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Summer 2020

Dear Camp Families,

As we approach the summer, figuring out where our youth are going to do is a daunting task. There are many options out there, so thank you for looking at the Rosendale Summer Day Camp. This letter is to explain a little about the camp and the application, which is in this packet. Of course if any questions arise, don't hesitate to ask.

Camp will run this year from June 29<sup>th</sup>- August 21<sup>st</sup> which is divided into 4 sessions, each 2 weeks long. New this year is a one-week pricing option for sessions 1 and 4 only. The camp day runs from 9:00-3:00 and we have before camp (7:30am) and after camp (5:30pm) options. Campers have to be 5 years old to attend and those going into Kindergarten are welcome as long as they are 5. 12 years old is the oldest for our regular camp program but we do have a small Leadership in Training program for 13-14 year olds.

Now a little on the application which is a part of this packet. It's 4 pages long so make sure that you fill every page out. The first page is the meat and potatoes of the application such as who the camper is, who the parents are, and who can pick up your camper. One thing to keep in mind is that the grade is the one they're going into, not this current year's grade. The emergency contact section is people other than the parents and is used when parents are unreachable. This is important to have and we ask that you have at least one who is as local as possible if you don't have local people that would fit in this part.

The second page is about when your camper is coming and payment information. Those that need the before or after camp option, this is where you can sign up. If you're not sure about that yet, you can always sign up for those later on. We prefer that you have payment in full at sign up but understand that may not be possible. A \$50 deposit per session can be paid to hold your spot. This goes towards that session's fee and is only refundable if you drop out before June 24, 2020. Those that drop out after that forfeit their deposit. Full balance of sessions should be paid for by June 24<sup>th</sup>. Those that are registering after that are expected to pay at time of sign up. Checks are made out to "Town of Rosendale DFY" and we take cash and credit also. Credit Cards have an extra charge. The last thing is if you would like to sign up for the whole summer, we ask that you pick 3 that you definitely would like and put "wait" on a fourth. This helps us give everyone a chance to come to camp. Most people put the wait session as Session 4, in that it is the one with the most room. Anyone on this wait list will be added on June 15<sup>th</sup>. In the past, everyone has gotten their 4 session.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> page is our liability release form and must be signed by a legal guardian of the camper. The demographics box is optional and just used for grant reporting with no names tied

to it. The 4<sup>th</sup> page is very important. It is the health page and get to know you page. There is a signature page on the bottom of this page as well. Allergies are very important to know so we have plans in place. With medication that need to be taken at camp there is another form to be filled out. Medication is self-administered by the camper under the supervision of the Camp Director or Assistant Camp Director. Emergency medication is always kept close by, usually in their backpacks for older campers or at staff table for easy access. Non-emergency meds are kept locked up in the office. The biggest thing that comes up is the food based allergies. We have different policies in place to help that a reaction doesn't occur such as the peanut/nut area during meals and no sharing of food. The get to know you part is your chance to put down things that your camper likes and doesn't like as well as a place to write down, if needed, some behavior management/ stress reductions strategies that you know works in other areas of the camper lives.

In addition to the health info that you give us, Department of Health guidelines state that we need an up to date immunization record for each camper. In the past, we were allowed to except religious exemptions but that is no longer the case as many of you probably already know as the change also occurred with schools. The county has another mandate that everyone at camp has the measles vaccination or proof of immunity. To help me out, it would be best to get them to me at registration but if not possible, shortly after. I don't want to have to track them down right before camp. You can email me a scan, drop it off, or mail it. **If mailing things in, make sure it goes to the Cottekill address, not the physical address.** You can also shoot me an email so I know to look for things. I know doctors' offices are picky and usually only like to fax. The fax number is 845-658-8744, please put attention youth, camp or my name.

One last thing to touch on is for those campers that come from split households. I understand that people have different visitation schedules with parents and is a tough thing to navigate. We do ask that before signing up for camp that you have worked it out with both households and have the right permissions to send a camper to camp. As much as it's stressful for the parents involved, it is just as, or if not more stressful for the child. We want the camper to be able to be a kid while at camp and not have to worry about the adult stuff. If we need to know about scheduling and who has what pick up days, please let us know. This can be done on the application or in a separate letter. We also may ask for copies of court documents if it's deemed necessary.

I know I just gave you a lot of information so please with any questions don't hesitate. I have access to the email all the time and I am at the Youth Center during weekday afternoons and evenings. I am usually in the office at around noon and in until closing at 7:30-8:00. I am also available to meet if these times don't work for you. I am looking forward to a great summer here at Rosendale Summer Day Camp and having you a part of it.

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