

ABOUT OUR CAMP

A YMCA Tradition

The YMCA opened its first summer camp in the United States more than 100 years ago. The Cortland County Family YMCA camp has operated near-continually for decades, providing care for more than 250 campers each summer.

Our goal is to ensure an environment for campers to grow physically and mentally, so that they may achieve their greatest potential. We promote belonging, achievement, and positive relationships.



Professional Role Models

Our day camp is led by a team of counselors and staff committed to the safety and care of your child. We recruit through local schools and colleges, and also bring in some of our best year-round Y staff members to join our team. Our camp staff completes rigorous training before the first day of camp, including essentials like Child Abuse Prevention, Bullying Awareness, and Water Safety, along with programming essentials like team builders, inclusion, games, and camp songs.

All YMCA employees go through a background check before hiring, as well as a detailed application and interview process. We take pride in the high expectations we set for our summer camp staff each year.

The Essentials

Cost:

\$160 a week for Cortland YMCA Members.
\$200 a week for Community (non-YMCA) members.

Payment:

Payments are due one week in advance and must be made at the front desk of the YMCA. A two week notice, written and dated, of any schedule changes is required. Payments are based on scheduling, not attendance. If your child is picked up later than 5:00 pm, a late fee of \$10.00 for every 15 minutes will be added. This late fee will go into effect at 5:01 pm.

Times:

Camp runs weekdays from 8:00 AM through 5:00 PM. Morning drop-off is from 8:00 until 8:30 AM, and afternoon pick-up is from 4:30-5:00 PM. Please see page 4 for more details.



ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Each week of summer camp is a new adventure! Your camper will learn new things, play games, and take on exciting new challenges! We'll go on walks, develop new skills, build friendships, and create new memories.

Weekly Swim Lessons

The Cortland YMCA is committed to promoting safety around water. As part of that, we offer weekly swim lessons as part of our summer camp program. For free swim times, campers will be invited to take the safety swim test to access the deep end of the pool.

NOTE: The pool will be closed during the first week or two of camp, as we adjust to new state health guidelines. Due to Covid-19 and staffing changes, pool time will be limited to 2-3 days a week this year.

Camp Events

Some weeks have a special event planned during the camp day (like our talent show during talent week), or special guests. We will let parents know about these events in advance. If your child needs to bring something extra from home (a change of clothes for messy activities, for example), we will let you know on Monday morning at the start of the camp week.

Weekly Themes for 2020

Week #1 June 29 – July 3
Under the Big Top

Week #2 July 6-July 10
Pirate Week

Week #3 July 13-July 17
Space Camp

Week #4 July 20-July 24
Talent Week

Week #5 July 27-August 31
Sports Camp:

Week #6 August 3-August 7
Jedi Training Camp

Week #7 Aug. 10-Aug. 14
Renaissance Week

Week #8 Aug. 17- Aug. 21
Wild Outdoors

Week #9 Aug. 24 – Aug. 28
Holiday Celebration

Week #10 Aug. 31 – Sept. 4
Innovators' Workshop



Cortland County Family YMCA: The Camp operator shall provide, with any enrollment application forms and/or enrollment contact forms mailed or delivered to a person for purpose of enrollment of a child for any children's camp, a written statement and/or brochure outlining the rights and responsibilities of campers and camp operators and declaring:

- (1) That such camp is required to be permitted to operate by the Cortland County Department of Health;
- (2) That such camp is required to be inspected twice yearly.
- (3) The inspection reports concerning such camps are filed at: Cortland County Family YMCA 22 Tompkins St. Cortland, NY 13045



SUMMER CAMP GUIDELINES

Admission & Registration

The YMCA Summer Camp is offered to children who are enrolled in kindergarten up to 6th grade or 12 years old. A registration fee is required for enrollment. Forms required for registration include:

- Registration Form & Pick-up Authorization
- Emergency Authorization
- Green Card
- Walking Field Trip and Video/Photo Release
- Medical Report (found on Registration Form)
- Signed Parent Handbook Agreement
- Parent Contract
- Positive Behavior Agreement
- Medication Consent Form (sunscreen and insect repellent)



Attendance

All children must be pre-registered for summer camp, and payment must be made no later than the close of camp on the Friday before the session. The YMCA needs to be notified by 8:00am, if your child(ren) will not be attending that day.

Drop-off/Pick-up

For the health and safety of campers and staff, the YMCA summer camp will have strict drop-off and pick-up times. Campers may be dropped off between 8:00 and 8:30 AM in the mornings and picked up between 4:30 and 5:00 PM in the afternoon. Late campers will not be allowed to attend that day's program, and the parents will be responsible for finding alternative arrangements for their care. No refunds will be given for late arrivals.

