\$50
Teen Program	\$5	\$25	\$40	\$50

Registration & Finance Policies

You will only need to register once for the entire term (January 25 to May 28). At time of registration, you'll pay only a deposit (\$5 to \$50 per child, depending on options selected). Then you will be charged monthly after that, on the 1st of each month. You may cancel at any time and will not be charged for any unused weeks. You may also change to a different payment Category or change programs (depending on availability) at any time.

We cannot prorate for partial weeks in case of days missed; however, if your child must miss the program for one full week or more due to quarantine or other medical issue, we will refund for the missed weeks. You must request a refund in writing.

For questions about registration, cancellation, or payments, contact the Member Services Manager at 253-441-0409 or michaelm@campfireseattle.org.

ARRIVAL & CHECK-IN

All staff, youth, and family members must wear a mask during check-in.

Check-In:

- Pre-K: 8:30 a.m.
- Half-Day AM: 8:30 a.m.
- Half-Day PM (Distance Learners): 1:30 p.m.
- Full Day (Fri): 8:30 a.m.
- Teen Program (Fri): 1:30 p.m.

Health Screening

Daily health screenings must be completed via an online form prior to arriving at camp. The link to the form is below. After completing the form, you'll receive a confirmation email – show this email to the staff at check-in when you arrive. You may alternatively complete the form on paper when you arrive.

[Health Screening Form](#)

Driving Directions

Camp Sealth is located at 14500 SW Camp Sealth Road, Vashon, WA, 98070. After turning onto the camp road, follow the directions below. Please **maintain a speed of 10 mph** on the camp road.

Drop-Off Directions

From the entrance of the Camp Sealth property on Wax Orchard Road, drive 1.5 miles, all the way down the hill until you see the water. A staff member will greet you at the car to check your child in. For Full-Day, Half-Day and Teen Program, parents do not need to get out of their vehicle during check-in. Pre-K parents can park and meet staff at check-in. If you are running late, please contact our staff at 206-612-5179.

CHECK-OUT

Check-out will be at the same location as check-in. Stay in your vehicle, and a staff member will greet you. The person picking up your child must be an authorized pick-up person on your account. You can contact us at any time to add a pick-up person to your account. **Photo ID is required at pick-up every day.**

If you are running late to pick-up, please contact our staff at 206-612-5179.

Pick-up:

- Pre-K: 12:30 p.m.
- Half-Day PM: 5:00 p.m.
- Full-Day (Fri): 3:30 p.m.
- Teen Program (Fri): 5:00 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Nature & Outdoor Classes

Camp Sealth has experience providing a wide range of outdoor education classes, including marine, forest, and wetland ecology, sustainability, astronomy, gardening, outdoor living skills, and more. A portion of each day will be spent outdoors exploring and learning about the incredible natural space we have access to.

Classic Camp Activities

It wouldn't be camp without doing the activities that we love best. Camp activities will vary by age and interest level, and campers will be involved in choosing their activities each week. Activities may also vary depending on weather conditions, but nearly all activities can take place regardless of the weather. Below are some activity examples, but the options are endless depending on the creativity of our staff members and interests of campers.

Pre-K: Nature walks, story time at Pooh Corner, beach exploration, scavenger hunts, outdoor games, craft projects, songs, story time

Grades K-3: Everything available for Pre-K kids, plus longer hikes, fishing, sports and field games, Star Lab, bouldering

Grades 4+: Everything available for Pre-K through grade 3, plus archery, canoeing, outdoor skills

Grades 6+: This program will be youth-guided based on their interests, and may include any of the camp activities above, as well as community service projects chosen by the group, and leadership development.

WHAT TO BRING

We recommend that every camper wear or bring a backpack with:

- Weather-appropriate clothes to remain warm and dry (campers will be outdoors): coat/jacket, warm layers, hat/hood, rain pants
- Close-toed shoes or boots
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen, if needed

What to bring for Pre-K:

- Extra set of clothes including underwear or Pull-ups, if needed

What to bring for Full-Day campers doing Distance Learning:

- Laptop or tablet with Wi-Fi connectivity and charger
- Headphones
- Any learning packets or required school supplies

FOOD & SNACKS

For campers who are attending the full-day program or half-day program (in-person learning students only), lunch is provided by the Vashon School District for no additional fee. If preferred, you may send a lunch from home. For safety reasons, we do not allow children to swap or share food.

