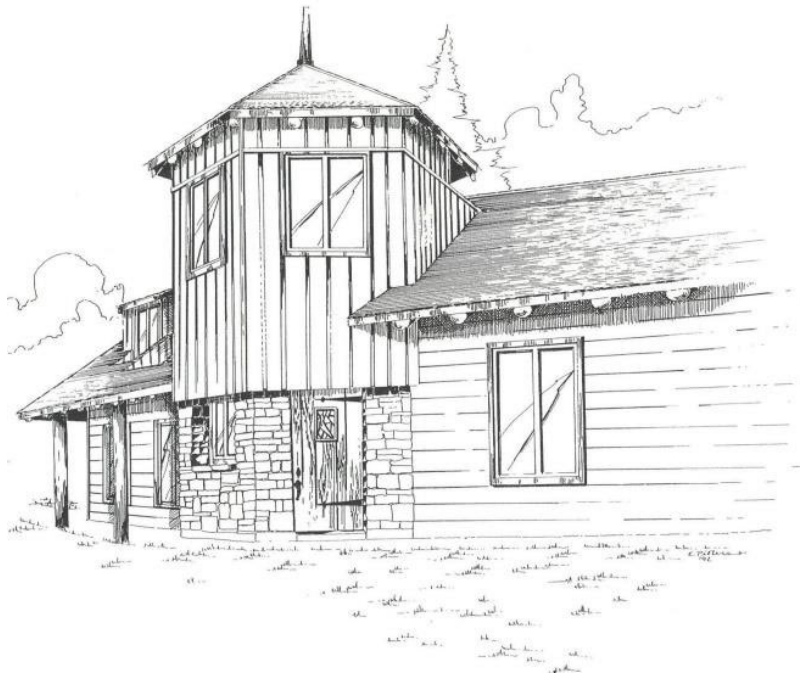




# YMCA Camp MacLean



## PARENT GUIDE

### SUMMER CAMP 2026



Dear Parents/Guardians:

Overnight summer camp is an experience that provides great benefits to youth and teens. As a state licensed and ACA accredited YMCA camp, we look forward to offering our campers a positive outdoor summer experience. We realize you have many choices when selecting summer activities for your child, and we thank you for considering YMCA Camp MacLean.

You have our promise that the physical and emotional welfare of your child drives our decision-making process. The practices outlined in this guide have been created with this commitment in mind.

There are questions that you may ask yourself as you choose a camp and prepare your child for time away from home: *What should we pack, can I visit my child, what health and safety practices does the camp follow, how are public health emergencies managed, can I send packages, what if my child is homesick?* We have



prepared this guide to help answer some of these important questions.

While this guide cannot be comprehensive enough to answer every question, we address topics that we think you want to know the most about. If you have questions that are not answered in our materials, please contact the camp office at 262-763-7742 or [campmaclean@ymcachicago.org](mailto:campmaclean@ymcachicago.org)

Sincerely,

YMCA Camp MacLean Directors

## HISTORY

In 1939, The M. Haddon MacLean Family made a generous gift to the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago in memory of their son, John Bartlett MacLean. This gift led to the creation of YMCA Camp MacLean, and in 1941, the very first group of youth began a summer tradition that carries on to this day. Located on approximately 160 acres of woodland and prairie fields in southeast Wisconsin, Camp MacLean is fortunate to provide youth and teens with the natural environment to foster skills that will serve him or her well into the future. 2026 will be our 85th year of camp.

One of the core missions of camp and the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago, is character development with a focus on helping youth develop in Spirit/Mind/Body. An overnight camp experience helps youth and teens further develop the life skills needed to be successful in key areas of life, including family, school, work, and peer relationships.

## CAMP GOALS AND PHILOSOPHY

Our mission is to provide campers with the opportunity to develop self-esteem & confidence, engage in small groups, create friendships, learn beneficial life skills, develop character, and provide unique activities that children & teens may only have a chance to do at camp.

To fit a wide range of budgets and schedules, parents can choose from camp sessions ranging from five days to two weeks in length. We find that two weeks at camp offers youth the opportunity to build relationships, achieve goals, and develop life skills beyond what can be accomplished in a shorter length of time. However, we also offer many one-week options or shorter length stays for families who are not yet comfortable with a two-week session. The camp schedule can be found in the registration form, online brochure, or on our website.