To maintain a safe environment, only campers and camp staff will be allowed in the camp areas. The YMCA Summer Camp will require a single parent or guardian to accompany the child to the Summer Camp drop-off/pick-up area **in front of the main YMCA entrance** and sign them in every morning and sign them out each afternoon.

Upon arrival, a YMCA staff member will check your child's temperature and will ask you a series of screening questions about your child's health. If your child does not pass the screening, they will not be allowed to participate in camp that day, and parents will be responsible for finding alternative child care arrangements.

Children must be signed out at the end of each day by a parent or guardian. When arriving, a single parent or guardian will be allowed to come to the pick-up table to sign their child out, and your child will be brought to you. **A third person whom is picking up a child must have proper ID and the YMCA Summer Camp staff must be notified prior to pick up. The YMCA requires a copy of the court order to deny legal access to a parent for pick-up.**

Camp Visitor Policy

The Cortland County Family YMCA does not allow parents, visitors, or other guests to enter the camp spaces without prior approval and health screenings. This includes during drop-off and pick-up times. Because of limited staffing, if you need to pick your child up early, please call ahead to let staff know (with as much notice as possible), and then wait at the designated area to receive your child.

TAKING GOOD CARE

Health and Wellness

It is our sincere desire to provide quality care for your camper while they are participants at camp. It is absolutely imperative that we work together to make this happen. If a child becomes ill during the program and is unable to participate in activities, we will contact the parent/guardian to immediately pick up the camper and bring them home.

Parents will be required to pick up their child if:

1. The illness prevents the camper from participating comfortably in camp activities.
2. The illness results in greater care needed than the counselor can provide without compromising the health and safety of the other campers.
3. The camper has any of the following conditions:
 - a. Fever
 - b. Signs of Possible Severe Illness: Examples include lethargy, uncontrolled coughing, irritability, persistent
 - c. Uncontrolled diarrhea: Examples include one or more watery stools in a 24 hr. period.
 - d. Vomiting
 - e. Signs of communicable illness (rash, lice, etc.)

If your camper has any of the symptoms listed above, or is removed from camp because of an above listed condition please refrain from returning to camp until condition discontinues (a minimum of 24 hours). This is in the best interest of all the campers in the program. Please assist us in our efforts to maintain a healthy environment for our children. In some instances a doctor's note may be required.

First Aid

If an injury occurs at the YMCA summer camp, the YMCA camp staff will administer first aid. An accident report will be completed by a staff member. The report needs to be signed by the parent/guardian. If further medical treatment is required, the child will be transported by ambulance to the Guthrie Cortland Medical Center unless otherwise specified by parents. Parents/Guardian will be notified immediately. The parent/guardian's insurance is the primary coverage. If the situation requires further medical attention, a staff member will attempt to contact the parent/guardian. In the event that the parent/guardian cannot be reached, contacts on the authorized pick-up list will be contacted.

Medications

Summer camp staff are not certified to administer medication to campers, but parents can make the decision for the child to self-administer (with supervision). If a child will be self-administering their medication, the medication must be brought in every day by a parent, and will be locked up in the camp office. The child's doctor must complete a Summer Camp Prescription Medication Form (available in the registration packet) for each required medication.

COVID-19 Considerations

If your child or a close contact of the child tests positive for COVID-19 during their time at camp, or during the two weeks after they attend camp, please call the Cortland YMCA to let staff know immediately so that we can take steps to alert other camp families and staff about possible exposure.



KEEPING OUR CAMPERS SAFE

Child Abuse

The YMCA summer camp staff is mandated by law to report any suspected case of child abuse or neglect to the Child Abuse and Maltreatment Center in Albany. The procedure for making a report will be followed by the staff and any information will remain confidential.

Discipline

The YMCA summer camp staff strives to create a relaxed, positive environment that enables children to explore and experiment while remaining safe and feeling well-supported. Discipline concerns are handled by staff in a way that encourages children to solve problems and develop a sense of inner self-control. Children are given authentic choices and opportunities to be an active part of decision-making in their environment, fostering a sense of personal responsibility. The YMCA summer camp staff helps children to understand the reasons for rules and limits and to feel good about the choices they make.

