**Oxford Parks and Recreation**

**Huskies Summer Camp Manual**

**2025**

**Community Chapel (24 Hawley Rd)**

**Camp Mission Statement**

**Oxford Parks and Recreation summer Camp Programs provide the children with the opportunity to engage in fun and informative activities, while forming new friendships with other children and positive relationships with staff members. Our goal is to provide children with a safe and enjoyable camp experience.**

**\*\*\*Look for a weekly email each week before your campers session (Thurs/Fri). This email will provide detailed information about the week ahead\*\*\***

Huskies Camp is for children who have completed K through 5th grade. Completed 5th graders have the choice to join our Teen Travel Camp as well.

The Huskies are to go to Community Chapel (formerly Colonial Tavern) on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursday will be the **Camp Trip day** and campers are to be dropped off at the Parks and Rec Annex building (462 Oxford Rd) where they will be picked up by bus for their destination. We expect that all campers will be going on the scheduled trip. There will be no camp offered for those that choose not to go.

On Huskies Trip Days, (Thursdays) lunch **may** be included. Please check the week your child is registered for. On Community Chapel days, lunch is provided. On Community Chapel days, there will be a light snack and drink at about 2:00 which is included in your fees. **There will be no snacks provided on trip days.**  Campers are always welcome to bring their own water bottle, which can be refilled at camp.

**Huskies Lunch Schedule:**

Monday- Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, chips

Tuesday- Chicken tenders, fries/tater tots, mozzarella sticks

Wednesday- Chicken and beef sliders, fries/tater tots

Thursday- Trip Day (lunch included on some trips)

Friday- Pizza

Jamie Yakushewich- Parks and Recreation 6/23/25

**Huskies Trip Schedule:**

**July 10**- Dave and Busters- Includes $20 game care and video game play

Lunch included:Flatbread Pizza

Mini All Beef Pretzel Dogs with Ketchup

Boneless Wings with Ranch

Garlic Butter Pretzel Sticks with Marinara

French Fries

Soda/water

**July 17**- Urban Air (lunch included: pizza and a drink) Fill out a waiver on Huskies Summer Camp Page.

**July 24**- Maritime Aquarium- Pack a lunch. 4D Film: Animal Kingdom

**July 31**- Quassy (Lunch included: Burgers, dogs, fries and a drink) NO WATER PARK!!

**Aug 7**- Dave and Busters- Includes $20 game care and video game play

 Lunch included: lunch included:Flatbread Pizza

Mini All Beef Pretzel Dogs with Ketchup

Boneless Wings with Ranch

Garlic Butter Pretzel Sticks with Marinara

French Fries

Soda/water

**Aug 14**- Urban Air (Lunch included: pizza and a drink). Fill out a waiver on Huskies Summer Camp Page.

**FAQ’s:**

**Counselors:** Each year, most of the same counselors return. This year, a few of our former counselors have moved on, but we’ve replaced them with some equally capable newcounselors. Many of our counselors have been trained in CPR, basic First Aid, Bloodborne Pathogens. Our staff also completes a Mandated Reporter Training by CT DCF. If your child needs to bring an Epi-Pen to camp, please see directions for that below.

**Check In/Out:** Same as last summer. Curbside drop off and pick up. A counselor will be there to check your camper in/out. If someone else is picking up your camper they must be on your pick up permission list that was filled out during registration. If for some reason they are not on that list you must speak with the Site Director or Camp Director to make an arrangement for someone else to pick up your camper.

**Camper Groups:** Campers will be placed into color groups by grade. They will have a chance to interact with other groups throughout the day. Campers will not be allowed to change groups.

**Epi-Pens:** Some kids have serious allergies to nuts, bee stings, etc. If your child has one of these allergies, and s/he needs to bring an Epi-Pen to camp, please follow these rules. Bring the Pen with you and take it home each day. Put it in a plastic zip lock bag that contains your child’s name, address, phone number, emergency phone number and a picture of your child. Please give it to the **Site Director** on duty. Epi Pens will be stored in the Lifeguard office at Community Chapel. Epi-Pens will be brought on all camp trips. Should your child need to use it, our counselors will assist your child in administering the Epi-Pen. They will then call you for instruction unless the child needs to be rushed to the hospital in which case, they will call the ambulance.

**What to Wear**: We will give your child one or two official camp t-shirts, depending upon how many sessions s/he is registered for. Please make sure (s)he wears the camp t-shirt while on **all** bus trips. They can be worn at the pool but not mandatory. Your child will be assigned to a color group. Each child and counselor in the group will wear the same color t-shirts to make both the campers and counselors easily identifiable. Campers get very dirty at camp. The Huskies do crafts that include paints and markers. While we try to get washable markers and paints, they’re never truly washable. So, please don’t send them in their Sunday best!!! (:

\*\* We always have a limited number of extra T-Shirts leftover. They are available for purchase for $10 each. They will be at the Oxford Annex (Parks and Rec office) after the start of camp. We will continue to sell them until they’re gone. They will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.

 **Swimming**: At the Community Chapel there is a pool. We will have lifeguards on duty. Each guard will be stationed on different sides of the pool. In addition, the counselors are also watching the pool and many of them are IN the pool with the campers. A few of our counselors are also certified lifeguards. If you have concerns about your child swimming, feel free to let me know.

