



Revised 06/26/2020

## 2020 SUMMER CAMP – Frequently Asked Questions

**1. I hear there is limited capacity available in the summer camp programming. What are my chances my child will get in?**

Due to the Santa Cruz County Public Health Order we have a limited enrollment capacity. Unfortunately, are not able offer all applicants a spot. However, we are working with several community partners to locate more sites and are hopeful that we will be able to offer more spots throughout the summer.

**2. Can my child(ren) be added to the waitlist for this programming?**

Yes. The [application](#) is open now for those who would like to sign up for the waitlist. If we are able to locate a space for you child(ren), we will let you know through email.

**3. How will you implement social distancing?**

While social distancing is not a requirement to implement within established stable groups of children under current health orders, staff will practice social distancing techniques to the extent possible.

**4. Will my child be required to wear face covering?**

Due to recent state and local Face Covering Orders and confirmed by the County Health Officer for day camp guidelines, beginning June 26th and until further notice, participants in our camps must wear a face covering when:

- In enclosed spaces where others are regularly present and/or when 6-foot distance cannot be maintained
- Outdoors, when unable to maintain 6 feet of distance from others
- In ride-sharing vehicles

Acceptable face coverings cover only the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face and may include: a scarf or bandana; a neck gaiter; a homemade covering made from a t-shirt, etc. Please send your child to camp daily with two clean masks. We imagine it will take some adjusting for participants and we will do our best to educate them and make them feel as comfortable as possible.

**5. I am unsure of the exact summer camp programs you are offering. We were looking forward to pool guards, Science Sleuths camp, etc.**

Due to current health order restrictions, County Parks cannot offer our typical variety of camps/class options this summer, including pool Junior Guard/Little Guard programs. However, County Parks 2020 Summer Camp programming will offer a variety of enriching activities. Throughout the course of the summer, each small stable camp group will rotate through themed activities including:

- Aquatics programming featuring swim instruction, water play, and pool Jr. Guard programming for those participants who pass program prerequisites.
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM)-focused activities.
- Nature Science/Exploration programming featuring outdoor education and wilderness skill-building.
- Sports/Movement-focused activities.
- Water-focused programming, featuring visits to local beaches (if permitted), watershed education, stewardship-building, water play, etc.

**6. I would like to enroll my child(ren) in a program where they can be with other children in our household and/or our neighbors/friends/relatives.**

We will make every effort to place children from households together in groups with your preferred peers. During the application process, you will be asked to list names of other children whom you would like your child(ren) to be in the same group with, in addition to contact information for their

parents/guardians. Please note, however, that staff will be considering many variables when assigning groups and we cannot guarantee that your child(ren) will be grouped with your listed preferences.

**7. Placement of my child(ren) in summer camp programming will depend upon the updated SIP orders by the County/State, up-to-date local infection numbers, and discussion with the staff regarding specifics about how they will keep the kids separated & safe.**

This is totally understandable, and we would like to reassure you that we are working with the County Health Officer and our guidelines follow the safety practices described in the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>. These guidelines are subject to change as additional health orders and/or guidelines are released.

**8. Will my child(ren) with asthma be safe?**

Adults and youth who have serious chronic medical conditions are believed to be at higher risk. If you have concerns, please consult with a medical professional before registering your child in camp.

**9. How many participants will be in each camp group?**

Stable groups will consist of 12 or fewer children and a consistent staff team throughout the course of the summer.

**10. What does “stable group” mean?**

County Parks will assign groups with 12 or fewer children and a consistent/fixed staff team to remain together throughout the course of the summer. The intention is for the same 12 or fewer participants to remain in your child(ren)'s group for the 9 weeks of programming. An exception may be made if participants discontinue utilizing the program and individuals are added from the waitlist. If it is possible, we will require that late-joining participants receive negative test results for COVID-19 before joining an established stable group.

Each group will be kept separate from other small stable groups while utilizing the same facilities (e.g., assigned locker rooms and areas of the pool for each group during pool Junior Guard programming).

