



# Camp Kawaga

## Parent Guidebook

### 2023

#### Contact

##### Online:

parents@kawaga.com  
www.kawaga.com

##### Winter:

378 Park Ave. 1F  
Glencoe, IL 60022  
847.748.8055

##### Summer:

10,000 Kawaga Road  
Minocqua, WI 54548  
715.356.6262





## Message From The Directors

It is with great excitement that we share with you the 2023 Camp Kawaga Guidebook in preparation for Kawaga's 109th Camping Season. Entrusting your children with us is one of the most important choices you make as parents. Our leadership team and entire staff are dedicated to making sure your children are safe (physically and emotionally), having an amazing experience, and growing to their fullest potential during their time with us. We strive to create an environment that represents our values and inspires our campers to achieve their goals. We also believe that as a community, we are responsible for supporting and caring for each other.

Please note that a digital signature is required, from both a parent and each camper, to indicate that you have read the handbook, reviewed it with your camper(s), and that you and your camper(s) agree to follow all rules, policies, and expectations articulated. Please complete this signature on our "Be Kawaga" form along with your other required forms.

With these values in mind, we are proud to share our updated Guidebook. It contains the information, policies, and procedures that guide Kawaga and promote your children and our community's safety and well-being.

We look forward to partnering with you for another amazing Summer On The Shores!

Be Kawaga!

Ty and Lauren Simpson, Directors





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## Important Dates

April 1st	Final Tuition Payment
April 23rd	New Camper Orientation
May 6th	Spring Reunion
May 1st	Web Forms Due (All Sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Transportation and luggage Form</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Bunk/Cabin Request</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Camper Confidential</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Camper Questionnaire</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Health History</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Camper Photo</li></ul>
May 15th	Camp Meds Registration Due (All Sessions)
May 25th	Paper Forms Due (All Sessions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Immunization Form</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Insurance Card &amp; Parent Authorization</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Physicians Examination</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Participant Agreement</li></ul>
May 25th	Parent Input Videos Due (All Sessions)
June 5th	ShipCamp Information Due (First Sessions)
June 19th	Start of First Session
July 14th	End of First Session
June 30th	ShipCamp Information Due (First Sessions)
July 14th – July 15th	Visitor's Weekend
July 16th	Start of Second Session
August 10th	End of Camp



## Forms Checklist and Details

Please review and complete all camp Forms by following the directions below. Once on the form screen, you will be able to leave and come back and your documents will be saved as you go (just remember to click save!).

TO ACCESS, COMPLETE, AND SUBMIT ALL CAMPER FORMS:

1. Go to [www.kawaga.com](http://www.kawaga.com). Navigate to "Current Parents". Click "Parent Login".
2. Log into your account
3. Click on "Forms and Documents"
4. Follow directions for each form as directed on each form link

☐ Web Forms - Due **May 1st**

- ☐ Be Kawaga Form
- ☐ Health History Form
- ☐ Camper Confidential Form
- ☐ Travel and Luggage Form
- ☐ Bunk/Cabin Request Form
- ☐ Camper Questionnaire—filled out by camper

☐ Paper Forms - Due **May 25th**

- ☐ Insurance Card/Parent Authorization Form
- ☐ Physician Examination Form (can use doctor's own form)—to be completed within 12 months of campers' arrival to camp
- ☐ Immunization Form
- ☐ Camper Photograph

☐ Register camper medication through [www.CampMeds.com](http://www.CampMeds.com) - Due **May 15th**



# Packing for Camp

## Kawaga's Packing List

Your son should arrive with *everything* necessary for the summer.

Please use our comprehensive packing list to ensure your camper has everything he needs for camp.

The Kawaga Packing List can be accessed by clicking here:

<https://kawaga.com/packing-list/>.

## Labels

- All clothes, shoes, towels, and equipment including water bottles must be labeled with the camper's full name. DO NOT INITIAL ONLY!
- Sew-on or iron-on name tags work best.
- Please help us reduce the amount of lost clothing by labeling it with your son's FULL NAME.
- Include an additional label with the camper's name, address, and phone number INSIDE each duffel bag.