Healthy snacks will be provided for Pre-K in the morning, and for Full Day, Half Day and Teen Program participants in the afternoon. You are also welcome to send additional snacks with your child.

SUPPORTING SPECIAL NEEDS

Camp Sealth is able to accommodate most youth with disabilities. Prior to registration, we recommend contacting our office to discuss what kind of support or accommodations your child might need, and if our program is a good fit. If your child has a disability or needs any kind of extra support at camp, we encourage you to complete the online [Inclusion Assessment](#) form. This will help give us an overall picture of your child's strengths, challenges, goals, and how we can best support them. This information will remain confidential and shared only with those working most closely with your child. In order to attend a Camp Sealth program, a child must be able (with support & reminders) to follow instructions, stay with the group, handle personal care needs, and refrain from harmful or destructive behavior.

MEDICATION

All medication must be checked in with a staff member. This includes emergency medication, like an inhaler or Epi-pen, prescription, and over-the-counter medication. We must have a medication form on file with the correct prescribed dosage and administration instructions. We can only administer medication according to the prescribed dosage. Inhalers and Epi-pens may be carried by the child (with a parent's permission), or by the counselor. Other medications will be kept locked during program hours except when needed. All medication must be in an original pharmacy container with prescription label and may not be expired.

HEALTH CARE

Camp Sealth staff are certified in First Aid and CPR, and can provide basic first aid according to our standing orders, signed by a physician. Before attending camp, parents must provide a full picture of the child's medical history by completing a Health History Form.

In case of a medical emergency, we will procure EMS services, including transporting to a hospital by ambulance if necessary. We will make every effort to contact the parents as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of parents to provide accident and health insurance for their kids while participating in a Camp Sealth program. All medical expenses are the parents' responsibility.

COVID-19 PREVENTION

The health and safety of our campers, staff, and the greater island community is our first priority. We will only run programs if we feel that it is safe to do so. Camp Sealth will follow all recommendations from the [Washington State Department of Health](#) and the [American Camp Association](#). Before the start of the program, we will provide families and staff with a copy of our comprehensive COVID-19 prevention plan. We encourage you to carefully read and review with your family to ensure that we are doing everything we can to minimize the spread of the virus at camp and in our community.

Each family's situation is different. If there are any high-risk individuals in your family, you should consult with your health-care provider before deciding to participate in this program.

The following is a basic list of the specific precautions we will be taking and what to expect in our program (the prevention plan will include more details):

- **Health Screening:** Staff and campers will complete a health screening each day at check-in, including temperature and symptom check, and must attest that they have not been exposed to anyone with COVID-19.
- **Masks:** Cloth face coverings (masks) or face shields are required at all times by staff and anyone over the age of 5, except when eating or drinking. Masks are strongly recommended for 3 and 4 year olds.

- **Arrival/Departure:** Drop-off and pick-up procedures are designed to reduce contact between family members. For all except Pre-K, parents will drop off and pick up without getting out of the car. All family members must wear masks and maintain 6-foot social distancing when interacting with staff at check-in and check-out.
- **Groups:** Campers will be organized into small groups of no more than 10 children with either one or two staff. Due to the nature of our program, groups may vary from day to day. Siblings or friends may be placed in the same group if requested.
- **Hygiene:** Campers and staff will be instructed in hygiene and illness prevention measures. Handwashing facilities and hand sanitizer are readily available throughout the facility, and frequent handwashing will be encouraged.
- **Outdoors & Social Distancing:** Activities will take place outdoors as much as possible. Six-foot social distancing will be utilized indoors and outdoors whenever possible within each small group, and always when campers from different groups are together. Full-day students doing distance learning will be indoors in a large, well-ventilated space during school time, with desks spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- **Cleaning:** When using indoor spaces, only one group will be in a room together, and the room will be disinfected before another group uses that space. High-contact surfaces in shared bathrooms will be disinfected approximately every two hours. All shared supplies, equipment, and facilities will be disinfected between groups and at the end of each day.
- **Food:** Lunch and snacks will be eaten outdoors. Campers and staff will be seated 6 feet apart so that they can remove masks to eat and drink.
- **If Someone Gets Sick:** Campers or staff who display illness symptoms will be sent home or asked to stay home. Families will be notified if a camper or staff in their child's group gets sick, while maintaining privacy of the individual. A sick individual may not return to the program until they have met quarantine requirements or are cleared by a health care professional to return.

