



Camp Fire
Alaska

20 SUMMER
26 ADVENTURE
CAMP

handbook



OUR MISSION

Every child will have an opportunity to discover the best in themselves and others in a fun, safe, learning environment.

OUR PROMISE

Young people want to shape the world. Camp Fire provides the opportunity to find their spark, lift their voice, and discover who they are. In Camp Fire, it begins now.

ABOUT

This handbook is full of helpful details and information. Please keep it in an accessible place for reference throughout the year. If you have any questions, call the main Camp Fire Office for general inquiries.

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CONTACTS

MAIN OFFICE: 907-279-3551

SUMMER ADVENTURE PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

- Angelee Rose, 907-257-8811
(Chugach Optional and Trailside)

PROGRAM COORDINATOR:

- Connor Tetlow, 907-257-8825
(Homestead, Loussac Place, Muldoon, and Tyson)

Call your program location's main number to inform staff of scheduling changes, or if your child will be unable to attend program due to extenuating circumstances, such as illness.

CHUGACH OPT:	HOMESTEAD	MULDOON:
907-891-3207	907-891-2642	907-312-9963
TRAILSIDE:	LOUSSAC PLACE:	TYSON:
907-891-3290	907-338-1954	907-312-9963

CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Camp Fire Alaska does not discriminate in the registering of children due to race, religion, color, creed, economic status, national origin, physical and mental handicap, or gender as per A.S. 18.80.230 and AMC 5.20.50 and Camp Fire Alaska by-laws.

STATEMENT OF INCLUSION

Camp Fire believes in the dignity and the intrinsic worth of every human being. We welcome, affirm, and support young people and adults of all abilities and disabilities, experiences, races, ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, citizenship or immigration status, religion and non-religion, and any other category people use to define themselves or others.

DISCOVER FUN THIS SUMMER!

Our Summer Adventure Program is operated by Camp Fire Alaska and has been in operation since 1984. This is our most flexible program, conveniently located in elementary schools in Anchorage and Eagle River. This full day program qualifies for Child Care Assistance and is for kids who have completed Kindergarten.

Rooted in outdoor exploration, our program gets kids outside every day to connect with nature, play, and discover the world around them. From local parks to nearby trails and green spaces, campers spend their days enjoying fresh air, hands-on activities, and outdoor adventures that inspire curiosity and a love for the natural environment.

Camp Fire Alaska has a variety of summer programs to match your family's needs as well as your child's interests and maturity level. In some cases, a mix of different camp experiences throughout the summer is the perfect choice. All of our programs provide youth with opportunities to learn new skills, challenge themselves, make friends, and create memories that will last a lifetime!

Guided by our top-notch staff—who you might recognize if you attend our school year programs—your child will master new skills, build lasting friendships, and gain confidence and independence in this interactive, educational summer program. Register for a week or the whole summer!



To learn more, visit www.campfireak.org or call (907) 279-3551

CAMP SESSIONS

Chugach Optional, Trailside, and Homestead: Camp runs weekly from Monday June 1st through Thursday August 6th, 7:30 am-5:30 pm

Loussac Place: June 1- August 6, 11:30 am-4:30 pm

Muldoon: June 1-July 1, 11:30 am-4:30 pm

Tyson: July 6- August 6, 11:30 am-4: 30 pm

All Summer Adventure Camps are closed the following dates:

Friday June 19th, Friday July 3rd, and Friday August 7th for close out.

Summer Adventure Camp does not run on the weekends.

