

YMCA Camp Sky-Y & Chauncey Ranch

Dear Parents;

Welcome to SUMMER Camp 2009!

All of the camps staff are very excited about the coming summer and the many new activities and events planned for your campers and families. You can be assured that our experience in camping means a quality week for you and your child.

Only the 2009 Camper Application should be returned prior to your Camp Session.

All other forms, including the Medical, Confidential, Wavier and Behavior must be brought to Camp on the first day of your camp session.

New for 2009:

Camp Sky-Y:

"Specialty Camps"

For the adventurous Teen who wants to focus on SPECIALIZED FUN.

- Ecology Camp: (ages 9-16) June 7-13, or July 12-18
- Day Adventure Camp: (ages 12-16) June 14-20
- Secret Agent Camp: (ages 12-16) June 7-13, June 21-27, July 5-11

"Adventure Camps" campers entering grades 8-12

- National Parks & Water Sports: June 7-13
- Grand Canyon Environmental Service: June 21-29
- Habitat for Humanity New Mexico July 5-18
- Ultimate California Adventure July 19-25

Chauncey Ranch:

- Vaqueros Camp, age 11-13 June 7-13, June 14-20, June 21-27, July 5-11, July 12-18
- Equitation Camp, age 12-15 June 28 - July 4
- Amaestradors, age 15-17 July 5-18
- Trail Masters, age 16-17 June 7-20

*For more information on these new 2009 programs please refer to website: www.azycamps.org

REMINDERS

Financial Assistance: Because of the generosity of hundreds of people in the Valley of the Sun area, we are able to offer more than 350 sponsorships. If you know a family that needs help to attend camp, please call and request the Financial Assistance Application at 1-800-660-1385.

Two-Tiered Fee Structure: We have a 2-tiered structure so that our camps are available to ALL families regardless of their ability to pay. The (A) fee represents the "actual cost" of operating camp including overhead, other indirect costs and all direct costs. The (B) fee is partially subsidized fee. Fee B does not cover the entire cost of operation and overhead. It is strictly an "honor system" and you may choose the fee that best fits your family's needs. There is no distinction in the Camp community to who paid what.

Every Camper gets the same level of attention, food, accommodation and Tender-loving care.

Email and Photo service: Email service is again provided by Bunk1 so that parents, grandparents or friends can send one way messages daily. Please refer to the web site for cost.

Open Houses: April 11, April 25 and May 9, 2009 from 10am to 2 pm. Plan to come by and visit the camps, and meet the staff during our Open House dates. Bring friends who haven't made up their minds yet or come on your own... but at least come.

We look forward to meeting you this summer and helping you have the experience that lasts a lifetime. Call the office for questions; Sky Y 1-800-660-1385, Chauncey Ranch 928-632-7704 or e-mail us at azycamps@vosymca.org

The Camp Staff

Valley of the Sun YMCA CAMPING SERVICES

2009 SUMMER CAMP GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome: Please read the following carefully to assure your camper has a GREAT experience.

INITIAL DEPOSIT: A \$100 non-refundable, non-transferable deposit (one week sessions) is required to hold the campers spot. The deposit must be sent to the camp office with the **Camper Application form** completed in full. Half week session deposit is \$50. Two week session deposit is \$200.

FINAL PAYMENT: Must be received by the Camp Office no later than 14 days prior to the start of Camp.

Make checks payable to **YMCA Camping Services** and mail to:

YMCA Camping Services
5725 S. Senator Hwy.
Prescott, AZ 86303

NOTE: We accept American Express, Master Card, Visa and Discover.

REFUND POLICY: Deposits are not refundable under any circumstances so plan carefully. Any cancellation one month to two weeks prior to the start of the registered session will result in a refund of 50% of the camp fees. Cancellation with less than two week's notice will be non refundable.

Medical Refund: A written physician-authorized medical excuse is required to be considered for a full refund (less the deposit). Requests for refunds with special circumstances must be submitted in writing for consideration. If a camper does not show for a registered session without notice, no refund will be issued.

WHAT TO BRING: Sleeping bag, pillow, pajamas or sweats, underwear, socks, pants, shorts, shirts, two long-sleeved shirts, 2 pair of shoes (one suitable for hiking and one pair of tennis shoes), light jacket, sweat shirt, camera, note paper, envelopes, stamps, bathing suit, towel for swimming, canteen and flashlight, hat, sunscreen, laundry bag, as well as a towel and wash cloth, soap, shampoo, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste, lotion and any other necessary toiletries. Bring old clothes and label all clothing.

