



BEST SUMMER EVER™



C.W. Avery Family YMCA Summer Day Camp

WELCOME TO CAMP!

Dear Parents and Campers:

Welcome to Camp CARES! In partnership with District 202, we are glad that you have chosen our quality program to meet your needs this summer. We are excited to welcome your camper and look forward to four weeks of summer fun full of youth enrichment activities, outdoor exploration, teambuilding, recreation, arts and crafts, and more.

The C.W. Avery Family YMCA Camp CARES is unlike any camp experience in the area. Our staff works year-round to prepare for a successful summer program for the children in our community. Many hours have been spent planning, preparing, and creating new program areas to give children a summer camp experience with lasting memories.

This welcome packet was created with your concerns in mind. It is our hope that you find this packet useful in answering any questions that you and your child may have, as well as fully understanding the policies and procedures at the C.W. Avery Family YMCA Camp CARES.

We are excited that summer is here, and look forward to a safe summer full of activities with our campers. Again, welcome to the C.W. Avery YMCA family, and thank you for your commitment to our program. With your help, we now have the opportunity to build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.

Sincerely,

Shannon Stawikowski
Camp Director

YMCA Mission

The mission of the YMCA is to develop spirit, mind and body. We carry that mission out one child at a time. In keeping with YMCA principals, we believe a child's spiritual experience is vitally important in developing character.

C.W. AVERY FAMILY YMCA

(815) 267-8600
www.jolietymca.org





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DAILY SCHEDULE EXAMPLE

GRADES K-6

7:45am-8am	Arrival & Sign-In
8am-8:15am	Opening Ceremony
8:15am-9am	Activity 1
9am-9:45am	Activity 2
9:45am-10:15am	Snack
10:15am-11am	Activity 3
11am-11:45am	Activity 4
11:45am-12pm	Closing Ceremony & Sign-Out

*7th and 8th Grade campers will be taking on leadership roles and assisting our counselors with the younger groups. Group assignments will be given on the first day of camp.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP (AND WHAT SHOULD STAY HOME!)

The majority of our camp day is spent OUTSIDE! Please make sure to dress appropriately, and leave any unnecessary items at home.

BRING TO CAMP:

- Backpack (labeled with Camper's name)
- Cool, comfortable play clothes
- Gym shoes (no sandals or open toe shoes please!)
- Water bottle (labeled with Camper's name)
- Healthy snack (labeled with Camper's name)
- Sunscreen (labeled with Camper's name)
- Towel for picnic style snack time

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- Hat
- Sunglasses

ITEMS TO LEAVE AT HOME:

Electronics, cell phones, flip flops/open toe shoes, dressy clothes, jewelry, trading cards, toys, items of value

The C.W. Avery Family YMCA will not be responsible for items that are lost or stolen.



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GENERAL CAMP INFORMATION

Hours and Days of Operation:

The C.W. Avery Family YMCA Camp CARES begins at 8:00am and lasts until 12:00pm, Monday thru Friday. The majority of our camp day is spent outside, please dress accordingly.

In partnership with Plainfield School District 202, Camp CARES will offer 2 4-week sessions at 4 locations this summer.

SESSION DATES:

Session 1: June 13-July 8*

Session 2: July 11-August 5

*No Camp on June 20 and July 4, 2022

LOCATIONS:

Liberty Elementary

Lincoln Elementary

Ridge Elementary

River View Elementary

SITE PHONE NUMBER:

779-702-8943

779-702-6416

779-702-0984

779-702-1120

About Our Staff:

We hire mature and enthusiastic staff to help us provide a quality, safe and enjoyable program for all involved. All staff are trained to work with children in a Summer Camp, as well as trained in CPR, First Aid & Child Abuse Prevention. A criminal background check and reference checks have been conducted, documented, and filed on all staff. The majority of our staff are college age and above, and have a passion for working with children.

Summer Camp T-Shirts:

All campers will receive one YMCA Camp CARES Shirt. Additional camp shirts are available to purchase for \$7 each.

