FRIENDLY PINES CAMP
Est. 1941

PARENT HANDBOOK



SUMMER 2027

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ROADMAP TO SUMMER CAMP

1 Register Your Camper

- Complete online registration through CampBrain.
- Pay your initial deposit to secure your camper's spot.
- Don't forget about Tuition Insurance!

2 Schedule Physical Exam

- Book your child's appointment early.
- Make sure the Physical Exam Form will be signed and ready.
- A Physical Exam completed within 1 year of your camper's departure date is acceptable.

3 Review Your Payment Schedule

- 6 auto-payments scheduled for the 1st of each month, December through May.
- Update payment method on CampBrain before December 1st if needed.

Update payment method: (928) 445-2128

4 Submit Medical Forms

Opens March 1st in CampBrain

- Review Medical Handbook and check due dates by session.
- Submit Camper Health History Form and Physical Exam Form on CampBrain.
- Submit Asthma Action Plan for applicable camper.

Questions? Email Sayaka at medical@friendlypines.com
Fax: (928) 445-6065

5 Submit Travel Form

Opens April 15, Due May 15

- Plan camp arrival & departure details for your camper.
- Submit Travel Form on CampBrain.
- Don't forget to list ALL authorized pick-up persons as shown on their government-issued ID – including yourself!

6 Submit Activity Preference Form

Due before arrival

- Emailed to you 1 week before camp. (Make sure to check your spam folder!)
- Campers should fill out their own form (not parents).

7 Pack & Prepare

- Review the Packing Guide with your camper (2-Week Guide) or (Mini Camp Guide)
- Label ALL belongings
- Print the Packing List, pack with your camper, and place it in camper's luggage. (2-Week List) or (Mini Camp List)

8 Prepare Medications for Drop-Off (IF APPLICABLE)

- Label & pack all prescription and over-the-counter medications per our Medication Packing Instructions.
- Keep them packed on top of your campers bag for easy handoff to the camp Medical Staff upon arrival

9 Drop-Off & Pick-Up

- Review Arrival & Departure Day Plans and reminder email sent before arrival/departure day.
- Bus – Meet us at the drop-off & pick-up location.
- Airport – Confirm details and review reminder email.

Questions? Email us at info@friendlypines.com or call us at (928) 445-2128

THE FPC PHILOSOPHY

For more than 85 years, here at Friendly Pines Camp, we believe childhood summers should be filled with adventure, friendship, fresh air, and the freedom to simply be a kid. Campers spend their days screen-free, trying new things, building real relationships, connecting with nature, and discovering that they are capable of more than they imagined.

Camp is fun, but it is also an important place for growth. Through cabin life, activities, traditions, and everyday interactions, campers practice independence, responsibility, resilience, and the social skills needed to live well in a community. They learn to navigate challenges, contribute to a group, care for others, and feel confident being themselves.

Character is woven into daily life through the nine virtues that have guided generations of Friendly Pines campers:



Campers hear about these virtues through stories and Words of Wisdom, see them modeled by counselors, and practice them in hundreds of small moments. Through our longstanding Rendezvous tradition, every camper is recognized for a virtue their counselors saw them embody during their time at camp.

Traditions such as Quiet Place, Rendezvous, and Stick Dedication give campers opportunities to slow down, reflect, celebrate one another, and recognize how they have grown. These shared experiences connect each new group of campers to more than 85 years of Friendly Pines history.

Whether a child begins with our five-night Mini Camp or joins a flagship two-week session, we want them to find friendship, belonging, and a meaningful place within the camp community.

What campers bring home cannot always be packed into a trunk: greater confidence, growing independence, stronger social skills, resilience, meaningful friendships, and a lasting connection to the natural world. That is the heart of the Friendly Pines experience, and why the moments created here continue to matter long after summer ends.

SUMMER 2027

"THE CAMP PROBLEM"

BY H GRACY SPRUCE

Note: When this was written the generic pronoun "he" was in use.

30 years I have been actively engaged in arranging for the comfort, safety and pleasure of thousands of children who attend camps each summer. And I have discovered that parents need camp conditioning almost as much as the youngsters. This is especially true of the parents of first-time campers. Far too often they refuse to believe that their children will be happy and safe away from home.

Maybe this advice will help them:

Once you have determined to send your child to camp it will be better for everyone if you then leave it to the experts. This is not easy, I know. But if you take it in your stride both you and the child will benefit. Once you have selected the camp, your major problem for some weeks will be the mental conditioning of yourself and your child for his departure from home. Try as hard as you can to treat the whole matter calmly, even casually. If you accent that "he's never been away from home before" feeling, you will be re enforcing in his mind that fear of the unknown that all of us have to some extent.

You will make it more difficult for the child to adjust quickly and easily to the new scenes and experiences of camp life. And the actual departure may turn into an unhappy emotional experience for both of you.

As you go about preparing his clothes and camping equipment, making sure that everything is properly tagged and labeled, your attitude should be that this is an adventure which your child will enjoy. Give him a bright picture of the fun he will have at camp and you'll lessen his natural reluctance to be away from home. Don't let your own doubts and misgivings over the forthcoming separation put him in conflict over the desirability of going to camp.