2026 Summer Adventure Camp Sessions



SESSION	DATE	THEME	FIELD TRIP	NOTES
SESSION ONE	6/1-6/5	GET OUTSIDE	HILLSIDE ADVENTURE- RANDY'S LOOP TRAIL	
SESSION TWO	6/8-6/12	GROWING TOGETHER	ALASKA BOTANICAL GARDEN	
SESSION THREE	6/15-6/18	ALASKA ADVENTURES	ALASKA ZOO	NO PROGRAM 6/19- JUNETEENTH
SESSION FOUR	6/22-6/26	INVENTION DIMENSION	CAMPBELL CREEK SCIENCE CENTER	
SESSION FIVE	6/29-7/2	FUN & FITNESS	GIRDWOOD- WINNER CREEK TRAIL	NO PROGRAM 7/3- INDEPENDENCE DAY
SESSION SIX	7/6-7/10	WATERPALOOZA	EKLUTNA LAKE	
SESSION SEVEN	7/13-7/17	ADVENTURE AWAITS: READING SAFARI	KINCAID PARK- GEOCACHING	
SESSION EIGHT	7/20-7/24	GET COOKIN'	DIMOND CENTER FARMER'S MARKET	
SESSION NINE	7/27-7/31	BLAST OFF!	ANCHORAGE MUSEUM & PLANETARIUM	
SESSION TEN	8/3 - 8/6	WE'RE ALL HEROES	ANCHORAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT & PARK	NO PROGRAM 8/7

***Field trip locations are subject to change*

ARRIVAL AT CAMP

Earliest check-in time is 7:30am at Chugach Optional, Trailside, and Homestead. You must check your child in every day. Plan to have your child at program by 9am, avoid drop-offs after 9am and pick-ups before 4pm if possible, as it requires us to disrupt activities underway. Check-in time at Loussac Place, Muldoon and Tyson is 11:30 am.

DEPARTURE FROM CAMP

Please park and sign your camper out each day. The latest time for pick up is 5:30pm. A late fee of \$15 per child, per 15 minutes, will be assessed to all late pick-ups.

TRANSPORT CHANGES

If you need to make changes to your child's transportation designation or to leave camp early, arrangements need to be made with the Camp Fire office or Camp Leadership Staff in advance.

FIELD TRIPS & GUEST SPEAKERS

Add on Bus Field Trips will run on Wednesdays. All walking field trips and guest speakers will occur throughout the week.



CHUGACH OPTIONAL
TRAILSIDE
HOMESTEAD

- 7:30 AM ● Check-In / Discovery Time
- 8:30 AM ● Morning Snack
- 9:00 AM ● Opening Circle
- 9:20 AM ● Acitvity Block 1
- 10:20 AM ● Acitvity Block 2
- 11:20 AM ● Transition/Clean Up
- 11:30 AM ● Lunch
- 12:00 PM ● Recess
- 12:30 PM ● Acitvity Block 3
- 1:30 PM ● Acitvity Block 4
- 2:30 PM ● Turtle Time
- 3:00 PM ● Afternoon Snack
- 3:30 PM ● Recess
- 4:00 PM ● Transition/Clean Up
- 4:15 PM ● Closing Circle
- 4:30 PM ● Discovery Time / Check-Out

LOUSSAC PLACE
MULDOON
TYSON

- 11:30 AM ● Welcome & Lunch
- 12:00 PM ● Recess
- 12:30 PM ● Acitvity Block 1
- 1:30 PM ● Acitvity Block 2
- 2:30 PM ● Snack
- 3:00 PM ● Recess
- 3:30 PM ● Circle
- 3:45 PM ● Discovery Time / Check-Out



CLOTHING

- Clothes suitable for outdoor play
- Spare change of clothes (especially socks)
- Sneakers or closed-toe shoes
- Warm jacket, fleece or hoodie
- Baseball cap or sun hat
- Backpack
- Rain Boots
- Rain Gear
- Bathing Suit as needed

PERSONAL ITEMS

- Bug Spray
- Water bottle
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen

LUNCH & SNACKS

PEANUT-FREE: No peanuts or peanut products are allowed on site to ensure a safer environment for all campers.

Please send a water bottle, healthy snacks, and a nutritious cold lunch with your child every day.

We recommend a sandwich, fresh fruits and vegetables, crackers and cheese, muffins, boxed milk, and 100% fruit juice. Please do not include high sugar/fat foods such as candy and soda, or meals that require a microwave.

DO NOT BRING

- Flip-flops or sandals
- Cell phones or tablets
- Electronic games or music players
- Money
- Pets

MEDICATION

Do not pack. Please put all of your medication containers in a ziploc bag, mark with camper name and bring to camp check-in.

All medications (including over-the-counter medications such as vitamins, cough drops, and others) must be in their original container with instructions for administration and a doctor's note. Medication can not be administered without an accompanying doctor's note.