Snacks:

Campers are required to bring their own snack to camp. Please label your camper's snack. *Please bring a towel for "picnic style" snack time.

Enrollment Forms:

Enrollment forms will be kept confidential; only staff working with your child will have access to this information. If at any time your contact information or other information changes, please inform the Camp Director or Managers. If we do not have all forms completed, your child will not be able to sign in to our Camp CARES Program. Please note: our program is license exempt and is not regulated by DCFS.

Parent Communication:

Have a question about camp but don't know where to look? The following list is where we post our most updated information:

- Weekly Camp Newsletter: Available on the Friday prior to the week of camp
- Facebook: Contains camp photos, Y news and any emergency information

Payment & Registration Information:

Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202 is pleased to offer Camp CARES at no cost for students in grades K-8. Camp CARES is made possible thanks to federal grant dollars received through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, which was established to address the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Space is limited to 100 students, per location, per session, and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Students may only register for one session of Camp CARES.

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POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Medication at Camp:

Any medications given to a child during the Camp CARES Program must be in its original container. Our staff will only dispense prescription medication. We will not distribute medicine to control a fever or relieve pain. The C.W. Avery Family YMCA staff will not be allowed to give the first dosage of medicine to a child. If a child needs to take prescribed medication in our care, the parent must complete a Medication Authorization form. This information must also be listed on the enrollment form. For campers who have asthma, please be sure to send along an inhaler. Campers will be required to carry their own inhaler unless otherwise noted by a parent. Many children who have asthma know best when they need to use their inhaler, and will be supervised by a camp counselor. Please be very specific when giving us information regarding your child's medication, as each camper's health is important to us. For campers with allergies requiring epinephrine injections (EpiPen), the YMCA asks that parents provide the counselor with the device that can be carried in the First Aid kit at all times. Along with providing the EpiPen, we will need a Medication Authorization form describing ALL allergies.

Illness and Injury at Camp:

With each child's welfare in mind, we ask parents not to send a child to camp if he/she is sick or has a fever. We also ask that if a child has an injury that may affect their positive Summer Camp experience that parents do not send their child to camp. Campers are asked to participate in a wide variety of activities each day and if they are injured or ill, they may not feel up to or have the ability to take part in planned activities. If a child becomes ill or injured during camp hours, parents/guardian will be contacted and asked to pick up their child from the camp site. In the event that we are unable to contact the parent or guardian, we will review the emergency contact information to locate one of your designees who can pick up the child.

A camper who has a fever at or above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home. Parents should monitor his or her symptoms and consult a doctor if concerned about the symptoms.

A camper that has been sent home can return to camp when:

- He or she has had no fever for at least 24 hours without taking medication to reduce fever during that time; AND
- Any other symptoms are improving; AND
- He or she has fulfilled any quarantine necessary according to current CDC guidelines (if applicable)

A camper may return to camp earlier if a doctor confirms the cause of their fever or other symptoms is not COVID-19 and releases the camper to return to camp in writing. A camper who experiences fever and/or respiratory symptoms while home should not return to camp.

If your child is injured at camp, the Camp Director will take whatever steps necessary to obtain emergency care, and try to make your child as comfortable as possible. We will then seek to contact the child's parent/guardian. Please update camp staff of any changes in contact information in the event we should have to contact you.

To keep everyone healthy and safe this summer, we will follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and local, state, and federal health officials.



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Sunscreen:

In an effort to prevent sunburn at camp this summer, we have established the following procedures for the safety of your child.

- All campers must carry a bottle of sunscreen in their backpack, preferably the spray type so that Day Camp staff can help any campers with hard to reach areas. Camp staff will not apply "rub-on" sunscreen to any camper.
- Sunscreen will be applied daily after opening ceremony.
- Day camp staff will verify that all campers have applied sunscreen before moving into the activities as planned.
- Please LABEL your camper's sunscreen bottle.