We strive to make camp a fun, active, life-learning experience for all our campers. The camp mission is achieved by providing challenging, fun activities such as swimming, climbing, boating, kayaking, sports, arts and crafts, archery, hiking, tent camping, and much more.

By giving campers, a choice in their activities and through cabin life, we provide an environment for campers to experience independence while also being supervised. This is what makes camp a successful tool for the overall development of a child. We encourage parents to remind campers that the counselors and staff are available to help guide them through the camp experience and that at any time they need assistance they should seek out a staff member.

Camp also provides parents with time away from the day-to-day tasks of parenting. We encourage parents to take advantage of this mini-break and to enjoy the time your child is at camp. Children often come home from camp excited that they were able to navigate the "camp world" using the life skills you have instilled upon them and are eager to move onto more advanced experiences as they get older.

## CAMP MACLEAN STAFF

The foundation of our camp program is the staff and counselors. Our full-time staff team is comprised of five directors & managers, who combined, have 90+ years of camp staff experience. Our five directors oversee all aspects of our operations, facilities, food service, and programs. Jeff Tremmel, our executive director, is in his 39<sup>th</sup> summer as a member of the Camp MacLean staff and has served as a full-time director since 1993. Rona Roffey, our Director of Camp Programs, has been a full-time resident camp director with the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago for 34 years. Rik Humphrey is a program director at Camp MacLean. Rik comes to us from Lake Geneva, WI. Rik served as the Waterfront Director at Camp MacLean between 2023 – 2025. Prior to 2023, Rik worked for four summers at YMCA Family Camp Nawakwa. Jeff, Rona, and Rik live on-site year-round and are available to support campers & parents. Chris Kraidich serves as our full-time facility manager, and Randy Brown is our full-time food service manager. Alexis Burnette serves as our registrar.

We maintain a 1:5 overall staff to camper ratio. Counselors live in a cabin with campers. Each cabin group has a college-age, senior counselor. Counselors are carefully chosen for their maturity, judgment, experience, and desire to work with children. Some cabin groups also have junior counselors. Junior counselors are high school seniors who are graduates of Camp MacLean's two-year Counselor-in-training program.

We understand that parents put tremendous trust in us. Our hiring protocols are designed to ensure that we are worthy of this trust. These protocols include annual background checks, advanced child safety training, and thorough reference checks. Our camp counselors are required to attend nine-day long training sessions prior to the arrival of campers. Our counselors agree to work within a framework of policies and practices that are designed to ensure a healthy camp community. Counselors are certified in first aid and CPR.

## HEALTH, WELFARE, SECURITY AND MEDICATION

The physical and emotional wellbeing of our campers is the single factor that directors and staff consider when it comes to our actions and our decision-making process. Camp MacLean is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA). This accreditation ensures that camp is putting into practice the highest standards and protocols set by and for the camping industry. All our activities operate under time-tested policies and procedures. Staff members live in the cabins with the campers and are trained in emergency and security procedures prior to the start of camp. The camp is a private facility. Parents and/or guardians must show a photo ID before they take their child off camp property. Directors are in constant communication with the nurse, supervisors, lakefront staff, and other activity areas. Fire/severe storm/emergency drills occur on the first day of each session. Camp MacLean consults with the Racine County Dept. of Emergency Management and the Racine County Sheriff Dept. regarding emergency preparedness.

As required by the ACA and the state of Wisconsin, Camp MacLean has protocols and training in place to manage building fires, wildfires, tornadoes, lightning, security issues, lost campers, and emergency evacuation. (See section on "Weather" for more information.) Burlington High School remains our emergency evacuation site. Counselors have the authority to take actions they deem necessary to keep their campers safe without having to get pre-approval from a director or manager.

Healthcare personnel live on site and are available to respond 24 hours a day. The camp maintains a well-equipped infirmary with restrooms and separate living quarters. We hire registered nurses licensed through the State of Wisconsin. Each camp session has at least

one RN assigned to live on site for the duration of the program. Our RN's set up specific office hours for non-emergency health needs.

