



Camper/Parent Handbook 2025



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June 11 – August 15, 2024

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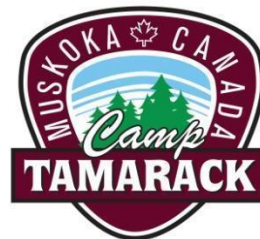
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Camp TAMARACK Camper/Parent Handbook



About Our Camp

Just Around The Corner

It's hard to believe that Summer 2025 is just around the corner! Rick, Ellen and Danny, our Leadership Team and many of our Camp staff have been hard at work to ensure the Tamarack family stays as safe and healthy as possible, while of course also planning fun, challenging and exciting programs, hiring terrific new and returning staff and building towards what will be an amazing Summer 2025!

Camp Tamarack Mission:

Camp Tamarack fosters an inclusive environment, where campers and staff discover their authentic selves, grow and develop independence and life skills, while creating memories and connections to last a lifetime.

Camp Tamarack Philosophy

Since 1981, Camp Tamarack has earned the confidence and loyalty of thousands of campers, parents and staff. Tamarack's large private property, surrounding a pristine lake, is the magical setting for the building of skills, friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.

Tamarack has a unique, challenging and fun premise that is appealing to campers and parents. We provide our 7-16 year old campers with an exciting and unparalleled summer camp experience. We strive not only to expose them to an amazing blend of opportunities and programs, but also to build each camper's self-esteem, confidence and independence. Teaching campers to be team players and an integral part of the Tamarack community goes hand in hand with recognizing that each camper is an individual with unique needs and goals.

Tamarack's 5 Pillars:

- TEAMWORK
- RESPECT
- RESPONSIBILITY
- PERSEVERANCE
- CONFIDENCE

It is Tamarack's goal to weave these 5 pillars into all aspects of the Tamarack Experience.



Creating A Welcoming Environment

A welcoming environment feels safe. Tamarack strives to create a space where campers, staff and families can find themselves represented and reflected and where they understand that all people are treated with respect and dignity.

Inclusion at Camp Tamarack

Camp Tamarack is committed to providing excellence and accessibility in its camp programming to campers and staff. Services will be provided in a manner that respects the dignity and independence of campers, staff, families and guests. Persons with exceptionalities will be welcomed, included and supported at the camp, and the camp

will endeavour to meet the special needs of such individuals to the best of its abilities. The provision of services to persons with exceptionalities will be integrated wherever possible. The camp promotes equity of opportunity to those with exceptionalities and will provide support systems when necessary and where reasonably possible, to facilitate equal access to obtain, use or benefit from the goods and services offered by and on behalf of Tamarack.

Recognizing that prejudice, discrimination, and stereotyping are prevalent in society, we are dedicated to the creation of a safe, secure space for those seeking services with us. It is the policy of Camp Tamarack to maintain and promote a community and facility that provides the highest quality of services to our campers regardless of their actual or perceived gender identity or sexual orientation. We encourage the parent(s) or guardian(s) of any transgender, trans* and gender non-conforming campers to contact one of the Camp Directors to discuss a support plan and the commitments to inclusion made by Camp Tamarack and how we can best welcome and support your camper(s).

Camp Tamarack has taken steps to foster a safe environment for LGBTQ+ campers including:

- Providing camp staff training on inclusive language
- All-gender washrooms and private showers available
- Encouraging campers and staff to share pronouns

The Tamarack Team

We are delighted by the number of parents, campers and fellow staff who have provided us with such positive feedback about our counselling, activity, administrative and leadership team for Summer 2025! We are thrilled that many great experienced Tamarack staff are returning and that some terrific new staff members, with fresh ideas and enthusiasm, are on board for Summer 2025!

Camp Director/Owner - Rick Howard

Rick, with a decade in business law, is the Director/Owner of Camp Tamarack. His skills in organization, humor, and rapport with campers, staff, and parents shine in his roles as a parent, grandparent, coach, and teacher. With a camp history from counsellor to director, Rick is a dedicated volunteer and leader in Ontario Camping, having served as President of the Ontario Camps Association

Camp Director/Owner - Ellen Howard

Ellen, known for her passion, creativity, and leadership, has held diverse roles such as a teacher, swim professional, and camp director. At Camp Tamarack, she focuses on waterfront activities, health & safety, and program planning. Ellen especially loves her role as “grammie”. Ellen is dedicated to volunteering with the Ontario Camps Association and co-chairing community programs like Out Of The Cold

Camp Director - Danny Goodman

Danny is a highly respected educator in York Region and an experienced camp professional. No matter what the challenge, Danny is instrumental in making the camp season successful for Tamarack campers, staff and families. Danny is respected and appreciated by the Tamarack community for his professionalism, empathy, intelligence, adaptability and calm nature. He is a natural leader who we look forward to working with for many years to come!

Assistant Director/Outdoor Education Director - John Hannant-Minchel

As Assistant Director/Outdoor Education Director, John has helped us to recruit top-notch staff for Summer 2025. John looks forward to working closely with the staff team throughout the summer, including overseeing staff support, duties, days off and recreation. We are also excited that John is continuing in his full-time role as

Tamarack's Outdoor Education Director, where he will help oversee both our spring and fall group programs. In addition to his work at Tamarack, John actively volunteers with the Ontario Camps Association, serving on the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, Conference, and Outdoor Education (as Co-Chair) committees, and with the Canadian Camping Association on the National Partnership and Communications committees.

Camp Administrator & Business Manager - Mitch Pichosky

Mitch, an Ivey Business School graduate, is a key member of the year-round Tamarack staff. Known in the Tamarack community for his long tenure, organization and personability, Mitch is our well-respected Camp Administrator & Business Manager. He excels in communication with Tamarack families and provides invaluable support to Rick, Ellen, and Danny and the entire team.

Head Counsellor/Wellness Coordinator - Holli Rosenblatt

Holli has an extensive background as an educator, camp professional and Tamarack parent (kids Ryan, Abby and Emily (husband Adam)), as well as her incredible job over past summers in the combo role of Wellness Coordinator and Head Counsellor. Holli will again be overseeing and working closely with our unit head team, counsellors, campers and families in making Summer 2025 truly incredible!

Head Counsellor - Leah Berson-Weinberg

Returning for her 20th summer, after her successful tenure as a much respected Juniper and Hawthorn Unit Head, Leah is back in her role as the Assistant Head Counsellor! Leah will bring her valuable camp leadership experience and skills as a professional teacher in supporting Holli, our unit heads and counselling and supporting the unit team, counsellors and campers.

Head of Activities - Jeff Kahn

Jeff utilizes his impressive skill set as an alumni, experienced senior camp leader and professional teacher to help strengthen all of our incredible activities. Jeff will be supporting, overseeing and working closely with our activity heads and support staff in helping take all of the activities in Summer 2025 to a whole new level!

Full-Time Camp Social Worker - Lindsay Ross

Lindsay, our Camp Social Worker, will continue to bring her extensive social work, camp and parenting expertise in working collaboratively with our staff, campers and families to help support them with whatever their needs are.

Health Team

We are so fortunate to have an outstanding Health Care Team at Tamarack. The team is made up of rotating doctors, 2 full-time nurses and 2 full-time health care providers (i.e. student nurses). Dr. Mark Appelby, Dr. Hayley Hoffman, Dr. Cristina Pastia, and Dr. Renee Potashner makes up the experienced doctor team. We are excited to welcome back nurses Krystal Edwards, Carl Leushuis and Lindsay Shortt and additional experienced nurses to Tamarack, Cassandra Castro, Alissa Meeiros, Kendra Hurst, Sherry Shortt and Sadhikshya Kari.

Facility/Maintenance Team

Tamarack has the best Facility Director in the industry – Glen Nelson. This will be Glen's 17th year with Tamarack. Glen, along with Jake (Assistant Facility Director), Amanda Orchard (Cleaning Supervisor) and the rest of the team, are committed to keeping Tamarack beautiful, safe and clean. They have been working diligently during the off-season on a number of projects.

