



## **Information Packet**

### **A Week At Penn-York Camp**

#### **The Mission Of Penn-York Camp**

What is the purpose of Penn-York Camp? The mission of Penn-York Camp is simply, “to develop dedicated followers of Jesus Christ by building spirit, mind, and body, in a natural setting.” Everything we do at Penn-York Camp revolves around developing dedicated followers of Jesus Christ, and summer camp is no different. Campers who attend a week during the summer can expect to hear about the love of Jesus Christ. They will hear how His sacrifice on the Cross has paid the debt for our sins, and that by believing in Jesus and giving our life to Him, we can stand righteous before God. Our desire though, is not just for those who have never heard of Christ, but also for those who are not walking in His grace, as well as those who have a growing relationship with Him. Our goal is to see those not living for Jesus convicted and brought back to Him, as well as to assist those who already have a relationship with Jesus, to grow deeper in their devotion to Him. We do this by providing a natural place to encounter Christ. Many of the everyday distractions our culture has grown accustomed to are not at Penn-York Camp. There is no television here; and cell phones and internet are not allowed to be used by the campers. Summer camp is really a time for the campers and staff, to open their eyes to the beauty of God’s creation and refocus on things that have eternal value.

## **What To Bring/Not Bring**

### ***What To Bring***

- Bible
- Water bottle
- Bedding and Linens (sheet, pillow, sleeping bag, sleeping clothes, pajamas)
- Toiletries (soap, shampoo, washcloth, towel, toothbrush, toothpaste)
- Outdoor Clothing (enough to supply your child for the amount of time they will be here.)
- Rainwear
- Modest Swimwear
- Shoes and Sandals
- Any Medications (Will be given to the health officer)

### ***Other Possibilities***

- Flashlight, bug spray, sunscreen, camera, musical instrument, hat, sunglasses
- Spending Money (All campers start off with a \$10 credit toward the camp store. Additional money can be added, and will be refunded at the end of camp if it is not spent. *Note: camp does not refund \$10 credit that came with registration.*)

### ***Do Not Bring***

- ipods, MP3 players, cellphones, laptops or any type of electronic entertainment device
- tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and pornography are strictly prohibited on PYC grounds.
- Weapons are prohibited. *(Penn-York Camp does allow campers to bring knives. However, campers cannot bring a knife with a blade length of over 4 inches.)*

### ***Penn York Camp's Dress Code***

Penn-York Camp encourages campers to dress modestly, consistent with the instructions provided in 1 Timothy 2:9. Practically applied, shorts should be mid-thigh or longer, tank tops are permitted if not low cut at the neckline. Camis and spaghetti straps are not allowed. Underwear, cleavage, bras, and tummies should not be exposed. Immodest swimwear will require a cover up such as a dark t-shirt and or shorts. Camp staff will provide counsel and suggestions pertaining to modesty and if necessary will require campers to change.

## **Staff At Penn-York Camp**

Every cabin at Penn-York Camp receives both a counselor and a counselor in training (CIT). Under the leadership of the counselor, each cabin will go through daily activities together. The counselor will maintain cabin unity, look out for the welfare of all the campers in their cabin, and share the love of Jesus Christ with each camper. The CIT will help the counselor wherever they are needed. The counselors are supervised by the Summer Program Directors. They assist the counselors, by helping with difficult situations, keeping them focused on their campers, and maintaining unity among the staff. In authority over the Summer Program Directors, are the Camp Administration and Board of Directors. Every staff working at Penn-York Camp receives background checks in accordance with Pennsylvania State Law, to ensure the safety of your children.

## **A Day In The Life Of A Camper**

*(This is a general overview. Explorer camps, art camps, and other specialty camps may differ in activities that are offered.)*

During the course of any day, a camper at Penn-York Camp can expect to have a blast in our swimming pool, or ride down our waterslide. They will play various ball field games with other campers, and do an all camp activity prepared by the Program Directors. Daily cabin devotions plus two chapels will give campers the chance to make a commitment to Christ, or grow stronger in the relationship they already have with Jesus. Food will be prepared by our kitchen staff, and served three times a day to ensure healthy eating habits while at camp. And finally, five activity periods give each cabin a chance to choose from a variety of activities available at PYC.

## **Activities At Penn-York Camp**

Archery

All Camp Games

Badminton

Boating

Bouldering Wall

Crafts

Croquet

Challenge Course-Low Elements (Team Building – Ages 11 & Up)

Challenge Course-High Elements

(Building Personal Confidence – Ages 11 & Up)

Challenge Course – Indoor

(Both High and Low Indoor Activities – Ages 11 & Up)

Chapel  
Dodge Ball  
Firebuilding  
Flimsee  
Floor Hockey  
Frisbee Course  
Games- Indoor  
Games- Outdoor  
-- Kickball  
-- Softball  
-- Soccer  
Game Room  
Hiking  
Horseshoes  
Initiatives (Team Building Games)  
Kan Jam  
Ladder Golf  
Mountain Bikes (Ages 11 & Up)  
Mountain Boarding (Ages 11 & Up)  
Nature Games  
Nighttime Zipline (Teens Only)  
Octaball  
Quiet Time  
Pool  
Tetherball/Foursquare  
Volleyball-Sand  
Waterslide

### **Safety At Penn-York Camp**

Every year, Penn-York Camp hires a health officer, who is always on campus during the course of a week of camp. Because of the danger of drug abuse, all medications will be handed over to the health officer at the beginning of camp. The health officer is then responsible for getting campers' medications to them when they need them, as well as overseeing the safety and well-being of the campers and staff. Two Certified Lifeguards will be on duty when the pool is in use. Lifejackets are required when boating on the pond. The Challenge Course Staff have been thoroughly trained on the safety and proper use of all aspects of our challenge programming. All summer staff are trained on how to respond and protect their campers in the event of a natural disaster or other emergencies.

