

## CAMP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### ABOUT SUMMER CAMP

- **Do you provide before or after-care supervision for camps?**
  - Yes! Extended Care options are available! *Once paid for parents/guardians can utilize extended care as much or as little as they'd like.*
  - **Half-Day PreK-Kindergarten Camp extended care:** \$35 for the week.
    - Morning only
    - 8:15 am to the start of camp at 9:30 am
  - **Full Day Camp extended care:** \$70 for the week.
    - Morning: 8:15am-start of camp at 9:30 am
    - Afternoon: 4:00 pm-4:45 pm
  - **Extended Care Drop-Off:**
    - Drop off your child between **8:15 am and 8:30 am.**
    - **After 8:30 am**, if you have not yet arrived, we will assume you will not be using extended care that morning. Extended-care campers will be occupied from 8:30 am until the start of camp at 9:30 am.
  - **Extended Care Pick-Up:**
    - Pick up your child between **4:30 pm and 4:45 pm.**
- **What if I'm late dropping off/picking up my child for Extended Care?**
  - After **8:30 am**, if you have not yet arrived, we will assume you will not be using Extended Care for that morning and the extended care group will leave the drop-off/pick-up site for their zoo destination. If you are late and cannot wait until 9:00 am to drop your camper off at our regular drop-off time, you can call one of the following numbers and we will do our best to try to connect your camper with the group.
    - 651-487-8271 (Brigid Murphy - Education Coordinator)
    - 651-724-4831 (Camp Como Cell Phone)
    - 651-487-8272 (Reservations)

- **Will my child get to be close to zoo animals?**
  - There may be some opportunities for campers to have an up-close experience with animals at Como. All animals will be handled by our trained staff. Campers will be expected to be respectful of the animals but are not required to be near an animal if they are uncomfortable.
  
- **My child has a disability and needs accommodations. How can I request specific accommodations?**
  - Como Zoo and Conservatory is committed to providing reasonable modifications to policies and programming to ensure people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate. If your child has a disability and needs accommodations, please make sure to indicate as such in your camp paperwork under the question “Is there anything you would like us to know” and/or email [Comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:Comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
  
- **Does my child get a camp t-shirt?**
  - Yes! Each camper will receive one complimentary camp t-shirt per summer when they arrive on their first day of camp. It is the expectation that campers will wear their camp shirt each day they attend camp as t-shirts serve as group identifiers and nametags. If you would like an additional shirt they will be available to purchase.
  
- **Do you cancel Camp Como because of the weather?**
  - No- in case of inclement weather, campers will spend time with indoor-only activities. The location of Drop Off and Pick Up may change, however, and parents will be notified under those circumstances.

### Registration

- **How do I register for Camp Como?**
  - Camp Como Registration is handled online [HERE](#). Once you select the camp you’d like and want to register, you will be taken to the Rec Trac webpage. You will need to click the Sign In/Register button in the upper right-hand corner to get started, enter a username and password, as well as enter your contact information and add your campers to your household.



- **Which grade should I register my child for?**
  - Campers should be registered for camps in the grade they will be entering in the fall. For example, a child entering 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in the fall should sign up for 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> grade camps.
- **Can I register my child for an older or younger camp?**
  - No. Camp spaces are limited, and to provide age-appropriate instruction and activities to campers, please only register your camper for the correct age groups.
- **How do waitlists work since the camp I want is sold out?**
  - Waitlists are managed on a first-come, first-served basis. If/when camp spots open parents will be contacted based on their location on the waitlist. If you need to remove your child from the waitlist, please let us know at [comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
- **Do you have a multiple-child discount?**
  - We do not offer a multi-child discount.
- **Do you have Scholarships available for Camp Como?**
  - Yes! You can find out more information about how Camp Scholarships work and fill out a form on our website [HERE](#).

### Preparing for Camp

- **How do I drop off and pick up my child for camp?**
  - The Drop-Off and Pick-Up area is located at the [Historic Entrance of the Conservatory](#).
  - Drop-Off:
    - Campers should be dropped off between **9:00-9:30 am**.
  - Pick-Up:
    - Half Day Preschool/Kindergarten campers should be picked up between **12:00 – 12:30 pm**.



- Full Day campers should be picked up between **3:30-4:00 pm**.

*We cannot guarantee that camp staff will be at the site before or after these times.*

- Adults picking up campers will be required to **show ID** and be on the Approved Adult pick-up list.
- **What do I do if I'm running late to drop off/pick up my child?**
    - You can call our camp cell phone at 651-724-4831.
  - **What do I do if I need to pull my child out of camp early?**
    - If you know ahead of time, you can email us at [comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us)
    - You can also call:
      - 651-487-8271 (Brigid Murphy - Education Coordinator)
      - 651-724-4831 (Camp Como Cell Phone)
      - 651-487-8272 (Reservations)
  - **Does my child bring their own snacks and lunch?**
    - Yes- campers should bring their own peanut-free and nut-free snacks (and lunches if in a full-day camp), as well as a refillable water bottle. Due to the high prevalence of food allergies, Como does NOT provide snacks for campers. Refrigeration is not available.
    - Campers who are attending a half-day PreK/K camp should pack two snacks but not a lunch.
  - **How should I inform you if my child has allergies, medical conditions, or other special needs?**
    - Please disclose all participant allergies, medical conditions, or other special needs during registration under the question: "Is there anything you would like us to know". To discuss concerns or potential accommodations, please contact [comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:comoeducation@ci.stpaul.mn.us).
  - **What do I do if my child has medication they need to take during camp?**

- All medications, including prescription and over-the-counter medication, are required to have a signed medication authorization form filled out and signed by a parent or guardian.
  - Como Zoo staff may administer oral, topical, or inhaled medication. Medications that are considered invasive in nature (i.e. injections, suppository, etc.) will not be administered by Como staff.
  - Medication must be in its original container which has an identifiable label. Participants are prohibited from sharing any medication, including over-the-counter medication, with another participant.
- **What if my child is sick or is unable to attend camp for another reason?**
    - Children should only attend camp if they can participate in activities with reasonable comfort. If your child is feeling unwell, we encourage you to keep your child at home. To let us know your camper will not be attending camp that day you can call:
      - 651-487-8272 (Reservations)
      - 651-487-8271 (Brigid Murphy - Education Coordinator)
      - 651-724-4831 (Camp Como Cell Phone)
- **What if my child has separation anxiety?**
    - It is perfectly normal for young children to be anxious about camp. If this is your child's first time away from you or if you know your child tends to have a difficult time with separation, it is helpful to prepare them for the experience prior to the first day of camp. One way you can do that is through Como's Social Narrative provided [HERE](#). Most campers, even the ones that have a difficult time at sign-in, love camp. Rest assured; we will contact you if there are any issues.
- **Is there anything my camper should not bring?**
    - Please have your camper leave cellphones, electronic devices, and toys at home.
- **How does Como utilize photos taken of campers?**
    - Saint Paul Parks and Recreation uses photography and video recordings to document and promote activities. Participation in a recreation activity serves as your consent to use such photographs or recordings unless you indicate otherwise to Parks and Recreation staff.



- If you would like to opt out of having your child photographed during camps, please call us at 651-487-8272 or email [comoeducaton@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:comoeducaton@ci.stpaul.mn.us).