Counsellors/Specialty Staff

We are thrilled with our talented and kid-oriented Summer 2025 staff team, comprising both returning and new counsellors and specialty staff. Our rigorous hiring process involves reviewing thousands of resumes, conducting hundreds of interviews, and checking numerous references to ensure we maintain the exceptional staff that Tamarack is known for. We prioritize finding staff who not only fit well within the camp but also align with our high expectations, resulting in a dedicated and professional team appreciated by parents, campers, and fellow staff members.

All of our staff are thoroughly trained. They are required to study our staff manual, and to attend staff training both prior to camp and during the week immediately before camp. By the time the campers arrive, our staff are ready to roll! We appreciate the great feedback about our dedicated and professional staff from parents, campers and fellow staff members. It means so much to us that our staff are recognized for their caring nature, hard work and overall commitment.

Stuff You Need To Know!

Be In Good Form...Send Us Your Forms Online!

In addition to this Summer 2025 Camper/Parent Handbook, there are important forms that must be reviewed/filled out (as applicable) and received by the Camp on behalf of each camper by no later than June 15, 2025, including:

- ☐ Camper Health & Individual Needs Form
 - ☒ *If a life-threatening allergy has been indicated this additional form is required – Emergency Allergy Alert Form (part of the health form)*
- ☐ Camper Wellness Intake Form (in camper CampBrain account)
- ☐ Camper Swim Form (in camper CampBrain account)
- ☐ Camp Tamarack Medical Form Waiver 2025 (in camper CampBrain account)
- ☐ Camper Code of Conduct (in camper CampBrain account)
- ☐ Bunk1 Information Sheet

Log into your family account [here](#) to access and complete all of the required forms. Please note that a separate form is required for each camper that will be attending Camp Tamarack.

Handbook, Question & Answer Summary and Newsletters

This handbook (and newsletters which will follow) contains important information that parents and campers need to know for the first (and every!) day of camp. Please read this material carefully to ensure the enjoyment and well-being of your camper(s) and that every day of camp is safe, efficient and terrific!

Our Commitment to Your Family

Health, Safety and the Environment

Camp Tamarack prioritizes safety and health in accordance with accreditation standards and regulations set by the Ontario Camps Association and the Health Protection and Promotion Act for Recreational Camps 568/90. Infection control procedures are prominently displayed in designated areas, along with Emergency Alert information for any camper with individual anaphylaxis plans. Allergy charts are visible in food preparation areas and provided to unit heads, counsellors, and activity staff. Parents/guardians are expected to accurately communicate their child's medical history, including mental health challenges, conditions, and healthcare

providers. This information enables the camp to understand each child's needs and effectively address them with the support of trained professionals

General Immunization Information

One of the highlights of summer camp is its highly communal and social atmosphere. However, these very traits also mean that illnesses and contagions can spread rapidly within the camp community. Ensuring the health and well-being of your child, fellow campers, staff, and individuals in the wider community who may come into contact with our camp is our utmost priority and responsibility. Therefore, it is crucial that you provide the Camp with accurate information regarding your child's immunization history. The Ontario Ministry of Health provides clear recommendations to families, and you can access the recommended immunization schedule [here](https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-routine-immunization-schedule)

Important Vaccine Information

The Camp Health Team highly recommends that all campers and staff receive immunization vaccines, including, Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Pertussis, Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, Meningococcal C Conjugate and Chicken Pox. If a camper has not been vaccinated or follows an unconventional vaccination schedule, you must indicate this on the camp health form immunization record section. For those campers who have been vaccinated, please ensure that the date and dosage of the vaccine are included.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/ontarios-routine-immunization-schedule>

The Camp makes no judgment as to whether your camper is or is not vaccinated, but you, as the parent/guardian must understand that If a disease like measles (or any other disease targeted by Ontario's vaccination program) is discovered at camp, the Camp is required to send home any unvaccinated camper or camper who has not provided proof of vaccination (vaccine record not complete) for a prescribed period of isolation (i.e. measles, 21 days). This removal from camp will likely involve transportation, childcare, accommodations and other expenses to be borne by the guardian of the affected camper(s). No adjustments (i.e. reimbursement/credit) related to the camp fees will be provided in such circumstances.

Auto-Injectors/Asthma Inhalers

If your child requires an auto-injector and/or asthma inhaler at Camp, please indicate this on the Camper Health & Individual Needs Form. Your camper will need to carry one auto-injector and/or asthma inhaler in a fanny pack at all times. Additionally, we ask that you provide a second auto-injector/asthma inhaler to be kept by the Camp medical team in the Health Centre. Our staff undergo training by the medical team to ensure they are equipped to handle situations where an auto-injector may need to be administered



The **Emergency Allergy Alert form**, which can be found in your campers' CampBrain account, is required for all campers who require auto-injectors at camp. This form requires a current picture of your camper. This form will be displayed in the health centre to help Tamarack quickly identify those children who have auto-injectors. All of our program staff members receive training on your camper's Emergency Allergy Alert Plan to be prepared for a situation where the auto-injector or inhaler must be used.

The Mental Wellness Form

This form is available through CampBrain and is intended to enable parents/guardians to provide the camp with important information necessary for the camp to partner with you and ensure the Camp is best meeting your child’s mental health needs.

Camp Tamarack Mental Health Guidelines

Our campers’ and staff’s mental health is something that we take very seriously at Tamarack. Lindsay Ross (our camp social worker) reviews every mental wellness form submitted prior to the start of camp. She will reach out to parents if requested by the parents, or if any additional consultation is needed. Our priority is to ensure the safety and emotional wellbeing of your camper(s) while they are at camp. We are committed to creating a plan of care if needed, with cooperation of the guardians, to help ensure a safe and successful summer.

While we do have Lindsay as a mental health support at camp at all times, and provide mental health support training to all our staff, should a camper need support that goes beyond what Tamarack can safely provide, or should a situation escalate where we can no longer safely find a resolution for the camper, Tamarack will contact the Guardian and will move towards dismissing the individual from camp. The Guardian will be expected to work with Tamarack to create a safe and quick exit plan. Situations may include, but are not limited to self-harming behaviours such as cutting, burning, food restrictions, suicidal thoughts/comments or attempts.

The Health Centre

Tamarack has a fully equipped Health Centre on site, staffed by an amazing team of healthcare professionals. The Health Centre, which is located in the center of camp across from the dining hall, will have daily clinics after breakfast and dinner. Camper medications will be distributed before breakfast and dinner at the tent located on the Clock Tower hill. If a camper requires medication at a different time, a member of the health team will make a note and arrange with the camper and their counsellor to visit the Health Centre at a designated time to get their medication. Campers are encouraged to visit the Health Centre at clinic time if they are not feeling well or need something checked. The nearest hospital is located in Bracebridge should additional medical support be required.

Communication from the Health Centre

The Camp’s medical team will likely not need to contact you while your child is at camp. However, there are a few situations when one of the directors and/or medical team members may need to contact you regarding a medical concern. The Camp will call you if your child stays in the Health Centre for more than 24 hours for a specific health reason, is prescribed medication by the camp doctor, or needs to go to the hospital for any reason. There are many minor issues, such as cuts, scrapes, topical treatments, or short-term illnesses that do not require medication, that the medical team can handle without needing to contact you. If the Camp needs to call home, the Camp will make attempts to reach you and will be sure to leave a very detailed message on your voicemail. In the event that we are unable to contact you or you do not respond to the detailed message and the medical team determines that they must go ahead with a certain medication or medical protocol, we will proceed in the best interests of your child. You can be confident that our team of doctors, nurses and first-aiders will work diligently to make sure Tamarack is as safe and healthy an environment as possible.

Camper Medications & How to Send Them to Camp



Our team of medical professionals strive to provide our campers and staff with the highest quality of medical attention throughout the camp season. Should your camper require medication(s) while at camp, please indicate this on the Camper Health and Individual Needs Form.

