

FFGC WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

As a Counselor or Volunteer, you are a crucial part of the Wekiva Youth Camp (WYC) community. These Policies and Procedures have been designed to provide you with the perspectives and knowledge you need to be an effective member of the Wekiva Youth Camp staff. The success of the camp depends on the strength of each of you in your unique roles. Wekiva Youth Camp is primarily a nature camp and strives to make our campers good stewards of the earth. These Policies and Procedures contain information you need to do your job well. Please read this from beginning to end before camp starts and refer to it throughout your stay at camp.

Wekiva Youth Camp abides by all rules and regulations of Wekiwa Springs State Park.

1. All Plants and animal life is protected.
2. Drug and alcohol possession and use are not allowed.
3. Aluminum cans are recycled in the containers provided.
4. No form of vandalism will be tolerated.
5. No smoking is allowed at Wekiva Youth Camp.
6. Food and sodas are not allowed in camper sites.

The following is the mission and/or curriculum of Wekiva Youth Camp.

1. Wekiva Youth Camp specializes in environmental education and conservation.
2. Boys and girls who have completed grades three through eight by the end of the current school year may attend WYC.
3. Special programs are offered for 7th, 8th, and 9th grade youngsters. These programs are limited to carefully screened and recommended previous WYC campers.
4. A mini-camp experience (three days, two nights) is offered to youngsters completing 1st and 2nd grades. "Critter Camp" is limited in attendance numbers determined by the Camp Chairman.
5. The curriculum for all campers includes crafts, swimming, and nature classes. Other activities are included as determined by the Camp Director.
6. Camp fees are determined by the Camp Committee and approved by the FFGC Board of Directors.

It is the goal of Wekiva Youth Camp to provide a safe and enjoyable nature camp experience.

1. Campers will use a buddy system.
2. Any actions or words are prohibited which would jeopardize a camper's physical or emotional safety.
3. Camper cabins and/or camper groups are never to be left unsupervised.
4. All campers and counselors are expected to actively participate in all camp activities and camp wide programs.
6. No pranks, initiations, hazing or cabin raids will be tolerated.
7. No radios, weapons (including scout knives), electronic games or electronic devices, such as cell phones, snacks or food are permitted in the campers' cabins. Any of these items brought to camp will be held by the office staff for safekeeping and then returned. Canteen time is allowed every day. Campers may have a sweet and a drink.
8. Volunteer cabins are off limits to campers and counselors AND camper cabins are off limits to volunteers.
9. The kitchen area is off limits to volunteers and counseling staff.

Wekiva Youth Camp is a private camp and registers all campers and staff.

Visitors may be on the campus only with the permission of the Camp Director or the Camp Chairman.

2. Anyone on the campgrounds who is not registered with the camp or a Park employee should be reported to the Director immediately.
3. All personnel must have permission to leave camp and must sign out and in.

Wekiva Youth Camp Staff will serve as positive role models for the campers.

1. Professional dress is expected at all times. The attire for opening and closing camp is a Staff shirt with white or kaki shorts or slacks. Bathing suits must be modest. Only one piece bathing suits are allowed. Socks and closed-toed shoes will worn at all times except in the pool area. Crocs are acceptable if worn with socks, although socks are not required in the pool area.
2. As a symbol of respect, volunteers enter the dining hall and are served first.
3. Hats are removed for flag ceremonies and in the dining hall.
4. Counselors dine with their cabin group to provide a positive atmosphere in the dining hall.
5. Counselors will sit with their cabin groups during evening programs.
6. Counselors and staff will monitor their conversations to ensure that no inappropriate language is used in the presence of campers.

Wekiva Youth Camp has extensive aquatics activities.

1. All aquatic activities including canoeing must have the knowledge and approval of the Aquatics Director.
2. The Aquatic Director will decide the appropriate safety requirements.
3. Campers will not swim in the pool or Wekiwa Springs without an assigned lifeguard on duty.
4. Counselors and/or staff swimming in Wekiwa Springs during break time will not be considered a Youth Camp activity.
5. The pool is **off limits** unless supervised by the Aquatics Program Director.

Wekiva Youth Camp will have a Camp Nurse on Staff

1. All campers, counselors, and other staff members will have a health form on file.
2. All campers will check in with the Camp Nurse during registration.
3. All medications are to be left with the Camp Nurse and will be dispersed appropriately.
4. No campers or counselors will be excused from participation in any camp activity because of illness without the approval of the Camp Nurse. Campers or counselors are not permitted to stay in a cabin during a scheduled activity because of illness without the Camp Nurse's permission.
5. Homesickness is not a reason to go home except in cases where working with the camper has not been productive.
6. Rest is important! Everyone is expected to be in bed at the time decided by the Camp Director. Everyone is expected to rest during "quiet time," the hour following lunch. Campers may read or write letters during quiet time.

Thank you for being such an important part of the Wekiva Youth Camp Experience!