WOLFE'S NECK CENTER
FOR AGRICULTURE & THE ENVIRONMENT

Farm Camp Family Handbook

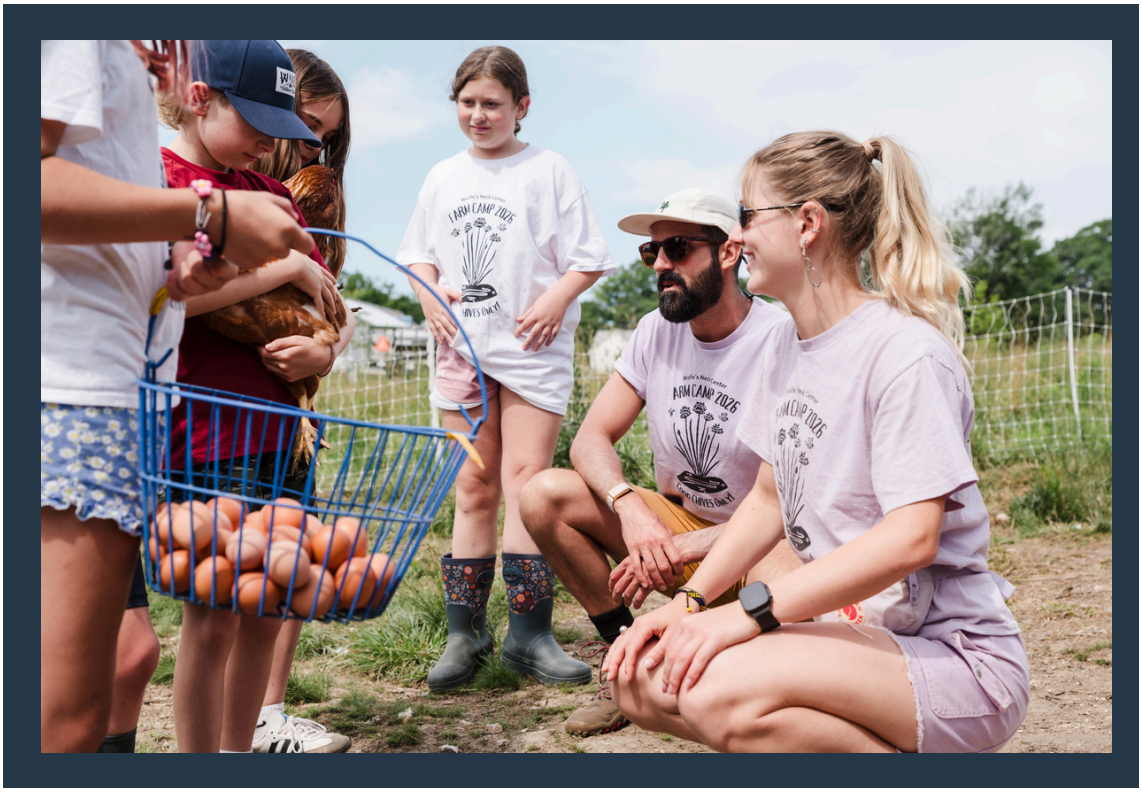


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WELCOME

Dear Farm Camp Families,

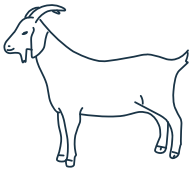
Wolfe's Neck Center is a magical place, and every summer it comes alive with the arrival of campers and their families. Whether this is your camper's first time at Farm Camp or they are returning after many years, we are excited to spend the summer with them.

We foster discovery, learning and leadership through farm-based experiences. Campers spend their days exploring our barns, gardens, woodlands and coast while engaging in a variety of farm and nature-based activities that deepen their understanding of farm life, sustainable agriculture and the environment.

Combined with plenty of time for more traditional day camp activities and fun, your camper will return home tired with amazing stories and new experiences to share, and probably with dirt under their fingernails.

In preparation for Farm Camp, please carefully review this handbook. The following pages contain important details and policies to help ensure a successful summer season. Please reach out if you have any questions, and I look forward to meeting you and your camper(s) soon!

Sincerely,
Katie Williams
Farm Camp Manager



Contact the Farm Camp Team at (207) 865-4469 ext. 101, or educationadmin@wolfesneck.org!

FARM CAMP LEADERS



Emma Groman (Pictured Left)
Education Programs Coordinator

Emma is thrilled to return to Wolfe's Neck Center after an exciting 2024 season as a seasonal Farm Educator. She grew up in Maryland and graduated from the University of Delaware with degrees in Psychology, Sociology and Environmental Humanities. Emma has worked in small organic vegetable production in Delaware and ornamental gardening at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens.