Each camper must have a completed health history on file before the start of camp. The health history form is to be filled out by the parent/legal guardian. The health history is completed online via your camp registration account. We do request that each camper have on file a second form completed by your child's physician. This form will be sent to parents prior to the start of camp. While recommended, this second form is not mandatory. We do not require that campers undergo a physical exam by their physician before attending camp. However, physicians may require that a child undergo a physical before they complete our form.

Parents must also provide us with a signed "Terms & Conditions" form and a Facility Waiver found as part of the registration process.

If a camper has a chronic health issue, serious illness, or a medical emergency while at camp, the camp nurse or a full-time director will notify a parent. The healthcare staff works closely with local physicians at Aurora Medical Center – Burlington. The medical center is seven minutes from camp and is operated by Aurora Health Care. The medical center is home to doctor offices, an urgent care center, a 24-hour emergency room, and a hospital. Please note that the camp RNs operate under physician standing orders, and the RN's use their discretion in notifying parents of routine, non-emergency health treatments (i.e. stomach aches, non-injury headache, splinters, minor cut or scrapes). Our RN's typically do not notify parents of these routine health matters.

The camp health care staff keeps a variety of over-the-counter medications and health supplies on hand to treat common health concerns. All medications and/or supplements brought to camp whether they are over the counter, prescriptions, or vitamins, must be in the original container and/or packaging. Our camp nurses cannot distribute medication that is stored in pillboxes or plastic bags. This includes vitamins.

Apart from asthma inhalers and epi-pens, all medications are to be under lock and key at the health station and dispensed at the times indicated. If your child has an emergency inhaler or an epi-pen, he or she may hold onto that medicine during their time at camp. All campers must turn their medications over to the nurse on the first day of camp.

For the safety of all, the camp nurse cannot dispense medication if it is not on the camper's health history form(s). Campers and staff cannot bring CBD products to camp. This is not the same as FDA approved CBD medication.

Managing potential infectious disease outbreaks is part of our health care protocols. As such, we have instituted general hygiene and health practices throughout the years that lower the chance of large outbreaks. Our practices include frequent handwashing, daily health checks, nurse office hours, annual standing orders, cabin checks, and set dining hall procedures. We also communicate with our local health department on a regular basis. The Racine County Department of Public Health inspects camp each June as required by State of Wisconsin law.

## CAMPER BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

We work to make camp a positive atmosphere for children and teens. In addition to general camp rules and guidelines, each cabin group works with the counselors to establish rules for their small group.

Camp rules are very similar to what kids might encounter at home and school. Rules include: no bullying others, no fighting/hazing, show respect for other people and their property, do not use abusive or vulgar language, no threatening other campers or staff, no stealing, and no damaging camp property. Since most campers want to be at camp, we find that they are self-motivated to follow the camp rules. The counselors talk with campers who act against these rules. In some cases, the situation might require the involvement of the counselor's supervisor or camp director.

We prefer to work with our campers and not dismiss campers from camp early. However, some cases require us to dismiss a camper if their behavior consistently goes against the camp rules, is illegal, unmanageable, if they endanger themselves, if they put others in danger or if the camper requires an undue amount of attention from one or more staff members.

While we keep parents informed of behavior issues, some situations may require the camp director to dismiss a camper without prior parent notification. While extremely rare, in situations where the child's actions violate state laws, law enforcement will be notified.

In the rare instance that a child is dismissed from camp, parents are required to pick up their child within five hours of being notified. Emergency contacts as listed by the parent, may pick up their child from camp if the parents are more than five hours away. The camp executive director is the sole decider of whether to extend the five-hour pick-up rule.

Campers that purposely choose not to turn in cell phones or internet-based devices, risk dismissal from camp without notice. Please do not ask your child to hide cell phones or devices from camp staff. Campers are not to bring or use tobacco, vaping devices, alcoholic beverages, CBD products or recreational drugs of any kind and in any form.

## PREPARING FOR CAMP AND LIMITING HOMESICKNESS

If your child is a first-time camper, we recommend you and your child attend one of our camp webinars held in the spring. Reviewing the camp website or online brochure with your child and involving them in preparing for camp makes for a smooth transition.

