EST. 1939

CAMP GHORMLEY

NACHES, WA

2027 PARENT HANDBOOK



ADVENTURE CAMP

Contents

WELCOME LETTER 2
ADVENTURE CAMP INFORMATION 3
LOCATION 3
SLEEPING ACCOMODATIONS 3
BATHROOM ACCESS 3
MEALS 3
ACTIVITIES 3
PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS 4
AGE RANGE 4
STAFFING 4
CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT 4
PACKING LIST 5
PARENT CHECKLIST 5
DIRECTIONS TO GHORMLEY 5
LICE CHECK INFORMATION 6
DEADLINES 7
2 WEEKS BEFORE CAMP 7
BEFORE CAMP BEGINS 7
BY CHECK-IN 7
REQUIRED FORMS 8
IMMUNIZATIONS FORM 8
PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT 8
FRIEND INVITE DISCOUNT 8
CANCELLATION POLICY 8
MAILING INFORMATION 8
SWIM TEST INFORMATION 8
MEDICATION INFORMATION 9
PAINTBALL INFORMATION 9
CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONICS POLICY 9
CAMPER CONTACT WITH PARENTS 9
CAMPER SAFETY AND SECURITY 10
INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR AND BULLYING POLICY 10
EMERGENCY PROCEDURES 10

WELCOME LETTER

Thank you for choosing Camp Ghormley! We spend months preparing for your camper's arrival, and we couldn't be more excited to have your camper here!

We've prepared this handbook to help you navigate the process of sending your child to camp. We know for many parents, especially those sending their children away for the first time, that it can be hard to send your child to camp. We hope this handbook will help answer some of your questions and help you get to know us better! If you have any questions about our policies or procedures, please ask us about them! We will be more than happy to take time to give you a better understanding of how and why we do certain things the way we do.

Please review the Camp Policies section with your child before you arrive. Please encourage your camper to talk to our staff if he/she has any questions or concerns during his/her time here. We understand that you are entrusting the life of your child to us, and our highest priority is making sure your child has a safe experience physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

We are excited for a summer of fun games, new friendships, faith-building lessons, good food, and time spent in nature. We can't wait to share it all with you!

Sincerely,

The Ghormley Staff Team

ADVENTURE CAMP INFORMATION

LOCATION

Adventure Camps are considered “off-site” camps, which means they do not take place on the Ghormley campus. For the first part of the week, Adventure campers stay at a campsite within walking distance from Ghormley’s campus (just beyond Vesper Hill). Campers sleep in tents (separated by gender), and counselors and Adventure Camp staff cook meals at the campsite.

Adventure campers will have access to Ghormley’s facilities such as the paintball course, ropes course, and swimming pool for group activities. Students will also have access to the bathrooms and showers at select times.

Campers will also experience Mount Rainier and the surrounding area in an overnight experience.

SLEEPING ACCOMODATIONS

Campers sleep in tents during their time at Adventure Camp, separated by gender.

BATHROOM ACCESS

Campers will use a variety of bathroom options, including the bathhouse on-site at Ghormley, the forest (when other options are not available), and bathrooms at campsites at Mount Rainier. Shower access will be limited, and campers will be alerted to their opportunities to take showers on-site at Ghormley. Campers will not have access to showers during their time at Mount Rainier, but they are welcome to bring wipes, washrags, etc.

MEALS

Part of the Adventure Camp experience gives campers the opportunity to learn outdoor cooking and living skills during the week at camp. Campers will be involved in the meal prep and cleanup process under the supervision of our Ghormley staff. Ghormley will provide all the necessary equipment and supplies for safe outdoor cooking and cleaning throughout the week of camp. Food is stored safely using bear-proof containers, in compliance with the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Order 06-17-00-24-01. Additionally, campers will have access to clean drinking water throughout the week, as the group will always have either water bottles for off-site activities or access to water coolers at the group's campsite. Because Adventure Camp involves a higher level of strenuous activity than our traditional camps, we take extra care to make sure snack food is available to campers throughout the day in between meal times.

If your child has special dietary needs, it is critical that you speak with a Ghormley staff member well in advance of your camp start date to ensure that we can accommodate your child and provide them with a safe experience during their week at Adventure Camp.