**11. I'm considering signing my child(ren) up, but will reassess as the day approaches, depending on government guidelines.**

We will update program guidelines and procedures as government guidelines and health orders are updated.

**12. I would like more information about the camp to inform my decision.**

Detailed and most current information about County Parks 2020 Summer Camp programming can be found on Parks' website [www.scparks.com](http://www.scparks.com)

**13. Will qualified employees be staffing the camps?**

Each staff person will be First Aid and CPR-certified and those who are 18 and over will be fingerprinted and background-checked. Each small stable group's staff team will consist of staff who have experience educating and/or implementing recreational programming with children.

**14. While we'd love to utilize the summer camp program, we are not essential workers. Is our family eligible?**

This summer camp is offered to children ages 5-12 and is intended to enable owners, employees, volunteers, and contractors for Essential Businesses, Essential Governmental Functions, or Minimum Basic Operations to work as allowed under the current Health Order.

**15. What if school resumes in July?**

County Parks 2020 Summer Camp programming is scheduled to operate June 8 - August 7. Summer programming will end if/when schools reopen early.

**16. What is the fee for the 9-week summer camp program?**

Due to the economic hardships that many families are facing at this time, we are offering 2020 Summer Camp programming at \$900 per participant for 9 available weeks of camp programming, June 8 – August 7, with sibling discounts available. We will offer a prorated fee for groups that start after June 8.

Discounted registration fee may be available at \$100 per participant for low-income families that are eligible for Medi-Cal, WIC, or CalFresh.

We want to make this program affordable and accessible to all families in Santa Cruz County. There are, however, many costs associated with implementing this programming and donations to help fund the effort are gladly being accepted:

- online: [www.scparks.com](http://www.scparks.com)

- by phone: please call 831-454-7901

- by mail: please send payments to Santa Cruz County Parks, ATTN: 2020 Summer, 979 17th Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Donations are welcome and may be tax deductible.

**17. We only want to enroll in 2-3 weeks of County Parks camp programming for our child(ren). Why do we need to commit to 5 weeks of summer camp?**

County Parks developed a 9-week schedule of 2020 summer programming in an effort to maintain stable groups and reduce household exposures to slow the spread of COVID-19. Families are urged to forego sending their child(ren) to any additional summer camp, group recreational activities, and childcare programming during the course of the summer. Participating families are asked to complete the equivalent of at least 5 weeks of County Parks summer programming to maximum the utilization of services being offered to the community.

County Parks is currently planning shorter term camps of 2-3 weeks. Please follow us on social media for updates.

**18. I work outside of the hours of 7:30am-6:00pm. Can you provide camp beyond those hours?**

While we would love to meet the needs of every working parent/guardian in our community, at this time we will be offering camp during hours that would accommodate a standard 8:00am-5:00pm workday.

**19. Where will my child(ren)'s camp be located?**

We will have sites located throughout the County: South (Callaghan Park, La Selva Beach Clubhouse, Marinovich Park, Watsonville Senior Center, and Watsonville Youth Center), Mid (Aptos Village Park), and North (Bear Creek Country Club, Highlands Park). Please keep in mind that other facilities may become available.

**20. Can a younger child (for example, 4 years old) attend with their older sibling?**

At this time, the camp curriculum is designated for children ages 5-12, therefore we can accept children in this age group only.

**21. What do you have to offer for children ages 13-17?**

We are currently accepting applications for our Junior Volunteer program. To minimize household exposure, priority enrollment in the program may be given to older siblings of participants enrolled in County Parks 2020 Summer Camp programming. Contact Oscar Arroyo at (831) 566-6540 for more information. Activities to engage your older children can be found at our Virtual Rec Center at [www.scparks.com](http://www.scparks.com)

**22. I have two kids that I would like to register. How does the sibling discount apply?**

If you are registering multiple children from the same family, we will apply a sibling discount of 15% for each child after the first full-fee registrant. For instance, Child #1 registers for \$900 and Child #2 registers for \$765.