She loves connecting people to plants and the outdoors and looks forward to continuing this work. When she's not working, she can be found swimming in all the bodies of water, cooking dinner for friends, and spending time with her dog Desmond and cat Fridge.

Melody Larson (Pictured Centered)
Farm Education Senior Coordinator

Melody came to WNC in 2019 as a Farm Camp Counselor and has found it hard to wander too far ever since. After graduating from Colby College in 2020 with a degree in Environmental Policy, she was an educator for WNC's Farm Discovery School. She then had a stint at North Country School in the Adirondacks helping run their farm and co-teach classes. She was thrilled to return to Wolfe's Neck in 2022 as the Assistant Farm Camp Manager and stay on as a member of the education team! Besides farming, she loves to nordic ski, contra dance, play with her dog Pip and bake yummy treats.

Katie Williams (Pictured Right)
Senior Manager of Camps & School Programs

Born and raised in coastal Maine, Katie attended Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH. After graduating, she lived in Haiti for a year and a half and while there, saw firsthand the importance of education, food, nutrition and farming. Returning stateside with an interest in food justice and teaching, Katie has spent the last decade leading experiential, farm and garden-based education in both camp and non-camp settings including spending a summer as Assistant Farm Camp Manager in 2019. She returned to WNC as Farm Camp Manager in 2023. When not teaching or farming, she enjoys reading, traveling, cooking and painting.

DROP OFF & PICK UP

Camper Group	Drop Off	Pick Up
ALL CAMPERS (BUDS, PEAPODS, SPROUTS, SEEDLINGS, FARM KIDS, FARMWARD BOUND, CHEF, FARM YARD LEADERS, JR CITs)	9:00am @ Tent	4:00pm @ Tent
SENIOR COUNSELORS IN TRAINING	8:45am @ Tent	4:15pm @ Tent
BEFORE CARE (Mon-Fri)	8:00am @ Tent	NA
AFTER CARE (Mon-Thurs) (no Fridays)	NA	5:00pm @ Tent

In order to attend Before Care or After Care, your camper must be registered through CampInTouch. Please reach out to our office if you have questions about enrollment.

Please drive carefully and slowly in and around the farm, especially when picking up and dropping off your camper(s).

Wolfe's Neck Center is a working organic dairy farm. Our herd of milking cows is moved twice a day, sometimes around the same time as drop off or pick up. This may affect traffic. Please be kind and patient with our Dairy Team, Farm Camp Staff and our cows.

For pick up, please bring an ID. We take the safety of campers seriously. You will be asked to present ID to confirm with the Authorized Grown Up list (provided within your CampInTouch profile) before your camper is released at the end of the day. If your camper is going home with someone not listed, please provide us with a note of permission by email, phone or paper.

DROP OFF & PICK UP

Can My Camper Bike Or Walk To And From Camp?

Yes! We encourage alternative modes of transportation! If you would like your camper to bike or walk home, or back to their campsite themselves without an adult, you will need to fill out our bike/walk permission form giving your camper's counselor permission to sign them in/out of camp. We ask that all campers arrive with an adult on the first day of camp. This form can be found on the last page of this handbook.

Early Pick Up Policy

If you need to pick up your camper early for any reason, please alert their counselor the morning of early release and/or contact our Education Office (educationadmin@wolfesneck.org or 207-865-4469 ext. 101) to let us know. We will make every effort to have your camper ready to go when you arrive. When you arrive to pick them up, please come inside the Little River Farmhouse office.

Late Pick Up Policy

Campers will automatically be enrolled to our After Care program (4:00pm-5:00pm) if not picked up by 4:10pm and you will be charged the daily after care rate. If campers enrolled in After Care are not picked up by 5:00pm, families will be charged a $5.00 late fee between 5:00 and 5:10pm and an additional $1.00 for every minute thereafter (5:11pm or later). If you are late, we will use your late fee money to appreciate our staff and their time at the end of the program season. Thank you for your compliance and understanding.