Label all clothing. Check Lost & Found weekly for missing items. Found items will be donated over 4th of July, and at the end of the season.

COMMUNICATION

Camp Fire Alaska communicates updates through email, social media, text message, and our website, www.campfireak.org. The camp phone is for communication with the main Camp Fire office and with parents. Leadership Staff will call you if there is any need for concern. Please note that your child will not have access to a phone, and non-emergency phone use is not available to campers.

FOOD

Adults must provide campers with lunch every day. Camp Fire will provide an afternoon snack at all sites such as fresh fruits, wholegrain snacks, or cheese.

Do not send foods that require refrigeration or heating. Please send a full water bottle with your camper every day. The campers are very active, and in sunny or cloudy weather, dehydration is always a concern. Refill stations are provided to ensure campers have enough water throughout the day.

MEDICATIONS

Staff review each child's health history and collect any medications prior to program start. All medications (from epi-pens to gummy vitamins) must be in their original containers with physician note, prescription label, or Doctor's note for over the counter medications. Medications will be administered according to the instructions printed on the original container. Directions that are different from those on the package must be provided by a physician. Expired medications will not be accepted. Stored medications are checked for expiration during monthly site safety inspections. Staff will return all expired medication to families, and request a fresh replacement.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Summer Adventure is primarily an outdoor program. In the event of rain, activities will continue as is if safe to do so. Please send your child to camp with rain jacket, pants and boots if the forecast calls for rain. In the event of extreme weather, you will be called to pick your child up at your earliest availability. In the event that camp must be evacuated, you will be called and notified of an alternative pick-up location.

MEDIA RELEASE

Occasionally Camp Fire takes photos or videos of program activities for news releases, reports, and media activities. Photos are not used without parental permission, as indicated on the registration form. If you need to modify this release, please notify the main office, in writing.

INSURANCE

Camp Fire Alaska carries limited accident insurance which covers all participants in programs. Treatment must begin within 30 days of the incident. The insurance covers claims received within 52 weeks from the date of the incident. Send all requests for reimbursements to campfire@campfireak.org.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Campers who choose to use personal belongings, sports equipment, and supplies do so at their own risk. Storage and safe-keeping of personal equipment is the responsibility of the owner of the equipment. All personal equipment used within the program must meet the program standards and requirements for safety and condition. Equipment needed is provided, so we recommend that personal property is not brought to camp. Electronic and other toys or personal items are not allowed at camp. Camp Fire Alaska is not responsible for lost or damaged personal equipment.

PROHIBITED ITEMS

Weapons, fireworks, alcohol, drugs, or potentially dangerous objects may not be brought to camp. If these items are suspected at camp, parents will be notified and any items found will be seized and held until parent's arrival. Pets are not allowed in camp, and must remain in cars in brought to campus.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Camp Fire staff will maintain confidentiality in regard to all children and their family information.

NO-TOLERANCE POLICY

Camp Fire has a no-tolerance policy for physical violence toward other program participants or staff; use of cigarettes, alcohol, controlled substances; sexual activity; and firearms that places self, other children, or staff at risk. This applies to all staff, children, visitors, and parents while present at Camp Fire sites.

Camp Fire, at times, provides structured activities involving archery and riflery, with trained and qualified staff supervising. At no other time is any person permitted to carry any type of firearm, ammunitions and/or weapon in Camp Fire programs for any reason unless they are law enforcement officers required to carry these weapons as part of their uniform/job, and disclose this information to the Camp Fire staff. Violation of this policy will result in immediate removal from the program. Immediate suspension and/or dismissal from the program may occur. Camp Fire will act expediently as possible in responding to any claims. Suspension may occur while an incident is being investigated.

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN CONDUCT

Dismissal may occur if an adult uses threatening communications or conduct towards any participant, staff or others associated with Camp Fire that creates an unsafe or hostile work environment. Registering parents/ adults must follow the policies described in this handbook; including payment of childcare fees and late charges.

ACCESS AND VISITING PROGRAM

Camp Fire welcomes registering adults to visit program at any time. We encourage adults to call the site phone prior, to determine the best time to visit.