This pre-camp period is only your first problem. Once you've seen the youngster off, there is still a follow-up job. The simplest way to handle this is not to follow up too hard. Let me explain this by saying that all youngsters blend quickly into the overall pattern of camp life. They do this more readily if they feel they are just like their fellow campers. If you single your child out as a special case, it is bad for everyone, particularly the one you're trying to protect. Your best guidance here comes from the rules of the camp which your child attends. In general the rules are these: don't send elaborate food packages which may not fit into the diet program. Don't visit the camp except on those days scheduled by the camp. Even long-distance phone calls are not advised.

Most camps recommend that a small sum of money be deposited for the youngster's use in making minor purchases. Don't supplement this by sending additional pocket money. Your child won't need it, and one of camping's major tasks is to teach the child appreciation of other people without regard to material standards.

Write your child often (never let him think you've forgotten him). And don't anticipate accidents or illness.

If you follow these suggestions, your child will be much more likely to fit into the pattern of camp life and his relationship with the other children will undoubtedly be happier.

If you let him go with no apron strings attached, the youngster will return to you more certain and self-reliant. Besides, his appreciation of home and family will be deeper because he will have had, with your help, an opportunity to make another step forward in the process of growing up.

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HELPFUL NAMES & FRIENDLY FACES



ADAM ESPOSITO
Summer Camp Director



ELDON ORGILL
Program Director



SAYAKA PIERSON
Business Manager & Registrar



VALERIE ESPOSITO
New Family Coordinator



MATT GILMER
Chief Executive Officer



JONATHAN PIERSON
Chief Operating Officer



MARY GILMER
Chief Marketing Officer



RYAN BURKE
Food Service Director



DEREK HASSLER
Maintenance Director

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GENERAL INFO & POLICIES



CONTACTING US

You're always welcome to call us at **(928) 445-2128** with any questions or concerns. Let the office know the reason for your call (health, cabin adjustment, billing, travel, etc.) so we can get you to the right person quickly.

BIRTHDAYS

Campers with birthdays during their session will be celebrated with a full-camp Happy Birthday singalong. On the final day of each session, all birthday campers (and staff!) will sit at a special Birthday Lunch Table and enjoy a birthday treat.
You're welcome to send a non-food care package to help them celebrate — things like decorations, cards from friends and family, or party favors are great! Just remember: no candy or gum, please.

HYGIENE

Campers are expected to shower at least 3 times a week — daily if they prefer. Cabin counselors keep a shower log to ensure good hygiene. Water comes from our own wells, so short, efficient showers are encouraged. Campers are also expected to maintain general cleanliness for the health and comfort of everyone in their cabin.

CABIN CLEAN UP, CHORES, AND CAMP WORK PROJECTS

Each day, campers help tidy their cabin by making beds, organizing shelves, and rotating chores like sweeping or taking out the trash.
Cabins may also do small camp-wide work projects, such as picking up trash, restocking bathrooms, or cleaning shared areas — especially before visitors arrive. It's all part of learning responsibility and teamwork.

CAMP STORE

Our store carries basic necessities like toiletries, stamps, writing supplies, and white T-shirts for tie-dye. It's monitored by counselors and not for profit. No food, gum, or soda is sold.

Charges may include:

- Purchases from the store
- Laundry (over $20)
- Tie-dye supplies

You'll get a post-camp statement; charges will be applied to the payment method we have on file.
Handcrafts is the only activity with any possible cost — campers may buy a T-shirt for tie-dye or bring their own.
Please don't send your camper with cash — they won't need it!
Our **online camp store** has FPC shirts, sweatshirts, hats, water bottles, and more!

CANCELLATION

Each payment is fully refundable for 30 days after submission. After 30 days, payments become non-refundable. If you paid more than is due under the standard payment schedule at the time of cancellation, the amount paid ahead is refundable.

Tuition insurance is the only way to receive a refund for otherwise non-refundable tuition, subject to the insurance policy's covered circumstances and terms.

We strongly recommend **Tuition Insurance**. To cancel, email info@friendlypines.com. We'll send you the cancellation form and confirm once it's processed.

TUITION INSURANCE

We strongly encourage families to consider **Tuition Insurance** to protect their investment in camp. If you cancel or if camp is canceled due to covered circumstances, Tuition Insurance may help reimburse your payment.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Campers and families should not follow or request to follow FPC staff on social media — and vice versa. This helps protect everyone's privacy.
If your camper wants to stay in touch with a counselor, they can write letters to camp. We don't share staff's personal mailing info.
Have questions or concerns about your camper's social media use? Just give us a call.

TIPPING & GRATUITY POLICY

Please follow our **NO-TIPPING** policy. Staff cannot accept monetary tips, per ACA guidelines.
If you'd like to show appreciation, a kind note or small non-monetary gift is welcome — but never expected.