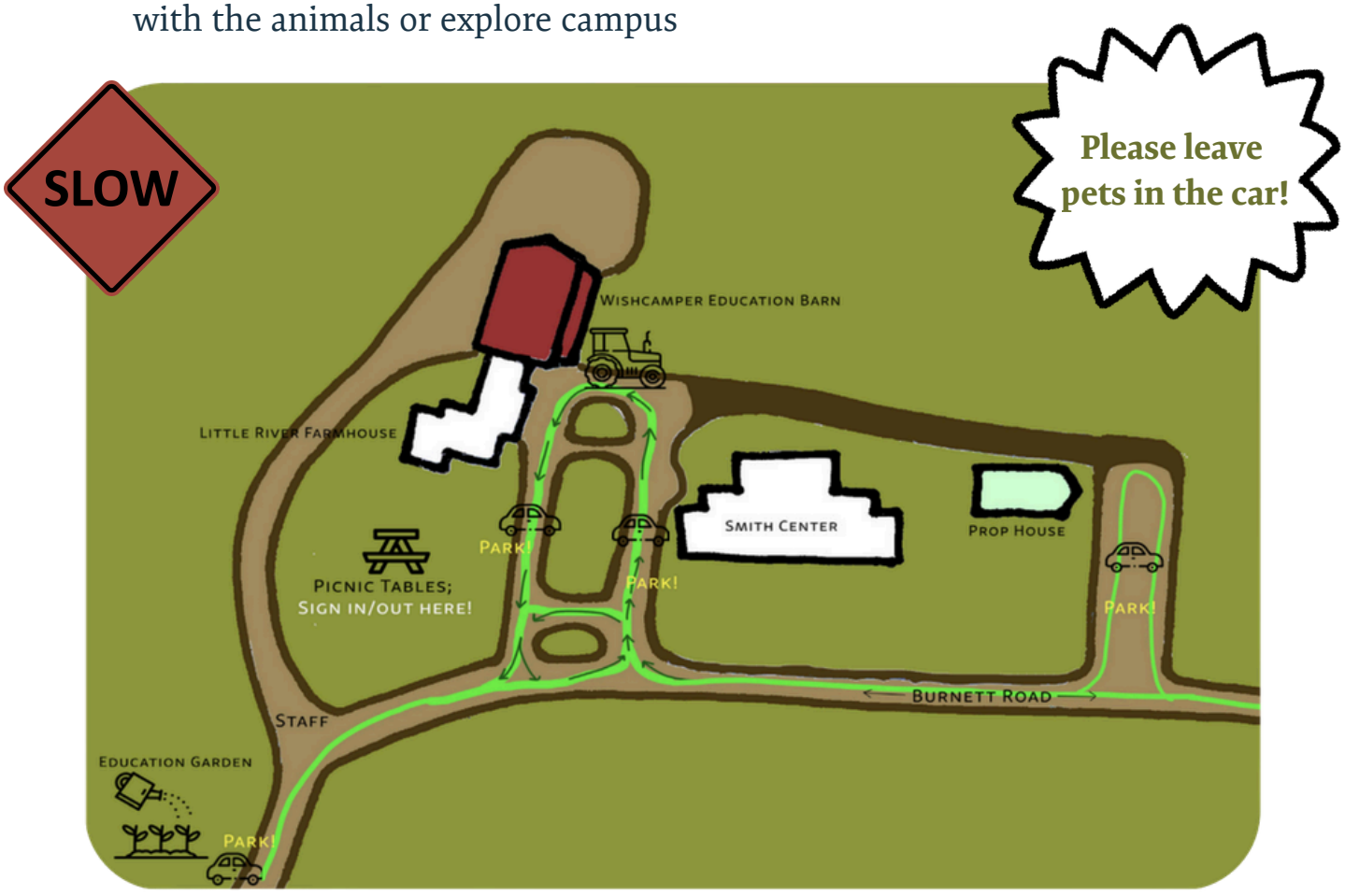


PARKING

When dropping off or picking up your camper, please drive slowly and pay attention to where Farm Camp Staff directs you to park.

Please park in one of these locations:

- Along the edge of Burnett Road nearby the Education Gardens
- Along the rightmost side of the turnaround driveway,
- Between the Little River Farmhouse and the Smith Center
- The parking lot behind the Smith Center, especially if you plan to visit with the animals or explore campus



WHAT TO BRING

What does my camper need to wear to camp?

Campers should wear weather appropriate clothing and CLOSED TOED SHOES. Because our day includes campers being up close with our animals, working in our pastures with tools and being in spaces with or near animal feces, it is important to fully protect the feet.

What does my camper need to bring to camp?



- Boots for chores (rubber boots or rain boots)
- Water bottle
- Lunch (nut-free)
- AM snack (nut-free)
- PM snack (nut-free)
- Full change of clothes including socks and underwear (just in case!)
- Extra warm layers
- Rain gear
- Sunscreen
- Sun hat
- Bug spray (optional)
- Medications (if applicable)

What not to bring?