ACTIVITIES

Activities for Adventure Camps vary from year to year, but they often include day trips focused on one activity, such as watersports at Rimrock Lake. Activities may include, but are not limited to: challenge course, horseback riding, paintball, swimming, watersports, rock climbing, and day hikes.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Campers are not required to have had previous experience in any of the activities offered during Adventure Camp. We encourage campers to try new things and to challenge themselves while having fun!

Campers will be required to take a swim test after they arrive.

Campers will not be expected to hike with all of their luggage, though they will be expected to carry a day pack with a lunch, water bottle, etc. for some of the hikes.

AGE RANGE

While the age range for Adventure Camps is broader than for some of our other camps – for students entering 6th through 9th or 7th through 10th grade in the fall – we limit each Adventure Camp to 12 campers, and we have found that the smaller camper number helps campers build friendships across typical age divisions. Most Adventure sessions have a range of ages represented.

STAFFING

Each Adventure Camp has at least one male and one female counselor present, as well as a nurse (if available) and a program leader. Additional staffing varies based on camper number and activities.

CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT

	Check-in Date	Check-in Time	Check-out Date	Check-out Time
Adventure Camp 1	Monday, June 28	3:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Saturday, July 3	11:00 AM
Adventure Camp 2	Monday, July 5	3:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Saturday, July 9	11:00 AM
Adventure Camp 3	Sunday, July 12	3:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Friday, July 17	11:00 AM

WHAT TO EXPECT AT CHECK-IN

When you arrive at Ghormley, you will be directed to a parking spot on our meadow, in front of Evergreen Lodge. The check-in process takes place at the picnic tables on our meadow.

Parents should be prepared to discuss any camper medications with the nurse upon arrival. Campers will be directed to load their luggage into a nearby camp vehicle, and they will have time to meet their counselors and the other students attending Adventure Camp before they walk to their campsite as a group.

Parents may leave after the camper has checked in with his/her counselor.

Note: Campers may carpool to camp with friends, as long as all payments and forms have been completed prior to their arrival.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT CHECK-OUT

When you arrive at Ghormley, you will be directed to a parking spot near our meadow. Check-out will take place near the camp entrance.

Campers may not leave camp until they have been signed out. Please be sure that the person(s) picking your camper up from camp have been given authorization to pick your child up (if this changes after check-in, please call the office as soon as possible to update the pick-up authorization).

At check-out, the nurse will return any medications the camper brought to camp.

PACKING LIST

Please refer to the Adventure Camp Packing List.

Do not bring:

- Cell phone or electronics (including video games, iPods, MP3 players, Smart Watches, etc.)
- Fireworks
- Knives
- Gum
- Drugs/alcohol
- Extra food (will attract mice in tents) (exceptions for those with special dietary needs)

PARENT CHECKLIST

Please refer to the Adventure Camp Checklist.

DIRECTIONS TO GHORMLEY

ADDRESS

640 Lost Lake Road
Naches, WA 98937

TO GHORMLEY FROM THE EAST

Take Highway 12 WEST from Yakima towards Naches/White Pass.

At the Highway 12/Highway 410 split-off, turn LEFT to stay on Highway 12.

After Mile Marker 169, look for signs for the Rimrock Lake Recreation Area.

Turn LEFT at the Rimrock Lake Recreation Area sign onto Tieton Reservoir Road (Mile Marker 168).

Cross the bridge and watch for the “Ghormley Meadow Christian Camp” sign. Turn LEFT onto the gravel road (directly across the road from the Ghormley sign).

Drive for ¾ mile and turn RIGHT at the next Ghormley sign. This will bring you to the camp entrance, and staff will show you where to park.

Drive time from Yakima: approximately 45 minutes

TO GHORMLEY FROM THE WEST

Take Highway 12 EAST towards White Pass. Go over the summit and continue past Rimrock Lake.

