

CAMP FITCH COVID F.A.Q

At Camp Fitch YMCA the health and safety of all guests is always our top priority. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has brought disruptions to all of our lives, but Camp Fitch is committed to continue to serve youth and their families both here and in their communities. In response, we have created a Safety Committee who collaborates and partners with local, state, national, and international agencies to remain informed and proactive as new information develops.

Is Camp Fitch open?

YES, please [email us](#) or call 814.922.3219 for the current status of our programs.

Camp Fitch follows the directions of the Governor of Pennsylvania and the Erie County Executive to determine the status of our programs: [PA Guide for Businesses](#).

We also monitor circumstances and adhere to guidance from the CDC, the Pennsylvania and Erie County Departments of Health, and other experts to determine whether programs need to be suspended or adapted for future dates. The health and safety of our community is our number one priority.

What are Camp Fitch's plans for Summer Camp 2021?

We are planning to provide children with what will surely be a much-needed, fun-filled summer camp experience. Thankfully we have an excellent working relationship with our county's Department of Health and our accrediting agency, the American Camp Association. Additionally, our Safety Committee is working with these agencies and many others to ensure that we are fully prepared to continue to offer the same values-based, mission-driven summer camp experience that we have been providing for over 100 years.

SUMMER CAMP UPDATE! We currently have each session limited to 57% to ensure that every child gets their own bunk bed. Each month we will revisit the capacity limits per CDC and Health Department guidelines.

Will I be refunded if my program is cancelled by Camp Fitch or a governing agency?

If your program is cancelled by Camp Fitch or a governing agency, please choose from the following options:

- Kindly donate funds already paid-- please contact the registrar to discuss how you can receive a tax receipt for your thoughtful and generous gift. Thank you!
- Save the funds as a credit to be used in the future:
 - You can choose another date, and we'll hold your spot
 - We'll hold the credit in your account (good for one year from your scheduled visit)
- Or receive a full refund for the amount paid

Will I be refunded if I choose not to participate in a program that is not cancelled?

Currently you will receive a full refund up to 10 days before your scheduled program begins.

How to Prepare for Your Visit

- All guests are screened 14 days before their visit.
- All guests are screened for temperature and other symptoms in addition to a license background check upon their arrival at camp.
- Out of State Visitors: please follow this link to stay up to date with Pennsylvania Travel Restrictions.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>

What additional steps is Camp Fitch taking to prevent COVID-19?

In addition to the many steps we take every day to protect the health of our guests, campers, and staff, we are currently engaging in the following additional practices:

- We have handwashing stations available at entrances to our dining hall as well as hand sanitizer throughout camp. We have increased the availability of hand sanitizer to staff, guests, and campers.
- All guests are required to wear masks indoors at all times and outdoors within 10 feet of non-family members.
- All guests are separated into small groups (10 or less people) while at camp.
- Small groups (10 or less people) do not share program areas and housing.
- Program materials are cleaned, sanitized, and left to dry between groups.
- All housing is sanitized and airs out for at least 24 hours before use by another group.
- Our food service follows all PA Department of Health guidelines including seating capacity and grab and go meals when required. Guests are encouraged to eat in their rooms or outside whenever possible.
- When you visit, you will see an increased number of signs and literature about the importance of handwashing and other prevention practices.
- All members of staff have received numerous trainings on the prevention of communicable diseases. Staff are checked daily for temperature and other symptoms.
- Our Safety Committee is assessing the local and global situation every day and implementing new policies and procedures as necessary. As always, our priority is everyone's safety.

What can I do as a precaution while I'm at Camp Fitch?

Some of these are unique to life at camp and may not be included in other lists you have received elsewhere!

- Stay home if you or an individual in your group presents symptoms of any kind (i.e. frequent coughing, sneezing, runny nose, fever, shortness of breath, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.)
- Stay home if you or an individual in your group has, in the last 14 days, traveled to a country for which the CDC has issued a level 2 or 3 travel designation.
- Stay home if you or an individual in your group is a Person Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19 **OR** has had contact with a PUI.
- Expect that you may be asked these questions upon arrival and turned away if necessary, per Department of Health guidance.
- Require members of your group to sleep "head-to-toe" in bunkbeds to increase the distance between heads
- Do not allow anyone in your group to share items like drinks, food, pillows, or personal toiletries like toothpaste.
- Please remind and role model frequent handwashing. We suggest handwashing for 20 seconds at the following points during your trip:
 - before entering the dining hall always
 - any time you enter a lodge, require the whole group to wash hands first
 - before eating at any other location
 - before, during, and after preparing snacks (like s'mores)
 - after using or visiting the restroom
 - after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing

- after handling garbage
- whenever hands become dirty
- When handwashing with soap and water is not an option, please make use of our hand sanitizing stations throughout camp, and then wash hands at the next available sink.
- Remind everyone in your group to cough or sneeze into their arms, not hands.
- Remind everyone to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose, and mouth.
- **Refer to the Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, and your local Department of Health for the most current updates and precautions.**

As a donor to Camp Fitch, how can I help?

We are beyond grateful to the members of our community – our alumni, guests, camper families, volunteers, and staff – who have recognized the challenges crises like this can pose to a human services organization regardless of their own hardships that they may be facing. For those that are able and interested, please [make a gift here](#). THANK YOU for your support of children and families during these uncertain times.

If you have other questions, please call 814-922-3219