November 2020 Update: Farm & Wilderness Reopening Summer Camps for 2021

We are mindfully planning for the reopening of camp in 2021 and cannot wait to welcome campers and staff back to Farm & Wilderness. We would love to be able to tell you that the plans we are making today are carved in stone, and that’s just not the case. We are doing our best to make the best decisions based on the information we have, and as we get new information, we may need to adapt our plans. This is the place for new and returning camp families to come back to for the most current updates.

We currently plan to offer the following programs with modifications for summer 2021; Indian Brook, Timberlake, Saltash Mountain, Long Trail Questers, Classic Questers, Flying Cloud, Red Spruce Grove and Barn Day Camp. Please see the October 5, 2020 announcement about the pause in Tamarack Farm programming for 2021.

The health and safety of our campers and staff is our highest priority and we will be implementing new protocols this summer. We also expect some changes will be mandated by the State of Vermont, such as reduced capacity limits; while other decisions will be made in consultation with federal, state, and local experts in the fields of medicine and public health.

We have created a Reopening Task Force that includes program, operations, admissions, and facilities staff. This group is supported by medical and public health Advisers, and the Risk Management Committee of the Board of Trustees. They are, examining every aspect of camp operations, management and culture, with the goal of aligning our operations and program with the best practices and recommendations from local, state and federal agencies.

As we reimagine camp, we are planning for the following adaptations:

- Smaller camps that operate independently.
- Cohort groups within each camp community.
- Limiting the number of unique contacts within and between each camp communities. This includes no large group gatherings or activities within or between camps.
- Changing our drop-off and pick up procedures to minimize contact time.
- Modifying our cabins. The good news is that our cabins already have excellent ventilation and a ready supply of fresh air!
- We may need to modify our camp sponsored transportation options to and from camp.
- Modifying our dining and food service processes
- Modifying some aspects of programming.
- We anticipate that campers and families outside of Vermont will be required by the State of Vermont to quarantine for a period prior to arrival at camp. Please visit the VT cross state travel guidelines page for the most up to date information.
- Enhancing our health screening procedures and implementing COVID testing, which may include pre-arrival and arrival testing as well as testing during camp.
- New protocols around handwashing with increased access to handwashing and hand sanitizer stations.
- Enhanced and increased non pharmaceutical interventions such as face masks/coverings, physical distancing, plexiglass between bunks, routine screening and temperature checks, cough and hand hygiene etiquette, camp cleaning and disinfection, camp wide signage and communication and small group cohorting.
- No Fair, no parents visiting days

These COVID-19 related changes will impact families and campers in varying ways. We will continue to keep camper families informed of our evolving planning and decision making around COVID-19. The most up to date information will be found on this page. Starting early in the New Year, we will hold online, live and recorded information sessions.

Our communication will ramp up over the coming weeks and months, as we get closer to summer 2021. As always if you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact us by calling our main office (802) 422-3761 or email admissions@farmandwilderness.org.