## Additional Packing Notes

- Your camper will be moving around outdoors in all kinds of weather. Many days in the Northwoods require a warm jacket in the morning, shorts and a t-shirt by noon, and blankets at night!
- Sleeping bags are not substitutes for blankets in cabins. They are for overnight tent camping only.
- Waterproof rain gear that will keep your son really dry is ESSENTIAL!
- The boys always seem to need more socks, towels, and swimsuits but fewer t-shirts.
- Kawaga does not provide linens, blankets, or pillows. Nights in the Northwoods can get chilly; we recommend that each camper brings 2 warm blankets to camp as noted on the packing list.
- Exceptions to the No Screen Policy include: E-readers & Screenless MP3 players such as an iPod shuffle.





# Travel Information

Choose from one of three transportation options to get to and from camp;

1. **Take the bus**
2. **Fly**
3. **Drive to/from camp**

Once you have identified which way your camper will get to and from camp, please confirm your arrangements by completing and submitting the Transportation and Luggage Form by **May 1st**.



## 1. Bus

**PICK-UP LOCATION IS AT THE Embassy Suites 1445 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015**

- First Session Pick-Up: Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am
- 2nd Session Pick-Up: Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am

Please arrive between 8:30 and 8:45 for a 9:00 am departure. Bring a bagged lunch with a drink. The buses will **not** make a scheduled stop for lunch. All lunches and snacks should be nut-free, please.

**Cell phones are NOT allowed on the bus ride up to camp. All campers' personal phones must be turned in at check-in at the bus.**

**DROP-OFF LOCATION IS AT THE Embassy Suites 1445 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015**

Buses will arrive at approximately 2:00 pm. Parents will receive updates if anything changes regarding the arrival time.

- First Session Drop-Off: Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00pm
- Second Session Drop-Off: Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00pm



## 2. Fly

**RHINELANDER(RHI), & CENTRAL WISCONSIN AIRPORT(CWA).**

- Families of all campers are required to land no later than 11 am the day before their session begins.
- If your camper flies to camp, we will have staff waiting at your airport of choice to pick up your camper and bring them to camp.



## 3. Car

- Any family considering dropping off and picking up their son at camp must receive prior approval from the camp office no later than **May 1st**.
- We will only allow drop-offs for special circumstances.





# Luggage Information

*We recommend large duffel-style bags for campers' luggage.*

Choose one of three transportation options to get to and from camp;

1. **Camp Kawaga's Luggage Service**
2. **ShipCamps**
3. **FedEx/UPS**

Once you have identified which way your camper's luggage will get to and from camp, please confirm your arrangements by completing and submitting the Transportation and Luggage Form by **May 1st**.

Please note, Camp Laundry is no longer an available option. As a result, we will be offering an in-house transportation service instead – more details are below.

## 1. Camp Kawaga Luggage Service

Kawaga utilizes a convenient, in-house service for transporting campers' bags to and from camp. For a fee of \$150 for one-way service or \$300 for a round trip, we will transport two duffel bags and a personal item (e.g., a hockey stick) per camper. To use this service, **parents must drop off** their child's bags at the Embassy Suites – 1445 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield, IL 60015 at the required time.

- First Session Drop-Off: Saturday, June 10th between 10am and noon
- Second Session Drop-Off: Saturday, July 15th at 10:00am

On the return trip, bags will be delivered to the camper bus pick-up location (Embassy Suites in Deerfield) one hour before the campers' arrival. This service allows parents and campers to travel without worrying about heavy bags and logistics, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable camp experience. All charges will be added to your final invoice which includes incidentals in August 2023.



## 2. ShipCamps

### How Ship Camps Works

At Ship Camps, we make getting your child's luggage, boxes, and trunks to camp easier than it's ever been - allowing your child to travel hassle-free to camp every summer.



#### 1. Book

Getting started is simple. Schedule your child's shipment online or over the phone and start shipping to camp!



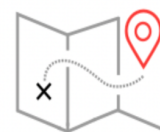
#### 2. Ship

Pack and securely attach your provided shipping label to your child's camping gear. We'll pick up your bags or you can drop them off.