"MISSING HOME"

Homesickness is normal — and it's also a chance for growth. Many campers come home more confident and independent after working through those first tough days.
Our counselors are trained to support campers through these feelings. What helps most? A calm and encouraging attitude from parents. Please avoid saying things like, "Try it for a few days and I'll come get you." That can make it harder for campers to fully engage and adjust.
Send 2–3 upbeat letters per week focused on their camp adventures — not how much you miss them. Avoid daily letters, which can feel overwhelming.
If homesickness becomes significant, our goal is to help your camper through it — not to end their experience early. That process builds resilience, self-esteem, and important life skills.
Have concerns? Reach out — we're here to support both you and your camper.

GOODBYES

If your camper wants to talk about goodbyes ahead of time, keep it simple and positive:
"It might be hard at first, but we'll see each other soon and stay in touch with letters!"
The best goodbye is a brief, cheerful one — no long emotional farewells. Let your child head off with a happy heart and the excitement of a great adventure ahead!

BEHAVIOR

Campers are expected to treat others respectfully and participate positively in camp life. We reserve the right to send home any camper if it's in the best interest of the community.
Drugs, alcohol, smoking, intentional avoidance of supervision, or sexual activity of any kind are not allowed. Campers involved will be sent home without a tuition refund.
We're looking forward to a fun, safe, and respectful summer for all!

IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS & COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND ACCESS

FPC embraces diversity by warmly welcoming campers and staff without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, sex, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability (including the use of a trained dog guide or service animal).

We value diversity and believe it makes camp better for everyone. Our goal is for every camper to feel respected, included, and celebrated for who they are.

WHERE CAMP IS A HARDER FIT

Friendly Pines is a traditional overnight summer camp. We are not a medical facility, a therapeutic program, or a treatment center. We do not have licensed therapists or one-on-one aides on staff. Camp is a harder fit for a child who needs one-on- one support throughout the day, who is currently in the middle of a significant emotional or behavioral challenge, or who requires a level of medical care beyond what an overnight camp can safely provide.

Because the camp was built in 1941 on mountainous forest terrain, not all areas are accessible, and some physical accommodations are not feasible. None of that means the answer is no. Our team supports campers with a wide range of medical needs, dietary restrictions, learning differences, and social challenges every summer, and in most cases accommodations work well when we know about them ahead of time. If you are unsure where your child lands, call us before you enroll. We will tell you honestly what we can and cannot do

COMMUNITY, DIFFERENCES, AND BELIEFS

One of the things we value most about camp is learning how to be part of a community. That means living, playing, and working alongside people who may come from different families, backgrounds, traditions, identities, and belief systems.

We do not expect everyone at Friendly Pines to agree. In fact, learning how to navigate differences is part of what makes community valuable. Our role is to help campers listen, communicate, work through disagreement, and continue treating one another with kindness and respect even when they see something differently.

COMMUNITY, DIFFERENCES, AND BELIEFS *(CONTINUED)*

Families play the central role in shaping their children's values and beliefs. Camp is not a place for staff to promote their personal political, religious, or social viewpoints. When sensitive subjects come up, staff help campers navigate those conversations in age-appropriate ways, recognize that different families may see things differently, and know when a conversation is better continued at home.

Our Nine Camp Virtues provide the foundation for these moments. We can make room for many different beliefs and perspectives. Bullying, harassment, intentional exclusion, or demeaning another person because of those differences is not consistent with the community we are trying to build.

NAMES, PRONOUNS, AND GENDER IDENTITY

LGBTQIA+ campers and staff are welcome at Friendly Pines. If someone asks us to use a particular name or pronouns, we will generally respect that request. Sharing pronouns or discussing one's identity is always optional.

Families in our community may hold different beliefs about gender and identity. Using someone's requested name or pronouns is not intended to tell anyone else what they should believe. It is part of our expectation that people at camp treat one another respectfully.

Camper cabin assignments are generally made according to the gender provided by the family at registration. If a transgender or gender-diverse camper or their family would like us to consider another arrangement, we ask that they speak with us before camp. Our leadership team will work with the family to determine an appropriate placement while considering the camper's well-being, privacy, supervision, and the needs of the cabin community.

Staff cabin assignments are made by camp leadership based on the staff member's identity and role, along with camper privacy and safety, supervision, and the needs of the cabin community.

Not every situation fits neatly into a policy. When something requires more thought, we would rather have a conversation with the people involved than pretend one rule can anticipate every circumstance.

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PARENT & CAMPER COMMUNICATION



MAIL & PACKAGES

CAMPERS WRITING HOME

We ask campers to write at least one postcard a week — sometimes that's a big ask for busy, happy kids!
If you receive a letter that sounds homesick or "out of date," don't worry — mail takes a few days, and your camper has likely already adjusted. We monitor all campers closely and can give you an update if you're concerned.
Before camp, help your camper practice addressing envelopes. For younger campers, send plenty of **pre-addressed, stamped envelopes**.