We require that all medications be sent in their original containers with original labels and dispensing information. The dispensing information should also be indicated on the Camper Health & Individual Needs Form. We recommend that medication be sent in blister packs, which can be arranged with your local pharmacy. Any changes to the medication instructions from what is indicated on the original label must be communicated in written form to the Camp. In addition, all medications that are brought to camp must be kept in the Health Centre. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact the office.

Place all of your camper's medication in an appropriately sized Ziploc bag that is clearly labelled with your camper's name and follow the instructions below for having your camper's medication(s) sent to camp safely: PLEASE NOTE: Medications, prescription or over the counter, will be administered only if they are properly labeled by a pharmacist or physician in their original containers with names of medication and dosage. All medical information will be disclosed, in addition to medical staff, to other appropriate staff at camp for the safety and protection of your child. Please ensure that you review your camper's health form and all medical information (including medication required and dosage) is updated and for returning campers, not related to past summers

First Session, Acorn 1, Acorn 2, Extended First, Full Season Campers and Acorn 3/4/5/Second Session Campers

- Medications must be dropped off at the Baggage Depot in accordance with the baggage drop-off schedule
- A Tamarack Healthcare member will be located at a table labelled **Camper Meds** for you to drop off your medication bags
- All medications will be safely transported to Camp and given directly to our Healthcare team for organization and safe storage in the Health Centre
- Please only send prescription medication as all meds such as Advil, Benadryl, etc are available to be provided by the Health Centre

Meeting Before Camp

If necessary, we will be pleased to set up a Zoom appointment or phone call, involving a member of the Camp Health Care staff, senior staff, counsellors, the camper in question and/or parent(s) with respect to a particular camper's health issues and/or special needs.

Being Sun Safe!

We are extremely conscious of protecting campers from possible negative effects of the sun. In fact, many campers get tired of hearing our staff reiterating the Tamarack "Safe Sun Rules" posted throughout camp. Please ensure that you send your camper(s) with a proper sunhat, sunscreen lotion and water bottle that are clearly labelled. Staff will be trained to ensure that campers wear their sunhats and apply sunscreen at regular intervals during the day. Please ensure the sunscreen is both waterproof and contains a minimum SPF 50. Campers will not be allowed to share sunscreen due to concerns about allergies and cross contamination. Please practice with your children at home prior to camp the proper, safe way to apply sunscreen to their different body parts (eg face is different from legs).

Keeping all of our campers hydrated is also a priority for us – our state of the art water filtration system provides our campers and staff with delicious and high-quality purified Muskoka drinking water. There are several water fountains and stations located throughout camp to ensure campers can stay hydrated throughout the day. Bottled water is not required and should not be sent to camp. Please send your camper with their own reusable water bottles (or purchase a new Tamarack reusable Nalgene at the tuckshop!). Water bottles will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis.

Lice –No Nit Policy

In keeping with Camp Tamarack's primary goal of ensuring a safe and healthy camp environment, we follow a "No Nit Policy" when it comes to sending campers to camp. This policy dictates that campers should not attend if they have head lice, including adult lice, nymphs or lice eggs.

We kindly request your partnership in ensuring the well-being of all campers and staff by having your child professionally checked for head lice within 5 days prior to camp. A lice check takes less than 10 minutes and should lice be found, appropriate treatment can be started at the lice clinic, then continued at camp. Tamarack will not be doing routine lice checks upon arrival at camp. Should lice be detected at camp, Tamarack will treat your child on site (at a cost to the applicable family of \$150.00 per camper). While head lice are not a health risk, they can easily spread in close quarters. Your cooperation in helping us maintain a lice-free camp is greatly appreciated.

Mosquitoes, Black Flies and Insect Repellent



Protecting our campers from the "bugs" is a priority for us. Since most mosquitoes and black flies come out at dusk, we encourage our campers to apply insect repellent especially after dinner and before the evening program. In Canada, most insect repellents contain Deet with varying concentration levels. For campers under the age of 12, it is recommended that the Deet concentration be 10% or lower. For campers 12 years of age and older, a Deet concentration up to 30% is acceptable. As the summer draws closer, you may hear the term West Nile virus in the media. West Nile virus is a virus typically transmitted to people through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most people infected with the virus have no symptoms or they have flu-like symptoms. Please note that the risk of West Nile virus infection is low, and the risk of serious health effects from the virus is even lower. In addition to having our campers and staff apply repellent, we take several steps to reduce the mosquito populations around camp by eliminating areas where standing water can collect as it is a prime mosquito breeding ground. Please practice with your children at home prior to camp the proper, safe way to apply insect repellent to their different body parts (eg face is different from legs).

Food and Special Diets

We are excited to welcome back Express Food Services which will be responsible for again providing Camp Tamarack with excellent, professional and experienced camp food service. Thought has gone into assembling an excellent kitchen staff team and planning an amazing menu...delicious meals, healthy alternatives, great options for those with dietary restrictions, food to match creative programs, all you can eat... we are looking forward to continuing our top-notch catering program that Tamarack loves! If your child has a specific dietary need (lactose intolerance, vegetarian, kosher, etc.), please fill out the appropriate areas on the Camper Health & Individual Needs Form. If you would like to speak to Holli (Wellness Coordinator) prior to camp, please send an email to info@camptamarack.info and request a call. We look forward to meeting your child's dietary needs in a delicious way!

Cabin Assignments

Cabin assignments are finalized as we get close to the start of the camp season. Each camper has the opportunity to request cabinmates on their camper application form, and we make every effort to accommodate these requests. While we understand that many campers come to camp to be with their friends, we also emphasize the importance of forming new friendships during their time at camp. Our goal is to set up each camper for success and prevent cliques and feelings of exclusion from a group. Please trust us to do our job in creating the best cabin groups possible.



Buddy Up Program (First Time/Reluctant Camper)

We recognize that going to camp for the first-time camper who may not know anyone can be a source of some stress. For that reason, we strongly encourage you to contact the Camp office as soon as possible to ask to be part of our Buddy-Up Program. We will do our best to contact another camper's family and provide both parties with the appropriate contact information so that hopefully the campers can speak on the phone or meet in advance. Our experience with the Buddy Up program is that campers feel a sense of comfort knowing someone prior to arriving at Camp. In the event that you don't contact us to be part of the Buddy Up program, our awesome staff members will ensure they "buddy-up" each camper upon arrival.

Communicating With The Camp Office

TELEPHONE: Our phone lines are always open. Whether you have a question, concern or simply want to check in with us to see how your camper is doing, you can be sure that you will have the opportunity to speak with a Camp staff member or to leave a message that will be returned as promptly as possible. There are times throughout the day that we are busy at meals, at programs or simply out of the office and doing what we do best, interacting with the campers, so please feel free to leave a message on our 24-hour confidential voicemail. Our voicemail is checked several times throughout the day and we will do our best to return your phone call within 24 hours. Mitch, our Camp Administrator, and the rest of our friendly and knowledgeable office staff, will be able to answer most of your questions and/or direct your call to the appropriate person.

SCAN OR FAX: There may be times throughout the summer that you need to pass something along to us in writing (travel plans, updated contact info, etc.). If this is the case, feel free to scan such documents to info@camptamarac.info or use the Camp's office fax number at 705-645-3996. Please attach a fax cover sheet indicating the name and cabin of your camper(s).

E-MAIL: Parents wishing to communicate via the Camp office e-mail info@camptamarack.info may do so. Please be aware that we will do our best to respond as soon as possible. If the matter is of an urgent nature, please call the camp.

- Our Toronto Office will close on Friday, June 6, 2025
- If you need to contact us after Friday, June 6, 2025, please call 705-645-4881.

Camp Contacting Parents of New Campers

We know that parents of new campers are often anxious to know how their children are adjusting to camp...often much more anxious than the kids themselves, who are having a great time! One of our senior team members will attempt to be in touch with every new camper's family within approximately 72-96 hours of their arrival at camp. We will also be in touch again with Acorn campers' families about halfway through their registered session, as many will request the opportunity to extend their stay at camp! Please plan ahead to book an extension of your camper's stay when they want more because they are thriving at Tamarack!

