



Summer Adventures Guidelines REV.02/06/2026

Thank you for choosing Lake County Forest Preserves Summer Adventures. Our programs are designed to help your child gain a deeper appreciation and respect for nature, art, history, and culture. These guidelines help to ensure a safe and rewarding experience for everyone.

Before Program Starts: Review and fill out the necessary forms required for the program. Please check your email, including the spam/junk folder, for correspondence from the program's educator and administrative staff that will include more details.

Appropriate Attire and Gear

See program itineraries for specific attire and gear. Participants should leave all cell phones, electronics, valuables and pocketknives at home.

Code of Conduct and Discipline—Please review the following guidelines with your child.

Children are expected to display appropriate behavior:

- Show respect to all participants, staff, and nature.
- Refrain from putting themselves and others in danger.
- Always wear appropriate attire and shoes.
- Be pleasant to others and refrain from using foul language.
- Use equipment, supplies, and facilities as instructed.
- Stay with the group.

You will be contacted to discuss behavior problems that may arise. The following disciplinary techniques are used:

- Verbal warning: address issue and expectations.
- Time out: the child is removed from the activity for an appropriate amount of time.
- Parent involvement: the parent/guardian is contacted to help resolve the situation.
- Removal from program: when a severe issue exists, such as causing intentional harm to others or consistent disruptions of activities.

Health and Safety

- All staff is certified in First Aid, CPR, AED, EpiPen and asthma inhaler assistance. They will take whatever emergency medical measures are deemed necessary for the protection and safety of the participant within their training. This may include calling for an ambulance.
- For a healthy program environment, please keep your child at home if they feel unwell or have a fever and then notify us of their absence.
- If your child needs medical accommodations during the day or is taken off a particular medication during the summer, please make those details clear on your Health Form. It is also helpful for staff to know of any medical or behavioral considerations prior to the session. Staff may be able to modify activities and techniques to provide everyone a great learning experience.
- The only medications participants under the age of 18 are allowed to carry during program hours are their asthma inhaler and/or EpiPen. All other medication must be given to staff along with the Medication Dispensing Information Permission and Waiver form.



Drop-off and Pick-up

- Park in designated lots and escort your child safely to and from the meeting site.
- Drop off participants no more than 10 minutes before the start of the program.
- Adults must check in the participants with staff. Staff are not responsible for participants before the start of the session.
- Pets are not allowed at Independence Grove or Ryerson Conservation Area.
- Anyone picking up your child will need to present a photo ID (i.e. driver's license) and be on your authorized pick-up list.
- Pick up participants within 15 minutes of the end of the program. A late fee may be charged for repeated tardiness.

How Weather Affects Programs

The safety of your child is important to us, and weather can change unexpectedly. Staff make the best decisions they can with the information on hand.

- Rain: Programs are not cancelled due to rain. Bring rain attire.
- Lightning/Thunderstorms: If lightning persists more than 30 min. in a program without a lightning safe indoor space, it will be canceled.
- Heat Index: When the heat index reaches 100 degrees Fahrenheit, activities are altered, or the session may be canceled. *
- Programs at these sites have lightning safe indoor space so are less likely to cancel due to weather: Dunn Museum, Greenbelt, and Ryerson Woods.
- Air Quality: When the U.S. Air Quality Index forecasts an AQI value higher than 151 or "unhealthy" activities are altered, or outdoor sessions may be cancelled.

* When cancellation or changes occur to the program, notifications are sent to the parent/guardian listed on the Emergency Contact, Health, Waiver and Release Form. If pick-up is necessary during the program, emergency contacts are also notified by phone in the order listed and are expected to pick up the participant.

Need More Information?

Contact us at AskAnEducator@LCFPD.org or 847-367-6640 with any health and safety concerns or questions about the program.