- Cell Phones (devices used for medical purposes are exempt) - If our office staff, Camp Medic, or your camper needs to contact you for any reason, we will use our office landline.
- Smart Watches or other electronic devices
- Cameras
- Toys and stuffed animals – We are outside all day and frequently around animals and dirt. These items often get dirty, broken, or lost.

Our goal is to keep campers present in the activities they are doing and provide them with a space where they do not have to be connected to anything other than the people and space around them. If you have questions, please reach out to our office to discuss.

Pack Plenty of Food!

When packing your camper's snack and lunch, please keep in mind that they will be active throughout the day and will require more food than usual.

Tips On Reducing Food Waste

- **Bring a reusable lunch bag/container**
- **Use cloth napkins and reusable utensils**
- **Buy in bulk to reduce packaging**
- **Avoid single-serving packaging**
- **Compost food waste on the farm or bring it home to your own compost**

Label Belongings

We strongly recommend labelling all of your camper's clothing and belongings with their first and last name. That way, items can easily be returned when they end up in our lost and found.

TASTING AT CAMP



At Farm Camp, we encourage campers to taste things that we produce at Wolfe's Neck! This is, of course, optional and we consider all allergies prior to tasting. Your camper may also get a chance to cook using fresh ingredients. We will provide alternatives to accomodate allergies when necessary.

Here are a few examples of the things campers might have the opportunity to cook or taste, based on what we've made in the past:

- Salad, stir-fry or pesto made with vegetables and herbs from our garden
- Omelettes or scrambles made from our farm-fresh eggs
- Homemade cheese, ice cream and butter

Please make sure ALL of your camper's allergies or dietary needs are listed in their Health History Profile so that we can be mindful of any allergies.

Reach out to the Farm Camp Team directly if you have any questions or concerns, at (207)865-4469 ext. 101, or at educationadmin@wolfesneck.org!

MEDICATIONS & FIRST AID

Handwashing

As with any farm, we recommend campers wash their hands before coming to camp and after returning home. In addition, campers will wash their hands regularly throughout the day.

Bringing Medications To Camp

If your child requires medication to be administered during program time or in case of an emergency, please bring unexpired medications in original prescription bottles, labeled by the prescriber or pharmacist. Only bring the exact dose needed while at camp. You will be asked to check this in with our Camp Medic on your first day of camp. Any medications brought in non-prescription bottles will not be accepted.

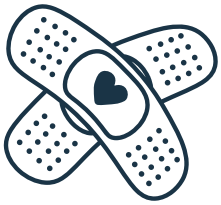
Medications include:

Inhalers, diabetic supplies, EpiPens, prescription medicines, etc.

First Aid

Many of our Farm Camp staff are First Aid, CPR, or Wilderness First Aid certified and we typically have one or two certified lifeguards on staff. We will also have a licensed medical professional on staff at all times who will treat the basic day-to-day first aid and support all medical issues that arise. Based on ME Health Department requirements for summer camps this person will be one of the following: Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, an Emergency Medical Technician, or a Wilderness First Responder. Our Farm Camp Manager is also a certified Wilderness First Responder.







TICKS & BROWNTAIL MOTH

Ticks

Please check your camper or help them check themselves for ticks at the end of each camp day. We will be in areas with ticks throughout the day. We do routine checks during the day, but would like you to help us out!! Click on the following link to learn more about ticks and tick-borne diseases in Maine: Tick Attachment and Tick-borne Diseases



Browntail Moth

Browntail moths are an ongoing issue in coastal Maine in recent years. Browntail moth caterpillars shed tiny poisonous hairs that can cause a skin rash similar to poison ivy, but may affect each person differently. Read more at the following link: Browntail Moth in Maine

There are some precautions you can take to help reduce exposure and the spreading of a rash if your camper comes in contact with browntail moth.
These include:

- Changing clothes after camp
- Bathing in the evenings after camp
- Wearing new clothes to camp every day



ANIMAL BIOSECURITY

At Wolfe's Neck Center Farm Camp, we believe strongly in the benefits of including young people in real and meaningful work on our farm and getting up-close and personal with our animals. This work with our livestock, however, comes with inherent risk to human health. Our educators and farmers implement strict biosecurity measures to ensure the health and safety of our campers and our animals.

Biosecurity is a set of measures and practices implemented to prevent the introduction and spread of disease-causing pathogens in animals, plants, and humans.