Safety & Security

Safety and security are always a main and central focus of Camp Tamarack's operational plan. We will continue to emphasize that guests and visitors are required to check in at the Camp office and receive and wear a lanyard with "Visitor" to identify that they are welcomed and sanctioned. The Camp staff are trained to watch for, and to report, any unfamiliar visitors. In an effort to update security measures, the Camp has consulted with the local Bracebridge O.P.P., other camps, Ontario Camps Association (OCA) and security experts. We are working on additional security and surveillance measures to help deter unexpected visitors/trespassers. In addition, we will of course be reviewing in staff training, different emergency procedures including fire, missing person and intruders. We will continue to review the Camp's policies and procedures on an ongoing basis to take all reasonable steps to enhance the safety and security of the Tamarack community.

Tamarack-tivities & Program

The Hawthorn, Juniper and Sequoia Day

On regular Mondays through Saturdays, our 7 to 14 year old campers will experience and enjoy the following:

- ✓ One swim instruction period
- ✓ Two cabin group activity periods
- ✓ Two individual choice/specialty periods Please check our website www.camptamarack.info for the full range of exciting programs and activities which Tamarack campers can and do enjoy!

Elder Camper Day

Our Elder campers are in an exciting transition phase working toward the opportunity to become Camp Tamarack staff! In addition to their involvement in Camp Tamarack's array of activities, Elder campers gain invaluable experience through various leadership training opportunities, while enjoying the Full Season 7 week period (Pre-CITs also have a 5 ½ week period option), as follows:

Pre-CITs

The Pre-CIT campers (finishing Grade 9) will enjoy a blend of individual choice activities, as well as leadership training and cabin placements. The Monday to Saturday Pre-CIT program highlights include:

- ✓ One daily swim instruction period
- ✓ One-two individual choice/cabin period(s)
- ✓ Half-day cabin/activity placement
- ✓ Additional leadership workshops, training and feedback

CITs

While having the chance to participate in a variety of Tamarack activities, our CITs (finishing Grade 10) are primarily focused on developing and refining the skills necessary to become top-notch Tamarack staff. From Monday to Saturday, CITs choose a full placement with a cabin or activity. They also receive extensive leadership training, workshops and feedback from evaluations. A daily swim instruction period and other exciting activities are part of the CIT program.

Please note that all Elders will be placed in a Lifesaving Patrol, Medallion, Cross or Fitness program. Any Elder who wishes to have a placement "on the water" e.g. ski, wake, paddle, wind, beach, swim, must either hold a minimum of a current Bronze Medallion or be enrolled in a Bronze Medallion course at Camp.

Sample Daily Monday to Saturday Schedule

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>
7:30 am	Wake Up
8:15 am	Breakfast
8:45 – 9:30 am	Clean Up
9:30 am	Round Up
9:45-10:45 a.m.	1 st Period
10:45-11:45	2 nd Period
12:15 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Rest Hour
2:00 pm	Round Up
2:15 – 3:15 pm	3 rd Period
3:15 – 4:15 pm	4 th Period
4:15 – 5:15 pm	5 th Period
5:15 pm	Rest Hour
6:15 pm	Dinner
7:00 – 7:45 pm	Free Play
7:45 – 9:30 pm	Evening Program <i>(times vary by unit)</i>
9:15 – 11:30 pm	Lights Out <i>(varies by unit)</i>

Super Sunday

“Super Sunday” is a popular tradition at Camp Tamarack which encompasses a sleep-in, buffet breakfast and open activities. Campers enjoy a relaxed, fun-filled day of their favourite activities (often with special themes and/or a “twist” on the regular activity) and an opportunity to “chill” with friends.

Get Into The Swim Of Things!

Tamarack uses the Lifesaving Society’s Learn to Swim program, which covers swim skills, fitness, water safety, and first aid to foster lifelong swimming enjoyment. All campers must have a completed Swim Assessment Form to help us group swimmers effectively. If your camper’s swim ability changes before camp, please email swim@camptamarack.info with updates. Campers needing ear plugs, hearing aids, or similar items should bring extras.

LIFESAVING SWIMMER - AT-A-GLANCE

- Six level Swimmer program for ages 5+, from beginner to advanced.
- Focuses on in-water practice, solid stroke development and Water Smart safety education.
- Skills taught: surface support, underwater skills, swim to survive skills, movement/swimming skills, fitness and water smart education.

As an integral part of the Swim for Life® program, Water Smart education provides information and experiences that helps participants make smart decisions when in, on and around water and ice.

LIFESAVING & AQUATIC LEADERSHIP

The Lifesaving Society provides a fun and challenging progression of lifesaving training programs. The Tamarack Swim Program will offer the Canadian Swim Patrol (Rookie, Ranger, Star) and 3 Bronze medal awards (Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross). In addition, Emergency First Aid/CPR B and Standard First Aid/CPR C will be offered and focus on the practical ABCs of lifesaving.

Additional instructor courses of Assistant Instructor, Swim Instructor and Lifesaving Instructor may be offered based on participation, eligibility, time and interest.

Course Details

- Most of the courses offered are free, but materials and exam fees that are payable to the Lifesaving Society are required.
- Materials can be purchased from the camp, or brought from home if already owned.
- Billing for materials and exam fees occur after the completion of the course. If the course is not completed, only material fees are charged.
- Please see Appendix A for full course listings and prerequisites.

Special Theme Programs & Spirit

Special theme days and programs only serve to enhance Camp Tamarack’s multi-faceted, popular program. A terrific blend of fun, fair competition and team-building are all part of the Tamarack World Games, Second Month All Day Program, theme days, carnival and other special programs. Cheering, singsongs, campfires and overall camp spirit are integral parts of what is special about Tamarack.

Amazing Free Camp T-shirt and Cabin Picture!!

In addition to the action-packed program and amazing staff your camper(s) will soon enjoy, there are at least two other special “extras” for Summer 2025! Each registered camper will receive one Tamarack t-shirt for the summer, as well as a digital cabin photo (a great keepsake of Tamarack in which we do our best to ensure that the full cabin group is represented in the photo)!

Tuck Shop and Opportunities!

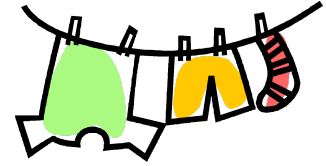
Campers will continue to enjoy the long-standing twice a week opportunity to get a snack from the Tuck Shop in exchange for a letter home. Our Tuck Shop will also be available during designated hours/days for campers who wish to purchase additional snacks, drinks or Tamawear. There will also be a daily limit for campers that would enable them to purchase one to two items (i.e. one snack, one drink) per day. In addition to snacks, flashlights, notepads, refillable water bottles, key chains, Tamawear (i.e. camp-branded clothing), stamps, toothbrushes, shampoo and other items will be available. Any of these additional Tuck Shop items can be purchased with Tuck Shop Credit. Creating a Tuck Shop Credit for purchases for your camper is optional and not mandatory. The amount we recommend for a camper of a family interested in creating a Tuck Shop Credit amount is as follows:

<i>During of Stay</i>	<i>Tuck Shop Credit</i>
Acorn 1/2/3/4/5	\$40.00
Full Season	\$120.00
Extended First	\$100.00
First Session	\$80.00

The above amounts are not likely to be sufficient if your camper wishes to make a larger purchase (i.e. a Tamawear sweatshirt), but the Tuck Shop Credit can be supplemented or added to at any time.

Laundry

Laundry will be picked up once each week, returned the next day and is included in your camp fee. Although we use a professional laundry service, it is still camp laundry. Please do not send any clothes you would be concerned about if they were to get damaged or discoloured or go missing. It is critical to label all clothing and other items in order to have a chance to return misplaced belongings.



Camper Birthdays



Birthdays are a special time at Camp. Campers (not their siblings) can phone parents on their own birthday only (not on the birthday of their parent(s) or other family members). All camper calls to parents on the camper's birthday are made after LUNCH, between 1:00-2:00 p.m. Should you need to arrange an alternative time, please call the office a few days in advance of your camper's birthday. Campers also receive a birthday cookie cake, special birthday camp song, and a special cabin or individual treat by spinning the birthday wheel!

