

# A PARENT'S GUIDE

## TO SENDING YOUR CHILD TO SOMERSET BEACH

Thanks for registering for an SBC Youth Camp! We are honored that you've chosen our camp for your child, and we consider it a privilege!

Please read over the enclosed information thoroughly and carefully. There are guidelines to follow and important times to note. Prompt arrivals will make the process smooth and enjoyable for everyone. We look forward to seeing you - and your child - this summer.

If you have any questions about the enclosed information, please call the camp office between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 517-688-3783 or email [info@somersetbeach.org](mailto:info@somersetbeach.org).

# PACKING FOR CAMP

## How to pack

Please mark all luggage with your camper's name. Also label all belongings with your child's first and last name. These simple measures will help prevent items from getting lost or misplaced.

## What to pack

Campers do not need dress clothes, but should have a wide range of casual attire (jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.) for warm days and cool nights. Please note that new clothing is not usually the best camp attire.

Clothing should be modest and not tight or revealing. Campers wearing tight or revealing clothing will be asked to change. If they do not have a suitable change of clothing, his or her parents will be called to bring different clothes. If your child is packing for himself or herself, please make him or her aware of this policy.

In addition, the following items are recommended:

Pajamas, underwear and extra socks

Warm jacket, hat and raincoat

Modest one-piece swimsuit, beach towel & sunscreen

Two pairs of shoes

Towel, washcloth, toiletries & comb or brush

Sleeping bag, or bedding for standard twin size bed, and a pillow

Flashlight

Small backpack

Laundry bag

Bible, notebook & pen

## What NOT to pack

Please do not pack any of the following items:

Food or candy (any food or candy will be taken and held until the end of the week)

Valuables

Drugs, including over-the-counter medications (bring prescription medication with you to registration)

Spending money (all money should be turned in to the Trading Post during registration)

Radios, CD players, gaming devices, ipods, or cellphones. If a camper brings any of these, we will store them in a safe place until his or her departure.

Campers are not permitted to keep phones with them in the cabins, under any circumstances. Cameras will be allowed, but camera phones cannot be used.

## What to bring for classes

**Nature:** Campers are encouraged to bring a fishing pole, if they have one. Otherwise, they can borrow one from us.

**Creative:** Bring your own digital camera and memory card. Be sure that the camera and memory card both have the camper's name on them. Campers are not allowed to have phones, so please do not send them with a camera phone.

# OPENING DAY

## Check In

Campers can check-in between 5 and 6 PM on the opening day. If the weather is nice, check-in takes place outside at tables in front of the Cedar Center. If it is raining (or looks like it might rain), check-in will be moved to the Field House.

Check-in for overnight camps includes a cookout for the whole family. Dinner will be served between 5 & 6 PM. No RSVP is required for this cookout.

## Medication and Inhalers

Please do not pack any medications or inhalers in your child's luggage. If your child requires prescription medications while at camp, please bring an adequate supply of the medication in the original, clearly labeled prescription container with you to registration. State law prohibits us from accepting medications in any other pill case or container. Medications are secured in our health office and distributed according to instructions by a camp health officer. There is no need to send any over-the-counter remedies. We keep these items in our health office.

## Label Everything

Please label all belongings with a first and last name! Somerset Beach Campground is not responsible for items left behind, lost or stolen. At check-out, be sure to check our lost and found table to claim items your child may have misplaced. Any items not claimed after two weeks will be donated to charitable organizations.

If you have any other questions about SBC Camps please feel free to contact our office at 517-688-3783 or [info@somersetbeach.org](mailto:info@somersetbeach.org).

## Driving Directions

From the North - East

(Ann Arbor and Detroit):

Take 94 West to exit 142 (Hudson - 127). Go south on 127 (about 15 miles). Turn right on US 12. Go about 4 miles and the entrance to the camp will be on the left (immediately after the Lake LeAnn sign on the right).

From the North - West

(Kalamazoo and Jackson):

Take 94 East to exit 142 (Hudson - 127). Go south on 127 (about 15 miles). Turn right on to US 12. Go about 4 miles and the entrance to the camp will be on the left (immediately after the Lake LeAnn sign on the right).