WRITING TO YOUR CAMPER

Campers love getting mail! Aim to send a short note, card, or email **3–5 times per week**. Avoid daily letters, which can create pressure if mail is delayed.
Tip: Send a letter a few days before camp starts or drop off some pre-written letters with us on arrival day so it's there early in the session.
Include your camper's **first and last name** on letters and emails. You'll get their cabin name on arrival to add to the address.
Campers tend to enjoy handwritten notes or cards the most!

THE 1-PACKAGE POLICY

WE PREFER THAT PACKAGES NOT BE SENT TO CAMP. Our One Package Policy explains the rare exceptions. Please read it carefully in the following pages.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

HOW'S MY CHILD DOING?

We get it — especially in the early days of camp, you want to know how your camper is adjusting.

Counselors complete "Morning Reports" for each camper's first three days, then every other day after that. These reports include notes on eating, sleeping, mood, homesickness, and more. When you call, our staff will refer to these reports to give you an update.

Please don't feel you need to call unless something feels urgent — we'll reach out if anything significant arises (e.g., your camper visits the doctor or stays overnight in the Infirmary).

If your child has a serious behavior issue or becomes ill and must go home, we'll contact you directly.

Important: A parent/guardian or listed adult must be available by phone throughout the camper's stay.

PHONE CALLS TO CAMPERS

Campers won't make or receive phone calls during their stay — this helps them adjust, build independence, and stay present in the camp experience.
If you have a special message to share — like a birthday greeting or family update — just call the office. We'll make sure your camper gets it in a thoughtful way.
Rest assured, if anything important comes up, we'll contact you right away.

PHONE CALLS TO FPC STAFF

For anything urgent or logistical (e.g., mailing address changes, travel plans, emergency contacts), **call or email the camp office directly**.

Please **do not** send messages through your camper or their counselor — important info must come to us through parents or guardians.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH FRIENDS AFTER CAMP

Campers often want to keep in touch after camp — usually by exchanging addresses or connecting on social media.
We encourage families to be aware of who their camper is contacting. If you ever suspect your child is messaging someone connected to FPC who isn't a camper, please contact us right away.
If your camper didn't get a chance to exchange info, email us with the friend's name. We'll forward your message to their parents so they can reach out if they wish.
FPC does not share contact info directly — we leave that decision to families.

VISITING TIMES

There are **no visiting times** while camp is in session. On arrival and departure days, please leave pets at home.
You'll receive details and reminders about drop-off and pick-up times in a future mailing.

Note: FPC is not responsible for supervising other non-enrolled family members or carpool riders on arrival/departure days until they are with their counselor.



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OUR ONE PACKAGE POLICY



We ask that you send no more than one package per camper, per session. Campers don't need much from home, and extra packages can become more stressful than supportive — especially for those who don't receive any.

CONTRABAND

Over the years, we've discovered candy hidden in stuffed animals, inside books, and even tucked into hollowed-out pens! Please don't send snacks or food in care packages — they'll be confiscated and not returned. Campers have plenty to eat, and we promise they don't need treats from home to have an amazing time. Helping everyone follow this rule keeps camp safe, fair, and animal-free in the cabins.

EXCESS

We've noticed that when campers receive large or frequent packages, the focus can shift from the experience of camp to the excitement of "what's in the box." Some campers begin to expect a package every day, which can lead to disappointment — especially if there's a mail delay or nothing arrives.

This package-centered mindset can also create pressure for families who didn't plan to send anything beyond letters. We want campers to feel fully present and engaged with their activities, not distracted by what might be waiting in the mailroom.

EXCEPTIONS

If your camper forgets an essential item — like medication, underwear, or a replacement — call the office. With approval, we'll allow an emergency package to be sent.

EXCLUSION

Not every camper receives packages — whether by family choice, financial limitations, or postal logistics. When some children receive something daily while others get nothing, it can lead to feelings of exclusion, comparison, or sadness.

By limiting packages to one per session, we help level the playing field and keep the focus on what truly matters: friendship, fun, and a shared sense of belonging.

WHAT COUNTS AS A PACKAGE?

Any item that requires more than one first-class stamp (over 2 oz) or doesn't fit in a standard envelope. Oversized boxes (larger than 12"x8"x10") will be held until the end of the session.

If more than one package arrives, we'll keep the extras in the camp office until departure day. Let family and friends know this policy — whichever package arrives first will count as the camper's one package.

WHAT's *NOT* A PACKAGE?

Letters, postcards, and regular-size envelopes (even padded ones) are fine. You can also send something in a 9x12 envelope if it meets the 2 oz rule — just keep it simple inside.

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CAMPER HEALTH INFORMATION

REQUIRED HEALTH FORMS
Due 2-Weeks Before Arrival

PHYSICAL EXAM FORM
Must be completed and signed by a **licensed, third-party medical professional**. For the safety of all campers, we ask that this be submitted on time. Due 2 weeks before camp arrival.

HEALTH HISTORY FORM
Separate from the exam form, this is completed online through your account and will open on March 1. We've sent a set of instructions to guide you. Please submit it as soon as possible so we can best support your camper's health. Reach out if you need help!

