



Bethany Birches Camp

2610 Lynds Hill Road · Plymouth, VT 05056 · 802.672.5220 · [bbc@vermontel.net](mailto:bbc@vermontel.net) · [www.vtchildrencamp.com](http://www.vtchildrencamp.com)

May 2018

Dear Campers and Parents:

We are glad you're joining us at Bethany Birches Camp this summer. Many exciting activities are planned that will surely create life-long memories! You'll experience the traditional BBC favorites including: the water trampoline, Wet n Wild Wednesday, GaGa, interest groups, special events, along with Day Camp Specials like Tree House Hike, scavenger hunts and specialty themes...it might be hard to leave when your week is over! And of course, we'll have some of the coolest young adults around to be your counselors.

Whether it's your first time at BBC or you're returning from prior years, this summer will surely create memories that last a lifetime!

The email that accompanied this document shows the session(s) for which we have you registered. It also shows your status and arrival and departure dates. **You can drop your child off between 8:15 and 8:45 every day.** Please do not come early. We will not be ready for you. **Each day ends with closing ceremonies around 3:50. Campers will be ready to depart camp at 4pm.**

It's not too late to bring friends. If you bring a friend that hasn't been to BBC before, you each get a free t-shirt! If you bring 3 friends that haven't been here before, you get a **FREE WEEK** and they all get free shirts! Your friends can register online OR let us know their address and we can send them registration information. It is our prayer that your time at camp is fun, educational, spiritually enriching and a time to make new friends and be with old friends!

We're looking forward to seeing you! Please read on for more details.

Amber Bergey  
Day Camp Director

Dan Laubach  
Program Director

## PACKING LIST

*Each camper should bring a backpack each day filled with the following items. Please read the dress guidelines and pack accordingly.*

1. Water Bottle
2. Modest 1-piece Swimsuit and towel
3. Sneakers
4. Sweater/jacket (on cool days)
5. Extra pair of STURDY shoes/water shoes
6. Sunscreen (we have plenty of extra if you don't bring some)
7. Bug spray (again, we have plenty of extra— see below about our chosen tick repellent)

*We try very hard to make sure children go home with all of their stuff and only their stuff. Sometimes that doesn't happen! **Many have found it helpful to label clothing so it doesn't get lost or mixed in with someone else's***

***There are a few things that we ask you NOT to bring:***

1. Any electronic games, music players (iPods etc.) or cell phones
2. Junk food and candy
3. Weapon of any type (foldable pocket knife with a blade shorter than 3 inches is o.k.)
4. Flip flops or sandals without a heel strap

*If you bring any of these things, we will keep them in the office until the end of the session.*

# General Parent Information

Dear Parents,

Thank you for entrusting your child to us this summer. It is our highest priority to provide a safe, nurturing place for your child to grow and experience the many joys of this God-given life. Fun, of course, is our next highest priority. Please find below information regarding your child's time at BBC.

## FORMS

We don't like paperwork any more than you do! Though we try to keep it to a minimum, some information is necessary. Here are some instructions for each form:

- ✓ **Health Form:** Fill it out fully. Make sure your child brings it with them when they come to camp. *(If you've filled the Health Form out in your camper account online, no need to fill this form out. Your online account tells you if it's complete or not)* **Please notify us by email or phone if your child has special dietary needs.** If your child has medication to bring to camp please fill out that information prior to coming to camp and **observe the instructions for how to package medication. Medication MUST be in its original container.** We can't accept it otherwise. Bring the meds with you to registration.
- ✓ **Liability Release, Permission to Participate and Receive Medical Care:** Same thing... fill it out and mail to camp **at least 1 week** before your child comes to camp.
- ✓ **Dress Guidelines:** Please observe them and dress accordingly.
- ✓ **Summer Food Service Program:** Fill out the form and help us keep our food costs down.
- ✓ **Map:** Please call if you need better directions.
- ✓ **Someone Else Taking Your Child Home?** Please contact us about a form you must sign if the person picking up your child is different than the person dropping them off or download "Release of Camper" here: [bethanybirches.org/forms/](http://bethanybirches.org/forms/). This can be handed in at registration also.

## FINANCIAL

Review your financial status. A \$50 deposit is required to hold a spot in a session. That \$50 is applied toward the session total. Full payment is required 3 weeks prior to the session. If a cancellation is made 3 weeks in advance, in writing or in the online account, the entire payment can be kept on account and applied to another program(s) within 1 year from the date of cancellation. If a cancellation is made less than 3 weeks in advance or the camper simply does not show up at check-in, no balance can be forwarded and no refund given. If you aren't clear about our tiered pricing, the take home lesson is simple. The highest price is what camp costs us to provide. The other rates are subsidized by supporters of Bethany Birches who want

every child in the area to be able to come to camp. Please choose the highest rate you can afford.

### **CAMP STORE**

Some of the camp store items including T-shirts and sweatshirts, water bottles and a few other Bethany Birches Camp goodies will be available when you pick up your child on Monday and Wednesday (campers do not need money while they are here).

### **COMMUNICATION**

If you would like to send a letter to your child(ren) we will be happy to deliver it.

#### **Send to:**

Bethany Birches Camp  
2610 Lynds Hill Road  
Plymouth, VT 05056

We cannot take phone messages or emails for campers. However, if you are concerned about your child, we'll be more than happy to give you a full report if you give us a call. You can also visit our website and Facebook page for updates. If there is any issue with your child, you will be the first one to know.

In the event your child gets homesick, this is what you can expect: we will encourage them to get involved in camp and enjoy the experience. If that encouragement doesn't help, we will call you and let you know the scenario. At that point, you can talk to them or instruct us on how to handle the situation.

### **LICE & TICKS**

What a fun topic (not!). While lice don't transmit disease like some ticks and they are not very problematic for day campers, they are still no fun. Your child will be given a handful of tips on what not to do to avoid transferring lice during their days here.

Ticks appear to be more problematic in our location than they once were. We are taking more significant precautions this summer. For day camp these precautions include daily application of tick repellent and for you to do a tick check at the end of each day. Our preferred repellent will have a concentration of up to 30% deet. You may request your children not be allowed any product with deet. We have selected deet due to its effectiveness at repelling ticks specifically. Deet is the CDC recommended product for ticks (<https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/deet#benefit>). We will follow the CDC safety recommendations and manufacturer instructions when applying the repellent. <https://www.epa.gov/insect-repellents/deet#safety>. If you wish to not have repellent with deet offered to your child you may check that option on the health form. Please pack an alternative for your child to use. Regarding the tick checks, we are happy to provide information on how to do them thoroughly if that is helpful for you. You may be aware that while Lyme disease

takes 24 hours or more to transmit there is a lesser known (and much less common) disease that ticks transmit called Powassan and that can be transmitted much faster. Please do tick checks each day!

If you have any other questions regarding your session, don't hesitate to contact us. Thanks again for giving us the opportunity to share in community and God's love with your child.

Sincerely,

**Brandon Bergey**  
Executive Director

**Amber Bergey**  
Day Camp Director