From the South - East

(Toledo and Adrian):

Take 23 North to 223 North. Go north on 223 to US 12. Go west on US 12 4 miles. The camp will be on the left (immediately after the Lake LeAnn sign on the right).

From the South - West

(Goldwater and Indiana):

Take 69 North to exit 13 (US 12). Take US 12 28 miles. The camp sign will be on the right.

Due to construction and high-traffic times throughout the summer, you may want to check our website for updated route information.

**SENIOR TEEN CAMP**

**JUNE 16 - 20**

**PATHFINDER DAY CAMPS**

**JUNE 24, 25, 26, 27 & 28**

**TRAILBLAZER CAMP**

**JUNE 30 - JULY 2**

**EXPLORER CAMP 1 & YOUNG TEEN CAMP 1**

**JULY 7 - 11**

**EXPLORER CAMP 2 & YOUNG TEEN CAMP 2**

**JULY 21 - 25**

**EXPLORER CAMP 3 & YOUNG TEEN CAMP 3**

**JULY 28 - AUGUST 1**

# DURING CAMP

## Spending Money

Beginning in May, you will receive an email with a link to your camper's Trading Post account from our partners at FUNFANGLE. This will allow you to see money that you have deposited during registration and add money to your account. Even if you have not deposited any Trading Post money, please set up that account to save time during registration. To save time in the registration line we encourage you to deposit Trading Post money prior to your arrival at camp.

Snack items are available at camp, as well as shirts, hats, sweatshirts, stamps, and many new souvenir items. Do not bring an excessive amount of money to camp! Shirt and hat prices begin at \$10 - \$15.

At the end of camp any unspent money will be rounded to the nearest \$.25 and returned to the camper.

## Camper Photos

Each camper will bring home a photo of his or her cabin group at the end of the week. Photos of camp activities are taken every week and are posted periodically throughout the week. You can view photos by visiting our website at [www.somersetbeach.org](http://www.somersetbeach.org).

## Communicating With Your Camper

### IN WRITING

Mail is a highlight of a camper's week and is distributed daily. As you write, focus on your child's camp experience instead of what is happening at home in order to help avoid creating homesickness. If you would like to bring mail on opening day, we will distribute it on the day or days you designate. Or, if you prefer to send mail, please include the following information in the mailing address:

Camper Name  
Somerset Beach Campground  
P.O. Box 307  
Somerset Center, MI 49282

Please do not bring candy or food on opening day or send it through the mail, as campers are not allowed to have food in their cabins.

### BY E-MAIL

You will be able to e-mail your camper only while they are at camp. E-mails may be sent to [campermail@somersetbeach.org](mailto:campermail@somersetbeach.org). Emails MUST include the camper's name, as well as the counselor's name, in the subject line. E-mails without the proper information in the subject line may get lost.

### BY FAX

You may fax your camper a message to 517-688-3621. Be sure to include your camper's name, as well as the counselor's name on the cover page.

### BY PHONE

Emergency phone calls will be received at the camp office at 517-688-3783. After-hours emergency calls can be directed to our director's home at 517.688.9408 or our assistant director's home at 517-688-4714.

Often parents instruct their child to call home during the week. To comply with child protection laws we have a policy that no unsupervised phone calls are to be made by campers. Campers may not call home or receive phone calls, so please encourage your child to send post cards instead. In most cases, letters from home are appreciated by your child more than a phone call.

### VISITS

Visits by family and friends are discouraged and may not be permitted because of child protection laws as well as the many scheduling problems it creates.

# CLOSING DAY

## Camper Check-out

Camper pick-up is at 7 PM on the closing day of camp. Check out will be in the FIELD HOUSE.

Early check-out is discouraged and should only be considered when necessary. Arrangements for early departure should be discussed with a registrar at opening day check-in. If arrangements for early departure need to be made while your child is at camp, please contact our office.

At check-out, your camper will receive any money (rounded to the nearest \$.25) left from his or her Trading Post account, any craft items and a cabin picture.

Please note that only those individuals listed on the Authorization for Release Form will be permitted to pick up your child. A photo ID may be required to pick up your camper.

## MEDICATION AND INHALERS

If you brought prescription medication or inhalers for your child, please check with the nurse to pick those up before you check-out.