FPC needs up-to-date immunization records for every camper. This is a part of the Health History Form

ASTHMA ACTION PLAN
If your camper has asthma or has ever needed treatment for asthma-like symptoms, this form is required. It helps us respond quickly and appropriately to symptoms at camp.

MEDICATIONS

NON-PRESCRIPTION MEDS
All medications — even vitamins or supplements— must go through the camp infirmary **with a prescription**. No meds are allowed in cabins.
We serve three nutritious meals and healthy snacks daily. If your doctor still recommends vitamins, they must be prescribed.

FOOD ALLERGIES, SPECIAL DIETS, AND DIETARY RESTRICTIONS
Please include any dietary needs on the Health History Form. Our kitchen staff can usually provide an alternative meal for most food allergies or restrictions.
FPC is not nut-free and not kosher-certified. If your camper has a severe or complex dietary restriction, we may schedule a call with our Food Service Director to review their needs.
Counselors receive allergy info each session. If your camper has a life-threatening allergy, notify us immediately — especially if it requires an EpiPen or involves airborne triggers.

PROPER FOOTWEAR & SAFETY EQUIPMENT
To help prevent injuries, campers must wear appropriate footwear:
- Closed-toe shoes for most activities
- Cowboy boots or smooth-soled boots with a pronounced heel for horseback riding
- Water shoes or sandals only allowed at showers or the pool

No open-toed sandals/flip-flops outside of those places. FPC provides safety helmets for riding.

DISCLOSURE
We are committed to maintaining strict confidentiality regarding your camper's diagnosis and will not discuss it with anyone outside of the camp environment. Parents must provide comprehensive information about their child's mental, physical, emotional, and physiological well-being. The more details we have, the better we can ensure a safe and healthy experience for your camper at FPC. However, it is important to note that FPC is not a treatment center, and campers exhibiting self-harm, posing a threat to others, or jeopardizing the community's welfare may be required to leave. Failure to disclose any issue that compromises our community's safety may be grounds for dismissal from camp.

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HEAD LICE INFORMATION

NO NEED TO WORRY, JUST KEEPING YOU INFORMED!

Like schools and daycare centers, FPC is always on the lookout for head lice. It's not a crisis — but we want to help families be proactive before camp.
We typically see only 1–2 cases per session, but the discovery of lice can cause stress for staff and campers.

WHAT HAPPENS AT CAMP?

When campers arrive, our nurses perform a health check — including a lice check — within the first 24 hours.

If lice are found:

- We notify parents immediately.
- If the case is significant, we may ask you to treat your camper at home before returning (this may take 24–36 hours).
- For treatment done at camp, a $100 fee will be charged (we use over-the-counter products).
- We'll recheck your camper after a day or so and keep you updated.
- We may wash the entire cabin's bedding and notify cabinmates' families as needed.
- Nurses will monitor and reassure campers and staff to help reduce worry.

We recommend checking your camper a week before camp, and again right before they arrive.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS OF LICE?

- Itchy scalp or feeling like something is moving in the hair
- Redness or sores from scratching
- Irritability or difficulty sleeping
- Lice or tiny nits (eggs) near the scalp

WHERE ARE LICE FOUND?

Usually on the scalp — especially behind ears or at the nape of the neck. Lice grip hair firmly and can be hard to remove without proper treatment.

WHO'S AT RISK?

Anyone who has head-to-head contact with someone who has lice. It's most common among young children, but lice are not a sign of poor hygiene — they crawl, but cannot hop or fly.

HOW DO LICE SPREAD?

Mostly through direct head-to-head contact (e.g. sleepovers, sharing a pillow, brushing hair). Spread via personal items is much less common.

WHAT ABOUT HELMETS OR HEADPHONES?

Lice are rarely spread by objects like helmets or headphones, but it's possible. Their feet aren't suited to gripping hard surfaces, which limits this risk.

DIAGNOSIS TIPS

Lice are small and move fast. Use a fine-tooth comb and good lighting. If you find eggs (nits) close to the scalp (within ¼"), they may still be active. If they're farther away, they're likely old or hatched. Diagnosis should be confirmed by your healthcare provider, local health department, or trained staff.

SUMMER 2027

CAMPER CLOTHING & LAUNDRY



PACKING YOUR CAMPER

Please review our FPC Packing Guide **(2-Week Guide)** or **(Mini Camp Guide)** carefully. Leave expensive items (jewelry, electronics, etc.) at home to prevent issues. FPC is not responsible for lost or damaged belongings.
Help your camper take ownership by labeling all items clearly.

REVIEW THE PACKING GUIDE

The FPC Packing Guide (**2-Week Guide)** or **(Mini Camp Guide)** includes everything your camper needs — and what they should leave behind. We've built it with care to support your child's comfort and activity needs.
Print it out, check it off as you go, and leave time to shop for anything you don't already have.

MAKE PACKING A TEAM EFFORT

Campers who help pack are more likely to keep track of their things. Let them check off the list, label items, and decide what to pack or leave behind. You'll still want to know what's in their bag, but let them take the lead.