Homesickness is not an illness but rather a normal, common, emotional experience for children at camp. Homesickness usually subsides when campers become more comfortable with their surroundings. On average, most kids at camp will self-manage any anxiety or homesickness on their own within 24-36 hours. There are many techniques that we employ to minimize the anxiousness campers may experience from being away from home. Campers are kept busy & active; the program is structured and full of activity from sunup until sundown. Campers are encouraged to develop friendships with other campers and to go to activities with a partner. We average a 1:5 staff to camper ratio. This ratio allows campers to have quality time with their counselors. Counselors provide campers with a positive and supportive atmosphere.

Our approach is that camp is a good place for kids to learn how to deal with the emotions linked to being away from home. Having a child call home to talk with parents about homesickness always leads to additional stress and worry. Because many kids will experience some homesickness at camp, we only notify parents if it becomes unmanageable. One way to try to limit the severity of homesickness is for parents to remind children how much fun they will have at camp and how many new friends they will make. Remind your child not to worry about family back at home, encourage them to go out and have a good time! Please do not promise your child that they can call home or provide them with a hidden phone to text you. This limits their ability to manage their emotions and does not coincide with camp procedures.

We understand that parents will miss their child and parents may be anxious. We assure you that the YMCA takes your child's well-being seriously and that the risks at camp are managed accordingly and with the seriousness required. We advise that parents use caution by telling your child how much you will miss them. Anxiousness from a parent will transfer to a child. The camp director's job is very difficult if a parent tells a child that they can call home if they miss their parents or want to come home. Camp directors rarely if ever dismiss a child for homesickness. With time, most children acclimate. Telling a child that you will call them, or they can call home, does not provide the child with the time to acclimate into camp.

## VISITING CAMP AND CAMPER TRANSPORTATION

Campers may travel to and from camp via our motorcoach service or by car with a parent or authorized adult. Except in cases where a camper is to depart early from a camp session, there will be no visitors allowed on site while campers are on camp. Only the executive director can authorize exceptions to this rule. If you pick up your child early from a session, please check-in at the main office upon your arrival. For all camp pickups, you will need to present a photo ID.

We offer motorcoach charter service at no additional charge. We encourage parents to use the charter bus service that departs from the Chicago area YMCA's. We have found that this is an easier way for parents to transition their children into an overnight camp. If our bus service is not practical, parents can choose to drop off or pick up their child. If you choose to drop off your child at camp, our check-in procedure is designed to help campers and parents feel comfortable with their surroundings.

Parents may tour around the camp facilities during check-in, but selecting and setting up your child's bed will be done with your child's counselor and cabin mates once all parents have departed. We will send a separate, specific packet out to all campers and their families regarding pick-up and drop-off times, transportation, etc. later in the spring.

If you would like to visit and tour our facility prior to the beginning of summer camp, you have two options: 1) Visit us during our spring open house on Sunday, April 19th from 1 to 5 pm. 2) Private tours are available by appointment only Monday through Friday between 8 am and 6 pm. Reservations for private tours are required; please contact the camp office to set up a private tour. We do not conduct private tours on weekends.

## Parent-in-the Chair Method (Camp Director and Parents)

As camp directors, we understand that sending a child away from home for an extended period is a unique and stressful experience for parents. We also understand that you are relinquishing control and security to the camp staff and placing a level of trust in us that is not found in other settings. We take this trust very seriously and manage our operations in accordance with state codes and ACA standards. We also utilize a methodology called "Parent-in-the Chair". This simply means that when we make decisions in camp, we always keep parents in mind and if the parents were sitting in a chair watching us work, they would be proud of the process we follow when making decisions. We cannot communicate every single issue or decision involving every camper, but we will always make decisions thoughtfully and carefully.

Camp directors will always call a parent if the situation they are managing is of a serious nature, or a situation requires parental support. Parents may always call camp and ask to speak or check in with a director. For same day response, these calls should occur between

8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Messages may be left 24/7 and directors will reply as soon as they are able to do so. Camp directors live on site. Camp directors do not text parents or reply to parent texts. Emails and phone calls are the best communication tool for the parent/camp director relationship.

