COVID-19 Precautions & Safety

The safety of our campers and staff has always been one of Flanders Nature Center & Land Trust’s top priorities, and of course, will continue to be now more than ever. Over the past few months as we have been developing modified camp protocols, we have been in constant contact with the State of Connecticut’s Office of Early Childhood (OEC)—as Flanders is a state licensed childcare/camp provider with OEC, as well as working within the guidelines released by the Office of Early Childhood, the Governor’s Office and the CDC. Flanders also follows program best practices as outlined by the Connecticut AfterSchool Network and the National AfterSchool Association. Not only will we be implementing their regulations this summer, but we will also be implementing additional safety measures we feel are necessary for everyone’s safety. Some of those protocols include:

- Counselors and campers will have their temperatures taken upon arrival before entering their camp location. Counselors will also ask the parent/guardian health related questions while completing a visual inspection of the camper for signs of illness which could include, but not limited to flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue or extreme fussiness.
- Hand washing stations will be located at all camp locations and will be required to be used at entering camp, as well as times throughout the day.
- All counselors and professional staff will be wearing face masks at all times throughout the camp day. Campers will not be required to wear masks.
- Hand washing breaks and water breaks will be required throughout the day.
- Campers and staff members must wash their hands for a minimum of 20 seconds. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to practice handwashing at home.
- Each camp area will have high touch disinfectant cleaning completed daily.
- Each group will have their own set of camp supplies for just their group to use.
- Each group will be placed in separate areas away from the other campers and will participate in activities only with members in their group. These areas will serve as their home buildings. Groups will spend the majority of their time outdoors.
- Groups will remain separate for all activities throughout the camp (this includes lunch).
- Upon arrival and pick-up of your child/children, the parent/guardian must remain in their car. Staff will adhere to social distancing recommendations when approaching your car, and will notify your child/children’s counselors using our walkie talkies.
● Upon arrival to camp, your child will be dropped off at one of the three outdoor sites: North Barn, Sugar/Trail House, and Van Vleck/Studio, depending on their group. There they will be met by a Flanders staff member. We will use safety markers to make sure the campers waiting for their counselors to arrive are 6ft apart from each other, and they will remain 6ft apart from other campers and staff when walking to and from their area.

● Upon pick up, your child/children will be walked safely by their counselor to their designated entrance/exit and will remain in their designated group area until it is safe to enter your car.

Bathroom Policy

● Flanders has bathrooms at each camp group location. Only one group at a time will be allowed access to the bathrooms. If a member from another group needs to use the bathroom while it is being occupied by a member in another group, they will be sent to one of the other available bathrooms. All bathrooms will be sanitized.

Groupings

● Campers will be in Groups of 14 this summer with a minimum of 2 camp counselors. This will be their group and their staff for the week.

*Updated as of June 30th, 2020