START WITH THE RIGHT BAG

Collapsible duffels or suitcases work best — they fit under bunks and are easy to store. Our camp store's "MegaPak" is a great option. Every camper gets their own shelf for unpacked gear.

THE ESSENTIAL SLEEPING BAG

A sleeping bag is required for overnights and also makes a great blanket on cool nights. Medium-weight is ideal. You can add a sheet or comforter if preferred. Don't forget to label it!

WATER BOTTLES: A MUST-HAVE

Every camper needs a refillable water bottle for daily use. Please send one with a strap or carrier (like a Camelbak or fanny pack). No need to send bottled water.

LOST & FOUND

At the end of each session, counselors help campers match their belongings to the packing list. Items that are clearly labeled with your camper's full name are much more likely to be returned quickly. Unmarked items are harder to trace and may end up in the general lost & found pile. Valuables over $10 are held for 2 weeks after camp ends, then donated. If your camper is missing something, let us know — we often have unclaimed items left behind.

LAUNDRY SERVICE

Laundry is available for two-week campers only. Friendly Pines covers the first $20 of laundry per session. After that, a charge of $1.75 per pound will be added to your camper's store account. Campers typically send out 10–15 lbs during a session.
You'll indicate on your Packing List if you'd like your camper to use the service. No laundry is offered for one-week campers. If your camper will not use laundry service, please pack enough clothing for the entire session.

DONATIONS TO CAMP

Cleaning out closets? We gladly accept gently used items that are still useful at camp — especially:

- Outgrown FPC shirts
- Dress-up clothes
- Books for the library
- Riding boots, rain gear, costume pieces

Label items with your camper's name and "for donation" and send them along in luggage or a paper sack.

SPECIAL DAYS

Campers who are enrolled in 2-Week Sessions will get to participate in our themed **Special Days**.

We announce the theme for each session ahead of time so families can plan ahead if they want to participate. Themed clothing is totally optional — it's just a fun way to get into the spirit of the day.
Past themes have included:

- Under the Sea Day
- Time Travel Day
- Medieval Day
- Pirate Day
- Olympus Day
- Gold Rush Day

Many campers bring simple costumes or accessories (like a hat or face paint), while others dive all in — it's up to you!



ALL THE DIRT ON LAUNDRY

2-WEEK CAMPERS ONLY



Two-week campers have the option of having their laundry done during their stay. Laundry service is not available for one-week campers. FPC will cover the first **$20** of laundry. Any charges beyond that will be applied to your camper's store account. Our laundry provider charges approximately **$1.75** per pound, and campers typically send out **10–15 lbs**. of laundry per session. Laundry goes out once, usually over the middle weekend, and campers will still return home with about a week's worth of dirty clothes.

It's important to understand how the laundry service works (unless you decline it entirely). All of the girls' laundry is sent out on **Friday and Saturday**, and all of the boys' laundry is sent on **Sunday**. Inside each cabin's group laundry bag, every camper's clothes must be packed in their **own labeled laundry bag**. Once cleaned, clothes are returned in individually sorted packages — **but only if each item is clearly marked with the camper's name**.

Any unmarked laundry is returned to the camp office, and we do our best to match items to their owners. This works most of the time, but many younger campers can't always recognize their own jeans or socks — and missing items often go unnoticed until departure day.

Below are tips that can help you avoid lost items and unexpected laundry charges:

LABEL EVERYTHING

This cannot be overstated — label all clothing plus towels, bathrobes, sleeping bags, hats, shoes, flashlights, and water bottles. If your camper might lose it, mark it. Even if you're not using the laundry service, labeling helps — especially during packing and check-out.

USE LAUNDRY-SAFE MARKERS OR LABELS

Waterproof Sharpies or name-label systems are best. Anything else may wash out.

MATCH LABEL TO FABRIC COLOR

Don't write in black ink on dark clothing! Use white iron-on or sew-in labels, or a white laundry marker for black garments.

LABEL CLOTHES WHERE IT'S EASY TO SEE

We strongly recommend marking the **inside neck, back of waistband,** or **waistband of pants** — places laundry staff can find easily. Mark socks on the foot or toe, and attach labels to towels, pillowcases, and blankets near the edge.
Avoid hiding the name somewhere "discreet." If laundry staff can't find it quickly, it may not make it back to your camper. A good rule: if you'd need a treasure map to find the name, it's not a good spot.

HAVE AN ADULT DO THE LABELING

While it's great for campers to help pack, we recommend adults do the actual labeling. A missed item or rushed job can mean things don't come home.

NO HEAVY ITEMS IN THE LAUNDRY

Our staff will watch for sleeping bags, heavy blankets, or large towels in the laundry. These should only be washed if necessary, since they're often bulky and expensive to clean.

SEND ONLY THEIR OWN LAUNDRY

Campers need to double-check that only their items are in their own bag. If another camper's items end up in their bag, your camper may be charged for the extra weight.
We do monitor for this, but if something unusual shows up, the Director or counselor will follow up with you.