Camper Sign in/Sign out Procedures:

Camp CARES offers curbside drop off and pick up. Upon arrival, please proceed to the designated drop-off lane located by the gym doors. Staff will be waiting for your arrival.

On the first day of camp, please bring an 8.5x11 sheet of paper with your child's name written on it, placed on the passenger side dashboard. Upon arrival, camp staff will record camper's arrival on a sign in sheet and will then escort them to the building.

At the completion of the first day of camp, all campers will receive a sign with their name and group number. Please have this placed on your dashboard each day when dropping off and picking up your child. For pick up, parents will line up in the pick-up line. Staff will approach your vehicle to see your camp's name and your child will be brought to your vehicle.

Please have your PICTURE ID available to show to the camp staff. Please remain in your car at all times unless your child needs assistance getting in/out of the car.

If dropping off after 8:15am or picking up prior to 12pm, please call or text the camp site phone with your name and your camper's name, to alert our staff.

- Campers must be signed in/out by a parent/guardian or an individual 16 years or older who is listed on the authorization form.
- All campers are encouraged to be signed in by 8:00am, as scheduled events typically begin after this time.
- A late fee will be charged for each occurrence that children are picked up late. Parents will be charged \$10 for every 15 minutes, per child. Late fees will be expected to be paid the next day. Repeated late pick-ups may result in removal from the summer camp program.
 - 1-15 minutes = \$10 per child
 - 16-30 minutes = \$20 per child
 - 31-45 minutes = \$30 per child

Sign In/Pick-up Location:

Drop off and pick up is located at the exterior gymnasium door at each camp location. Adults MUST sign children in and out EACH day.

Early Pick-up/Late Drop-off:

If you need to drop off your child after 8am or pick up before 12pm, please call the camp site phone.

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YMCA Camp CARES Behavior Management Guidelines

The Greater Joliet Area YMCA has a zero tolerance policy for any sort of violent or disruptive behavior. We will not tolerate disrespect towards our facilities, staff, program materials, or other camp participants. Physical or verbal fighting, degrading, making fun of others, demeaning, or threatening other campers or staff will not be allowed. Any campers involved in these types of activities will be subject to discipline, and may be sent home for the day, suspended from camp, or removed from the program. Throughout the day, minor incidents will follow progressive discipline. A warning will be issued, then a timeout from activities, followed by a call home to parents.

Character Counts at the Y!

Campers are expected to practice and model the YMCA four core values at camp:

CARING

- We care about each other's feelings; we do not tease or make fun.
- We take care of the camp equipment so that others can enjoy it too.
- We care for the YMCA property by keeping it litter free, and by cleaning up after ourselves.
- We care about our bodies: NO smoking, alcohol, or drugs.
- We care for others by keeping our hands and feet to ourselves. We do not hit, kick, push, or play rough.

HONESTY

- We practice honesty by always telling the truth.
- We practice honesty by making sure everyone is treated fairly.
- We are honest with ourselves, and ask for help when we need it.
- We practice honesty by "doing the right thing" without being asked or told.

RESPECT

- We show respect by listening to our counselors and other staff members.
- We show respect by following directions the first time they are given.
- We show respect by speaking to each other nicely and using appropriate language.
- We show respect by asking before touching or taking someone else's belongings.

RESPONSIBILITY

- We show responsibility by coming to camp prepared for the day.
- We show responsibility by leaving unnecessary items at home when we come to camp.
- We show responsibility by staying with our groups where our counselors can see us.
- We show responsibility by asking permission if we need to leave our group for any reason.

