

**Town of Somers
Parks & Recreation**



**Tusker Trax
Camp 2019**

Parent Handbook

**Parent Orientation & T-Shirt Pick up
Wednesday, June 5
6:00 p.m.
Reis Park Pavilion**

Somers Department of Parks & Recreation

P.O. Box 46
Somers, NY 10589

OFF: (914) 232-8441
FAX: (914) 232-8548
parks@somersny.com

Andrew Johnson
Assistant Superintendent



Dear Parents:

We want to welcome you to our thirteenth year of Tusker Trax Camp. We are very excited to present this camp again, and are committed to providing a quality program for our 7-9 grade residents. We are dedicated to making your child/ren's camp experience a safe, rewarding and enjoyable one. As in the past years we are offering three, two-week sessions. You can sign up for Session I, Session II, Session III or, in some cases multiple sessions.

Please join us on Wednesday, June 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Pavilion in Reis Park for a parent orientation. We will review all aspects of the travel program, and answer any questions that you may have. Confusion can be minimized for your child during the first few days, and throughout the camp season, by attending orientation and following the policies and procedures outlined in this handbook. Please bring it with you to orientation. If you are unable to attend orientation, we urge you to take the time to read through it.

Prior to the first day of camp, if you have any questions, please feel free to call the Recreation Office at the number listed above, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..

Sincerely,

Andrew Johnson
Assistant Superintendent

Table of Contents

Guidelines	1
Dates, Times, Locations	1
Weather	1
Drop Off & Pick Up	1
Extended Day Program	1
Clothing.....	2
Personal Belongings.....	2
Behavior	2
Discipline	3
Sun Screen/Insect Repellent.....	3
Illness/Injury	3
Lunch & Drink	3
Final Itinerary	3
Release Authorization Forms.....	4

Guidelines	<p>To run our Camp, we must obtain a permit to operate from the State of New York and the Westchester County Health Department. Per their regulations, we must have one staff member per 200 Campers certified in American Red Cross RTE (Responding to Emergencies) First Aid and one staff member per 200 Campers certified in CPR. We must maintain a ratio of one (1) staff member to ten (10) children for off-site activities. All staff must be at least 18 years of age prior to the beginning of Camp to be employed, and must attend an extensive orientation and training program. The Camp will be inspected by the Health Department. The Town of Somers, Department of Parks and Recreation Tusker Trax Camp meets or exceeds these requirements.</p> <p>DIRECTOR: Scott Ciafaglione</p> <p>CAMP PHONE #: 914-482-3518 (Active July 1 – August 8 ONLY)</p>
Dates, Times, Locations	<p>Session I will begin Monday, July 1 through Thursday, July 11 (No camp Thursday, July 4 or Friday July 5), Session II will begin July 15 through July 25 and Session III will begin July 29 through August 8. All sessions meet at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., unless noted.</p>
Rain/Inclement Weather	<p>If it is raining, thundering and/or lightning the morning of Camp, parents are requested to call the <u>Recreation Office Hotline at 232-8441 ext. 4</u> after 7:30 a.m. A message will notify you whether or not the trip has been canceled. <i>We will only cancel in the event the trip location closes or, we determine, the trip to be unsafe.</i></p> <p>If a trip to an outdoor park is canceled, we will make it up on Friday of that week.</p> <p>Trips to indoor facilities will be held rain or shine.</p> <p>All trips will leave from and return to the parking lot at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park.</p>
Camp Groups	<p>Campers will be divided into groups according their gender. Campers are required to stay with their group at all times unless directed by camp staff.</p>
Drop off & Pick Up	<p>Morning drop off is between 8:45 and 9:00 a.m. (unless otherwise noted) at the Recreation Center in Van Tassell Park’s parking lot.</p> <p>Late afternoon pick up will be between 3:00 and 3:15 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) at the above drop-off location. <i>If a trip comes back before the stated return time campers can use the basketball hoop, ball fields or games in the activity room until pick up time. It is not mandatory of parents to pick up their camper before the scheduled return time. We will still have staff on duty and there are activities to participate in.</i></p>
Extended Day Program	<p>This program is an extension of the Camp Program. It is designed to aid the working parent with additional care hours for their child/ren before and after the Camp day. Extended morning care begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at the departing time of that day’s trip. Extended PM care begins at the return of the trip up until 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>LATE PICK-UP WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.</u> If repeatedly late, you will be asked to withdraw your child/ren, WITH NO REFUND, from the program. There will be no supervision after 6:00 p.m. However, campers may be picked up prior to 6:00 p.m.</p>