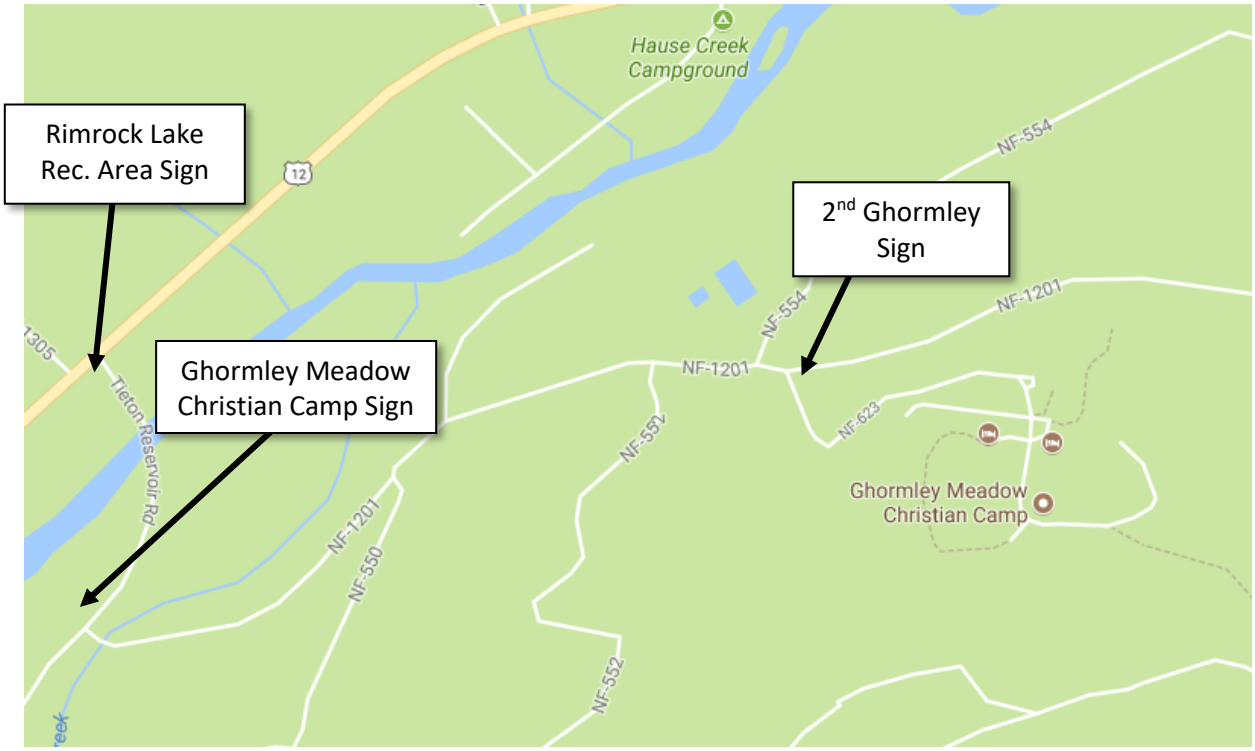
Watch for the Rimrock Lake Recreation Area sign near Mile Marker 167 and turn RIGHT at the sign onto Tieton Reservoir Road.

Cross the bridge and watch for the "Ghormley Meadow Christian Camp" sign. Turn LEFT onto the gravel road (directly across from the Ghormley sign).

Drive for ¾ mile and turn RIGHT at the next Ghormley sign. This will bring you to the camp entrance, and staff will show you where to park.

Note: After the White Pass Summit, do not turn right at the Clear Lake Recreation Area sign - this will add 45 minutes to your trip!

MAP:



LICE CHECK INFORMATION

For the safety of your camper and all the campers at camp, we ask that all parents complete a lice check for their camper(s) 48 hours or less before arrival at camp. Should you choose not to perform a lice check, our camp nurse will complete a lice check within 24 hours after your camper's arrival. If a camper is found to have lice while at camp, they will be required to return home until they have been fully treated.

HOW TO PERFORM A LICE CHECK

You will need really good light and a pair of strong drugstore reading glasses or a magnifying glass (recommended).