BEST PREVENTION = HANDWASHING!

We will wash our hands frequently throughout the day, but encourage you to take these other measures to help our biosecurity measures.



1. Packing boots for your camper to change into for farm chores.
2. Changing clothes after camp.
3. Bathing in the evenings after camp.
4. Wearing new clothes each day.

MILKING & ANIMAL SAFETY

Due to industry safety standards, health regulations, and biosecurity, campers will not participate in milking our cows and have limited contact with our herd. Campers will have plenty of exposure to our other animals and the complexities that make up a thriving farm. Thank you in advance for your understanding and continued support in ensuring the safety of our campers and all of our livestock.



SEVERE WEATHER & EMERGENCIES



If Freeport is expecting severe weather, cancellations of camp will be announced by 8pm the evening before, using the primary AND secondary email addresses that we have in CampInTouch.

Farm Camp will likely be held rain or shine. In the event of rain, lightning or extreme heat, we will move inside the Smith Center or the Wishcamper Education Barn.

Information regarding any emergencies or last minute changes will be shared via email first using the primary and secondary email addresses that we have in CampInTouch. If necessary, a call will be given to primary contacts listed in CampInTouch.

Please contact our office at educationadmin@wolfesneck.org or (207)865-4469 ext. 101 to learn more about our emergency action plans.

T-SHIRTS, BUDDY REQUESTS



T-Shirt Policy

Each camper will receive one T-shirt toward the end of their first week at camp. Campers who return for multiple weeks will only receive one shirt. Campers do not have to take the shirt if they do not want to, but every camper has access to one shirt. Vacation Camp campers do not qualify for a t-shirt.

Buddy Request Policy

We know many campers enjoy Farm Camp in the company of peers they know, and we do our best to honor all buddy requests. However, due to age differences, group sizes, or self-identified behavioral issues, this is not always possible. All campers and ages have the opportunity to spend time with campers from other groups throughout the day. Campers stay with their base group for camp-wide activities such as farm chores or meals, but can socialize with other groups during afternoon Choice Time activities! You can indicate your camper's buddy request in CampInTouch, under "Forms and Documents." Look for the "Buddy Request Form"!

EXAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

Note: Our daily schedule is subject to change based on weather, animal health & other exciting things that are happening on the farm, or group dynamics. Buds/Farmward Bound/C.H.E.F. and Farmyard Leaders will also have slightly different schedules.

9am - Camper Drop Off

9am – 9:15am - Welcome & All Camp Morning Circle

9:15am – 9:45am - AM Farm Chores (Each group will get a taste of daily farm chores by taking care of a garden space or education livestock. Throughout the week they will rotate through different chores.)

9:45am – 10am - Snack Time

10am – 11:15am - Farm Focus Time (Campers will get their hands dirty with hands-on activities in our gardens and with our livestock, rotating through different focuses each day such as cooking, gardening or dairy.)

11:15am - 12am - Exploration Time (Campers will be with their group to get to know each other, play games and have the chance to explore the different ecosystems around the farm.)

12pm – 12:30pm - Lunch

12:30pm – 1:15pm - Rest and Digest (RAD) Time (During this time, we encourage campers to read, draw, or play quiet games to take a break from the high energy of the camp day. (Camp will provide books and games.)

1:15 pm –2:45pm - Choice Time (Campers choose one activity to participate in per day. Activity options may include crafts such as beaded animals, high energy field games and the popular coast exploration. Buds will be doing their own activity during this time.)

2:45pm - 3pm - Snack Time Theater! (Farm Camp Staff, and occasionally guest stars, perform short skits and compete in silly minute-to-win it challenges while campers snack and enjoy the show.)

3pm – 3:30pm - PM Farm Chores

3:40pm - 4pm - All Camp Closing Circle

4pm - Camper Pick Up (Don't forget an ID!)

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Farm Camp is a place where all young people are given the opportunity to have fun in nature, with food and animals, through hands-on learning in an agricultural setting. We believe that these positive and joyful experiences outside will eventually lead to a better understanding of our food system, increased future environmental stewardship, and thriving ecosystems. This is only possible when all campers and families participate (physically, mentally, and behaviorally) in creating a meaningful, safe and respectful experience for themselves and others. Prior to participation, all campers and parents/guardians will be asked to review the Farm Camp behavior policy and submit an agreement in the Farm Camp Camper Agreement from CampinTouch.

PLEASE READ OUR POLICIES FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

The 3 Camp Rules:

Take Care

Campers and staff take care of themselves, their fellow campers, livestock and wildlife, vegetables and forests, our coastlines...and more!