LEAVE THE FANCY STUFF AT HOME

Camp isn't the place for fancy or fragile clothing. Campers spend hours riding, hiking, climbing, cooking over fires, and generally getting dirty.
We recommend thrift store finds or items your camper can outgrow without stress. They'll return with memories and dirt — not a perfectly folded wardrobe.

Of course, two-week campers always have the option of sending a full session's worth of clothes to camp. They'd return home, ready to be laundered, promptly. This, however, will not prevent the possibility of lost clothing and belongings. Unmarked items can be just as easily lost right here at camp.

Note: Please refer to the Packing Guide & make your decision to accept or decline laundry service. Please mark "yes" or "no", then sign and date. If neither is indicated, we will assume your choice is "yes" and your child's clothing will be sent out for laundry service. There is no additional cost for laundry service unless the poundage exceeds our standard offering.



SUMMER 2027

CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

MAKING CABIN ASSIGNMENTS

We put a lot of thought into creating balanced, welcoming cabin groups where every camper feels safe, included, and supported.

Cabin assignments are finalized 3–4 days before the session begins, based on factors like age, grade, languages spoken, and cabin mate requests.

We aim to mix returning and new campers so everyone has the chance to build new friendships.

CABIN-MATE REQUESTS

Campers may request up to **two cabin mates** (group of three including your camper), but we cannot guarantee all requests will be honored.
To be placed together:

- Campers must be similar in age and grade
- All requests must be mutual
- Requests must be submitted before the deadline

Because cabins typically include 4–8 campers and 1–2 staff, we try to avoid large friend groups in one cabin to ensure a fair and inclusive environment.

WHAT ABOUT SCHEDULING ACTIVITIES WITH FRIENDS?

Unfortunately, we **do not** accept requests for campers to be placed in the same activity classes.

Campers may request schedule changes once at camp, but not for the purpose of being with a friend.

CHANGING CABINS

Once cabin assignments are made, we strongly prefer not to make changes. Moving a camper can disrupt not just their experience, but also their cabinmates', their counselors', and our camp reporting systems.

You and your camper will find out your cabin assignment on arrival day.

Cabin assignments are made by our office staff, and while we do our best, mistakes can happen. If something was missed on our end, we'll do what we can to make it right.



THE H.E.R.O PROGRAM

"HONORING EVERYONE -- RESPECTING OURSELVES"

The H.E.R.O. Program: "Honoring Everyone – Respecting Ourselves" Friendly Pines commits itself to one of the oldest and most valued ideals. We want to ensure that Friendly Pines Camp is a place where each of its nearly 1,000 (total) campers and staff will be guaranteed the kindness, respect and acceptance that everyone deserves. Of course, in order to achieve this goal, we will need to encourage and help each of our campers and staff to develop the practices of kindness, respect, and tolerance toward one another until it becomes a habit – a way of life. The HERO program asks campers and parents to embrace some basic, "Golden Rule" kinds of ideals.

Sit down as a family and review the sample agreement below. Discuss the ideas; digest them. On the first day of camp, each cabin will review and discuss the HERO program; afterwards, every member of the camp community will be asked to sign and commit to a HERO Agreement. This copy is for you to hang on your refrigerator (or wherever it is you display your most important family documents) as a constant reminder of what will be expected of each one of us. As always, please call if you have questions or concerns. The HERO program is a reflection of Friendly Pines' long history of high standards and expectations.

- [ ] **I WILL OBEY THE LONG-STANDING NPC RULE AT FRIENDLY PINES CAMP.**

  NPC means "No Personal Contact" and it means that "I must keep myself to myself" – hands, feet, flying elbows, *everything*.

- [ ] **I WILL FOLLOW THE OLD ADAGE THAT SAYS, "IF YOU CAN'T SAY SOMETHING NICE, DON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL."**

  In fact, I will take it a step further and make an effort to find nice things to say. I know how good it makes me feel to be praised and complimented or to have someone simply say "Hello," and I will do my best job of spreading those good feelings myself!

- [ ] **I WILL AVOID ALL "PUT-DOWNS", TEASING, AND SARCASTIC REMARKS.**

  Even making a playful joke about someone can be hurtful. If I need to make a joke about someone, maybe I'll just make it about myself.

- [ ] **I WON'T GANG UP ON ANOTHER PERSON.**

  We all want to feel like we belong, and nothing is worse than being mocked or made to feel left out. I won't let that happen to one of my cabin mates.

- [ ] **I'LL BE MORE TOLERANT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM ME.**

  Instead of immediately making fun of an idea I've never heard of, I'll take the time to give it some thought. I don't want to be the kind of person who slams the door on new ideas and different ways of looking at things. (Might try new foods, even!)

- [ ] **I'LL DO A BETTER JOB OF VALUING THE THINGS IN LIFE THAT ARE REALLY IMPORTANT.**

  Nature, friendship, and what's in a person's heart – those are the things that last. The brand of shoes that a person wears or the music they listen to will always go in and out of style. So I'll not judge people from the surface and I'll take time to get to know each one of my fellow campers deep down inside.