1. Part the hair in various places and check the scalp behind the ears and at the nape of the neck. You may notice sores or a rash where your child has been scratching.
2. Look for movement in the hair. You are not likely to see the lice themselves, as they are small, fast, and avoid light.
3. Look for lice eggs, known as nits. These tiny white or yellowish teardrop-shaped sacs are attached to the hair near the scalp (within a quarter inch if they have not yet hatched). Nits may be easier to feel than to see: They'll feel like grains of sand. Nits are often hard to distinguish from dandruff or flakes of hair products. The difference is that nits stick to the hair like glue while dandruff and other flakes are easily removed from the hair shaft.

Note: If the only nits you find are more than a quarter inch from the scalp, they may have already hatched and your child may no longer be infested. (Nits can only hatch in the warmth right next to the scalp. After they hatch, the empty egg remains attached to the hair and grows farther and farther from the scalp.) Only viable nits – those very close to the scalp – or live lice are proof of a current infestation.

If you cannot tell whether your child has lice or not, you will also need a **metal lice comb** and some **hair conditioner** for a wet hair examination.

1. Wet your child's hair.
2. Pour on lots of conditioner.
3. Comb the hair out in sections, from the roots to the ends, with a lice comb.
4. If there are lice in your child's hair, you should see them on the comb.
   (Shaking the comb out into a plastic bowl after every swipe can help you see them better.)

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD HAS LICE

If your child is found to have lice, there are a number of treatment options available. It is recommended you contact your child's primary care provider, or visit a local pharmacy to determine the best treatment options for your child.

Registered campers who are found to have lice either immediately before or during their camp session will asked to remain at or return home until treated.

DEADLINES

2 WEEKS BEFORE CAMP

If you determine you will need financial assistance, scholarship applications are due at least two weeks before your chosen camp session begins.

BEFORE CAMP BEGINS

All forms must be filled out before your arrival. Check your online account to make sure all forms are completed, and review forms to make sure that all the information is accurate.

BY CHECK-IN

Your full payment is due by check-in, unless you have already set up a payment plan.

REQUIRED FORMS

In addition to the general registration and health history form, we require the following forms:

IMMUNIZATIONS FORM

We require a record of your camper's DTaP dates (usually a series of five dates) and your camper's latest Tetanus booster, or exemption status. *Even if you attended last year, you will still need to complete the Immunizations Form.* Immunization dates will be saved from year to year, but you will need to verify that all dates are still accurate, and let us know if any changes have been made (such as receiving a Tetanus booster).

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT

This form allows your camper to participate in the activities offered for Adventure Camp sessions. This form is REQUIRED for Adventure campers. *If you registered online, you probably filled this out as part of the registration process.* If you did not register online, please print the form from our website and return it as soon as possible. A copy will also be mailed to you.

Please check your online account to make sure all forms have been completed. If you did not register online, any missing forms will be mailed to you.

FRIEND INVITE DISCOUNT

If you have invited friends to camp who have never attended before, you will receive **$25.00** for each friend who registers. They MUST list you on their registration as the person who invited them! The $25 will be credited to your account. If your account balance is already paid, we will contact you about refund options. You may still receive credit even if the invited friend attends a different camp session than your child. If we are unable to contact you to verify what you would like to be done with the account credit, it will remain on your account for future use.

CANCELLATION POLICY

You may cancel your registration at any time before your chosen camp session starts. To do so, please call or email our office at 509-672-4311 or office@campghormley.com. All payments will be refunded except for the $50.00 non-refundable deposit.

MAILING INFORMATION

Because Adventure Camps are off-site, we cannot guarantee that mail (or camper emails) sent to the camp will reach your camper. If you would like your camper to receive mail during their time at camp, we recommend that you deliver camper letters to your camper's counselor at check-in. Please label all mail clearly with the camper's name and the day you would like it to be delivered.

SWIM TEST INFORMATION

Adventure campers are required to pass a swim test in order to participate in many of the activities offered during their session. The swim test involves swimming two laps of the pool and treading water for one minute. Activities may include: swimming at the pool, waterskiing, and river tubing.

MEDICATION INFORMATION

If your camper will be taking any form of medication (including topical and over-the-counter medications) while he/she is at camp, please bring the medication in its original packaging with the camper's name written on all containers. At check-in, you will be directed to give the medication and any instructions to the nurse. The nurse will administer the medications throughout your camper's time at camp. **No medications are allowed in tents with the campers.** The only exceptions include inhalers and epipens.