#### 3. Travel

Skip the airport hassle and save time as you bypass bag check and baggage claim. Track your child's bags every step of the way.



#### 4. Camp!

Your child will arrive at camp to find their gear already there! Time to get settled in and start making memories.

- Prices will vary depending on location, number of bags, size, and weight of bags
- ShipCamps information will need to be provided 2 weeks prior to the start date of your camper's session
- **Sign up for ShipCamps [here!](#)**

## 3. FedEx/UPS

For families who prefer to ship their bags to and from camp independently, Camp Kawaga allows the use of third-party shipping services such as FedEx or UPS. However, parents are required to arrange and pay for the shipping independently. To ensure the smooth delivery of their bags to camp, you must share all shipping information with [parents@kawaga.com](mailto:parents@kawaga.com) **at least 2 weeks in advance of the start date of your son's session.** If campers wish to use this service for their return home, they must also provide the necessary return shipping labels to Camp. Upon the conclusion of the camping session, the camp staff will attach the shipping labels to the camper's bags and oversee the pickup process. Kawaga cannot guarantee the on-time arrival of campers' luggage shipped through any third-party shipping provider.



## Healthcare and Medication Information

The health and safety of our campers is our first priority! Our infirmary known as Crow's Nest is staffed by 1 full-time Nurse Practitioner and 2 full-time nurses. We are 5 miles from the nearest hospital and health clinic; [Howard Young Medical Center](#), and [Marshfield Clinic](#). Our medical team can be reached anytime at [nurse@kawaga.com](mailto:nurse@kawaga.com).

### General Healthcare

- The medical team is available and on-call at camp 24 hours a day. If a camper is not feeling well in the middle of the night, a counselor will bring him to Crow's Nest for care.
- Designated hours are set aside each day for non-emergencies – after breakfast, lunch, and the evening program. If a camper needs outside medical attention, we will take him to a local medical center.
- If you have any health-related questions about your son, please email [nurse@kawaga.com](mailto:nurse@kawaga.com) and ask to speak with the nurses. We will contact you directly if your son suffers from an injury or illness requiring anything more than basic medical services or is being scheduled for a visit to the clinic or hospital.
- Campers undergo a routine health check-in by our camp nurses upon arrival at camp, after any camping trip, and again prior to departure.

### Medication Policy

In order to meet the needs of our campers who require medication while at camp, and to comply with strict state regulations on medication dispensing for summer camps, we work with CampMeds Inc., a pre-packaging medication program founded by a former camp nurse. CampMeds has been servicing the camp industry since 2003, providing the convenient service of dispensing, packaging, and shipping medications directly to summer camps.

We REQUIRE all prescription and non-prescription medications to be ordered and dispensed by CampMeds. This includes "as-needed" medication that is not taken daily.

There are no exceptions to this policy and any **failure to comply will result in a \$500 fee** and may result in our inability to dispense medication to your camper. If you have any questions, please contact us as soon as possible.





MEDICATION MUST BE ORDERED THROUGH CAMP MEDS BY **MAY 15th**

- Please notify us via the online Health History Form AND register at
- [www.campmeds.com](http://www.campmeds.com) if your son has medication that should be taken at camp. Any changes to your son's medication after the Form is completed and submitted to the Health Staff must be communicated to us in writing at [nurse@kawaga.com](mailto:nurse@kawaga.com).
- If your son requires regularly scheduled medication, visit [www.campmeds.com](http://www.campmeds.com) to register no later than 30 days prior start of the session.
- CampMeds will send all pre-packed medications directly to camp once you're registered and have provided the necessary prescription and paid the fee.

## Camp Meds Fees

**\*\*Please note there is a cost for this service but this fee goes directly to the CampMeds Pharmacy\*\***

- Fees are per camper, not RX, and do not include the cost of medicine.
- Fee for campers attending up to 30 days of camp is \$65 including shipping.
- Fee for campers attending over 30 days of camp is \$75 including shipping.
- **THERE IS A \$500 FEE CHARGED TO FAMILIES WHO DO NOT ABIDE BY OUR MEDICATION POLICY. THIS FEE IS CHARGED PER MEDICATION**

## Camp Meds Registration

- Deadlines: 30 days prior to your camper's Start Date
- A \$50 late fee from CampMeds will be applied if any of the items above are received after deadlines.