When breaches of rules and regulations occur, it is the responsibility of YMCA staff to work with the camper & the camper's parent(s)/guardian(s) to help the camper correct their behavior. When determining the response for a specific breach of discipline, the Camp Director will consider the nature of the act, the camper's age and maturation, any mitigating circumstances, and the affect of his or her actions on the welfare of the YMCA summer day camp. The fact that a particular violation of good conduct is not specifically mentioned in the following pages is not a satisfactory defense for any improper conduct. It is simply impossible to list every action which is inconsistent with good character values and citizenship.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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We expect all campers to form the habit of not only observing the rules contained herein, but also the general rules of good conduct and common sense acknowledged by the community in which we live. Behaviors that may result in disciplinary action include but are not limited to:

- Fighting
- Swearing
- Bullying Behaviors (verbal, physical or written intimidation or threats, including “Cyber-bullying”)
- Running in hallways or multi-purpose rooms
- Shoving, pushing and/or other aggressive acts
- Disrespect for another person and/or property
- Harassment (verbal, physical, sexual)
- Washroom misbehavior (i.e., water throwing, climbing on toilets or hanging on stalls)
- Throwing of objects (i.e., rocks)
- Violation of playground limitations
- Vandalism
- Possession and/or use of matches, lighters, incendiary devices, and/or firecrackers
- Possession, use, control or transfer of a weapon. Weapons include, but are not limited to: 1) guns, explosive devices, any other item which is typically used to cause bodily harm or defined by law to be a weapon, including but not limited to knives, brass knuckles or billy clubs; 2) items such as baseball bats, pipes, bottles, locks, sticks, compasses, pencils and pens if used, or attempted to be used, to cause bodily harm; and 3) look-alike weapons and/or “toy” weapons. Possession and/or use of weapons may result in expulsion from camp. Camp administrators shall be required to refer any camper who brings a weapon to camp to the local law enforcement agency. If a camper sees a weapon on camp property, the child should NEVER touch the weapon. That child must go immediately to an adult and inform them about the location of the weapon.
- Possession and/or use of a cell phone, laser light, pager, or any other unauthorized use of an electronic communication devices.

Firearms or weapons of any kind are prohibited at all YMCA programs. “NO FIREARMS” signs are posted at each facility entrance, in accordance with Illinois State law. In the event of a major infraction of the rules, the Camp Director will contact a parent/guardian to discuss the issue and if warranted, make arrangements for the camper to be sent home. All parents and campers will be required to sign a Behavior Management Policy stating that they understand what type of behavior is expected of all children enrolled in the YMCA Camp Cares Program.

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GREATER JOLIET AREA YMCA MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

CARING

- I will demonstrate **CARING** by adopting an attitude of service toward others.
- I will be **CARING** by displaying a friendly and positive attitude.

HONESTY

- I will always be **HONEST**.
- I will demonstrate **HONESTY** by not allowing others to use my membership card.

RESPECT

- I will **RESPECT** the YMCA's and other people's property.
- I will show **RESPECT** for the YMCA by leaving the facility, program areas and materials provided by the YMCA in the same condition that I found it.
- I will **RESPECT** the YMCA by engaging in positive, constructive and lawful activities and events.
- I will show **RESPECT** to all individuals by choosing appropriate language and behavior.
- I will **RESPECT** others by not harming anyone in a physical, mental, verbal or unlawful manner.
- I will show **RESPECT** for my fellow members and Y staff by not talking on my cell phone in the locker rooms, wellness center or any other program areas.
- I will show **RESPECT** by wearing appropriate attire. I will not wear clothing that displays inappropriate language, writing or pictures.
- I will show **RESPECT** by listening to music via earphones only, at an appropriate volume and with language that will not offend others around me.

RESPONSIBILITY

- I will behave in a mature and **RESPONSIBLE** way, and **RESPECT** the rights and dignity of other members, YMCA staff and volunteers.
- I will always be **RESPONSIBLE** for all my actions, both good and bad, and I understand that my actions have consequences.
- I will be **RESPONSIBLE** for my own property. I will keep my belongings in my possession or secure them in a locker.
- I will demonstrate **RESPONSIBILITY** by not taking photographs or videotaping in the locker rooms or restrooms. I will demonstrate **RESPONSIBILITY** by not bringing alcohol, drugs, tobacco or other dangerous items to the YMCA.

CAMP DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Have a question that wasn't covered in this packet? Please feel free to contact our Camp Director!

Shannon Stawikowski

sstawikowski@jolietyymca.org

815-782-0512

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