What We Ask Of You

Partners in Camping

Parents sometimes hesitate to provide us with personal information regarding their child's behaviour or past experiences. Many fear that this information will "label" their child and that the information will be misused. As experienced camp directors and parents, we understand these concerns. We also understand the importance of providing the staff working with your camper with complete information that will better prepare the Camp staff to ensure that your camper and the group as a whole are having the best possible camp experience. Having knowledge of a prior family, school, camp or emotional issue is important to us. It is our commitment to use the information provided only to help your camper to ensure that individual needs are met. We encourage you to be our partners in camping in making this the best summer for your camper. If there is anything we should know, we encourage you to include an additional detailed written note when returning your camp forms to us.

What To Pack For Camp

The [Tamarack Packing list](#) on our website suggests the maximum requirements your camper will need for their stay at Camp and is intended for a month or full season camper. No more than two duffel bags will be accepted at our baggage depot. Also, similar to the concerns airlines have for their baggage handlers, we are equally concerned that our staff do not have to move unreasonably heavy bags. While most airlines accept up to 23 kg (50 lbs), our limit per duffel bag will be 27 kg (60 lbs). If your child does not significantly overpack, it should be easy to stay under this weight (particularly by avoiding heavy cases of water, etc. which are not permitted or necessary). Suitcases and trunks are not permitted. While packing, please remember that "it's camp." If you are considering an article of clothing that may be too good, please keep it at home. Use one duffel bag for bedding, shoes, boots, and other equipment. The other duffel bag should be used for all clothing. Do not pack any

valuables, food or water in the duffel bags as they will be transported to Camp in a large truck and your bags could be stepped on in the process.

For all of your camp needs, including clothing, bedding and more, be sure to visit Camp Connection General Store located at 516 Lawrence Ave. West, Toronto, ON or call (416) 789-1944 / (866) 789-1944 (toll free). Click here www.campstore.com to visit the Camp Connection General Store website.



What Not To Bring To Camp

The following items must remain at home:

- ☐ Candles
- ☐ Lighters/matches
- ☐ Knives or any weapon
- ☐ Electrical appliances of any kind including, but not limited to, hotpots/kettles and coils, power bars
- ☐ Cell Phones/Pagers
- ☐ Electronics/Games with Screens
- ☐ Bottled Water/pop/other drinks
- ☐ TVs or Laptops/Tablets/IPADs
- ☐ Any expensive item you would be upset to lose
- ☐ Fans
- ☐ Walkie-talkies
- ☐ Hair straighteners, curling irons
- ☐ Alcohol/Narcotics/Vape Devices
- ☐ Electrical decorative lighting

If any of the above items are found at Camp, they will be confiscated.

Please be aware of our cell phone/PDA policy. Any cell phone/PDA or other device brought to camp will be confiscated and not returned to the camper until the camper's last day of camp. We are counting on your being our partners in camping and not sending cell phones or other prohibited items. Any camper who breaches the cell phone/PDA policy may negatively affect their chances to return to camp or for employment in subsequent years and/or result in a suspension from camp during the current summer. Please see additional details regarding our "Screen-Free" policy below.

If any duffel bag brought to the baggage truck contains any of the disallowed items listed above, you will be asked to remove such items from the duffel bag before it will be allowed on the baggage truck. If any of the above items are found at Camp, they will be confiscated.

Insurance/Lost Items

Costly belongings brought to Camp such as, but not limited to, designer clothing, in-line skates, cameras, iPads, musical instruments, bite plates and sunglasses, are brought to Camp strictly at your own risk. Try to arrange insurance coverage for these items under your own household policy. The Camp, although taking precautions, cannot be held responsible for loss, damage, or theft of any item. Please remember that your camper will be living in a cabin environment and it is common for clothing and personal items to get lost or damaged, often innocently. The Camp is not responsible for loss, disappearance or damage of camper's clothing and belongings – no matter how caused.

Camper Code of Conduct

Please ensure that you read, and that both parents/guardians and each camper sign the online Camper Code of Conduct and submit it by the forms' deadline and that you and your camper(s) review all of the Camp policies to ensure a safe, healthy and happy summer for all!

Our Antiracism and Ethnocultural Equity Policy expresses Camp Tamarack's adherence to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Highlighted Camper Policies

Consequences for Violating

<u>Participation</u> Campers will attend all scheduled activities unless excused for reasons of health by the medical staff and/or excused for reasons approved by the Camp Directors.	Meeting with counsellor, Unit Head and/or Camp Directors and/or appropriate consequences and call to parents/guardian.
<u>Bullying</u> No camper shall bully, intimidate or cause any form of physical or emotional harm to any other camper and/or staff. Indirect support of bullying is also considered a serious offence. Tamarack supports a safe, nurturing and positive environment for all campers and staff.	Appropriate consequences, and/or probationary action and call to parents/guardian. Possible dismissal from camp.
<u>Theft</u> Any form of theft, whether big or small, is deemed a serious offence and is not permitted at camp.	Appropriate consequences and call to parents/guardians. Parents/guardians will be responsible for the cost of replacing stolen or lost items. Possible dismissal from Camp.
<u>"Screen-Free"</u> Tamarack is a "screen-free" camp and no camper shall bring a SIM Card or similar device to Camp or for any off-site camp excursion. No camper shall have or use any phones on Camp property. "Hidden" SIM Cards and phone use are disrespectful and detrimental to the overall camp experience.	Confiscation of phone and/or SIM card or similar device and call to parents/guardians. Possible suspension/dismissal from Camp. Phone/screens, SIM cards confiscated will be returned on the last day of the camper's session. Any camper who breaks this policy may negatively impact their opportunity to return to Camp as a camper or employee in future camp seasons.
<u>Drugs or Alcohol</u> Campers are not permitted to possess and/or use/consume illegal drugs and/or alcohol in any manner or be in the presence of someone possessing or using/consuming illegal drugs or alcohol.	Immediate dismissal from Camp.
<u>Cigarettes & Cannabis & Vaping</u>	Appropriate consequences and a call to parents/guardians. Likely dismissal from Camp.

Campers are not permitted to possess and/or smoke tobacco, cannabis, or any kind of vape, while at camp.	
<u>Electrical Appliances</u> Electrical appliances of any kind including, but not limited to hotpots/kettles, coils, power bars and decorative electrical lighting are dangerous in a camp setting and not permitted.	Items will be confiscated and returned on the camper's last day at camp.
<u>Internet/Pictures/Social Networking</u> See Camp Tamarack Camper Social Networking Policy below.	Infraction may lead to possible dismissal from camp. If offence occurs during non-camp time, such campers may not be accepted back to Camp at the discretion of the Camp Directors.
<u>Graffiti/Property Damage</u> Damaging camp property in any way is not tolerated. Graffiti is not permitted at camp.	Appropriate consequences and call to parents/guardians. Parents will be responsible for the cost of repairing any damage done to Camp property. Possible dismissal from Camp.
<u>Curfew</u> All campers must adhere to camp curfews.	Appropriate consequences and call to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from Camp.
<u>Raiding/Pranks</u> Any form of raiding and/or pranks that are deemed harmful and/or inappropriate are not tolerated.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Parents will be responsible for the cost of repairing any damage done to Camp or personal property. Possible dismissal from Camp.
<u>Leaving Camp/Inviting Outsiders</u> Campers may NOT leave Camp or invite outsiders for any reason without permission from the Camp Directors and/or without official Camp staff supervision.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from Camp.
<u>Cabin Hopping</u> Campers with an assigned sex at birth are not permitted in the cabin of the opposite assigned sex at birth, unless to attend a supervised, scheduled activity or with permission from the Camp Directors.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from Camp. <i>Infraction 1: Camp enhancement. ETB (ie. "Early to Bed"). Phone call home.</i> <i>Infraction 2: Possible suspension from Camp.</i> <i>Infraction 3: Possible dismissal from Camp.</i>
<u>Knife/Firearm/Weapon</u> No camper is permitted to possess a knife, firearm and/or weapon of any kind – real or fake.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Likely dismissal from camp.
<u>Staff Cabins</u>	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from Camp.