## How Medication Is Handled During Camp

- ALL camper medication is kept In Crow's Nest and is administered by the camp nurses.
- Regularly scheduled medication is dispensed prior to meal times and also before bedtime.
- Crow's Nest is well supplied with common over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, Benadryl, Pepto Bismol, Sudafed, etc. Do not send these medications to camp. All prescriptions, other over-the-counter medication, inhalers, and as-needed medications, must be registered with CampMeds.com.
- The ONLY exception to using CampMeds is for rescue inhalers, Other inhalers or spacers, Epi-Pens, and any medication that needs to be refrigerated.





## Ticks, Mosquitoes, and Harmful Plants

We have partnered with a public-health company called Ivy Oaks Analytics for insect, tick, and pest control. Their staff surveys our property to build a perimeter to deter rodents and help us identify where and what types of ticks we have on our property. Prior to campers' arrival, we spray each building, cabin, and surrounding area to protect against harmful insects. Our staff is well-trained to identify ticks and reduce exposure to ticks and mosquitos. We also conduct inspections for ticks at times when the boys will be in the woods and on camping trips.

## Parent Input Video

All parents are encouraged to email us a video message about your son. We will sort these by cabins and share them with your son's counselor. The personal connection achieved through hearing and seeing you speak about your son will enhance our staff's ability to connect even better with your son (2 minutes max length).

### SUGGESTIONS FOR A SUCCESSFUL VIDEO:

- Find a quiet, private space without distractions and background noise and we find it better if the boys are not aware of this video.
- Hold the phone LANDSCAPE
- Share your son's common behaviors and demeanor.
- How do you think he will adapt to camp?
- Is your son nervous about anything specific regarding camp?
- Does he have any habits you think would be good for us to know?
- Is there anything specific you would like us to work on or achieve with your son this summer?
- What do you do to soothe him in times of stress?

### EMAIL YOUR VIDEO TO OUR ADMIN TEAM AT:

[parents@kawaga.com](mailto:parents@kawaga.com)

Subject line: "camper's name": Parent Input Video

**Due Date: May 25th**





# Kawaga Policies

To ensure your campers get the most out of their summer camp experience and to provide a safe environment, Kawaga takes their policies very seriously. Should prohibited items be found, they will be confiscated.

## Food

Food, candy, gum, etc. is absolutely prohibited. Camp does not allow care packages, additional toys, or gadgets to be accepted once your son is at Camp. Food in the cabins creates problems with bugs and other “critters” from the woods!

## Electronics and Devices

**WE ARE A SCREEN-FREE ENVIRONMENT!**

Cell phones of ANY TYPE are not permitted at Camp Kawaga. Campers traveling via plane may bring a phone for safety reasons, and those phones must be turned in immediately upon arrival to camp.

**Cell phones are NOT allowed on the bus ride up to camp. All campers' personal phones must be turned in at check-in at the bus.**

Campers found with phones in their possession at camp after checking in will have their device taken away for the remainder of camp and will not be invited to return the following summer.

### RECORDING DEVICES

All cameras used for recording are prohibited at camp. This includes action cameras such as GoPros. Disposable and Polaroid cameras are allowed.

The following are STRICTLY PROHIBITED and will be confiscated:

- Cell phones of any kind or any device that can connect to the internet.
- iPods, iPads
- Bluetooth speakers
- Gameboys, PSPs, Nintendo Switches, & all handheld video game devices
- Walkie-talkies
- Laptops



#### Permitted Electronics & Devices:

The following devices are allowed and encouraged at camp, which can be used in the cabin during rest periods and bedtime. Every cabin has electricity, so if your son comes to camp with these items, please provide him with the necessary charger.