<p>Clothing</p>	<p>Each camper will be provided with 2 green camp shirts that will be available for pick up starting June 3rd. Shirts must be picked up by 6/26 at the latest.</p> <p>ALL CAMPERS MUST WEAR THEIR CAMP SHIRT EVERYDAY. ANYONE WHO DOES NOT WEAR THEIR SHIRT, WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT DAY'S SCHEDULED TRIP.</p> <p>Anything that is sent to camp should have Camper's full name and group # printed on the <u>inside</u>. A "Lost & Found" box will be located in the Camp Closet. If your child is missing an item, please check with the Director. The box will be cleaned out weekly.</p> <p>Campers should be sent to Camp as comfortable as possible. Shorts, camp shirts and sneakers are recommended dress. <u>Sandals or open-toed shoes should not be worn.</u></p>
<p>Personal Belongings</p>	<p>All campers must be mature enough to be responsible for their own property and the property of others. The use of any personal equipment (i.e., <u>cell phones</u>, iPods/Mp3 players, electronic games, etc.) will be allowed at the discretion of the Camp Director.</p> <p>The Recreation Department and the Town of Somers <u>will not be responsible for any damages or loss of any personal equipment.</u> The camp staff <u>will not</u> be responsible for their safe-keeping.</p> <p>It is also expected that campers will pay attention to and follow all rules and regulations for all the sites that we plan to visit. If these devices become a distraction, future use of these devices will not be allowed. Infractions of these rules may result in the loss of privilege from participating in future trips.</p> <p>Please remember, even though these devices are permitted it is up to the parents to allow your child to bring these items to camp.</p>
<p>Cell Phones</p>	<p>If your child is caught using a cell phone inappropriately on a trip, the Director will confiscate it until a parent arrives to pick it up. Repeated offenses will result in loss of trip privileges.</p> <p>The Recreation Department and the Town of Somers <u>will not be responsible for any damages or loss of any personal equipment.</u> The camp staff <u>will not</u> be responsible for their safe-keeping.</p>
<p>Behavior</p>	<p>We expect all campers to be respectful of staff and their peers at all times. This includes following the rules and all directions.</p> <p>Any camper whose acts disrupt the normal flow of the group's daily program, and any excessive "horseplay", loudness, unruly or abusive language, throwing of food, any physical or emotional abuse, such as hitting, punching, taunting or verbal attacking will be subject to disciplinary action..</p> <p>Campers must be aware that any action not regarded as positive in nature within the guidelines and policies of this program is subject to disciplinary action and/or dismissal from further participation in the program with NO REFUND OF FEES PAID.</p> <p>IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR CAMPERS TO REALIZE THAT THEIR BEHAVIOR NOT ONLY REFLECTS UPON THEMSELVES, BUT PROJECTS AN IMPRESSION OF OUR CAMP AND THE TOWN OF SOMERS.</p>

Discipline	<p>All disciplinary problems will be noted in the Director’s logbook and handled on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>1st Offence- Warning and a phone call to parent/guardian. Next days’ trip privileges limited. 2nd Offense- Camp Suspension- Next days’ trip privileges revoked 3rd Offense- Dismissal from camp- NO REFUND</p> <p><u>If you are dismissed from camp you are not permitted to register the following year</u></p> <p><u>Tusker Trax Camp Directors and the Town of Somers Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to bypass the above policy and suspend and/or dismiss a camper from the Camp program due to disciplinary problems without a refund.</u></p>
Immediate Dismissal	<p>Below cases will result in immediate dismissal from the program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, or any vaping. 2. Failure to adhere to official regulation, safety precautions, instructions, or orders/directions given by the camp director, counselors, trip officials or instructors. 3. Offensive conduct or language used in public. 4. Shoplifting. Campers involved in shoplifting are usually handled by local authorities, and up to the discretion of the establishment management. Parents will be called if this should occur. 5. Destruction of property.
Sun Screen/ Insect Repellent	<p>We suggest that you pack additional sunscreen with your child for all outdoor trips. Sunscreen should be applied before coming to camp.</p> <p>Counselors are not permitted, to apply sunscreen and/or bug repellent on your child/ren.</p>
Illness/Injury	<p>In the event that your child becomes ill or injured during the Camp day, they will be escorted to the determined director’s station where the severity of the situation will be assessed. If the situation warrants, you will be contacted. If you are not available, the emergency contact person on your registration will be called. The Director will discuss the severity of the problem and make a recommendation as to whether your child should be picked up. All illnesses or injuries will be recorded in a logbook for County Health Department use.</p>
Lunch & Drink	<p>All campers should bring a hearty lunch and drink(s), unless lunch is provided by the trip location. Water will be available at most locations. It is recommended that enough drink is brought daily so the campers have personal, cold drinks during the day. Insulated lunch bags or small personal coolers with freezer (ice) packs should be used. To ensure a cold drink, you may want to freeze drinks overnight and allow thawing during the day. Please remind your child to drink plenty of fluids throughout the day.</p> <p>Please <u>DO NOT</u> send any <i>glass</i> containers.</p> <p>At many of the locations, food and drink will be available for purchase. It is up to you to determine how much money to give to your child. An estimated amount to purchase a lunch should be \$10-\$15 for each trip. Campers will be responsible for their own money. Please remind your child <u>not</u> to bring large amounts of money to camp, since camp staff will not hold it or be responsible for its safe keeping.</p>
Final Itinerary	<p>There will be a finalized trip itinerary emailed out to all registrants when we get closer to the start of camp. This itinerary will give you both departure and return times for each trip.</p> <p>Please pay special attention to this itinerary. Some trip departures and return times vary due to the distance of the trip.</p>

Please use the following if your child will be picked up by someone other than the person(s) noted on your registration form. Detach and hand it in to your child's Counselor on the appropriate day. One form per child please. Additional forms will be available upon request to the Director.
Thank you for your cooperation.

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SOMERS TUSKER TRAX CAMP RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

I _____ give _____ permission to pick
up my child _____ in group _____
today's day/date _____ Signature _____

✂-----

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I _____ give _____ permission to pick
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today's day/date _____ Signature _____

✂-----

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