



Common Threads' Spring Break & Summer Camps Handbook for Families

Thanks for registering! We are delighted that your child(ren) will be joining us at [The Outback](#) for camp!

This document includes things you should know before the first day of camp. Click the links below to jump to different sections.

WHAT TO PACK (and what NOT to pack!)	1
DROP OFF AND PICK UP	2
USING THE BATHROOM WHILE AT CAMP	3
WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL	3
FRIDAY FAMILY OPEN HOUSE	3
CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY	3
BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT	3
HOW TO CONTACT US	3

WHAT TO PACK (and what NOT to pack!)

Common Threads camps are ***entirely outdoors***, so it is important to pack appropriately for the weather. We run camp **rain or shine!** Spring can still be chilly and often damp. Even in the summertime, rainstorms often happen. In the rare instance that we need to cancel a camp due to extreme weather, all families will be contacted with that information.

Please send your child in comfortable clothing that can get dirty, with a backpack labeled with their name and the following supplies:

- Long-sleeved shirt/warm layers
- Raingear and sunhat
- Sturdy shoes
- Water bottle
- For all but pre-school: a healthy lunch

Please note: We do not supply bug spray or sunscreen. We recognize that families make different choices about sunscreen and bug spray - please make sure that your child is prepared for the sun before dropping him/her off.

As a general rule, **please do not bring toys from home to camp.** We cannot be responsible for lost or damaged items.

Please do not send your child with a snack. Our experience has consistently shown that children are more open to trying new foods when these foods are not competing with a favorite snack from home. Common Threads provides one healthy snack in the morning and one healthy snack in the afternoon. Snacks feature vegetables and fruits from the garden along with a grain or vegetarian source of protein. For an idea of the types of snacks we serve, [browse our recipes](#).

Allergies: If you have not notified us already of your child's allergies (environmental and food), please do so ASAP by calling 360-927-1590.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Location: Camp is located at the Outback Farm at WWU, just south of the Fairhaven Residences between 25th St. and South College Way.

Directions: When going along Bill McDonald Parkway, turn north on 25th St. (up the hill) towards the Arboretum. [View google maps here](#).



Staff will meet you and your child on 25th St. on the sidewalk across from parking lot 22G and the entrance to the Arboretum (see photo at left).

This is the only pick up and drop off location. Please do not bring your children to other places, it makes it hard to keep them safe and accounted for!

Parking: Parking is limited near the Outback. The most reliable parking option is in the West Lot of Sehome High School, near the baseball

diamond. Limited parking spots may be available along 25th St. at our drop-off stop or at the entrance of the Arboretum.

Wheelchair accessible parking is available at the north entrance to the Outback Farm ([this map shows campus accessibility features](#)) – If you need access because either you or your child has a disability, please let us know so that we can support an easy and comfortable pick up and drop off.

Visit the [WWU parking website](#) for further parking information.

Sign in/out: Please connect with a camp leader to sign your child in/out each day of camp. If someone not on your approved pick-up list will be picking up your child, please leave a note with our camp staff.

Drop-off and pick-up times: Please drop-off and pick-up your child on time. If you will be late, please call us at 360-927-1590 to let us know. We can let you know where at The Outback we are located.

- Drop-off for MORNING and FULL DAY camps: **8:45am-9:00am**. Please do not arrive before 8:45am - our team will be busy preparing for the day. Please do not leave until you have signed your child(ren) in.
- Pick-up for PRESCHOOL camps: **12:00pm**
- Pick-up for FULL DAY camps: **3:00pm**

Please pick-up your child(ren) on time.

You are always very welcome to stay and observe programming.

USING THE BATHROOM WHILE AT CAMP

All children in all of our camp programs must be potty trained. Children in our full day camps will have access to a Port-a-Potty at the Outback. Preschool campers will use bathrooms located in the nearest WWU buildings. Food Educators take campers on regularly scheduled bathroom trips throughout the day.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL

Please do not bring your child to camp if any of the following symptoms are present:

- Fever of 99°F and one more of the following signs: diarrhea, ear ache, sore throat, rash, or showing signs of irritability and confusion.
- Vomiting in the last 24 hours.
- Diarrhea within last 24 hours.
- Eye discharge or pinkeye.
- Lice or scabies.
- Symptoms of a known contagious disease (examples include: chicken pox, strep throat, colds, and flus). If your child becomes ill while at camp, you will be notified and asked to pick up your child as soon as possible. If we cannot reach you, we will call the emergency contact on your registration form.

FRIDAY FAMILY OPEN HOUSE

By the time Friday comes, your kids will have experienced some pretty fun activities throughout the week that they will be eager to share with you. Families are invited to join us for a short open house on Friday morning, 9:00am-9:30am. Families can follow your child(ren) from the pick-up area to the Amphitheater for presentations prepared by each camp (i.e. song, skit). Then the campers will be dropping the parents back off at the pick-up area.

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

We are happy to offer you a refund (minus a 10% processing fee) up to one week in advance of your program date. We are also able to move you to a different week of camp if space allows.

It happens extremely rarely - but if for some reason a camp's registration is low (we run with a minimum of 6) we'll let you know at least a week in advance and offer you the chance to either switch to a different camp or get your money refunded.

BEHAVIOR AGREEMENT

By signing up for this camp, campers and parents/guardians agree to the following:

- Be safe
- Be respectful (people, plants, animals, and materials!)
- Be responsible

Our camp leaders work to prevent challenges by building relationships, and setting clear routines and boundaries. When prevention is not enough, they may use any combination of redirection, connection before correction, and the option to move away from the group to calm down. Depending on the severity of the behavior challenge, the Camp Director, Program Manager, or Executive Director may be asked to provide support.

In the event that a child is not behaving according to this agreement:

First Warning: Child will be reminded, guardian will be informed of incident.

Second Warning: Guardian will be notified and will discuss the best course of action with Common Threads staff.

Third Warning: Child will be asked not to return without a refund.

HOW TO CONTACT US

If you have any further questions or concerns, please check our [FAQ page](#).

Additionally, you may contact our office at **360-927-1590** or info@commonthreadsfarm.org to reach one of the administrative team.

The 360-927-1590 number is also the best way to get a message to our staff or your child during program days.

Please spread the word! *If you know others who might enjoy our camp program, we'd love your help in spreading the word!*

See you soon!

Common Threads Farm www.commonthreadsfarm.org