Dear Campers & Families,

We are so excited to have you join us at Camp Laurel this summer! A summer full of adventure, lifelong memories and new friendships is right around the corner! We know that sleepaway camp is an exciting yet nerve-wracking experience for both campers and families which is why we wanted to create this handbook full of useful information and frequently asked questions to help our campers and families have an easier transition to camp life!

*Providing girls of all ages the tools they need to develop healthy relationships is at the core of Girl Scout’s mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place.*

Sincerely,
Cailey Anderson
Camp Laurel Director
Family Information

Drop off at Camp

- Arrival time at camp is Sunday from 2pm-4pm
- Please limit the amount of family members attending check-in to 2 people.
- When you arrive at camp, a staff member will inform you of your camper’s assigned unit and let their counselor know they have arrived and guide you through luggage drop-off and check-in stations.
- If your camper has any allergies, medications, and/or a Plan of Care, you will be able to meet with the Healthcare Director.
  - If your camper(s) requires any medications see Health & Wellness.

Picking up your Camper

- Checkout will be on Friday from 3pm-5pm
- When you arrive, staff will direct you to parking and let you know where to pick up your camper and their belongings
- You MUST sign out your camper(s) with their counselor- please be sure to bring a photo ID with you
  - Upon sign out, you will also be given their medications back
- Please remember to check the Lost & Found on your way out and stop by our camp Trading Post!
Late drop offs & Early pick ups

We understand there may be an occasion where you will need to drop off your camper(s) late or pick them up early and we will do our best to accommodate this. If this is the case, please contact our Camp Director to make arrangements ASAP!

Camp Facilities

- Our living units consist of either platform tents or cabins depending on the age of your camper(s) and the program they are participating in.
- All cabins and platform tents contain cots with mattresses; adding mosquito netting is optional.
- Our cabins house 8 campers each and our platform tents house 4 campers each.
- Units do not have electricity- campers are encouraged to bring and use a flashlight or lantern.
  - At night, our portapotties and staff housing have electric lights so campers can find them.
- Campers share common areas such as the shower house that has multiple, individual stalls with enough room to also get dressed in that stall.
• Every camper MUST have their health form completed and submitted by June 1st, 2023!

• Camp Laurel will have an APRN on site at all times in our Health Center
  • At the end of the week, parents are given a written record of when and why campers visited the health center
  • In the event that health care outside of camp is necessary, camp staff will contact the family to pick up the camper
  • In the event that emergency medical care is needed, camp staff will contact EMS and the family

• **If your camper(s) requires medications while at camp:**
  • ALL medications sent to camp (prescription and over-the-counter) must be sent in the original packaging with all original labels intact!
  • For each medication, you must have the medication administration form completed by both the parent/caregiver and a doctor
  • All non-emergency medications will be stored in our Health Center for campers to receive if and when they need it
  • All emergency medications (e.g., epi-pens, inhalers, etc.) will stay with the unit counselor to be carried to each activity throughout the day
Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does my camper(s) need to be a Girl Scout?
   You must be a registered Girl Scout to attend a Girl Scout Summer Camp - if you do not wish to be a member of a troop at this time, you can register as a Juliette member to solely attend camp.

2. Do you offer any open houses?
   • YES! We will have a Virtual Camp Information Night via Zoom on February 23rd at 6pm
   • Camp Laurel’s open house on May 7th from 11am-1pm

3. My camper(s) is registered for Mini Camp. When is drop-off and pick-up?
   Check-in will be on Wednesday from 2pm-4pm and pick-up will be on Friday from 3pm-5pm

4. Can I call my camper(s) while they are at camp?
   We have a strict no cell phone policy at camp. If you need to get in touch with someone at camp, please call our office at 860-423-8461 and our staff will be happy to speak with you

5. Can I send my camper mail while they are at camp?
   Yes! We recommend writing letters or sending care packages in advance of the session so that they have ample time to arrive at camp. You are also welcome to drop off letters at camp upon dropping off your camper(s). Please address any mail to Camp Laurel, 175 Clubhouse Road, Lebanon, CT 06249.

6. How much money should I send with my camper(s) for their Trading Post times?
   $10 - $40
7. What if my camper(s) requires special accommodations while at camp?

If your camper(s) requires special accommodations, please contact the camp director to discuss their needs. GSOFCT can make reasonable accommodations for medical, behavioral, and individual educational needs.