Anti-Violence Policy

All **employees** and **families should be treated with courtesy and respect at all times**. Any act of violence will not be tolerated. Employees and families are expected to refrain from verbal threats, fighting, or other conduct that may be dangerous to others. Weapons and other dangerous or hazardous devices or substances are prohibited from the premises. The YMCA supports the Cortland City School District's Drug Free Policy; No student at any time may use, possess, give, share, sell, and/or distribute any alcohol, tobacco, smoking products or other chemical/drugging substances or their paraphernalia. Under Federal Criminal Law, penalties for drug offences committed within Drug Free School Zones can double the usual penalty for the same offence. The YMCA has a **zero tolerance policy for physical violence, if a child intentionally, physically hurts another child or YMCA staff member the child will be suspended from the Summer Camp Program for one day. If the child continues to engage in acts of violence against others the child will be dismissed from the program.**

Emergency Closing

In the event that the YMCA has to close due to an emergency, **a parent/guardian will be notified immediately**. If the building needs to be evacuated your child/children will be at Beaudry Park on Scammell Street.



HOW WE ARE KEEPING CAMPERS SAFE

Your child's safety is at the top of our priorities during every year of camp, but this year, we're taking the extra steps necessary to create a safe space during the Coronavirus outbreak.

We know that this is a scary time, especially as a parent preparing to send your child out of the home for the day, possibly for the first time since mid-March. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask, and our staff will do their best to answer, or direct you to someone who can.

Our counselors and other YMCA staff will clean and sanitize camp surfaces regularly, and lead campers in washing their hands and/or using hand sanitizer when walking into their camp room each morning, before leaving each afternoon, and several set times during the day.

As our camp opens, here's what you can expect:

- No early or late pick-ups or drop-offs. We will not be able to offer early or late care this year. Camper must arrive between 8:00 and 8:30 AM, and be picked up between 4:30 and 5:00 PM. Because of the new check-in procedures, children who arrive after 8:30 will not be able to attend camp that day, and the parents must make other arrangements for their care.
- No visitors will be allowed inside the camp areas, both inside and outside the Y. There will be a table set up in the front yard for check-in. Only one parent may walk up with the camper to check them in. Please wear face masks and maintain a 6' distance from others during this process. We will be conducting a daily health questionnaire and temperature check for all campers. If your child is unwell or has been around anyone who is unwell, they will not be able to attend camp that day.
- We are limiting the number of campers in our program, and each camper will be assigned a group for the week, remaining with the same kids and counselors each day. Siblings will be assigned together. We cannot honor requests to place two campers in the same group.
- We are suspending all field trips for the summer, including walks to local parks. However, campers will have more time outside on both the playground and on our newly-prepared green space.
- We may not have the pool open during the first few weeks of summer, as we work with the health department on safely resuming regular use of our facility. When we do reopen the pool, campers will be swimming two or three days a week.
- Campers will not be allowed to bring items from home, with the exception of lunch, bug spray and sunscreen, and a change of clothes. The bug spray, sunscreen, and clothing must be able to fit in a small 6 qt. lidded storage container. Please send lunches in a clean lunch box or bag that can be easily sanitized.

Please know that, while this list seems restrictive, these changes are being made to help keep your child, and our staff, safe this summer. These guidelines are subject to change based on Department of Health guidance, and we keep parents notified of any changes that affect your child's camp experience.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the camp administrator at margo@cortlandymca.org.



Staying Healthy at Camp

(A Guide for Campers)

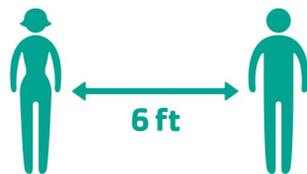
To stay healthy, I...

Wash My Hands.



I wash my hands long enough to sing 'YMCA' twice, with soap and warm water.

Keep My Distance.



I make sure I can circle my arms freely to make sure I am a safe distance from my camp friends.

Don't Touch My Face and Mouth.



I keep my hands away from my face to keep myself healthy.

Sneeze and Cough into My Elbow.



If I have to sneeze or cough, I aim towards my elbow (and away from others), and then I go wash with soap and warm water.

Follow My Counselor's Directions.



My counselors are here to keep me safe. I follow their directions so that my friends and I can stay healthy.





WHAT TO BRING ON MY FIRST DAY OF CAMP:

- A healthy lunch
- Any forms not yet turned in (including immunization record)
- Swimsuit, towel (once the pool reopens), and goggles (if wanted)
- Sneakers and socks
- A change of clean clothes
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Insect Repellant
- Sweatshirt (in case of cool weather)
- A great attitude, and a willingness to have fun and try new things!

See you soon!

