


Jeff Merthige—Executive Director
 Chuck Snyder—Property Director
 Loretta Deters—Director of Administration
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 Natalie Schiavone—Equestrian Director
 Josh Ramsey—Conference and Retreats Director
 Michael Costlow—Summer Camp Director



 Dear Parents:
 It's that time of year again...summer! Get ready for swimming pools, barbecues, and of course, summer camp!
 YMCA Camp Kern is providing this packet in hopes of making the preparation for camp a little easier for you and your camper. In this parent planner, you will find all the necessary information and forms needed for your camper's arrival at camp. These forms, along with your camper's payment, must be mailed no later than 1 month prior to your camper's arrival. Please read this parent planner very carefully; the enclosed information is important to both you and your camper.
 We are so excited about this summer and all the surprises and fun we have in store for your camper. See you soon!
 Sincerely,
 The YMCA Camp Kern
 2010 Summer Planning Team

PARENT/CAMPER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

(Please return this page prior to attending camp.)

Camper's Name: _____

Session Number: _____

Please provide the following information to help the camping staff best serve your camper.

1. Has your child been homesick before? Yes No
2. In a resident camp program? Yes No
3. Does your child wet the bed? Yes No
4. What is your child looking forward to doing at camp? _____

5. Is there a recent event or strong fear that might cause your child to be afraid or unhappy at camp? (ie. Recent divorce, death, strong fear of thunderstorms, etc.) Yes No

Explain: _____

6. Is there a court order prohibiting anyone from visiting or picking up your camper? Yes No

Name of custodial guardian or parent: _____

7. Names of people, other than the parents, to whom the camper may be released: _____

8. Any other comments or concerns that staff should be aware of: _____

Main Camp Daily Schedule

7:00	Wake Up
7:50	Flag Raising
8:00	Breakfast
8:50 - 9:15	Assembly
9:25 - 11:35	Activity Hours 1 and 2
11:40 - 12:15	Kern Zone
12:30	Lunch
1:10 - 2:10	Rest Hour
2:15 - 3:15	Activity Hour 3
3:20 - 3:40	Snack
3:45 - 4:45	Activity Hour 4
4:45 - 5:15	Cabin Time
5:30	Dinner
6:15 - 7:00	Cabin/Village Time
7:15 - 8:45	All Camp Evening Activity
8:50	Y-time and Sisterhood
9:00	Evening Snack, Cabin Time
10:00	Lights Out

Ranch Camp Daily Schedule

6:45	Wake Up
7:30	Groom and Tack
8:15	Breakfast
9:00	Riding Lesson
10:45	Ground Lesson
12:30	Lunch
1:00	Rest Hour
2:00	Activity Hour
3:30	Snack
4:00	Swimming
5:30	Dinner
6:00	Groom and Tack
6:30	Trail Ride
7:30	Barn Chores
8:30	Campfire
9:30	Snack
10:00	Lights Out

* Programs such as Kern Challenge and Ultimate Survivor run on a modified schedule.

Directions to Camp

YMCA Camp Kern is located approximately 10 miles north of Kings Island off of I-71. Exit I-71 at exit #32, head south on I23, make a left onto Rt. 350, travel 2 miles, YMCA Camp Kern will be on the right hand side.

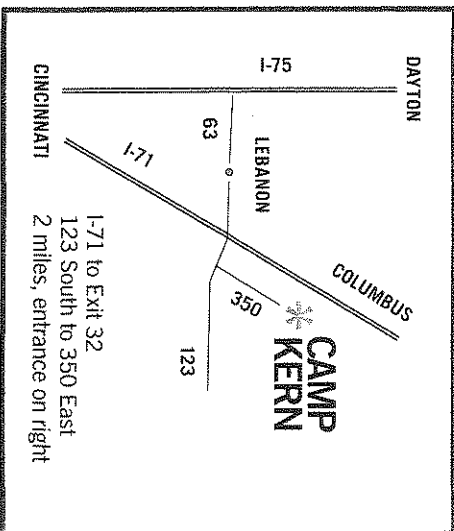
Distance

30 miles from Cincinnati
35 miles from Dayton
80 miles from Columbus

Phone: 1-800-255-5376
(513) 932-3756
Fax: (513) 932-8607

2010 Facility Improvement

- Renovated Pool Deck
- New Britshen Treehouse Cabins
- 2 new Sugar Woods Lodges
- Completion of Ozone
- Zipline Adventure



Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is made available through the generosity of the United Way, Strong Kids Campaign, and other gifts and donations. Please call 1-800-255-5376 ext. 1513 for details. Camp Kern does not discriminate against any individual or family regardless of race, color, creed, national origin or sex.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP:

Please label all items brought to camp. A check-list is available below.

Packing List:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag or 2 blankets and a pillow | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 – 6 pairs of shorts | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 jacket for cool nights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 shirts | <input type="checkbox"/> White t-shirts (for Vespers ceremony and tie-dye) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 pairs of socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Laundry bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 pairs of underwear | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun screen lotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 beach towel | <input type="checkbox"/> Hat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 pairs of shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Old clothes for mud |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 bath towel and wash cloth | <input type="checkbox"/> Bandanas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 pairs long pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bag for personal items | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 pairs of jeans/pants (ranch only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 sweat shirt | <input type="checkbox"/> Heeled boots (ranch only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet articles | <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 swim suits | |

What NOT to Bring

Please do not bring cash, candy, food, gum, pets, fireworks, explosives, knives, cell phones, iPods, stereos, MP3 Players, CD players, electronic games, good jewelry or any other irreplaceable items, drugs, alcohol or cigarettes. Campers who bring drugs, weapons, explosives, alcohol or cigarettes will be immediately dismissed from camp without a refund. Other prohibited items will be sent home or held until the end of the session.

Please read the following information thoroughly. If there are any questions, please contact YMCA Camp Kern.

FORMS

Camper Information and Permission Form

This information is very helpful for our counselors to get to know your child before his/her arrival.

Health Form

This form records all necessary information regarding your camper's health, eating and sleeping habits, medication, etc. Please be as thorough as possible when providing information.

Canteen Information Form

This form provides a list of the canteen's merchandise, prices, and allows you to pre-order. In order to prevent children from needing money during camp, Canteen Cards are available for purchase **during check-in**. Campers will have an opportunity to visit the canteen during snack and after meals. If your child does not spend the full amount of money on his/her Canteen Card, the money will be returned at check-out. If the amount is less than \$5.00, the money will not be returned and will be donated to the camp scholarship fund. **The Kern Wear order form will be mailed to your home closer to the start of your camper's session. Note: unused Good Student money will not be refunded.**

CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES BY PROGRAM

Check-In

Ranch and Main Camp check-in occurs between 3:00 - 5:00 pm on Sunday afternoon.

- First Camp check-in on Mon, Tues and Wed at 7:30 am.
- Taste of Kern check-in on Mon, Tues, Wed and Thurs at 7:30 am.
- Check-in procedures *will not* begin before the scheduled time.
- Campers coming for *Main Camp* and the *CTI programs* will check-in at Singerman Lodge in the main area of camp.
- Campers with *Kern Challenge, Out-trips, Ultimate Survivor, LIT,* and *Ranch Camp* will check-in at Elk Lodge.
- Boots & Bits check-in at 9:00 am at the barn, Monday–Friday.

Check-Out

- The parents' programs, for Main Camp and Teen programs, begin at 10 am on Saturday morning. Ranch Camp is at 9:30am. Please allow extra time for parking.
- Check-out procedures will immediately follow the parent programs. In order to check-out your camper, you must either be the parent/guardian or listed as allowed to pick up the camper. No camper will be released until picture identification is presented, and the camper has been signed out with the counselor.
- Taste of Kern check-out begins at 8:45 am in front of Singerman Lodge.
- First Camp check-out is on Friday evening at 6:00 pm in the Moore Building.