- Screenless MP3 players (e.g., iPod shuffle)
- E-readers for books and magazines
- Headphones are especially helpful for early risers

#### Peanuts and Tree Nuts

Kawaga is peanut and tree nut aware. This means that we make a conscious effort to keep them out of camp. Please remember this applies to the bus ride to and from camp.

#### Packages

***Please adhere to our packages policy! This policy is strictly enforced!***

We will NOT be accepting packages this summer. If your camper lost or forgot an item, please contact the camp office and we will work together to get your camper the necessary item(s).

#### Telephone

Telephone calls to campers are permitted on birthdays or emergencies only. Under no other circumstances is a camper permitted to call home. Please do not tell your son he can call you.

If you have any questions or concerns about your son, please call the office. We will discuss your concerns directly with you, but you will not be permitted to speak with your son.

Please understand that camp is an extremely busy place and our first priority is to be out with the campers. Non-urgent calls will be returned as soon as possible. We will aim to return all calls within 24 hours.

#### Other Prohibited Items at Camp

Pocket Knives, Firearms, Fireworks, Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, Tobacco, E-cigs, and Vaping Materials are not allowed at camp. Should any of the above items be found at camp we reserve the right to send your son home.





# Miscellaneous

## Additional Expenses/Spending Money

We charge additionally for bus transportation, luggage shipping charges, travel expenses, camp apparel, medication, camp store essentials, shipping lost and found items home, and birthday parties. The charges are billed at the end of camp and must be paid in full by September 1st.

Additional spending money is neither required nor necessary this summer. If a camper arrives with any cash, it should be turned into the office and kept in the camp safe until departure.

## Laundry

Laundry is done weekly by a professional service. It's sent out on Monday and brought back on Tuesday. A one-day turnaround! Laundry uses VERY HOT water in an effort to remove grass stains and dirt; so please choose clothing accordingly. Do NOT send clothing that needs dry cleaning.

Helpful tips about laundry:

1. Make sure your son's name is CLEARLY printed on his laundry bags.
2. Pack 2 large laundry bags and 2 smaller mesh laundry bags for socks.
3. Each laundry bag must have a drawstring or zipper.

***Camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items.***

## Birthdays

Birthdays are a special occasion at Camp Kawaga! Not only do we allow exceptions for your son to receive a birthday package and for him to call home, but he also has the opportunity to have a small celebration with his cabin mates.

Here is what a birthday at Kawaga involves:

- Your camper may receive one birthday package. No food, please!
- He also is allowed one birthday call home.
- With your approval, he may choose to order a meal from a local restaurant for his cabin. Pizza and Culver's are popular choices. Costs for the meal are billed to his account.
- His Counselors bake him a birthday cake and bring it to him at an all-camp meal in the mess hall while the entire camp sings Kawaga's version of Happy Birthday. To hear the entire camp sing to you is a memorable experience and tradition in and of itself!





# Visiting Weekend

Visitor's weekend is a special time at camp for our campers and their families. At Kawaga the values of family surround us, and we welcome all family members to come and enjoy the beauty of camp and see it in ACTION.

Kawaga's gate will open starting at 3:00 pm on Friday, July 14th. Lauren and Ty will be there to welcome you and hope to spend time with you all. We invite you to spend time in camp, meet your son's counselors, check out his cabin, meet his cabin mates, and meet other Kawaga families. Further details about Visiting Weekend regarding registration and a schedule of events will be emailed to you in May.

*\*Please note that the timings below may be subject to change slightly and that this schedule is tentative.*

## Information For 1st Session, 4-Week Campers

### Friday, July 14th

**7:45am:** First-session bus departs from camp.

**9:30am:** If you are picking up your 4 week campers on Friday, please pick them up by 9:30 am unless otherwise communicated with Lauren (lauren@kawaga.com). All first session only campers must sleep off site (even if you intend to join us again on Saturday).

All campers and families are welcome to attend all Saturday activities. You should have filled out the visitor weekend form so we have accurate numbers for the events. If you are staying for Saturday activities, keep following along with the schedule below. If you are not...thank you for an incredible 1st session. We enjoyed every moment with your boys.

