

## Summer Youth Recreation Program 2026 Parent Information

Dear Parents,

It is our pleasure to welcome you and your children to the Town of Saugerties Summer Recreation Program. This year our recreation program will be running for six weeks, from Monday July 6<sup>th</sup> through Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. Summer Rec runs for a 6 week schedule. Participants may register for either full day (9-3) or half day (9-12) for those 6 weeks. We can no longer accept partial week schedules, you must register for 5 days a week regardless of how many days you choose to send your child. We are not like school, we take attendance for safety purposes. You can send your child/ren whatever days you like. We are not able to accept partial summer schedules any more either. You must register for the full 6 weeks regardless of how many weeks you wish your child to attend. Remember there are payment plans available at your discretion so please register early to take advantage of this. Be sure to sign the last page to acknowledge receipt of this packet with the camper discipline policy. Please take the time to read through the following information.

**Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm:** Drop off begins at 8:50. Each group will have a designated drop off area where a counselor will greet them and wait for all to assemble before moving to their tables in the pavilion. Please do not drop your child off early. There will be no one able to supervise them. Half day pick up is at 12:00 at the same place as your drop off. Please bring your children to their designated drop off area in the morning for attendance and check-in. We also ask that you pick your children up promptly at 3:00 at your designated drop off area. If you are picking your child up early we appreciate a signed note so we can plan accordingly.

**Notes:** If your child is going to be walking home from camp, going home with someone other than a parent, guardian, or caretaker, PLEASE send a note for permission to do so with your child to alert the counselors of the change or we will not be able to release your child. When in doubt please send a note! It is extremely important that our counselors are aware of any new situations in order to ensure the safety of all our campers.

**Sign out policy:** It is required that all parents/guardians/caretakers sign out their child before leaving for the day. Please understand this policy is necessary for the safety of our campers. Any campers who plan on walking home on a daily basis and signing themselves out should bring a signed note from you to their counselor. **If a child signs himself out of camp, he/she MAY NOT return until the following day.** Once again, if your child will be picked up by someone other than you, or the routine changes in any way, please write a note to the counselor.

**Lunch:** Lunch will be held at approximately 12:15pm. Please send a bagged lunch with your camper daily. There are NO GLASS BOTTLES allowed at Recreation. Children are not allowed to leave camp for lunch. They will be eating at their "home base" in the pavilion. Campers will be allowed to buy snacks between 10:00am and 3:00pm.

### General Camp Information:

- To be prepared for camp every day, every child should wear weather appropriate clothes and footwear.
- Apply sunscreen before sending your child for the day. If you would like the counselor to reapply sunscreen during the day please send your personal sunscreen along with a signed note giving permission for them to do so.
- It may be necessary to send extra drinks on hot days. We can keep them refrigerated if they are labeled.
- **Please write your child's name on EVERYTHING and check our lost and found on a regular basis.** Counselors and staff are not responsible for any missing items.
- We DO NOT allow personal electronic devices such as Nintendo DS and iPads to camp. Any other electronics are only allowed to be used while they are in the pavilion.
- We DO NOT permit skateboards, scooters or roller--blades to be used during recreation hours.
- Do not send your child to camp with large amounts of money. Snacks are sold for \$0.25, \$0.50, \$1.00, or \$2.00 per snack. We encourage kids not to buy three or four snacks per day.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phone use is not prohibited; however, we cannot be responsible for any lost or damaged cell phones! Cell phone use is permitted only under the Large Pavilion during unstructured times that are decided upon by individual counselors. Violation of our cell phone policy will result in your camper being asked to turn the phone into the main office for pick up at the end of the day. In the event of an EMERGENCY, please feel free to call the office at 246-5890 ext. 329.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

Having your child wear appropriate summer clothing is important to make Recreation enjoyable for your child. T-shirts, shorts, pants, sun hat, and sneakers or sports sandals work best. Please DO NOT dress your child in dress shoes, flip flops or clothing that they are not allowed to get dirty. Remember, the children enrolled in the summer program are here to PLAY and HAVE FUN! Also remember it is an outdoor program.