**Sunscreen:** Some kids have very fair skin and get sunburned very easily. Please remember to slather your child up with sunscreen in the morning and then send some more to camp. Our counselors have been advised not to put sunscreen on the children but will regularly remind them to put it on themselves. Also, if you send the spray sunscreen, the counselors will spray it on your child for you. We will have **mandatory** sunscreen breaks each day at Huskies camp; once each morning at 11:00am and once again each afternoon at 2:00. We will require all kids to get out of the pool and will remind them all to reapply their sunscreen. These breaks occur around lunch and snack times to allow time for the sunscreen to soak in before they jump back into the pool.

**Hydration:** There are days it can be extremely hot out at camp. We have a large pavilion for shade and a pool. At camp we have several water stations (3 under the tent and 1 by the pool) with cups for campers to use. We will remind campers throughout the day to hydrate.

**Rain policy**: If it’s just a drizzle or occasional showers – we will continue with our original schedule. If it's horrendous storms (extreme severe weather warnings), we may cancel camp all together (highly doubtful). Please check the Parks and Rec Info Line (check the last page of this letter for the number) each morning for an update of changes to camp for that day. Jamie Yak will be leaving a message on there each day by 7:00 am.

Remember, this is not day-care. It is summer camp. If you are using this as your day care, please be prepared with your back-up plan in case of serious rain or storms. Thanks so much for your understanding. There are no refunds for missed days, sorry.

**\*\*\*\*\*On a day we get rain for some of the day we may hold camp that day over at the old Center Annex building (Parks and Rec office). Check the info line in the AM or the Email you have used to set up your account.\*\*\*\*\***

**Sick**: If your child is sick, please keep him/her home. It’s not fair to the other children to expose them to the illness, and your child will not have fun either. We will have plenty of hand sanitizer on hand and will encourage the children to wash their hands often. Having said that, if a child complains of a sore throat, aches, fever, etc, we will contact you as quickly as we can. This is to protect all involved.

**Trips:** The Huskies have a trip scheduled each week. By registering your child for the Huskie camp, you are agreeing to allow your child to participate in the week’s trip. A few items to emphasize – 1)Huskies trips are not optional. If your child does not want to go on a trip – there will be no camp offered for that day. 2) Your child must wear his/her camp t-shirt on the trip. 3)  **If a child gets on a bus to go on a trip – they must return on that bus! No one will be allowed to go home from the trip with parents or friends. And please do not drop kids off at the site of the trip.** 4) Children should be dropped off at Center School no later than 9:15am on Thursdays, Camp Trip Day. We get back at various times for our trips.

**This and That:** Regretfully, we cannot make any changes adding anyone to another session if they had not already signed up for it. The staff has been hired, shirts have been ordered, supplies have been stocked, trips have been paid for – all based upon the registrations we have received.

**Cell Phones/Electronic devices:**

Each year, more and more kids are bringing cell phones/electronic devices to camp. Please be aware that we do have phones at all facilities. If you feel your child needs to bring a cell to camp, please be aware that we are not responsible if it gets damaged, lost or stolen. We also will do our best to discourage them from sitting around talking and texting on their phone all day. We also ask that you not send your child to camp with any electronic devices (ipads, lap tops, etc).

**Swim Lessons:** If your child is signed up for swim lessons they typically take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. There is no specific time as to when they will take place since we have so many activities going on during the day. If for some reason we have no lessons on either of those days due to inclement weather, a change in schedule, etc they will take place on Friday.

**Absences:** If for any reason your child will not be at camp for a day you do not need to call to let us know.

**Summer Camp Cancellation Policy**

**\* Cancellations made within 8 calendar days of the start of your child's scheduled week will be charged a 25% penalty.**

**\* Cancellations made within 7 calendar days or less of the start your child's scheduled week will be charged a 50% penalty**

**Valuables:** Leave them home. It’s not worth the risk of losing things like Electronic Games, Computer Games, cards, etc. Not only could they be lost or stolen, they could easily be damaged and we will not be held responsible for them. This has been an issue the last few years at camp. Please leave any personal items (games, toys, electronic devices, etc) at home.

**Tax ID:** Some of you deduct your camp fees from next year’s taxes.

**Keep this number handy.** You’ll need it when you file.

**066 00 2061**

Most of you know Jamie Yakushewich (Yak) from past years. Jamie is the Camp Director. Once camp begins, you may feel free to talk with him about any questions or concerns that may pop up. He will not be stationed at either of the campsites – he will be floating back and forth. If you don’t find him at the camp, leave a message with any counselor and Jamie will get back to you. Of course, in the meantime, feel free to contact Kyra Nesteriak with any other questions or concerns.

Kyra Nesteriak, Director

Jamie Yakushewich, Camp Director (28th year) campdirector@oxford-ct.gov

Abby DeRasmo, Site Director (6th year)

Krista Donovan, Aquatics Director (27th year)

Oxford Parks and Rec

203-828-6505, 203-828-6506

Office Email: parkandrec@oxford-ct.gov

Kyra: parkrecdir@oxford-ct.gov

web: oxfordrec.com

**Important Phone Numbers:**

**Info Line: (203) 888-2543, select 3 then 1 (updated each day by 6:45am)**

**Huskies Camp Cell: (203) 828-7446 (only used during camp hours 7:30-4:00)**

Jamie Yakushewich- Parks and Recreation 6/23/25