We encourage parents to enjoy the time away from parenting when their child is at camp. Even if one has other kids at home, families benefit from quieter households for short periods of time. If you choose to travel out of the local area while your child is at camp, please notify the camp directors. This helps the directors with communication. Parents who travel internationally while their child is at camp must notify the directors prior to travel. We encourage parents to call camp directors prior to camp if they have questions about the summer program.

## COMMUNICATION (MAIL; SMARTPHONES; TECHNOLOGY)

Writing to campers is the best way to communicate to your child at camp. Campers love mail. It is a fun way for them to stay connected. We encourage limiting mail to a couple letters per session to not overwhelm the camper. Written communication is the ideal form that works best in a camp setting. We offer three options for parents to connect with their campers: 1) regular mail (preferred) 2) Bunk1 BunkNotes 3) Fax 262-763-9944. Please write your child's full name on the fax. All Bunk1 BunkNotes and fax letters are treated like private mail and distributed directly into the cabin mailbox. You do not need to write cabin names on mail. You will receive more information about Bunk1 BunkNotes in late spring. Camp MacLean does not post photos on bunk1 so please do not purchase add ons from bunk1 service regarding photos. Campers sometimes get so wrapped up in camp that they do not write letters home. While we encourage letter writing, we do not force campers to write.

Early in the camp session, parents may receive letters or postcards from their child indicating that they are sad or homesick. This is very common. Letters often become better as the session progresses. You may want to send self-addressed, stamped envelopes with your child to promote letter writing. Keep in mind that the tone of the letter makes a difference. Keep letters lighthearted and friendly. Anxious letters from parents or siblings may cause an undue amount of stress on campers. You are welcome to bring "pre-written" letters for each day and drop off at check in with the camp staff. The staff will be sure to distribute the letters daily. Care packages are allowed. While snacks are permitted, we ask that you do not send snacks with peanuts/tree nuts. Soda is not allowed in the camp; we recommend you do not ship beverages.

When mailing letters or packages, please use the following format:

"Camper Name"  
C/O YMCA Camp MacLean  
31401 Durand Ave  
Burlington, WI 53105

Campers will not have access to camp phones. Camp directors may make exceptions for unique, special circumstances. We highly discourage in person or phone conversation while children attend camp, as it does not allow campers to manage effectively the emotions experienced in being away from home.

Camp is a unique community-based environment. Youth camping continues to be built upon the idea that leaving the hustle and bustle of the world behind for a simpler setting makes us better people. The success of camp relies on connection to the natural world and a firm

understanding that face-to-face communication and full attention between community members is fundamentally important. The technological advances that we have been blessed with over the years compete with this philosophy. While technology is critically valuable, youth and teens are not fully developed adults and as such need time to develop skills that are not achievable through technology and are often taken for granted (i.e., face-to-face human interaction & dialogue, conflict resolution, community building, self-reflection etc.)

Due to this philosophy, the structure of our program, the number of youths in attendance, and several other factors, cell phones, tablets, smart watches (i.e. apple watches), and other internet-based devices are not available to campers. Campers will be asked to turn in these items on the first day of camp if they bring them to camp. These items will be returned to the child at the end of the camp session. If a child does not turn in their phone for any reason, he or she may be dismissed from camp without warning. We highly encourage parents to gradually reduce the time your child spends with technology a week or so prior to coming to camp so that they do not go from full use to no use. This abrupt change is hard for young people.

While this practice may be a challenging concept to understand, it is actually a very positive aspect for all involved and the reason camp is successful. Letting your child have space to live and practice on their own what you have taught them is a very positive and valuable experience and one that will serve them well as they get older. There are exceptions that directors make when it comes to phone calls and while not a common occurrence, directors have the authority to approve parent/child phone calls.

Camp counselors have policies governing how to manage their personal cell phones in camp. Camp counselors are trained and authorized to use their personal cell phones to call 911 at any time.