Campers are not permitted in staff cabins unless to attend a supervised, scheduled activity or with permission from the Camp Directors.	
<u>Non-Platonic Camper/Staff Relationships</u> Non-platonic camper/staff relationships are not permitted.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from camp for camper and dismissal from camp for staff member.
<u>Camp Vehicles</u> Campers are not permitted to operate any camp vehicles and boats, including cars, trucks, golf carts, gators, boats.	Appropriate consequences and calls to parents/guardians. Possible dismissal from Camp.

As can be expected, the policy schedule can and most likely will be adjusted as the summer progresses and is intended to be a helpful and important guideline, but realistically is not comprehensive. Any camper who violates a policy listed here or engages in conduct that contravenes a Camp rule or that is deemed inappropriate and/or harmful to others, themselves or Camp property may face consequences, including dismissal from camp. Camp Tamarack may terminate the registration of any camper in the sole discretion of the Camp Directors. A partial refund/credit, if any, related to such camper's dismissal may or may not be considered by the Camp Directors based on their judgment as to the circumstances related to such dismissal.

Camp Tamarack Camper Social Networking Policy

In general, Camp Tamarack views social networking sites (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok), personal websites and blogs positively and respects the right of campers to use them as a medium of self-expression. If a camper chooses to identify themselves as a camper of Camp Tamarack on such internet venues, some readers of such websites or blogs may view the camper as a representative or spokesperson of the Camp. In light of this possibility, Camp Tamarack requires, as a condition of registration at the Camp, that campers observe the following guidelines at all times when referring to the Camp, its programs or activities, and its campers and/or staff, in a blog or on a website.

- Campers must be respectful in all communications and blogs related to or referencing the Camp, its campers, and/or employees.
- Campers must not use obscenities, profanity, or vulgar language.
- Campers must not use blogs or personal websites or social media to disparage the Camp, campers, or employees of the Camp.
- Campers must not use blogs or personal websites or social media to harass, bully (including texts prior to and after the camp session) or intimidate employees or other campers. Behaviours that constitute harassment and bullying include, but are not limited to: engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct that is known or ought reasonably to be known to be unwelcome: comments that are derogatory with respect to race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, record of offences, marital status, family status or disability; sexually suggestive, humiliating, or demeaning comments; and threats to stalk, haze, or physically injure another camper or employee.
- Campers must not use blogs or personal websites or social media to discuss engaging in conduct that is prohibited by Camp policies, including, but not limited to, the use of alcohol and drugs, sexual behaviour, sexual harassment, and bullying.
- Campers must not post pictures of other campers or employees on a website without obtaining written permission.

- The use of the copyrighted Camp name or logo is not allowed without written permission.
- Camp Tamarack does host a Facebook fan page and an Instagram account that can be followed at Camp Tamarack. Camp encourages our campers to “like” these pages and become members, where they can view camp pictures and stay up to date on Tamarack news.

In order to protect ourselves and the Tamarack Camp community, we will be reviewing the major internet sites on a regular basis in order to ensure that the members of the Camp Tamarack community respect and adhere to the policy. Any camper found to be in violation of any portion of this Social Networking Policy will be subject to appropriate consequences, up to and including dismissal from/denial of the opportunity to return to Camp.

Bunk1 Notes

Back by popular demand, we are offering parents the convenience of emailing their camper(s). This service, provided through a company called Bunk1, allows parents the opportunity to purchase an email plan and send their camper(s) e-mails. All emails are downloaded and printed and distributed with the camper mail by the following day. Parents also have the ability to purchase bunk replies, where campers can write their letter on their bunk reply and have it scanned and emailed back to their parents.

Mail

In our experience, campers LOVE receiving mail of any kind. Whether you decide to send a Bunk1 Note or regular mail, campers are extremely excited to receive letters. Please send plenty of letters, including even a few days or weeks before your campers arrive at Camp so that when they arrive on the first day, they already have mail waiting for them. The mail typically takes 5-7 business days to arrive at Camp from Toronto (a few days extra from elsewhere). Our complete mailing address is:



CAMPER'S NAME + CABIN NUMBER

(Don't worry if you don't know the cabin number the first week, your camper will write and let you know, and we will ensure that all letters get delivered)

Camp Tamarack

1391 Stoneleigh Road, RR#2

Bracebridge, ON P1L 1W9

Campers are not the only ones who love to get mail....parents do too!! All campers must write a letter home the first day of camp. Please ensure that you send stationary and a number of self-addressed, stamped envelopes. Please do not be concerned if you receive a letter that is not entirely positive. Often, by the time the letter has arrived at home, your camper has adjusted to camp life and is having an incredible time and any issue has been resolved. If you do receive a letter that is of concern, please give us a call and we will check in with your camper and report back to you on how they are doing.

As previously mentioned, campers are encouraged to write a letter on our Letter Writing Day (twice a week). Of course, campers are encouraged to write a letter whenever they wish and place it in our mailbox.

Online Photo Galleries

Also through Bunk1, but free to all parents, are the online photo galleries and newsletters. To access the galleries and view the weekly newsletter, simply follow the instructions on the Bunk1 Information Sheet and refer to the pre-approved CODE sent to you in the follow-up email. Be sure to include all fields as this is a secure gallery and we approve and/or deny access to any individual trying to view the pictures. Pictures will be updated throughout the week – more information will follow on the gallery pages as we get closer to camp.

As you can appreciate, we do our best to make sure that every camper smiles for the camera! If you do not see your camper(s) in the galleries or they are captured looking good, but not great, please be patient, as our

shutterbugs are always taking great cabin, activity and individual pictures, and we are confident that your camper will be online and looking awesome in no time!

Package Policy

If you were ever a camper, you know how excited you were when you received a package, and the disappointment if one didn't arrive. Although the intentions of parents are usually good, the arrival of packages often creates disappointment, jealousy and, in a number of cases, packages contain unnecessary or inappropriate items. If you plan to send your camper a comic, newspaper or other reading material, please send it in a flat envelope no larger than 9x12 inches. Larger packages may be donated to charity. Please inform family members of this policy as we do not want to have any disappointed campers or family members. Any courier arriving at camp without giving us prior notice will be turned away and the package will be returned. We cannot be responsible for lost packages. We ask for your assistance with this policy as non-compliance can often lead to cabin problems, jealousy and overall unhappy campers. Do not send any food or candy packages. Any package or mail item that we feel could include an item that could jeopardize the safety and well-being of our campers and contravene Camp policy will be opened. Among other things, there are a number of campers with life-threatening allergies, and it is our responsibility to protect them the best we can.

Tamarack Is A Peanut/Nut Sensitive Environment

Camp Tamarack is a peanut/nut sensitive environment and all of our menus, snacks and tuck shop items reflect this, but we ask that you do your part as well. Please ensure that all food items sent with your camper(s) do **NOT** include any item which may contain or have been in contact with peanuts and/or nuts. We appreciate your assistance with this policy as your help will have a direct impact on the health and safety of our campers and staff that live with a potentially life-threatening allergy.

******Please do not send sunflower seeds to camp. This is to respect the potential allergy issues and the environment.***

Food Policy

There are several factors that were considered in order for us to develop our Food Policy including camper safety and unwanted wildlife and insects in the cabin.

With this in mind, campers are not permitted to bring any food to camp, other than a small quantity of food that can fit into a stackable storage bin (that can be sealed) no larger than 15.8" L x 10.3" W x 7" H (41x26x18 cm). No food that requires boiling or hot water is allowed. Serious concerns regarding cleanliness, health and attraction of animals have led us to this policy that is in everyone's best interests. Everyone will be well fed, have full stomachs and be happy campers even without any of their own food!

Please do not send unauthorized food items as they will be confiscated.

Please do not send water, pop or other beverages. They are bulky, heavy and entirely unnecessary. Our pure spring water and other camp beverages are more than sufficient and delicious!