SUBSTITUTES, GUEST SPEAKERS, AND VOLUNTEERS

On-call substitutes who meet the Municipal Child Care Staff qualifications cover staff absences. Volunteers and guest speakers may visit sites. They are always accompanied by a qualified Camp Fire staff member.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Camp Fire Alaska provides camp scholarships for families who have a financial need. We ask families to apply early and contribute as much as they can towards camper fees. To be eligible for a scholarship, you must complete and submit a Child Care Assistance application and forward CCA determinations to campfire@campfireak.org to accompany your scholarship application. Applications for camp scholarships and information can be found online.

SITE CAPACITY

All camps serve youth ages 5-12 years old

Chugach Optional- 48

Homestead- 48

Trailside- 48

Loussac- 12

Muldoon- 24

Tyson- 24



REGISTRATION

Camp Fire accepts children into our outdoor programs on a first come, first serve basis. A copy of current immunization record is required for all participants prior to attendance. Every child must be pre-registered and pre-paid in order to attend camp. All required forms must be received at least two weeks prior to attendance.

For more information, visit the website at www.campfireak.org or call the office at (907) 279-3551.

PAYMENT METHODS

Camp Fire accepts VISA, MasterCard, Discover, AMEX, Checks, and Cash payments. Automatic scheduled payments are processed four weeks prior to the start of each session.

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY

All cancellation requests must be sent via email to finance@campfireak.org stating the specific reason for the cancellation. Cancellations cannot be made over the phone.

Changes to enrollment by parent/guardian, including cancellations, are due in writing to the Camp Fire office four weeks prior to the start of the session. Refunds are not issued for illness, vacation, non-attendance or suspension. Prepaid sessions are eligible for a full refund (less the deposit), if written cancellation is received four weeks prior to the start of the session. If cancellation is received 2 weeks prior to the start of the session, you will be eligible for a 50% refund (less the deposit). Any cancellation less than 2 weeks prior to the start of the session are non-refundable.

In the event of extended program closures lasting five days or more due to unforeseen external factors, such as natural disasters, extreme weather events, or other significant occurrences, families with registered

participants will receive a credit to their account.

Credit Amount: The credit issued will equal the full amount paid for the duration of the canceled program during the closure period (five days or more). Please note that no refunds will be granted.

Credit Usage: The credited amount can be applied toward any future programs offered by the organization. Families must redeem the credit within a specified time frame (e.g., within one year from the date of issuance).

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT FEES

Camp Fire requires an annual \$50 registration fee per child, and a \$35 deposit per child and per camp session. These fees are non-refundable. Payments are due at the time of enrollment.

RECORDS

Completed registration, medical and immunization records are due at the time of registration for all participants. Two current telephone numbers where staff members can reach the registering parent/adult, as well as two local emergency contact numbers are required. If Camp Fire staff cannot reach the registering parent/adult, they will call the emergency contact numbers. Emergency contacts are limited to the Anchorage and Eagle River area.

PAYMENTS

Invoices/Confirmations will begin being issued in April for summer sessions. Payments can be made at any time prior to invoicing. Weekly session fees are due 4-weeks prior to the start of the session. For example, the camp session that starts on June 1st needs to be paid in full by May 4th. If payments are not made in full by the 4-week deadlines, youth will be removed from the session roster. Notifications will be sent via email.

Third Party Payments: If you have a sponsorship with a third party, please let us know at the time of registration.

GUIDANCE AND DISCIPLINE

Camp Fire is dedicated to improving lives for youth through developing high quality youth programming. Outdoor Program staff have a direct responsibility to ensure that Camp Fire is safe not only physically, but emotionally.

Camp Fire uses positive discipline, which means staff promote desired behaviors through teaching and positive reinforcement. Staff will redirect or problem-solve with youth when they are not displaying desired behaviors, rather than restrict behaviors by taking away opportunities or controlling youth by fear of punishment. We believe this approach focuses on the needs of the child and contributes positively to the child's overall development. Staff members teach children about managing their behaviors and emotions as well as about conflict management techniques, to support them as they become responsible for resolving conflicts among themselves.