ALL FORMS must be returned to YMCA Camp Kern's office no later than **1 month** prior to the start of the session your child is enrolled in. Please feel free to call the summer office at: (513) 932-3756 x1510, if there are any questions.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Refund Policy

Campers who leave early due to a medical condition will receive a pro-rated refund. Dismissal due to unsatisfactory conduct is not refundable. The Executive Director has the final decision in a dismissal. \$75 is non-refundable regardless of circumstances.

Payment

Payment is due no later than one month prior to the start of the session. If your child elects to stay another session, then payment in full is due immediately. *There is a \$20 charge for all returned checks. (see front of registration page)*

Lost and Found

Unclaimed articles are kept at YMCA Camp Kern until one week past the end of the summer season. Articles are held until this time and then donated to a local charity.

Visiting

Visitors are discouraged from coming during the week. If you must visit, please contact YMCA Camp Kern to schedule a time.

Mail Call

There are many ways to contact campers while they are away at camp (please -- to ensure proper delivery -- include camper's full name and cabin number on all correspondence):

YMCA Camp Kern • 5291 State Route 350 • Oregonia, OH 45054

Fax: 513-932-8607

Care Packages

It is exciting for campers to receive mail while at camp. However, please do not send food to your camper while they're at camp.

Camp Photos

Photos of the week will be posted to www.campkern.smugmug.com and available for view and purchase. The password to access 2010 Summer Camp galleries will be attached to your confirmation sheet. We cannot guarantee photos of every camper. Photos will be uploaded frequently, although not necessarily daily.

Medical Care

All Camp Kern campers are given a health screening by our camp health professional on the first day of camp. At this time all medications, prescriptions, and non-prescription drugs in the **original container** must be given to the camp nurse. Medications will normally be distributed at the meal times and before lights out. Aspirin, Tylenol, and over the counter cold and allergy medicines are available from the camp nurse, if needed, at no charge.

Medical expenses incurred during a camper's stay are the responsibility of the camper's guardians. You and your insurance company will be billed directly for doctor, pharmacy, hospital or clinical bills.

Homesickness

Homesickness is a natural feeling experienced by many campers, counselors, and parents too! For most people it passes in a day or so. It is the policy of the camp to try and keep our campers involved in constant activities so as to reduce the feeling of homesickness. In the case of severe homesickness a counselor will contact you for advice in helping with your camper. If the homesickness continues we will arrange a call between you and your camper. No refund will be granted for campers leaving early.

Drugs, Alcohol & Cigarettes

We reserve the right to search and seize any illegal materials. Possession of any drugs, alcohol or cigarettes will result in immediate contact with camper's guardians and dismissal with no refund.

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the YMCA Camp Kern that no behavior that would be classified as sexual harassment will be tolerated by staff or campers. Such behavior results in dismissal or termination.

Cabin Mate Preferences

Cabin mate preferences are honored whenever possible. The campers **must be in the same village**. Cabin mate preferences are limited to *one request per camper* and each child should **request each other**.

Discipline

Campers are expected to treat fellow campers and staff with respect and to abide by camp rules. It is our policy to use a three-step procedure when disciplining campers:

- 1) Verbal warning
- 2) A behavior agreement with their counselor
- 3) A conference with the Summer Camp Director

Severe behavioral incidents require a phone call home and may necessitate passing the three steps and moving directly to a conference with the Executive Director. Any child being verbally or physically abusive or "bullying" another camper may be sent home. Bullying is absolutely not tolerated. Parents of campers who are being sent home must make arrangements for their child to be picked up within three hours of being contacted. Campers sent home because of behavior problems will not be entitled to any refund of fees.

Food Service

Balanced meals are planned and served by the food service staff. Campers eat family style meals in cabin groups in the dining hall. In addition, vegetarian meals are prepared for our vegetarian staff and campers. Note: if your camper is a vegetarian or has special dietary needs please include this on the enclosed health form.