Note: Additional snacks/drinks are available in our Tuck Shop if you set up a Tuck Shop Credit by making a deposit on behalf of your camper(s).

"Screen-Free"

Camp Tamarack strongly believes in fostering independence, growth, and maturity among campers by immersing them in the camp community. To achieve these goals effectively, it is crucial to limit the influence of screens and phones that connect campers to city life and parents. Allowing children access to phones undermines the camp experience and suggests a lack of trust in the Camp's ability to care for them.

Consistently enforcing a no-phone policy, Tamarack prohibits campers from bringing cell phones or similar devices to camp or on off-site excursions. Hidden phones are also not permitted as they disrupt the camp environment. Any discovered phones or SIM cards will be confiscated for the camper's duration at camp. The Camp maintains a strict screen-free environment, with exceptions only for personal music devices like iPods, mp3 players, digital cameras, and their chargers.

Parents are urged to comply with this policy as it is in the best interest of all campers and the community. Tamarack values the trust of its families and prioritizes the safety and well-being of everyone involved. Exceptions to the no-screen rule may be considered for specific medical or mental health needs, requiring parental communication with the camp office in such cases.

Visitors’ Day

Visitors’ Day for Summer 2025 will be on Saturday, July 19th, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tamarack’s popular Visitors’ Day enables parents, other family members and friends to enjoy each camper’s fun, success and accomplishments at Camp. It is also a great opportunity for our Second Session, Acorn 3, 4 and 5 campers and parents to visit in advance. There is no Visitors’ Day during our Second Session. All of our families are invited to join us in the Dining Hall for a delicious buffet lunch. If your family wishes to bring a picnic lunch, please remember to adhere to our Peanut/Nut Policy.

If you wish to extend your camper’s stay with us, please speak with the Camp Administrator and we will do our best to accommodate your request if space is available. The Tamarack Leadership Team will be in front of the Camp office throughout the day, so please be sure to come by to say hello, discuss any matters with us and to give us positive feedback! Please also remember that visitors will not be allowed into Camp until 11:00 a.m. and must depart by 3:00 p.m. Campers cannot be taken out overnight.

Out-of-Town campers, who generally do not have visitors, will enjoy an exciting day of activities and yummy food at Camp!

Tipping Camp Staff

Please do not tip any Camp staff. It is against Camp policy for any of our staff members to accept any tips. If you feel it is necessary to express your gratitude to one of our staff members, a simple letter of thanks is a meaningful way to show your appreciation.

Camp Transportation

The Camp Bus

We are pleased to offer our campers coach bus transportation up to Camp at the start of their session and back to Toronto at the end of their session. All camper drop-offs and pickups will take place at our usual bus depot at Chesswood Arena at 4000 Chesswood Drive, North York, Ontario, M3J 2B9.

First Session, Acorn 1, Acorn 2, Extended First and Full Season Campers

- Camper Drop-Off - Friday, June 27, 2025. Please arrive at 8:00 am as we will depart at 8:30 a.m. sharp.

Second Session, Acorn 3 Campers

- Camper Drop-Off - Thursday July 24, 2025. Please arrive at 8:00 a.m. as we will depart at 8:30 a.m. sharp.

Acorn 4 and Acorn 5 Campers

- Camper Drop-Off - Monday August 4, 2025. Please arrive at 8:00 a.m. as we will depart at 8:30 a.m. sharp.



Baggage & Medication Drop-Off

Tamarack parents find the Tamarack baggage procedure fast and convenient. The best part about it is that parents simply have to “pop the trunk” and our staff will do the rest.

Our convenient baggage depot, as usual, is located at Chesswood Arena near Allen Road and Sheppard Avenue West at:

4000 Chesswood Drive North York, Ontario M3J 2B9

First Session, Acorn 1, Acorn 2. Extended First and Full Season Campers

- Tuesday, June 24, 2025, between the hours of 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Medication drop-off is included for these sessions

Second Session, Acorn 3 Campers

- Baggage and Medications will be brought at the camper drop-off.

Acorn 4 and Acorn 5 Campers

- Baggage and Medications will be brought at the camper drop-off.

Please label all bags with the Tamarack baggage tags provided by mail. If you do not receive tags, they will be available at the Baggage Depot. Our staff will organize and deliver all bags to the correct cabins, ensuring your camper’s belongings are waiting for them upon arrival. While we do not unpack duffels-believing this helps campers personalize their space and settle in-we will assist younger campers with making beds and unpacking as needed.

At the end of the session, all duffel bags will be organized in alphabetical rows for easy pick-up. Please arrive 30 minutes before your camper’s scheduled return to collect their bags. Smaller items (like lock boxes, pillows, sleeping bags, or hockey sticks) will be on your camper’s bus; remind your child to gather these before leaving the depot. Tamarack staff will be on hand to help you locate and load your belongings

Carry-On Baggage and Lock Boxes

Please bring any carry-on baggage and/or lock boxes with you when you drop off your camper(s). Please make sure that all articles traveling with your camper(s) are clearly labelled. Tamarack reserves the right to open baggage and personal belongings in order to protect all campers, staff and the community as a whole.

Don't Let it End.... Instead, Extend!

Acorn Campers

Tamarack offers fantastic Summer 2025 opportunities for 7-10 year old Hawthorn and 11 year old Juniper campers to enjoy an exciting camp experience through our introductory Acorn sessions. Campers can choose from:

- Acorn 1: 7 days (June 27 - July 3)
- Acorn 2: 14 days (June 27 - July 10)
- Acorn 3: 11 days (July 24 - August 3)
- Acorn 4: 7 days (August 4 - August 10)
- Acorn 5: 11 days (August 4 - August 14)

Many Acorn campers have such a rewarding and memorable time that they wish to extend their stay. To maximize the chance of an extension, please let us know as early as possible. Acorn 2 campers may be able to extend to July 24 or beyond, while Acorn 3 and Acorn 4 campers may be able to stay until August 14, subject to availability.

During your child's Acorn session, a Camp Director, Head Counsellor, or Unit Head will reach out to discuss extension options, or you are welcome to contact us directly. We also encourage you to speak with your camper to hear their excitement about staying longer at Tamarack

First Session Campers

In a similar fashion, many First Session (June 27- July 24) campers want to extend their Tamarack experience for the Acorn 3 period (July 24 to August 3), and/or until the end of our camp season on August 14th. The fun, excitement, friends and memories they will experience in their first four weeks of Summer 2025, together with the plans they will hear and know about for the Second Session, will fuel the desire of many campers to stay! Whether before, shortly after, or on Visitors' Day, we will do our very best to accommodate your camper's desire to extend their stay, subject to availability.

Extending is Easy

Once we have confirmed with you that your camper will be extending their stay, the additional fee is simply the difference between the fees for the shorter and longer session (a significantly smaller fee per day for the extension period). Please maintain flexibility in your summer plans so that you and your camper can let them extend their Tamarack Summer 2025 experience and will not be disappointed!

Mini-Acorn Weekend Opportunities for 6 to 11 Year Olds

Younger campers who are looking to get a short but sweet "Taste of Tamarack" can enjoy a 3 day, 2 night weekend (for campers born in 2015-2019) Tamarack experience!

The three-day, two-night weekend experience is available on the weekend of Friday August 8 – Sunday August 10, 2025.

Looking Forward to Tamarack Summer 2025

We look forward to an amazing Tamarack Summer 2025 and to welcoming returning and new campers to the Tamarack family! If you have any other questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the Camp office.

