



Camping Countdown 2023

Dear Children and Parents,

It is hard to believe we are so close to the 2023 Hoosier Burn Camp! I hope you are getting as excited as I am! The staff and I have been very busy working the last couple of months on the finishing touches on what will be our best year yet. Now we only need the best part of the week...you guys.

We thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your child's life this summer. We believe that he or she will experience programming and facilities that are the best you will find. On top of creating a warm, safe environment where it is a place to be "Just One of the Kids", we also strive to be in partnership with the home and school environment to: build confidence, encourage perseverance, build self-esteem, develop courage to overcome fears, build on strengths, stimulate independence, and show mutual acceptance and respect.

The following information is very important and new information has been added that is unique to 2023. It will help the total camp run smoothly and is in the best interest of all concerned. *Please read it carefully and save it for future reference.* If you have any questions that have not been answered here, please give me a call at 765-567-0115 or on my cell phone 765-242-9501.

I look forward to seeing you,
Mark J. Koopman "Koop"
Executive Director

Camper Check-In/Meeting the Counselor/Check-Out

Prior to camp, you will receive a luggage tag with your name and cabin assignment on it. You will also receive a sheet to put in your car windshield that has campers name and cabin assignment on it. After your camper is checked in at the Lake Village parking lot, you will be directed to drive to the assigned cabin in River Village where you may meet and talk with the counselors. Please feel free to ask questions of any camp staff as we wish to make your camper's stay as pleasant as possible. Check-in begins at 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 28th. *Please do not expect to check in before this time, as the staff will still be in preparation.* Likewise, please let us know if there will be any arrival after 4:00 pm. Some of the most important programming pieces that campers will get to choose will start around that time, and we don't want your child to miss anything that will affect their fun the rest of the week. Checkout will start at 10:15 am on Friday, June 2nd. We ask that parents and transportation volunteers please pick their children up by 11:30. The staff has other obligations and will need to travel back to their homes as well. If transportation has been requested, a representative will be in touch to discuss logistics soon, if they have not already.

Personal Responsibility

Personal responsibility and group cooperation are important elements of the camp experience. Mature, caring counselors work with campers on the importance of caring for one's personal area and belongings, assisting with daily cabin clean up and pitch in on general camp tasks known as "shared responsibilities". We strive to imprint these characteristics on each youngster so they will carry over this industriousness to the home and school.

Lost and Found

Every year we set a goal of '0% lost and found. Realistically there are always a few items that don't make their way back home, but you can help us to limit the items that remain at camp. The following are suggestions that have had proven success:

1. Make sure that your child understands that it is their responsibility to ensure that nothing is lost.
2. Please be sure that all items brought to camp are plainly marked with your child's name.
3. Be especially thorough on Check-out since sometimes laundry bags and luggage bags are left behind.
4. Use the clothes check sheet (next to last page) AS YOU PACK! Check again on return home while unpacking.
5. If you discover that something is missing upon your return home, please call as soon as possible. The more time that passes, the less likely it can be found. Lost and found items will only be held for three weeks, and then will be taken to a local charity (clothing bank or thrift store).

Sending or Bringing Food to Camp

Camp will allow campers to bring a reasonable amount of munchies, but only if they store them in an airtight container. Hoosier Burn Camp will not provide storage containers nor be held responsible for lost or stolen food items. Counselors will regulate when campers can have the

food. Drinkables are not allowed except for water. Hoosier Burn Camp will provide nutritious snacks each day. Although we allow campers to possess food, there is really not a need.

Illness and Parental Consultation

In the case of serious illness or other situations that warrant the need, a director or medical staff member will notify parents immediately. Parents are invited to correspond with the Executive Director or talk with him, one of our medical staff, or the counselors about the individual camper needs when you arrive at camp.

Mail Home

Campers will be *encouraged* to write a letter or postcard home. Do not be alarmed if what you receive is brief and quite irregular as youngsters are busy at camp and “no news is good news” as far as campers are concerned. Also, early letters may sound upsetting, but usually, by the time you receive the letter, the camper has adjusted and forgotten what he/she wrote. Keep in mind that Hoosier Burn Camp is only at this address for one week, and mail received at this address after camp dates most likely will not reach their destination or be returned to sender. The camp address is 12635 W. Tecumseh Bend Road, Brookston, IN 47923. We are equipped to receive e-mail at valerie@hoosierburncamp.org.