Try New Things

At Farm Camp we encourage curiosity, exploration, and discovery. Farm camp is a safe place to try something you've never tried before!

Have Fun

Self explanatory...

We make sure our campers (and our staff!) are having the best day, every day!

Our goal is for all campers to have fun and receive the support they need to have a positive week. If you know your camper may struggle socially, emotionally or behaviorally, or if your camper receives school-based support within these areas, we HIGHLY recommend communicating this with our team. Details about behaviors, triggers, prevention techniques, etc. can be shared in the Farm Camp application and Health History Form. You may also reach out to our team directly. Please note that Farm Camp staff cannot provide 1:1 support or aid.

Read more about camp readiness in our website FAQs.

OTHER CAMP POLICIES

We are committed to welcoming each and every camper who participates in our programming, while continuing to expand our community of campers who identify as LGBTQIA+ and/or are Black, Indigenous and People of Color. Read the full Welcome and Respect Policy for more information.

Nut Policy

Due to the increased of nut allergies, we have instituted a nut-free policy for Farm Camp. We do not serve nut products at camp and we ask all participants to refrain from bringing nuts or nut-related products to camp. However, due to the variety of programs, activities and public visitors at Wolfe's Neck Center, we cannot guarantee we are a nut or major allergen-free facility including the kitchen we use. Please feel free to contact us to discuss your camper's allergy needs or our policy.

What is the Camper Cell Phone Policy?

Please do not send your camper to Farm Camp with cell phones, smart watches or other electronics, unless they are used for medical purposes. We want all our campers to be fully engaged and present with our programming. If you need to contact your camper or our office needs to contact you, we will use our office phones. Medical equipment is our only exception. Medical electronics must be checked in with our office/medical staff at the beginning of your camp week.



PRE-CAMP CHECKLIST

Forms (in CampInTouch) - Due May 1

- Health History
  - All families, including returning campers, will STILL need to review and submit anupdated Health History form. Most fields will auto-populate with your information from 2026 and need to be confirmed for 2027.
- Upload Immunization Records or Vaccine Exemption Form
- Authorized Grown Ups for Pick Up
- Farm Camp Waiver
- Farm Camper Agreement
- (as needed) Care Plans for Epipens, Inhalers, and Diabetic Supplies
- (as needed) Administering of Emergency Medication permission forms
- (optional) Buddy Requests

Care Plans and Immunizations can also be faxed directly to us - 866-838-0625.

Payments (CampInTouch)

- **Due on Wednesday, February 3, 2027 OR the Friday after registered**: Non-refundable deposit amounting to 25% of total tuition per camper *(will be automatically charged to card/eCheck unless scholarship is indicated; applies towards tuition)*
- **Due on April 1st:** Installment amounting to 50% of total tuition *(will be automatically charged to card/eCheck on file by end of day unless otherwise indicated)*
- **Due on June 1st:** Final installment amounting to 25% of total tuition *(will be automatically charged to card/eCheck on file by end of day unless otherwise indicated)*
- To make a payment - navigate to your "My Account" home page where you will see a section titled "Your Family." Under that section, click on "Financial Management" to pay.
- View our Payment and Cancellation Policy

***Payment for February and April Vacation Camps is due in full prior to program participation.**

Contact the Farm Camp Team with questions at (207) 865-4469 ext. 101, or educationadmin@wolfesneck.org

WOLFE'S NECK CENTER
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Farm Camp Parental/Guardian Consent Form for Biking/Walking to Camp

This form must be given to your camper's counselor by an adult on Monday morning.

Camper(s) Name: _____

Week(s) Attending: _____

This is to certify that _____ has my permission to ride their bicycle OR walk to and from home/campsite to attend Farm Camp at Wolfe's Neck Center for the duration of their enrolled programming for Summer 2027.

I hereby attest that I am (we are) the legal parent/guardian(s) of the above-named child(red) and hereby provide permission for _____ to ride their bicycle or walk to and from home or our campsite to attend Summer Camp. I understand that activity of this kind may result in physical injury to my child but none the less specifically request that they be allowed to bike/walk to and from Farm Camp.

In addition, I consent that my child's Farm Camp Counselor may sign them IN and OUT camp as one of their "Authorized Grown-Ups for Pick Up".

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name ***Date***

_____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Name of Camper's Counselor(s): _____

Address Biking/Walking To and From: _____

Campsite Biking/Walking To and From: _____

In case of emergency, I may be reached at: _____