## CABIN ASSIGNMENTS/FRIENDS

Campers are assigned to cabin groups prior to the start of the session. Assignments are based on age, gender, and program. Cabins are assigned based on what gender the parent(s) indicate on the registration form. Per YMCA policy, campers are free to enroll in camp regardless of their gender identity. To ensure the most effective care, in the event of illness or injury, we encourage parents to indicate on the health form, the child's biological sex.

Many kids come to camp on their own. The program is designed to foster new friendships. Some kids may come to camp with a friend. If the friend is the same age or one age/grade apart, they will be placed together in the same cabin unless a parent indicates otherwise. There is a space on the registration form to list friends. We cannot honor the request if campers are two or more years apart in age. If a buddy request is not honored, you may not be notified in advance. Age limits set for programs are set and managed solely by the camp directors. While we try to honor requests for certain counselors, we cannot guarantee such assignments. We also cannot honor requests for cabins. Cabins are typically grouped by the following ages (Exceptions are determined by the camp director):

- 7 and 8 years old
- 9 and 10 years old
- 11 and 12 years old
- 13 and older

## PHOTOS

Apart from cabin photos posted on bunk1, Camp MacLean does not routinely post photos on social media or bunk1. We encourage parents to provide their child with a method of taking photos apart from smartphones or other internet-based devices. Campers are not allowed to take photos in the cabin unless supervised by a counselor.

## FOOD SERVICE

Camp MacLean has a strong history of providing quality food to our campers and staff. Our food service manager takes great pride in serving well-balanced, nutritious, and filling meals. Campers will find plenty to choose from at each meal. Meals are served via family style. Each cabin group sits together, with their counselor(s). Meals last about 45 minutes. Campers have time to relax, eat and socialize with their friends.

If your camper has severe food allergies or dietary restrictions, please provide the details in the online health history form. Our food service manager will make the necessary adjustments. Outside food from home is not allowed in the dining hall; The food service manager is authorized to grant exceptions. Camp MacLean does have procedures in place regarding tree nut, peanut and shellfish allergies. A copy of our peanut, tree nut & shellfish allergen procedures will be provided several weeks prior to camp or can be requested by email or phone: [campmaclean@ymcachicago.org](mailto:campmaclean@ymcachicago.org) or 262-763-7742

## BIRTHDAYS

Many campers celebrate their birthday while at Camp MacLean. Camp provides a birthday cake and special recognition for those celebrating a birthday at camp.

## PACKING, LOST AND FOUND, LAUNDRY

We have provided you with a packing list in this Parent Guide that recommends what your camper should bring to camp based upon how long they are staying with us. We encourage campers to bring clothes that can get dirty. Soft-sided luggage works well. Parents are encouraged to mark their camper's belongings with a name. During camp, lost items are gathered and throughout the week, we take time to return items. Any items left behind at camp will be returned if identified. Campers are responsible for their own belongings. We will hold all items left at camp for one month. We do our best to locate and return lost items. However, we will not reimburse families for lost clothing or other items brought to camp. Items are donated to local not-for-profit agencies after one month.

Campers need to bring enough clothing for the entire session. If campers enroll for multiple sessions, they must take clothing home to be washed on break weekends. The camp does not provide routine laundry service. Laundry services are reserved for those with health issues, bedwetting, emergencies, etc.

## ACTIVITY CHOICES FOR EXPLORER CAMPERS AGES (7-12)

Archery	Nature
Athletics	Teambuilding
Drama	Mt. MacLean Skyway and Climbing Wall
Group Games	Camp Crafts
Arts and Crafts	Soccer

Aquatic activities include swimming, canoeing, row boating, sailing, paddleboats, windsurfing, mask/fin/snorkel, and kayaking. We recommend parents consult the 2026 online program guide for greater details regarding our teen specialty programs.

## TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

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<b>7:15 a.m.</b>	Wake-up
<b>8 a.m.</b>	Breakfast Password (Thought for the day) Cabin Clean-up Cabin Activity
<b>10 a.m.</b>	Activity Hour #1
<b>11 a.m.</b>	Activity Hour #2
<b>12:15 p.m.</b>	Lunch
<b>1 p.m.</b>	Rest Period
<b>2:15 p.m.</b>	Activity Hour #3
<b>3:15 p.m.</b>	Activity Hour #4
<b>4:15 p.m.</b>	General Swim
<b>5:45 p.m.</b>	Supper
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Early Evening Program
<b>8 p.m.</b>	Late Evening Program Showers (when assigned)
<b>9 p.m.</b>	Devotion Get ready for bed
<b>9:15 p.m.</b>	Lights Out (7-12 year olds)
<b>9:30 p.m.</b>	Lights Out (13-16 year olds)

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## SWIMMING, BOATING AND SWIM ATTIRE

All campers will take a lake swim evaluation on the first day of camp. The purpose of the swim evaluation is to evaluate campers' skill and endurance in water so that they can be assigned to the proper water activities. Beginning and intermediate swimmers will have swimming activities to improve their swimming ability. Advanced swimmers will be able to sail, canoe, kayak, and windsurf. Beginning swimmers can use rowboats & paddleboats so long as they are with a staff member. Intermediate swimmers can use rowboats, flat bottom kayaks, independently.

All campers and staff wear life jackets when using any type of boat. Certified lifeguards supervise aquatic activities. No water activities happen without lifeguards in place and ready.

The swim evaluation is as follows:

- Advanced swim evaluation: equal to five pool lengths, multiple strokes required, water depth 10 feet, and tread water for 60 seconds.
- Intermediate swim evaluation: equal to two pool lengths, two strokes required, water depth 7 feet, and tread water for 30 seconds.

Everyone who swims during their stay at camp must be swim evaluated. We ask that female campers wear one-piece bathing suits or modest two-piece suits. Camp staff reserve the right to require campers to acquire swimwear more conducive to a camp environment.

## WEATHER

Summer weather in southeast Wisconsin is identical to northeastern Illinois. The executive director and/or the senior camp director monitor the forecast daily. In addition to online weather access, there is a NOAA weather radio in the director's office. Weather monitoring steps up in frequency when there is a hazardous weather outlook. The camp directors will adjust the camp schedule and activities as weather requires. Camp MacLean has procedures in place for lightning, tornado watches & warnings, severe T-storm watches & warnings, air quality, and flood watches & warnings. Please note that all sleeping cabins are approximately 50 feet above our lake's ordinary high-water mark. The Fox River is located 1.25 miles west of camp and shares a similar elevation with our lake. Camp MacLean does have basements available for emergency shelter in case of severe weather.

While it is summer and it will get hot from time to time, Camp MacLean has some stark differences than urban and suburban areas. First, we have a significant tree cover and the effect that has in the cabin area is noticeable. Secondly, the lake is a substantial asset when it comes to keeping campers cool and regulated. In addition, the amount of flora around camp absorbs the energy instead of reflecting it back like concrete does in urban and suburban areas. Our hot weather protocols are well managed and while they have stood the test of time, we are ready to adjust and make changes to our protocols as the situation requires. During hot weather spells we increase hydration and health monitoring. The nurses station is air conditioned.

## SPIRITUALITY & CAMP

The YMCA was founded on the idea that developing the spirit, mind, and body creates a well-rounded individual. Camping is a long-practiced YMCA tradition. Therefore, spirituality is an important component of camp. We have campers and staff from every major religious faith. Our purpose is not to change or instill upon campers any specific faith or belief. Our goal is to make every camper feel comfortable while still including the traditions of the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association). These traditions help foster character development and creativity in all people and commitment to think of others when it comes to our individual thoughts and actions. Grace is part of each meal, a thought for the day is held after breakfast, and a non-denominational chapel service is held on Sundays when camp is in session. In addition, each cabin has a short devotion held before lights out.

## BEDWETTING

We encourage campers to use the washhouse throughout the day. If a camper needs to go to the washroom in the middle of the night, he/she must notify a staff member. We have procedures for night-time bathroom breaks. However, from time-to-time bedwetting occurs. Staff members are trained to deal with bedwetting. First, measures are taken not to embarrass the camper. The sleeping bag and/or sheets/blankets will be cleaned and returned to the bed as quickly as possible. Preventative measures such as frequent bathroom breaks and limiting heavy fluid intake after supper work well. All campers have a bathroom break before bedtime.