If your camper brings medication to camp, it must be in the original container with the original label with their name. Do not pack in their luggage as it must be turned into the Nurse upon arrival to camp. Over the counter medicine or vitamins are not accepted.

NOT ALLOWED AT CAMP: Weapons of any kind, radios, boom boxes, knives, electronic games, hairdryers, other electric devices, cell phones and pagers, plus anything you cannot afford to lose should not be brought to Camp. YMCA Camping Services Branch is not responsible for lost or stolen articles.

MEDICAL INSURANCE: In the event your child needs medical treatment and/or prescriptions, the family's insurance will be billed. Parents will be notified of any serious accident or illness that requires treatment.

HEALTH CENTER: Medical Staff are at camp 24 hours a day and public health care facilities are a short distance away.

HEALTH/LICE CHECK: All campers will be checked for lice and athlete's foot and any other medical condition that may affect camp community on the first day of camp and will be turned away if any communicable condition exists. All campers must have a physical examination within 2 years prior to attending Camp.

FORMS:

CAMP CHECK LIST: This is strictly for YOUR use and convenience to keep track of the Camp application process. It is a good idea to make copies OF ALL FORMS prior to arrival at Camp.

CAMPER HEALTH FORM: Parent or legal guardian is required to complete the first 3 pages of the Health History and Examination Form (green). A physician must complete page 4 and sign the form or you may attach a copy of the last physical instead.

CONFIDENTIAL FORM: The Confidential form (blue) is to be completed by a parent or legal guardian, **not the camper**, and is of great assistance to the cabin counselor.

WAIVER & RELEASE/CAMPER BEHAVIOR FORM: Please put camper's full name and age at top of form. Read the agreement (goldenrod) completely and sign at the bottom. If there are any limitations that the camper has that would make participation in these activities hazardous, please list at the bottom of the form. In order for all campers to have the best possible experience all campers need to be aware of the rules and

agree to follow them. The Behavior form gives disciplinary policy and needs to be read to the camper and signed by both the parent/legal guardian and the camper.

- **ALL OF THE ABOVE FORMS MUST BE BROUGHT TO CAMP ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE SESSION.**

SAFETY AT CAMP

CAMPER SAFETY: We take every safety precaution into consideration when planning and conducting our activities and have extensive staff training so that we can avoid accidents, injuries or dangerous situations. All of our staff has been trained in first aid and CPR. In addition we have a full time Nurse on site. Emergency services are only minutes from each camp should the need arise. All of our policies, procedures and rules are developed with the safety of your camper in mind.

SITE SAFETY: Camp staff is identified with a photo name badge and/or staff shirt. Parents are encouraged to bring campers on the first day to meet the camp staff and become comfortable with the campsite. Any visitor must check in at the camp office or be escorted by a camp staff member. We receive regular visits from the Yavapai County Sheriff's deputies who regularly patrol the area. The Sheriff's Department is also the coordinating agency in the event of an area wide evacuation or other emergency. Each camp practices fire drills and other emergency procedures weekly with campers. Parents are notified any time a camper must visit the doctor or is held in the Health Center overnight.

Miscellaneous

SESSION CHANGE FEE: There will be a **\$50.00** fee for changing a session once a camper is registered.

STAYOVER: The cost is **\$60.00** per camper staying for consecutive sessions. There may be special activities such as movies, arcade, etc. *Parents wishing to pick up stay-over campers for lunch may do so after signing them out between 9:30am-11:00am on Saturday.*

TRANSPORTATION: Is provided for an additional fee of **\$65.00** round trip **or** one-way. All bus reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to the start of your child's camp session. Prior to boarding the bus all campers will receive a check for head lice, athlete's foot and any other medical condition that may affect camp community.

**All buses will depart and return from the Chris Town YMCA located at:
5517 North 17th Ave. Phoenix AZ**

Please plan to be at the YMCA by 11:00a.m. Bus **Departure time** to camp will be at **12:00pm**. Bus **Return time** from camp will be approximately **12:30pm**.

APPROPRIATE DRESS: The Camp dress code mirrors the policies of most schools. No spaghetti straps, tube tops, strapless attire, short shorts, blouses that reveal the midriff or flip-flops. Also included is clothing that portray inappropriate behavior, logos or language that could be offensive.

CABIN MATE REQUESTS: Each camper is allowed to make one cabin mate request. Both campers must request each other and be within the same age group and of the same gender. We do not guarantee placement, but will make every effort to honor requests. Cabin unity, as well as, making new friends, is two of the goals of the camp experience and we encourage each camper to participate in this process of meeting new people. We want to make sure that each camper feels welcome and part of the cabin group from the moment the program begins. Campers that have many friends attending of the same age have lots of time during activities and free time to "hangout" and are usually neighbors in the Village.

CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT: For both Camp Sky-Y and Chauncey Ranch the campers should arrive on opening day (Sunday) between 1:00pm-3:00pm for check in and pick up time at the camps on closing day (Saturday) is between 9:30am-11:00am.

CAMP STORE: We have a small store at camp that carries a variety of snacks, toiletries, clothing and souvenirs (please visit our web site to see our top ten list). All campers will have the opportunity to visit the camp store at various times during the week. The store will also be open on the first and last day of camp for parents. We do not allow campers to keep cash in their cabins, so we ask each camper to deposit their store money on opening day. It has been our experience that a camper will find ways to spend as much money as you give them. **\$20-\$30** is the recommended amount per week.

HOMESICKNESS: Is a very real part of the adjustment that many children may experience as they are away from their home and family. We are sensitive to campers **and parents** who are missing each other. We work hard to support families through the adjustment. Camper Letters to home early in the session may reflect a somber attitude, so don't be alarmed. Contact us if you receive a second letter or one that causes particular concern. We are happy to work through the process and keep you informed. Cell Phones are ALWAYS a negative influence and do not help the adjustment period. View the camp photo's & sends emails.

PACKAGES FROM HOME: Send books, magazines, stickers and things that your child can share with their cabin. It is a good idea to send packages a few days prior to the start of the session.

PHOTO'S AND EMAIL: We are again providing a service called **Bunk1**. This is optional for one-way email contact with your camper. You and your family may register for the service that is password protected (go to www.azycamps.org and click on the **Bunk1** icon at the bottom of the home page). Photos will be posted daily of the campers and activities and you can view them, after registering, for no charge. Photos and other items can be purchased directly from the web site.

CAMPER MAIL/email: Receiving mail is a highlight for many campers, please plan ahead and mail letters early so your child will be included.

Email for both camps: go to www.azycamps.org and click on the **Bunk1** link to register.

<p>Camp Sky-Y Camper Name - Session# Cabin# 5725 S. Senator Hwy. Prescott, AZ 86303</p>
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<p>Chauncey Ranch Camper Name - Session# Cabin# HC 63, Box 3027 Mayer, AZ 86333</p>
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PARENT NOTIFICATION: The Camp Director will call the parent in the following instances:

1. If the camper must go to the doctor or hospital.
2. If the camper spends the night in the infirmary.
3. If we are dealing with a behavior issue and need assistance to correct the behavior.
4. If the Camper is experiencing separation anxiety and is not adjusting to the Camp environment.

PHONE POLICY: The camp phones are for business and emergencies only. Due to the number of campers at each of our sites, it is impossible to make the phones available for calls home from the campers. Of course, in an emergency or to help with the campers' social adjustment, the camp staff will be in contact with you. In general, we find that calls from mom or dad can actually make the "homesickness" worse. In case of emergency and you must call the camp: Camp Sky-Y 800-660-1385; Chauncey Ranch 928-632-7704.

EMERGENCY NUMBER: There are after hours phone number available for true emergencies or situations that cannot wait until morning, 480-477-4698 or 928-771-6019. You will be directed to the contact per camp.

VISITORS: Parents are encouraged to visit camp during the first or last day and meet the staff and see the camp. Mid week visits can be very distracting and *are not recommended* for the campers since our sessions are only one week long. If your camper is staying more than one week, please use the weekend as your visiting time; go out to lunch, spend the night in town and come back Sunday morning. Any visitor that comes during the week **MUST** stop at the camp office.

LAUNDRY SERVICE: Is not available for campers unless spending more than two consecutive weeks.

LOST & FOUND: Call us right away. We will try our best to locate it! Please remember that the YMCA cannot be held responsible for missing or damaged items. Please mark all items with the camper's name.

Any items left behind after the end of the session will be donated to charity 2 weeks after that session.

SIGN OUT PROCEDURES: The last day of camp, parents must "sign out" their camper with the camp counselor. A photo I.D. is required to "sign out" your camper. If someone other than the parent/guardian plans on picking up your child, that person must be listed on the Parent-Camper Confidential Form and/or the parent/guardian must provide a signed permission letter on check-in day.

THANK YOU: If at any time you have questions, please call the Camp Office during regular business hours.

Camp Sky Y
1-800-660-1385
azycamps@vosymca.org
Fax: 928-445-1908

Chauncey Ranch
928-632-7704
azycamps@vosymca.org
Fax: 928-632-7746