- [ ] **I WILL USE CAMP-APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE & ONLY DISCUSS APPROPRIATE TOPICS.**

  I will not use crude, obscene, vulgar or any other unacceptable conduct or language that may be hurtful. This is to include language that is offensive to others on the basis of gender, race, religion, lifestyle, physical characteristics, etc. And I'll expect the same from others.

- [ ] **I WILL BE THERE TO PROTECT MY CABIN MATES FROM UNKIND ATTACKS AND ABUSE.**

  I'll say "OUCH" when I hear a "put-down", even when it's not directed at me. And if the unkindness, bullying or teasing doesn't stop, I'll make sure my counselor knows about it. I'll do this for my fellow campers and I'm confident they'll do the same for me.

- [ ] **FINALLY, I WILL REMEMBER THAT GOING TO CAMP IS A VALUABLE EXPERIENCE AND A PRIVILEGE THAT MY FAMILY HAS KINDLY MADE AVAILABLE TO ME.**

  I will also keep in mind that going to camp is a privilege. So if I don't keep my promise to be a H.E.R.O., I understand that I will need to speak with Adam and that he will speak to my family. And if after all that, I still fail to improve, and my conduct makes camp an unpleasant experience for my cabin mates, I may be sent home early.

I'm looking forward to camp. I am also looking forward to doing my part to make the H.E.R.O. program at Friendly Pines a great success.

SUMMER 2027

CAMPER TRAVEL TO & FROM CAMP



NOTE: All travel arrangements will be made online through the "Travel Form" in your CampBrain account.

TRAVEL BY CAR

Car arrival will be staggered (by last name), and you'll be assigned a time window between 9:00 - 11:00AM. CIT's will arrive the Sunday evening before normal arrival day between 4:00 - 4:30PM.

Look out for a Travel Form email with your camper's arrival details, procedures, and links to our website for updates.

TRAVEL BY BUS

We offer bus transportations for both arrival and departure from camp.

Buses will pick up and drop off in Phoenix.

You can select the bus transportation at the time of registration and a $50 fee will be automatically added. More details will be shared in the Travel mailing.

TRAVEL BY AIR

Campers flying to camp may sign up for our camp shuttle, available only for those flying into **Phoenix Sky Harbor** or **Prescott Regional Airport.**

- Arrival flights should land between 8 AM–12 PM
- Departure flights should be booked between 4:00–6:00 PM

$60 shuttle fees apply. All shuttle reservations must be made in advance and can be selected at the time of registration.

EARLY ARRIVALS

We cannot accommodate early arrivals unless pre-approved. Staff will not be available or prepared to greet early arrivals, and the gates will remain closed until the scheduled start time.
If you arrive early, you will be asked to wait until gates open.

DEPARTURE INFO

Families may arrive at camp on departure day between 9:00 and 10:00 AM. Our closing Quiet Place ceremony will begin at 10:00 AM.

Following the ceremony, families are welcome to depart with their campers or stay and enjoy an open house of activities, brunch, and time for campers to share what they have learned and experienced during their session. All families should plan to depart camp by 1:30 p.m.

Campers traveling by bus will depart camp at approximately 11:45 a.m., following the closing ceremony. They will receive a packed lunch to eat during the trip and are expected to arrive in Phoenix at approximately 1:45 p.m.

EARLY (OR LATE) DEPARTURES

If your camper needs to leave earlier or later than scheduled, just note it on the Travel Form. We understand some families have early flights or sudden changes — just let us know as soon as possible by phone or email so we can help them pack and say goodbye.
Please note:

- **No refunds** for missed time due to early departure
- **Late pickups** after 1:30PM result in a per-hour fee, unless prior arrangements are made
- After the grace period, an additional charge may be added to your store account to cover supervision

Tip: Traffic and I-17 construction often cause delays. Give us a call if you're running late — we'll keep your camper calm and supervised until you arrive.

STAYOVER CAMPERS

Campers staying for more than two weeks without going home in between are called "Stayovers." These campers may stay for 3, 4, or up to 8 weeks total.
During the Saturday in between sessions, parents may:

- Visit camp between 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Video chat or call their camper if they can't visit
- Pick them up for lunch, town time, or even an overnight stay

If you take your camper out, please check them out at the Post Office before leaving and return them by:

- 4:30 PM Saturday if staying out overnight
- 11:00 AM Monday if returning day-of

We usually have 10–20 Stayovers each session. Camp provides supervision and activities for those who stay on-site.
⚠️ Reminder: No visits, phone calls, or video chats are allowed except on departure days and the designated Stayover Sunday.



CONTACT INFO

933 E FRIENDLY PINES RD
PRESCOTT, AZ 86303 USA

(928) 445-2128

(928) 445-6065

INFO@FRIENDLYPINES.COM

HTTPS://FRIENDLYPINES.COM

@FRIENDLYPINESCAMP

FRIENDLY PINES CAMP