## Information For 8-Week Campers

### Friday, July 14th

**3:00pm:** Parents of 8-week campers only are invited into camp. Make sure to spend time with your son's counselors, tour his cabin, and our facility.

**3:15pm:** Quick welcome from Ty out on Diamond 2 (our first baseball field when you drive into Camp). **3:20pm:** Walk into camp and meet your son(s). There will be no structured programming for the evening, but we welcome you to explore Camp with your sons.

**5pm** (or earlier): Parents depart with their sons for dinner.

**9pm** (or earlier): Boys are required to return to Camp (no exceptions!).

## General Information For Parents Weekend (applies to all)

### Saturday, July 15th

**9:00am:** All families welcomed into Camp!!

**9:30am:** Our traditional Visitors Weekend Saturday-morning service (you won't want to miss this – you'll get a greater sense of Kawaga values!)

**10:15am:** Open Areas (experience Kawaga with your campers!). Please also look for us during your visit – we'd love to spend a few minutes catching up with all our parents!

**12-2pm:** Lunch

**4pm** (or earlier): Parents depart with sons for dinner.

**9pm** (or earlier): Boys required to return to Camp (no exceptions!)

## Information For 2nd Session, 4-Week Campers

### Sunday, July 16th

**10-10:30am:** 2nd Session Camper Drop-offs

Note: Only parents of 2nd-session campers will be allowed into Camp for drop-offs; parents of 8-week campers will say their farewells on Saturday evening.





## Keeping In Touch

Below you'll find great ways to follow along with the action taking place on The Shores! Parents can ALWAYS communicate directly with Camp. This includes nurses, administration staff, Lauren, and Ty—via phone calls or emails. We will return all calls and emails within 24 hours.

### Kawaga's Contact Information

- The Camp Line (715) 356-6262
- For Quickest Response: [parents@kawaga.com](mailto:parents@kawaga.com)
- Ty's Email: [ty@kawaga.com](mailto:ty@kawaga.com) Lauren's Email: [lauren@kawaga.com](mailto:lauren@kawaga.com)
- Crow's Nest Email (Health Questions): [nurse@kawaga.com](mailto:nurse@kawaga.com)

### Communicating With Your Camper

The best way to stay in touch with your son, and with the day-to-day ongoing of Camp, is via our **Camp Kawaga App**.

1. **Search for Kawaga in the iOS App Store or Google Play.**
2. If you are new to Kawaga, click SIGN UP and use the invitation code: **KAWAGA2023**.
3. If you are a returning parent, when you next log into your app you will be prompted to select a new session for your son, and you'll be asked if you would like to update their photo or purchase a new bundle.

*NOTE: Our mobile app is powered by Bunk1. During the summer, you will have the option to purchase a paid package that includes premium features such as facial recognition and Bunk Notes. If you choose to purchase, charges on your card will appear from "Bunk1 Summer Camps".*

### Email

Via our Camp Kawaga App, you have the ability to "email" your camper as often as you would like. These emails are called "Bunk Notes". We receive a pdf at 9:30 am CST each day containing all Bunk Notes received in the last 24 hours. These are then printed and delivered to your camper after lunch each day.

You can select an option that allows your camper to provide a handwritten note back to you – these are called "Bunk Replies". When a camper turns in a "Bunk Reply" to our office, these are scanned in that evening. Those handwritten notes will then appear in your Camp Kawaga App. You will receive a notification any time you receive a handwritten reply.





When getting ready for the summer, there are a number of ways to prepare to use this email service.

- 1. Unlimited stationery can be purchased in a bundle OR under the Bunk Replies tab.
- 2. Print the stationary (Bunk Replies tab) and send your preferred amount with your camper to camp OR attach an individual piece to be delivered with your Bunk Note (0 credits if Unlimited).
- 3. Make sure your camper knows to write on the barcoded stationery and hand it in to a camp staff member.
- 4. Camp staff will collect Bunk Replies and send them to Bunk1. Bunk1 will then scan the barcode & send the reply to your account under the Bunk Replies tab.