8. How can I best help to prepare my camper(s)?

- Attend the Camp Information Night and/or the Open House to meet some of our staff and tour camp
- Talk to them about camp life and how much fun they will have - keep it positive
- Encourage your camper to always see a camp staff member if any issues arise while they are with us
- LABEL EVERYTHING!!
- Help your camper(s) pack for camp, being sure not to do it all—they’ll be more familiar with where everything is once at camp

9. If I need to cancel a session of camp, will I receive a refund?

- Our deposit is non-refundable
- The remainder of the fees will be refunded if the withdrawal is more than 5 weeks prior to the start of the session, if the camper has a communicable illness or an unforeseen injury, a program is cancelled with no alternative program offered, or if camp is cancelled due to COVID-19 or any other reasons.
Frequently Asked Questions For Campers

1. Do you have any tips to prepare for camp?
   - Be sure to do as much packing as you can on your own so that you know where everything is when you arrive at camp
   - Be prepared to try new foods while you are at camp; one of those meals may be your new favorite!
   - Make sure your first AND last name is on everything you are bringing to camp

2. What about tips for while I am at camp?
   - Drink plenty of water!!
   - Always wear sunscreen and bug spray (non-aerosols only)

3. What are the facilities like at camp?
   - You will either be living in a unit with platform tents or cabins; both of which have no electricity
   - Each unit has portapotties and camp has a large, shared shower house with individual shower stalls
   - Camp has a large dining hall, health center, lake and much more

4. What activities will I participate in while I am at camp?
   You'll have fun activities daily: swimming, boating, arts and crafts, sports, archery, hiking, games, and even slingshot

5. What if I have a birthday during camp?
   Our staff will absolutely help to make your day special while at camp. Please let us know if you will be celebrating a birthday while you are with us
6. Can I stay with a friend while I am at camp?

• Yes! Campers may request one “buddy” to sleep in the same cabin or tent with if they are in the same session and program

• We will not accommodate a whole troop staying together in a cabin however

7. Are there any rules I have to follow at camp?

• Yes! Our camp rules are designed so that everyone has a safe and fun experience while at camp

• **It is our expectation that campers follow the rules below:**
  
  • Be respectful to fellow campers, camp staff, our property and equipment

  • Bullying will NOT be tolerated

  • Campers will be responsible for any of their personal belongings and will treat the belongings of themselves, camp, and other campers with respect

  • Campers will follow all rules of the camp and the staff

  • NO CELL PHONES ALLOWED; including smart watches and internet capable devices

• **If these rules are broken, the following will happen:**

  • The first time a rule is broken, the camper will be spoken to by a counselor or other staff member - the camper may be asked to step away from the activity to cool down if needed

  • The next time a rule is broken, the camper will be spoken to by one of our leadership staff

  • If the rule is broken again, the camper will be spoken to by the camp director and sent home if deemed necessary
Camp Laurel Director: Cailey Anderson
canderson@gsofct.org
203-239-2922 ext. 3266

For all General Camp Questions:
customercare@gsofct.org
Customer Care: 800-922-2770
**Camp Packing List**

**PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS WITH FIRST & LAST NAME!**

**CLOTHING:**
- Pajamas
- Swimsuit
- Hat/Bandana
- Underwear
- Socks
- Closed Toe Shoes
- Water Shoes
- Jeans/Long Pants
- Rain Coat/Poncho
- Shorts
- T-Shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Shower Shoes/Flip Flops
- Riding Boots**

**SUPPLIES:**
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellent
- Flat Twin Size Sheets
- Sleeping Bag or Blanket(s)
- Pillow
- Laundry Bag for Dirty Items
- Plastic Bag for Wet Items
- 2 Bath Towels
- 5 Washcloths
- Beach Towel
- Flashlight
- Reusable Water Bottle
- Backpack
- Mess Kit with Silverware
- Toiletries: Soap, Shampoo, Brush, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, etc.

**DO NOT BRING!!!**
- Cell Phones
- Electronics
- Duct Tape
- Food
- Pets
- Pocket Knives
- Matches
- Glass Containers
- Personal Sports Equipment
- Weapons

**OPTIONAL:**
- Stationary & Stamps
- Address Book
- Disposable Camera
- Mosquito Netting
- Feminine Care Products
- Playing Cards
ADDRESS: 175 Clubhouse Road, Lebanon, CT 06249

**If you use a GPS, you will be guided to the camp entrance. The route may be different than the one given here. Cell service is unpredictable near and at camp.**

**From Route 6 Westbound:**
Take a left onto Route 87. Follow Route 87 to Route 207. Take a right onto Route 207. Take a right onto Clubhouse Road. Camp is 2 miles down on the left.

**From Route 2 Westbound:**
Take Exit 18 in Colchester. Take a right onto Route 16 and follow Route 16 to Route 207. Turn right onto Route 207 and take the first left onto Clubhouse Road. Camp is 2 miles down on the left.

**From Hartford or Route 2 Eastbound:**
Take exit 13 in Marlborough. Take a left onto Route 66. Take a right onto Route 85 in Hebron. Take a left onto Route 207. Take a left onto Clubhouse Road just past the junction with Route 16. Camp is 2 miles down on the left.

**From Route 9 or Route 66 in Middletown:**
Follow Route 66 over the bridge into Portland. Continue onto Route 66 in Hebron. Take a right onto Route 85. Take a left onto Route 207. Take a left onto Clubhouse Road just past the junction with Route 16. Camp is 2 miles down on the left.