

Prep Guide Family Camps

Preparing for Camp

To help you with your packing, daytime temps are normally in the 60s to 80s and nighttime temps are in the 50s to 60s. In your planning, consider the following activities we offer: outdoor breakfasts, outdoor worship sessions, arts & crafts, woodworking, volleyball, nature classes, horsemanship, campfires, hiking, an adult banquet evening, family games, archery, riflery, shooting range, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, paddle boats, sailing, fishing, a canteen with treats and Fort merchandise, and a coffee shop.

Items to bring

Clothing for warm and cool weather (some	☐ Tennis Shoes / Sandals (some activities require
activities require long pants)	close-toe shoes)
Modest (full coverage) swimsuits	Rain Gear / Umbrella
☐ Beach Towels	☐ Sunscreen & Insect Spray
Medications / First Aid Kit	☐ Lawn Chairs
Toiletries / Towels / Washcloths	☐ Flashlight / Camera
☐ Bible / Notebook / Pen	☐ Sleeping bag, pillows, sheets (if in cabin or campsite)

Optional items: Sports equipment, bicycles, fishing license/gear, frisbees, outdoor games, table games, reading material, musical instruments, extension cords, archery equipment, firearms (read note below for more details)...

If you are staying in a cabin or campsite, you need to bring sheets/sleeping bags and towels as these items are not provided. All cabins have twin bunk beds and one full bottom bunk bed.

Items not allowed in camp: Fireworks, illegal drugs, jet skis or power boats, pets of any kind*, ATVs/UTVs, alcohol, and automatic firearms.

Common Questions:

When does camp begin & end?

Registration for all campers takes place on Saturday from 1:30-5:00 pm. A New Camper Orientation will be held on the lakeside patio of the Gathering Place at 5:20 pm (inside the Gathering Place in case of inclement weather). For those on the Fort meal plan, Saturday dinner is served at 6:00 pm with our Welcome Session at 7:15 pm.

Camp ends on Friday morning. Please vacate your Cabin/Roost/Inn room by 10 am, but feel free to hang around and enjoy Fort until noon! Please vacate your Campsite/RV site by noon. When you go to the Canteen for any last purchases, please leave your vehicle at your site or in the parking lot (don't park in front of the Canteen as this creates congestion and makes it hard for others to get out of camp).

How do we check in upon arrival?

Our staff will greet you in the parking lot as you arrive at camp for check-in. New campers and others interested can get a camp tour with one of our staff. If you are arriving after 5 pm, call Fort's host phone (715-493-0691) upon arrival so a Fort staff person can meet you to check you in and direct you to your accommodations.

What things will require additional money at the Fort?

Ice Cream, soda, snacks, clothing, books, gear and memorabilia are for sale at our Canteen & CampGrounds Coffee Shop. You can also enjoy a nice cup of coffee, tea and other beverages in the CampGrounds Coffee Shop. Most activities are included in our pricing, but some activities, such as larger crafts, larger woodshop projects, extra boxes of shells, and some horsemanship activities have additional charges.

Where can we park our vehicle?

Upon arrival, unload your vehicle near your lodging. (This will help reduce congestion for those entering camp, including families dropping off children for youth camp.) For those staying in the Inn, Roost, and campsites, your vehicle may be left near your lodging throughout the week. We encourage those staying in cabins to move vehicles back to the main parking lot after 5 pm on Saturday.

Are there laundry facilities and groceries at the Fort?

Fort does not have laundry facilities, but there are Laundromats in nearby towns.

Limited grocery options (milk, eggs, bread, and butter) are available from the Fort kitchen. Other grocery items are available at stores in nearby towns. Ice is for sale from the ice freezer at the end of the Moonbeam.

Does Fort have childcare?

We provide programs for infants through high school students during the morning sessions and the adult banquet. During the rest of the day, other campers (including high school students) may be willing to babysit for you.

What if someone on the "Week Plan" leaves early?

Because we offer a special week-long package price plan, anyone leaving early (or arriving a day or two late) will have their bill recalculated on a day rate plus a 15% surcharge. There will be NO adjustments made for early departures or late arrivals once your camp begins. All adjustments must arranged <u>BEFORE</u> your arrival at camp.