Appendix A – Aquatic Leadership Courses

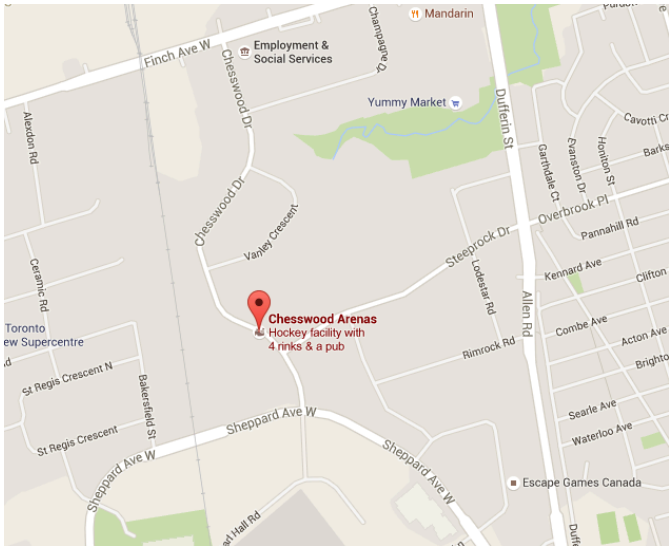
Course	Prerequisites	Materials Required	Materials (Incl. HST)	Certification / Exam Fee
Bronze Medallion & Emergency First Aid with CPR B	13 years old OR Bronze Star AND 12 years old	Canadian Lifesaving Manual & Bronze Medallion Workbook CPR Mask (no cost) Non-latex gloves (not cost)	\$55.00	\$44.00
Bronze Cross	Bronze Medallion AND Emergency First Aid with CPR B	Bronze Cross Workbook Canadian Lifesaving Manual* CPR Mask* (no cost) Non-latex gloves* (no cost)	\$5.00 *\$52.00	\$32.00
Standard First Aid with CPR C	13 years old	Canadian First Aid Manual CPR Mask (not cost) Non-latex gloves (no cost)	\$20.00	\$27.00
Assistant Instructor	14 years old AND Bronze Cross	Assistant Instructor Workbook Canadian Lifesaving Manual*	\$8.00 *\$52.00	\$30.00
Swim Instructor	16 years old AND Bronze Cross	Swim Instructor PAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor Notes • Swim For Life Award Guide • Teaching Swim for Life • Lifesaving Images binder Canadian Lifesaving Manual*	\$70.00 *\$52.00	\$40.00
Lifesaving Instructor	16 years old AND Bronze Cross	Lifesaving Instructor PAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor Notes • Swim Patrol Award Guide • Bronze Medals Award Guide • First Aid Award Guide • Lifesaving Images binder Canadian Lifesaving Manual*	\$83.00 *\$52.00	\$40.00

**additional cost if you do not have the materials from a prerequisite course*

Appendix B – Summer 2025 Bus (returning) & Baggage Depot Information

This summer our bus and baggage depot will be at the conveniently located Chesswood Arena.

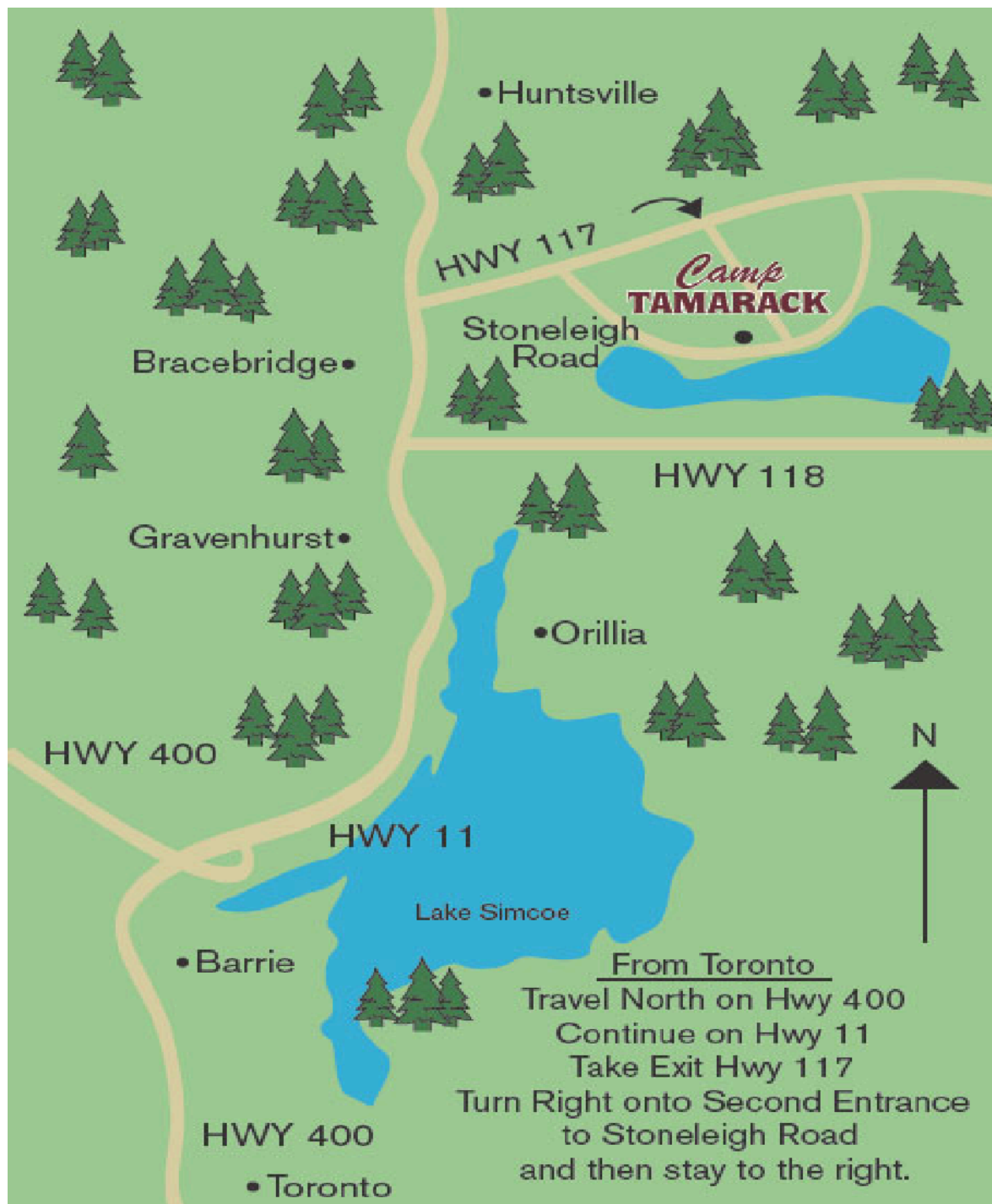
→ 4000 Chesswood Drive, North York, ON M3J 2B9



The bus schedule for Return trips to Toronto for the upcoming summer will be at Chesswood Arena on the following dates. Please note that as we get closer to the dates in questions, times will be confirmed:

Session	Return Date
Full Session	Thursday August 14
First Session	Thursday July 24
Acorn 1 Session	Thursday July 3
Acorn 2 Session	Thursday July 10
Extended First/Acorn 3 Session	Sunday August 3
Acorn 4 Session	Sunday August 10
Second Session/Acorn 5	Thursday August 14

Appendix C – Directions to Camp



Appendix D – Important Dates for Summer 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27	June 28
		BAGGAGE DAY 1 <i>Full Season, Extended First Session, First Session, Acorn 1 & Acorn 2</i>			<i>Full Season, Extended First Session, First Session, Acorn 1 & Acorn 2</i> FIRST DAY of Camp	
June 29	June 30	July 1	July 2	July 3	July 4	July 5
				Acorn 1 ENDS		
July 6	July 7	July 8	July 9	July 10	July 11	July 12
				Acorn 2 ENDS		
July 13	July 14	July 15	July 16	July 17	July 18	July 19
						Visitors' Day 11:00am-3:00pm
July 20	July 21	July 22	July 23	July 24	July 25	July 26
				First Session ENDS Second Session & Acorn 3 FIRST DAY of Camp		
July 27	July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31	August 1	August 2
August 3	August 4	August 5	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9
Extended First & Acorn 3 END	Acorn 4 & Acorn 5 FIRST DAY of Camp					
August 10	August 11	August 12	August 13	August 14	August 15	August 16
Acorn 4 END				LAST DAY of Camp		