### **Camper Discipline:**

When discipline becomes necessary in camp, we insist that the staff remember the following: **BE CALM, CONSISTENT, AND OBJECTIVE.**

#### Staff will always follow the procedures listed below:

1. The counselor will point out to the child exactly what he/she is doing wrong and what can be done to correct the behavior.
2. If the child does not respond to the above procedure, give him/her one additional warning and tell the child that continuing the misbehavior will result in a time out.
3. If the child persists in the misbehavior, institute time out. Time out must be used as soon as the misbehavior becomes apparent. Do not save up time out for later or for the next day. The amount of time out will be according to age.
4. If the misbehavior persists, call for assistance from the Program Manager or take the child to the Recreation office. (However, do not leave the rest of the group unattended).
5. The Program Manager should then talk to the child to find out the cause of the problem and to correct it. If needed the Manger should institute a time out in the office until the child is ready to return to the group. A staff member will escort the child back to their group.
6. In some cases (depending upon the infraction) the Camp Director may call the child's parents and ask that the child be removed from camp for the remainder of the day. A child may also be suspended from the camp for more than one day for a more serious infraction. In all such cases the Camp Director will contact the parent and discuss this option.
7. If serious and repetitive misbehavior persists, the Camp Director will contact the child's parents and arrange a meeting. The meeting will include at a minimum the Camp Director, Program Manager and the supervising counselor(s). A child may be asked to leave the camp on a permanent basis if serious misbehavior continues. Examples which would result in this action would include aggressive behavior, a child who consistently does not follow camp rules, disruptions that impact the camp experience and/or safety of others.

### **Camp Staff Will Never:**

- Camp staff will never use physical or emotional punishment.
- Camp staff will never delegate discipline to another child.
- Camp staff will never remove camp activities planned for some future time as a means of discipline.

**Zero Tolerance Policies:**

**Bullying:**

- Campers will learn to identify bullying and alert a counselor.
- Bullying will mean a time out period and a discussion on how to behave appropriately. Parents will be called in.
- If bullying continues the child will be **REMOVED** from camp **PERMANENTLY!** No refund will be given.

**Stealing:**

- Stealing of any kind from any other camper will **NOT BE TOLERATED.**
- If a child is caught stealing he/she will be **REMOVED** from camp **Permanently!** NO refund will be given.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** In the event of rain or other inclement weather we will unfortunately, have to close. There is no indoor space we could use and still maintain social distancing guidelines. Please be aware that we do everything we can to remain open for our entire camp day but the safety and well-being of your children is our priority. Please listen to local radio stations and check the Saugerties Summer Recreation Facebook page for cancellation notices. The office/emergency number at recreation is 246-5890 ext. 329 (Monday-Friday 8:30-3:30). The camp e-mail address is [saugertiessummerrec@yahoo.com](mailto:saugertiessummerrec@yahoo.com) or you can contact the director at [sdodigsussman@gmail.com](mailto:sdodigsussman@gmail.com)

**Medical Needs:** All children must submit an updated and completed medical form with an immunization record every year as part of the registration process.

We are looking forward to a fun--filled summer with your children! PLEASE remember to read through all of the information contained in this packet. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact the Recreation Office at (845) 246--5890 ext. 329 and leave a message or email us at [saugertiessummerrec@yahoo.com](mailto:saugertiessummerrec@yahoo.com).

Sincerely,

*Suzanne Dodig-Sussman*

Suzanne Dodig-Sussman  
Program Director

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**Saugerties Summer Recreation Parent Packet and Discipline Policy**

I have read the Saugerties Summer Recreation Parent Packet and Discipline Policy. I have discussed it with my child and we agree to abide by the information and rules that have been provided.

Name of Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_