What happens if someone on a "Meal Plan" misses some meals?

We do not give refunds or credits for meals campers miss.

What if my family has food allergies and/or a special diet?

We can accommodate gluten, dairy, and nut allergies as well as some special diets related to specific medical needs. To accommodate your dietary needs, we need to know at least two weeks ahead of camp to ensure we have the foods on hand. If you are gluten free, please bring your own bread and desserts as Fort does NOT provide these items. For any food allergy, you must email registrar@fortwilderness.com at least two weeks before the first day of camp.

*Can I bring my pet or service animal to camp?

For the safety and consideration of all our guests and staff, **pets are not allowed at Fort**. You may make arrangements with a local dog and cat kennel to board your pet during your camp stay. There are animals at our stables such as dogs, cats, goats and horses to see and pet. You may bring a Service Animal only with prior approval. To request approval, send email documentation from a licensed professional (doctor, psychiatrist, or other mental health professional) no less than 2 weeks before the first day of camp, stating that the animal is an essential part of treatment for a disability. Documentation should be sent to registrar@fortwilderness.com.

Firearms: Fort has a pistol, rifle, and shotgun range. Fort provides shotguns, shells, and clays at the shotgun range or you are welcome to bring your own. Pistols, rifles and ammo are not provided at the pistol and rifle ranges—if you want to shoot, be sure to bring your own pistol/rifle and ammo. All personal firearms must be stored in a case inside your locked vehicle while not at the range. Once you arrive at the range, all pistols must remain in a locked case until you enter the shooting box. Automatic firearms are not allowed at Fort.

If you have a CCW permit, concealed firearms may remain in your possession at Main Camp but must remain out of sight throughout your time at Fort. If you desire to fire your concealed firearm at Stockade, ask one of our staff at Stockade (not at Main Camp) for a case to transport your firearm to the shooting box.

How may others contact us at camp?

They may call Fort's office at 715-277-2587 during office hours (8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday-Saturday). After hours, they can leave a message. Messages will be delivered as promptly as possible.

What are the cabins & rustic cabins like? Should we bring our own bedding?

Fort's newest cabins have restroom and shower facilities and include one double bed along with 5 or 9 other bunk-style single beds. Homestead cabin has 4 private dorm-style rooms with 12 bunk-style beds in each. Homestead cabin has window A/C units but does not have restroom amenities. The Moonbeam shower house and toilet facilities in the center of camp are available for those in Homestead. **All campers staying in a cabin need to bring their own personal towels, blankets/sheets/sleeping bags and pillows**. No cooking is allowed in the cabins. Click here for facilities photos.

Do we need to bring bedding and linens if we are staying in the Inn or the Roost?

Fresh towels and linens will be supplied for those staying in the Inn and the Roost. There is no maid service provided during the week. In the Inn, towels may be exchanged for clean ones mid-week. The Roost has extra towels provided at the beginning of the week. We encourage guests to bring their own beach towels for lakefront activities. Lawn chairs may come in handy, even while staying in the Inn or Roost.

What if an accident or illness occurs?

Our infirmary, Payton's Place, is equipped with basic first aid needs. If a more serious condition occurs, you will find medical facilities in both Rhinelander & Minocqua. Each family is responsible for their own health and accident insurance while at Fort. Fort does not offer or provide camper medical or accident insurance.

How many families attend each Family Camp?

Generally 45 to 65 households (families/couples/individuals) from multiple states attend each week, resulting in approximately 250-300 campers on site.

When do we pay our bill?

You are welcome to pay your bill online, by phone or in person. We will email your final bill on the last day of camp. Please promptly pay your bill with a debit/credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover), by check, or in cash—just no horse trading! Fort Gift Cards may NOT be used to pay your bill.

How do we sign up for the following year?

Look for the QR code in an Info Guide, in the Sign-Up Room, or posted around camp. This code will take you to a quick online sign-up form. Alternatively, you will receive an email link with your final bill. By reserving your space, you can choose to request the same housing for the following year (you get priority!) or different housing (depending on availability). Once your reservation is confirmed, you will receive an email link to pay your 25% deposit.