CONTACTING CAMP STAFF

If you need to reach someone at camp during the day, call the Camp Sealth on-duty phone at **206-612-5179**. This is the most direct way to notify us about late arrivals, running late to pick-up, or if you need to get in contact with your child.

To speak with a camp administrator with questions or concerns about the camp program, contact one of the following:

Megan Muma
meganm@campfireseattle.org

Dani Gruenberg
danielleg@campfireseattle.org

Meaghan Baumgartner
meaghanb@campfireseattle.org
 206-463-3174 ext. 44

Carrie Lawson
carriek@campfireseattle.org
 206-463-3174 ext. 35

PROGRAM POLICIES

Cell Phones: We discourage youth from bringing cell phones to our program. If they must bring a phone, it must remain off and out of sight during the program. If cell phones are misused, they will be held by staff and returned at the end of the day.

Electronics: No other electronic devices are allowed at camp, with the exception of computers, tablets, or headphones needed for distance learning. After academic work is completed, electronics will be put away and safely stored until the end of the camp day.

Pets: Animals/pets are not allowed at camp, with the exception of service animals. We also ask that families refrain from bringing pets to check-in and check-out.

Medication, drugs, alcohol & tobacco: All medications must be turned in and stored with the camp staff, including emergency and over-the-counter medication. Legal and illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are not allowed.

Shoes: Due to the nature of outdoor activity and the many hiking trails on our property, we require campers to wear close-toed shoes at camp.

Weapons: Guns and weapons are prohibited at camp, including toy/squirt guns or anything resembling a gun.

Sport Equipment: Generally, campers should not bring personal sports equipment including bikes, boats, archery bows, etc. to camp. If there is something you wish to bring, please discuss it with a camp staff member in advance.

Photos: Any photos taken at camp are for personal use only. Do not post photos of others online without their explicit permission.

Communication with Staff: We do not allow staff and campers to exchange contact information, or to communicate outside of camp, including on social media. Our staff cannot babysit or care for your child outside of camp hours.

Vehicles: Campers may not bring personal vehicles to camp, except in rare cases with explicit written permission. Parents must maintain the **10 mph** speed limit on the camp road, and drive and park only in designated areas.

Money/Valuables: We strongly recommend that campers do not bring valuable items or money to camp. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

We strive to make camp an inclusive and positive environment for everyone. Counselors will review the Code of Conduct with campers at the start of the program.

Code of Conduct

- Be a responsible member of the camp community
- Be considerate and respectful of others' feelings
- Think in advance about the consequences of my actions
- Resolve differences in a respectful manner
- Protect the natural environment
- Commit to honesty
- Commit to try

Counselors will use positive reinforcement to help campers adhere to the Code of Conduct. In the case of continued behavior problems, the camp staff may implement the following consequences, depending on severity:

- Time out or quiet time away from the group
- Loss of a privilege or special treat
- Phone call to the parent(s)
- Written behavior agreement
- Camper will be sent home for the day
- Suspension from the program

Behaviors which may result in suspension or dismissal from the program including violence or harm to self or others, repeated disregard for camp rules, destruction of property, and bullying.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Children attending the Full-Day program will spend each morning attending their Distance Learning classes. Staff will help getting devices connected and logging in to their online classes. In between classes, staff can help students complete other work assignments, as well as facilitate learning breaks by playing games and spending time in physical activity.

Please note: It is the parents' responsibility to ensure that all work is completed and submitted on time.

Some ways that you can help facilitate your child's distance learning at camp are:

- Providing a written schedule and list of instructions for accessing your child's classes, including any specialty classes or meetings that your child attends
- Sending any take-home work that can be done at camp, between classes
- Ensuring that your child's teacher knows they will be participating in distance learning at Camp Sealth
- Review the class schedule with your child so they know what to expect

Any participants who will be participating in Distance Learning while participating in our program must have a signed form on file to allow Camp Sealth staff to communicate directly with the school district about your child. If needed, we will work with the school district and your child's teacher to ensure that they are fully participating and progressing with their education.

THE CAMP STAFF

All Camp Sealth staff are at least 18 years old, have full background and sex offender registry checks, first aid and CPR certified, and have completed a full week of training. We hire staff for their values, good judgment, and passion for working with youth. Staff receive additional training and feedback throughout their employment.