In the event of an emergency that surpasses the abilities of our health officer, the parents will be contacted and professional help will be obtained.

Campers are always under the supervision of their counselor and CIT. They will do activities as a cabin group. Campers will not be allowed to wander away from their cabin to do events on their own. This constant group setting creates accountability, and builds unity as well as strong friendships.

Homesickness: If you suspect that your child might deal with homesickness please make the counselor aware when you come to camp. Each child is welcome to bring things from home, to comfort them at night, and nightlights can be provided for those who are afraid of the dark. Counselors have been trained on how to help campers through homesickness. Penn-York Camp uploads photos of the campers to our website during the week. Parents are welcome to check out these photos and see the fun things their children are doing.

Penn-York Camp is glad to give tours of our campus. Prior arrangements must be made. For the safety of those on campus we cannot guarantee a tour if you just show up.

Please call 814-848-9811 to schedule a tour.

### **Drop Off and Pick Up at Penn-York Camp**

Drop Off: Regular drop off is between 4-5 p.m. on Sunday afternoon at the Alpine Center. After 5 p.m. the road to the Alpine Center will be blocked off. Campers who are late should come to the office to sign in. When dropping a camper off for a week of camp, come into the Alpine Center, and our staff will walk you through the final steps of getting checked into camp. You will first meet with the Camp Administration. Penn-York Camp administration needs a written permission slip, signed by the parent or legal guardian, if someone other than the parent will be picking the child up. Penn-York Camp cannot release a child to anyone other than a parent or legal guardian without a written permission slip. If legal situations make it that one of the parents cannot pick up the child, then Camp Administration must be informed. The Health Officer will be present to get any medications that your child may have and to answer any questions. All known health issues should be reported to the Health Officer. Penn-York Staff will assist you in carrying your belonging to the cabin your child has been assigned to. *(Cabin assignments are made before you arrive, so if your child has someone they want to room with, you must contact Camp beforehand. While we try our best to honor cabin mate requests, we cannot guarantee that everyone will be roomed with the person of their choice.)* Once in the cabin, parents are welcome to help their child make their bed, and organize their belongings. Parents are encouraged to meet the counselors, and let them know of any issues they may need to be aware of.

*Day Camp drop off* is between 8:00 a.m. each morning at the Fellowship Hall.  
*Mini Camp drop off* is at 8:00 a.m. Thursday morning at the Fellowship Hall.

**Pick Up:** Pick up for regular camp is on Friday at 6 p.m. Parents should drive up to the Alpine Center, where our staff will walk them through the checkout process. During check out, parents will receive a piece of paper that has been signed by an authorized camp staff member. This signed piece of paper must be presented to your child's counselor. A counselor is not permitted to release the child to you unless you have that signed piece of paper. Prior arrangements must be made if someone other than a parent or legal guardian will be picking up the child. Penn-York Camp needs a signed permission slip for someone other than a parent or guardian to pick a child up, and we need to have that permission slip before the time of pick up. If legal situations make it that one of the parents cannot pick up the child, then Camp Administration must be informed.

*Pick up for mini-camp* is Friday at 6:00 p.m., and will follow the same procedure as a regular week of camp.

*Pick Up for Day Campers between ages 5-7* is at 4:30 p.m., Monday – Thursday in the Fellowship Hall. Pick up on Friday, is at 6 p.m. at the Alpine Center.

*Pick up for Day Campers between ages 8-10* is at 8:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday in the Fellowship Hall. Pick up on Friday, is at 6 p.m. at the Alpine Center.

Prior arrangements should be made if someone other than a parent will be picking up a day camper.

*Parents are asked to not be early for pick up. If a child needs to be picked up early, prior arrangements can be made with the camp administration.*

## **Food At Penn-York Camp**

Campers receive three excellent meals per day. Our cook, with the help of an assistant cook, work hard to ensure the food at Penn-York Camp, not only tastes good, but also is nutritious and healthy. In addition to the chef and assistant cook, two kitchen workers are hired to make sure dishes are properly washed. They also keep the kitchen and dining area cleaned. Our kitchen is inspected according to Pennsylvania State Laws. The Dining Hall can easily hold over a hundred people, and round tables give it a friendly feel. *(Explorer campers receive their food from the kitchen, but prepare it themselves.)*

## **Lodging At Penn-York Camp**

Hardwood Cabins – Boys stay in the Hardwood Cabins. The cabins are made up of four bunk beds, one single bed, and a bathroom. The bathroom has one toilet, two sinks (handicapped cabin only has one sink), and a shower. Each cabin comfortably holds nine people. There are six Hardwood cabins, and one of them is handicap accessible.

Pinewood Cabins – Girls stay in the Pinewood Cabins. Located a good distance from the Hardwoods, these cabins are made up of five bunk beds and two bathrooms. Each bathroom has a sink, a toilet, and a bathtub with a shower. Each cabin comfortably holds ten people. There are six Pinewood Cabins and two of them are handicap accessible.

*Please note: Segregation of sleeping areas is demanded at Penn-York Camp. Staff and campers are forbidden in cabins of the opposite gender.*

Explorer Camp Lodging – An Explorer Camper sleeps in an Adirondack style lean-to. Located out in Penn-York Camp's woods, these three buildings can lodge over thirty people. During Explorer Camp, boys and girls will receive separate lean-tos, which keep sleeping areas segregated. Boys and Girls latrines are located in two different wooded areas.



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