## Mail

TO SEND MAIL THROUGH A MAIL CARRIER, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Camper's Name  
Camp Kawaga  
10,000 Kawaga Road  
Minocqua, WI 54548

## Camp Photos

All photos from the summer will be available via the **Camp Kawaga App**.

Once you have set up your account, you can navigate to the "gallery" located on the bottom toolbar to see all of our photos. The drop-down in the top right-hand corner will allow you to select the year that you would like to view.

The allows you to:

- **Save Your Favorite Photos** for easy access to pictures of your camper all year round.
- **Be Notified Via Facial Recognition** when a photo of your camper is uploaded.
- **Share Photos** to social media or email a photo to family member.
- **Customize Unique Photo Gifts** such as photo books, mugs, calendars, phone cases, and more.
- **Order High-resolution Digital Downloads or Prints.**





## Kawaga's Blog and Newsletters

All of our blogs and newsletter will be available under the "news" section of our Camp Kawaga App. They will also be available on the Camp Kawaga website [here](#).

- Ty's Take - Reflective and relevant stories of the magic we get to see at camp
- Lauren's Letters - Camp through the eyes of our camp Mom!
- Saturday Sermons - Written sermons from our staff delivered during our Saturday service.
- Weekly Pineneedle - Kawaga newspaper written by campers, edited by counselors sent electronically on a weekly basis, and in print at camp.

## Social Media

We would love for you to follow us across our platforms to stay up to date while camp is in session and year-round with the latest from Kawaga.

FOLLOW US ON:

- Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/campkawaga>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/campkawaga>
- Twitter <https://twitter.com/CampKawaga>
- Vimeo <https://vimeo.com/kawaga>

Kawaga Videos – [www.vimeo.com/kawaga](http://www.vimeo.com/kawaga) Video updates will be published on our Vimeo page and cross-posted on social media.





# Preparing Your Camper for Success

Whether this is your child's first time at camp or he is a veteran Kawaga camper, we want to do all we can to help assure he has a wonderful camp experience. Parents can help by taking time in advance to fill out the Camper Confidential form completely and honestly, communicating any special concerns or needs. Please have your camper fill out the Camper Questionnaire.

Please help us prepare your child for a successful experience and let us help you relieve any concerns you may have about the camp experience for your child. Below we discuss some common situations you and your son may be concerned about. In all of these situations, counselors will work discreetly with your child to manage the situation so it does not interfere with your son's camp experience.

## Homesickness

Bring a favorite stuffed animal or photos of the family. Pre-addressed, stamped envelopes and paper to write home are another great thing for campers to help them stay connected. If you send emails to your camper using the one-way email, your camper will also be able to reply via writing back to you through this system. Please do not tell your camper he can call home or you will come to get them if he is homesick. This is a very natural feeling for campers, and most cases are managed easily by our well-trained staff.

## Bed Wetting

Our staff works diligently to keep this private matter just that for your camper. Please be certain to inform Lauren or Ty before summer and in the health forms if this is something we need to help with. Counselors can help be sure your child does not drink for a time before bed and work one on one to ensure accidents are handled without any unnecessary attention. Please share with us any management techniques you use to help keep this from being a concern for your son.

## Behavioral Issues

Our staff is well-trained in managing children's behavior and works closely with campers if needed to handle difficult situations. If you have specific concerns about your child, please contact Ty or Lauren before camp to discuss. We work very hard to ensure campers learn and live within our guidelines while at camp, but extreme behavior may require parent involvement. Bullying, physical violence, or destructive behaviors are not tolerated and may lead to dismissal from camp. If you have any special concerns regarding your son, please contact Ty or Lauren before camp.





## Thank You

We view our relationship with you as a partnership; together, we can provide the type of summer experience for your son that we all want. We thank you for carefully reading and following the guidelines outlined in this document. Please call or email us if you have any questions concerning anything within this guidebook. We look forward to a summer of growth, fun, learning, new experiences, and lasting friendships for your son. Thank you for the trust you place in us. We want Kawaga to hold a special place not only in your son's heart, but also in yours.

