



POCONO PLATEAU

CAMP AND RETREAT CENTER

DAY CAMP

SUMMER 2026

WELCOME TO SUMMER 2026!

We are excited for day camp this summer! Summer camp is a place for fun adventures, meeting new friends, and creating lifelong memories. Camp also offers an opportunity to experience God in new ways through outdoor recreation, fellowship, and challenge. Campers will come home tired after a day of play and learning in a community that supports and nurtures their development!

Our general day camp activities include:

- Waterfront/Lake, Fun Ballfield Games, Pedal Carts, Fishing, Nature Center, Crafts, Music, Archery/Slingshot, Mud Kitchen, Hammock Hangout, Playground, and more!
- Boating, Climbing Tower (8 years +)

Each week has a theme as well – Thursdays will be our camp themed activity days (for example, we'll shoot model rockets off for Space Explorers week and we have a mobile petting zoo for Animal Planet week). Our crafts and daily bible lessons will also tie into the weekly theme.

We have United Methodist clergy volunteering each week of day camp to provide daily bible discovery time and Friday chapel. If you would like more information about our camp's biblical curriculum, feel free to email me at director@poconoplateau.org. You can also reach out if your family does not currently attend church and are interested in learning more. We are happy to connect you with resources and options in your local area.

Please see below for some important information about your child's camp week.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Carmen O'Shea, Camp Director



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GENERAL DETAILS

PARENT COMMUNICATIONS –

Please check your email before, during, and after your camp week as this will be our primary means to communicate broadly with families. If there is an immediate need or concern, we will use the phone numbers provided in the registration profile and emergency contacts. We will also be sending out text reminders and updates through our constant contact list.

During the camp week:

You can call our office at 570-676-3665 or email camp@poconoplateau.org for general questions and communications. If there is an emergency and you need to reach someone after trying the office, call Rev. Carmen O'Shea at 470-314-1515

PARTIAL WEEK CAMPERS

If you registered your camper as partial week, please email Carmen at director@poconoplateau.org to let us know what days of the week you plan to send your camper(s).

CAMPER ARRIVAL and PICKUP

- Our Day Camp Dropoff and Pickup loop is off our main road just before you get to our main site buildings. There will be a sign directing parents.
- Drop Off is between 8:55am and 9:20am. If you arrive after 9:20am, please park and check in at our camp office. Pickup starts at 4:00pm and ends at 4:20pm. If you arrive later than 4:20, we may add an additional charge for campers repeatedly picked up late.

ACCOUNT BALANCE PAYMENT

Each week, our check-in staff person will let you know if you have a balance due for that week of camp. If you do, we ask that you drop off and then park to go into the camp office to handle payment. If you need to arrange a payment plan, please contact Carmen at director@poconoplateau.org.

You can also pay online by accessing your account here: <https://poconoplateau.campbrainstaff.com/>

BEFORE/AFTER CARE

Before Care begins at 7:30 and you can drop off in the same place as noted above. Generally, morning before care will be in the Day Camp room inside. After Care pick up is between 5:00 and 5:30. If you arrive between 4:00 and 5:00, campers may be outside and you will need to check in with our office or call 470-314-1515 to have your camper brought to you.



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VAN TRANSPORTATION

The van will pick up in the parking lot of Mt. Pocono United Methodist Church at 8:30am and drop off is at 4:30pm. Please be on time for drop off and pick up! If parents are continually late, we will remove those campers from our transportation because our staff have other duties and cannot be stuck waiting for a parent to pick up or drop off.

CAMP PHOTOS – We will provide a camp group photo for all campers at the end of the week at no additional charge.

CAMP STORE

Day Campers are allowed to go to the camp store on Fridays. Parents are welcome to send some money on Friday in their backpack. If campers do not have any store money, we always have a candy bowl available for them to grab a few treats.

General prices: Soda \$1.50, candy \$1.50, ice cream novelties \$2.00, T-shirts \$18.00, sweatshirts \$30-\$40.

COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

- **Phones:** We do not permit campers to bring cell phones to camp for a number of reasons. Cell phones are a distraction to the intentional community building that happens in the summer camp experience. Cell phone usage also discourages campers from getting the much-needed rest at night to support their active engagement in camp life the following day. We also recognize families have different preferences and permissions regarding the sharing of photos and videos on social media, which may be difficult to manage in a communal setting. For these reasons, we maintain a clear no cell phone policy to ensure a safe, consistent, and fully immersive experience for all campers. We ask both parents and campers to sign a covenant stating they left their cell phones at home.

While campers are not permitted to bring cell phones to camp, they may ask their counselor to speak with camp leadership or the healthcare team about calling home. If this occurs, a designated camp leader will assess the situation and may contact the parent/guardian first to discuss the situation before the camper speaks with you.

If you believe it is essential for your child to have access to a phone during their camp session, please contact us before your camper's week begins to make arrangements. Campers may not keep a phone on their person during the week, but we can discuss arrangements to provide access to our camp phone to call home when necessary. Our goal is to partner with you so your child can enjoy a safe, healthy, and joy-filled experience at camp.

- **Email:** Emails are generally checked once a day in the afternoon. In the Subject Line, please include the camper's



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Camp Clothing & Comfort Guidelines

All people participating in summer camp at Pocono Plateau are expected to dress in a manner consistent with our natural setting and community well-being. Pocono Plateau supports campers feeling comfortable and confident. We encourage everyone to pack clothing that is functional for the camp setting. For example, choose swimwear that is comfortable but also functional- keep in mind that campers will be participating in water activities such as swimming, boating, slip n' slide, water games, and creek walking. Another example, bring closed toed/ closed healed footwear designed for outdoor terrain. For care of the whole community, campers, staff, and volunteers are not permitted to wear overly revealing clothing or clothing with offensive language or artwork.

Camper Wellness

At Pocono Plateau, your child's well-being is our top priority. We will contact you if your camper isn't feeling well for an extended period, develops a fever above 100.3°F, or experiences any injury that may require additional care. We will also reach out if your child is struggling—whether with prolonged homesickness, emotional or mental health needs, behavior concerns, or difficulty fully engaging in our camp community.

Prior to camp, you will have an opportunity to complete a health form and camper registration profile that highlights any concerns for your child. Our staff and counselors review these forms prior to camp, so we are aware of concerns and struggles that may arise as well as strategies that have been helpful in your home. Examples include bed wetting, home sickness, anxiety, mental health, or neurodiversity. If you would like to speak with camp leadership about concerns prior to your child's camp experience, please contact director@poconoplateau.org to schedule a call.

Camper Behavior and Disciplinary Policy

Prior to your camper's arrival you and your camper must review and sign our Parent-Camper Covenant. By signing this, you and your camper agree to follow all camp guidelines. If this covenant is broken at camp, a dismissal from camp may be warranted.

If a camper violates the code of conduct to a degree that dismissal is warranted:

- **For Day Camp:** the parent/guardian will be contacted and will be required to pick up the camper. The camper will be dismissed for the remainder of that camp day, and the next scheduled camp day will be cancelled as well. A meeting or phone consultation will be scheduled with the parent to help us create an action plan for the camper prior to their return to camp.

**We understand that each situation is unique. Prior to dismissal, we will work alongside our leadership team to create a safe environment for all campers to be successful. **



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WHAT TO BRING

- Backpack that they can carry throughout the day
- Reusable water bottle
- Campers should wear closed toed shoes/sneakers. Please do not send them in crocs, sandals, or flip flops as they will not be able to participate in all the activities in these shoes.
 - Campers can have a pair of slides/flip flops/crocs in their bag for waterfront time.
- Change of clothes in a plastic bag
- Swimsuit and beach towel
- Sunscreen and bug spray
- Store Money on Friday (optional)
- Lunch – we will not have access to a microwave for lunches. Campers need to bring a lunch that is self serve, picnic style.
 - We will provide a pizza party lunch for campers every FRIDAY.
 - We will provide a morning and afternoon snack DAILY.