

Dear Parents and Campers:

Welcome to the Outdoor Skills summer camp-Monday – Friday, August 5-9! I am looking forward to a fun-filled experience this summer. Please go over the attached checklist with your camper so that s/he will be fully prepared for camp. *We will be holding camp rain or shine – please be sure that your camper is dressed appropriately for the weather.*

Below is a drop off/pick up schedule for the week:

<u>Day</u>	<u>Drop off</u>	<u>Pick up</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday (8/5)	9am	3pm	Flag Ponds Park (Education Building)
Tuesday (8/6)	9am	3pm	Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm (Main Driveway)
Wednesday (8/7)	9am	3pm	Kings Landing Park (Pavilion I, by barn)
Thursday (8/8)	9am	3pm	Ward Farm Park (Main parking area)
Friday (8/9)	9am	3pm	Battle Creek Cypress Swamp (Picnic Pavilion)

Help our camp staff to protect our campers! Campers will be expected to wear shoes at all times while at camp, so appropriate shoes are a must. Although flip-flops and crocs are great for the pool – please do not send your camper to camp with these types of shoes. Your child will not be allowed to participate if they only have flip-flops or crocs. Tevas, Keens, or other sport-type sandals/water shoes are acceptable as long as they will not pull off in the mud. If you have comfortable “amphibious” shoes that can go from land to water and back – they make a great option vs. bringing a change of shoes – that’s what I’ll be wearing.

Every day send your camper in clothes that can get WET and MUDDY and send a change of clothes that can get the same. We will be outside for the majority of this camp and sometimes going off-trail. ***Please be sure your camper has long pants on (light-weight fabric, jeans are less than ideal) Tuesday and Thursday to protect them from briars and ticks.*** Be sure that your camper does a thorough “tick check” when they get home each day.

We will be at a different park for each day of camp. If you need directions, you can find information on each park at: <http://calvertparks.org/visit.html> We will have a dry erase board or brightly colored flag out at each location, so keep an eye out for that.

Camp staff will be preparing for the day right up until 9:00 AM. If you get in early, please keep your child in the parking area with you until that time. Please sign your camper in/out each day with camp staff. **On our Flag Ponds day, please do not go around the gate – the park opens at 9am, so please wait if there’s a line, we won’t start camp without your camper.**

Please put bug spray and sunscreen on before coming to camp each morning, and pack more so it can be reapplied during the day. Again, please be sure to have your camper do a thorough tick check each evening after camp and don’t forget the long pants on Tuesday and Thursday.

We will not tolerate bullying of any kind while at camp; campers found to be bullying other campers will be permanently expelled from all CCNRD summer camps.

Questions or concerns? Please contact me at Battle Creek Nature Center at 410-535-5327 or by email @ “tanial.gale@calvertcountymd.gov” I look forward to our adventures this summer!

Sincerely,
Tania Gale
Naturalist

“Outdoor Skills” camp checklist *Wear these things*

Take the “Unplug Challenge” -- leave all electronics at home

___change of clothes that can get wet and dirty

Monday – Flag Ponds Park

(Activities: tracking at the beach, wade in Bay)

- ___ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- ___ a snack – granola bar or trail mix, not candy
- ___ *sunscreen* (be sure to bring extra)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *swimsuit*
- ___ *old clothes (shorts and T-shirt) that can get wet, dirty, and maybe painted*
- ___ *well-fitting water shoes/sport sandals*
no flip flops or crocs
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack with real straps, not string (none w/wheels)
- ___ comfortable walking shoes/sneakers -not flip flops or crocs
- ___ towel
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes that can get wet and dirty

Tuesday – Biscoe Gray Heritage Farm

(Activities: building and finding shelters)

- ___ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- ___ a snack – granola bar or trail mix, no candy
- ___ *sunscreen* (be sure to bring extra)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *long pants that can get dirty – to protects campers from briars, ticks, and mosquitoes*
- ___ *T-shirt that can get dirty*
- ___ *well-fitting, comfortable shoes for hiking*
no flip flops or crocs
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack with real straps, not string (none w/wheels)
- ___ towel
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes(no flip-flops or crocs) that can get wet and dirty

Wednesday- Kings Landing Park

(Activities: map and compass skills, potential wading in the river)

- ___ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- ___ a snack –granola bar or trail mix, not candy
- ___ *sunscreen* (be sure to bring extra)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *old sneakers to wear in the river – other types of water shoes may be lost in the mud **no flip flops or crocs***
- ___ *old clothes (shorts and T-shirt) to wear while exploring to block the sun and bugs – these WILL get wet and dirty today*
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack with real straps, not string (none w/wheels)
- ___ towel
- ___ comfortable walking shoes/sneakers – not flip flops or crocs
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes

Thursday – Ward Farm Park

(Activities: Finding wild food and water safely, woods hiking adventure)

- ___ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- ___ a snack – granola bar or trail mix, not candy
- ___ *sunscreen* (be sure to bring extra)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *long pants that can get dirty – to protects campers from briars, ticks, and mosquitoes*
- ___ *T-shirt that can get dirty*
- ___ *comfortable shoes for hiking**no flip flops or crocs***
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack with real straps, not string (none w/wheels)
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes (no flip-flops or crocs) that can get wet and dirty

Friday – Battle Creek Cypress Swamp

(Activities: safe fire building and campfire cooking)

- ___ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- ___ a snack – granola bar or trail mix, not candy
- ___ *sunscreen* (be sure to bring extra)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *old clothes (shorts and T-shirt) that can get dirty*
- ___ *comfortable shoes for hiking **no flip flops or crocs***
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack with real straps, not string (none w/wheels)
- ___ towel
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes (no flip-flops or crocs) that can get wet and dirty