Please do not take your child off regular medicines while at camp.

The nurse at each Adventure session is equipped with supplies to care for basic medical needs and will have access to the on-site nurse cabin (until the trip to Mt. Rainier). Basic medical supplies will be brought on the trip to Mt. Rainier as well, including cold medicine, bandages, antacids, etc. Please encourage your child to visit the nurse if he/she has any health concerns during his/her time at Adventure Camp.

PAINTBALL INFORMATION

Paintball may be an activity that is offered during Adventure Camp.

Your camper is welcome to bring his or her own paintball gun to camp. Your camper must turn the gun and all accessories over to staff at the registration tables during check-in. Ghormley staff will store the camper's paintball equipment safely during their time at camp. Be sure to pick up your paintball equipment before you leave camp! Please do NOT bring your own paintballs to use in the Ghormley paintball arena.

CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONICS POLICY

Campers are not allowed to bring cell phones or other electronics to camp (including iPods, laptops, tablets, handheld gaming devices, etc.). Electronics brought to camp will be confiscated and stored in a locked box in the office until the end of the session. Counselors will return confiscated items to authorized pick-up persons at checkout.

Campers may not use cell phones to contact family or friends during their time at camp (see next section) or to take pictures. If your camper would like to take pictures at camp, they may bring a digital or disposable camera.

CAMPER CONTACT WITH PARENTS

We do not allow campers to call home while at camp in order to maintain the temporary community we establish during their camp session. When campers call home, it tends to increase homesickness among other campers as well. If the camper finds that not being able to call home is unacceptable, we will call the parents/guardians to see how they would like us to handle the situation. Since you know your child better than we do, we would like to work with you if this situation should occur.

Please do not send a cell phone with your camper. If you as a parent foresee an issue with this, please call and ask to speak with our Program Director.

CAMPER SAFETY AND SECURITY

We encourage you to talk with your children before they arrive about the need to be brave enough to talk to their counselor if a situation arises that makes them uncomfortable. Counselors are often pulled in many directions, and while they work hard to gauge how their kids are doing, some kids are more adept at hiding their feelings, and many do it because they are afraid to go talk to their counselor. Their counselors are trained to take any issue seriously and it may save your child from a lot of stress if they know before they even arrive that their counselor is "in their corner".

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR AND BULLYING POLICY

No single issue can faster ruin a week of camp for a child, counselor, or an entire session than having to deal with a camper who bullies, taunts, uses inappropriate behavior/language, etc. Most of what happens in this area are things that do not necessarily warrant being sent home immediately, but we want you to know that we will send campers home if a pattern of behavior arises.

We have a three-strike policy: (1) The first documented incident of clearly inappropriate behavior will result in a meeting between the camper and the counselor. If a counselor has to pull a camper aside and have a private meeting about their behavior, campers can know that this was their first warning. (2) If a camper has to be talked to for a second time regarding anything along the lines of inappropriate behavior that was already dealt with once, they will have a meeting with their counselor, the Program Director, and **a call home to the parents will be placed.** At this stage, this is the camper's last chance. (3) Having to be confronted for the same sort of a behavior a third time will result in dismissal from camp. This is never our goal and is always a last resort, but we as a camp have a responsibility to protect the rest of our campers. If a camper is sent home for behavioral reasons, NO REFUND WILL BE GRANTED, and he or she may be asked not to return in future years.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

All Camp Ghormley Emergency Procedures are reviewed annually and taught to all of our staff and volunteers prior to any week at summer camp. Most of our staff are trained on these procedures during Staff Training (1-2 weeks before our first summer camp week) and the staff and volunteers that join later in the summer get trained on these procedures before campers arrive.

It is our responsibility and goal to care for your child as if we were their parents. Taking care of your child includes preparing for the unlikely event of an emergency. Camp Ghormley ensures that all of our staff understands this responsibility and are willing to act accordingly.

Please visit our Parent Portal online at campghormley.com/emergency/ for a summary of each emergency procedure that is in place to keep your child safe at camp.