There are times when restrictions may be necessary, and will most likely be directly linked to the health, safety, or well-being of that youth or others. Camp Fire staff does not use corporal punishment under any circumstance. In the event of a child harming themselves, another child, or an adult, staff may physically restrain the child in order to ensure safety.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Camp Fire does not tolerate behavior that threatens the physical or emotional safety of self or others; destructive behavior; behavior that is of a habitual nature to the degree that it is a detriment to the quality of the program or impedes other participants from engaging in program to the full extent; or behavior that is of a sexual nature.

Should a child, parent, or registering adult display these behaviors, Camp Fire Leadership will contact the registering parent/adult in a timely manner to discuss the issue.

If the child's behavior is out of control and/ or harmful, Camp Fire Leadership may request immediate pick up and/or a suspension. If a suspension occurs, Camp Fire Leadership may require a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) before the child returns to program, which is a plan to outline the supports and response necessary to eliminate unsafe behaviors. Camp Fire may also refer to and require information from a professional resource in the community for support and guidance. Open communication and full cooperation is required from the registering parent/adult.

RELEASE TO AN AUTHORIZED PICKUP

Camp Fire releases youth to the registering parent/adult or other persons designated on the registration form by the registering parent/adult. Additions to the authorized list can be made at any time by the registering parent. Camp Fire requires that person to show photo identification prior to the child's release. Individuals under the age of 16 are not authorized to sign out a child from program. If an individual under the age of 16 attempts to do so, staff will notify the registering parent/adult who will need to make other arrangements for another qualified person to pick up the child. If an authorized or emergency contact appears to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, Camp Fire staff will not release the child until another authorized adult assumes responsibility for the child.

CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Camp Fire recognizes many families have unique custody arrangements. Specific court orders will be necessary in order for Camp Fire to deny access to any legal parent/adult.

We encourage families to find solutions to custody issues without putting children and/or staff in a difficult position. When a difficult position presents itself, staff will discuss the issue with both parties to find a solution which minimizes the stress for the child.

INJURIES & ILLNESSES

Camp Fire staff will inform the registering parent/ adult of any injuries or illnesses that occur during program. Staff will contact the registering parent/ adult in the event of injury or illness that requires medical care. Staff will appropriately care for the child until an adult can pick them up. The registering parent/adult is responsible for submitting all bills for injuries sustained at program to campfire@campfireak.org.

WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD HOME

Youth who are experiencing high fevers of 100.4 or higher, colds, severe cough, diarrhea, severe ear ache, eyes that are red, draining or itchy rash, severe sore throat, vomiting, or other heightened symptoms cannot attend program. Youth can return to program when symptoms have significantly resolved and youth are feeling better.

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Alaska State Statutes and Anchorage Child Care Regulations require Camp Fire to report all incidents of suspected or actual abuse and neglect of children. As required by law, Camp Fire Alaska reports such incidents within 24 hours to the Office of Children's Services at 907-269-4000. In addition, if abuse or neglect were alleged to have occurred while at Camp Fire, we are required to report to the Licensing Agency.

SUBSTANCE USE

Camp Fire is a smoke-free, alcohol-free and drug-free environment. Camp Fire maintains a smoke-free environment, including vehicles used to transport children. Smoking and vaping are prohibited inside any program facility, in outdoor program areas, and outside within 20 feet of openings into interior space which children access.



WHAT OUR PROGRAMS PROMISE TO DELIVER:

- Develop knowledge and appreciation for the natural world
- Value people of diverse backgrounds and abilities
- Create experiences that teach active and healthy lifestyles
- Teach and improve social and emotional learning skills
- Build confidence and leadership skills

WHAT MAKES CAMP FIRE DIFFERENT?

- Leader in youth development for more than a century — in Alaska since 1910.
- Professionally trained staff who help youth identify their passion and spark.
- Inclusiveness — Camp Fire welcomes everyone.
- Participant-centered — youth have a real voice and a real choice.
- Impact — developing abilities now that provide a strong foundation for the future.

Camp Fire Alaska serves more than 5,000 youth every year through summer camps, school programs, community centers, and our Rural Alaska Program.



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THE STAFF ARE WONDERFUL AND THE ACTIVITIES AT CAMP ARE AWESOME. OUR KIDS CRIED WHEN WE HAD TO LEAVE BECAUSE THEY HAD SUCH AN AMAZING TIME.

— Nancy

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP PARENT

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