## THE CAMP STORE

Camp provides campers with the opportunity to purchase snacks, apparel, and souvenirs. Campers should not bring cash to camp. Spending money is deposited into a camper's store account via our online registration system. Credit cards are charged at the time they are entered into the system. At the end of the camp session, the leftover funds are refunded to the credit card that was used on the account. While the credit card method is preferred, we also accept cash and personal checks for camper store accounts. **If cash, checks, or money orders are deposited into the account, unused funds are not refundable.**  
**Items available:**

Postcards	T-shirts & Sweatshirts
Flashlights	Stamps
Stuffed Animals	Camp Souvenirs
Insect Repellent	Candy, Ice Cream & Snacks

## PRE-SUMMER CAMP FORMS

Prior to summer you will receive a welcome packet via e-mail that includes:

- Doctor Camper Health Form 2 (Filled out by Physician)
- Facility User Agreement & Horseback waiver (if applicable)

As we get closer in time to your child's camp session, you will receive a final packet of information that includes details on transportation options, and any final details pertaining to your child's specific session. Payment for camp sessions will be due four weeks before your camper's arrival.

## CAMP INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS AND WEBINARS

We encourage families that are new to YMCA Camp MacLean to attend one of our camp webinars or our Open House. These meetings include information on programs, health and wellness, activities, transportation, etc. You may register for webinars online at [campmaclean.com](http://campmaclean.com)

- Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 7 p.m.
- Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 7p.m.

Come visit us at our Spring Open House: Sunday, April 19, 2026, from 1 to 5 p.m. **You do not have to RSVP for open house.**

YMCA Camp MacLean  
31401 Durand Avenue  
Burlington, WI 53105  
262-763-7742  
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## 2026 SUMMER CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT LIST

The following list are recommendations. Camp MacLean does not provide routine laundry service. We recommend that the camper's gear is marked well. Duffel bags or soft suitcases work the best. Campers are responsible for his/her own belongings. The 2026 Parent Guide contains more information regarding lost & found. If your child or teen is enrolled in a specialty camp (i.e., backpacking, LIT, CIT) an additional packing list will be sent closer to the time camp starts.

Recommended minimum clothing/bedding/gear:

	Four-day Camp	One-week Camp	Two-week Camp
T-Shirts	3	5	8
Long Sleeve Shirts	1	2	3
Shorts	3	4	7
Jeans/Pants	1	3	4
Sweatshirts	1	1	2
Pajamas	1	2	3

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Swimsuit (Camp MacLean recommends a one piece or modest two-piece bathing suit; 2 suits for 12 and older or for a two-week session)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 White T-Shirt (<b>optional</b> for Tie-Dye program)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Daily change of underwear, and daily change of socks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 pair of shoes (1 pair must be gym</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shoes) - 1 pair of beach shoes/sandals</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 pair of hard-sold shoes (for horse riders only)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 jacket or windbreaker</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 raincoat/poncho</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 hat</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Laundry bag</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 2 beach towels</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 large bath towels</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 wash cloths</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 bar of soap or shower gel</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrush</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant (age appropriate)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent (no aerosols)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sunscreen (spray on)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Kleenex</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Shower caddy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 1 twin size fitted sheet, 1 blanket, and 1 pillow or sleeping bag and pillow</li> </ul> |
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**Optional Items:** Flashlight and batteries, fishing gear, disposable camera, extra pair of eyeglasses or contacts, croaky for eyeglasses, stamps, self-addressed Envelopes, reading materials, card games, pen/pencil, sports gear, drawstring backpack (for shower time), wax or bands for braces, favorite stuffed animal.

**Campers cannot bring or have the following items:** Cell phones, computer games, kindles, iPods, iPads, smartwatches, etc. (YMCA Camp MacLean reserves the right to collect and hold all electronics including cell phones); any electronic device that can connect to the internet via WIFI or cellular networks; pets or emotional support animals (service animals are welcome); or guns, fireworks, weapons, or knives.

As a YMCA facility, Camp MacLean is a drug and alcohol-free environment. This includes e-cigarettes, vaping devices, and CBD oil supplements.