Homesickness

Campers look forward to hearing from their parents. Please write them so they receive a letter the 1st or 2nd day. It is suggested that letters be cheery and newsy in such a way that they will not make the camper homesick. Don't make your child feel that you can't get along without them or suggest or ask them about homesickness. Do not discuss this before they go to camp as it tends to make them more homesick. Temporary homesickness is a normal reaction, particularly to new campers. With proper handling by the staff, campers, and parents it can be overcome and the camper can make a big stride in maturing. We welcome this opportunity to assist in development and we will train our staff to handle homesickness in constructive and loving ways.

Visitors

In order that the camp program be more effective, it is necessary to free the campers from outside contacts as much as possible. Often well-meaning parents may unintentionally interfere with the effectiveness of the youngster's enjoyment and growth in camp when they should be engaged in camp activity. Please give a written note to the staff at check-in if you need to pick up your child at a time different from normal pick up so we can have them ready. No pets are permitted on camp property without a leash. Drinking of alcoholic beverages on camp property is prohibited.

Clothing

In our striving to provide a holistically wholesome environment, we ask that you help us by the choices of clothing your child brings to camp. We request that sayings/pictures on clothing be in good taste. We also ask that clothing, especially swimwear, would not be see-through or too revealing. Hoosier Burn Camp reserves the right to prohibit the wearing of clothing the Executive Director deems inappropriate for a youth camp.

Campers should have enough clothing to last the duration of their stay. Campers should bring clothing they can get wet and dirty without concern. All clothing should be marked with the camper's name.

Emergency Phone

Phone calls to or from campers are DISCOURAGED.

In emergency situations, it is possible to get in touch with the camp. In such emergency cases, parents or legal guardians should contact the camp at 765-564-2898. Please tell them you are associated with Hoosier Burn Camp and that you need to reach the Executive Director as they will most likely not recognize or be able to give proper direction for your need. Tecumseh staff will also carry a pager if you reach their emergency system after hours. Please remember to clearly articulate your name and telephone number, with area code, and expect *at least* a 15-20 minute delay before a return call.

Camp Theme

We are excited to do many activities throughout the week designed around our theme of 25th Anniversary All-Stars - Sports. These activities will be spread all throughout the whole week of camp ending with our camp dance on Thursday night! We cannot wait to see everyone soon!

What to bring to Hoosier Burn Camp
(Clearly mark NAME on ALL ARTICLES!!)

Clothing

T-shirts _____	Bathing Suit _____	Jacket _____
Closed-toe Shoes _____	Sweatshirt _____	Pajamas _____
Rain poncho (Provided)	Long Pants _____	Hat or scarf _____
Socks _____	Shorts _____	Underclothes _____

***Please note that for horseback riding (trail rides) campers will need shoes with closed toes and heels (no cros).**

DO NOT BRING: Electronic Equipment (Cell phones, CD players, electronic games, etc), Jewelry, Fireworks, Guns, Ammunition, Skate Boards, Bicycles, In-Line Skates, Knives, Glass Bottles, Matches, Gum, Axes or Saws. These are items that will be confiscated until check-out. Valuable items are not recommended as their loss is not HBC's responsibility.

Drugs, tobacco, vape, alcohol products, or pornographic materials are grounds for immediate dismissal from camp.

Bedding

Pillow _____	Pillowcase _____	Sheets _____
Sleeping Bag _____	Beach Towels _____	Blankets _____

Toiletries

Soap _____	Soap Case _____	Wash Cloths _____
Toothpaste _____	Toothbrush _____	Deodorant _____
Shampoo _____	Comb/Hairbrush _____	Towels _____
Lotion _____	Tampons/Sanitary Napkins _____	

Miscellaneous Items

Flashlight _____ Writing Material _____ (Some Provided)
Insect Repellent (Provided) Sun block (Provided)
Previous Campers ~ Challenger Bead/Bandana _____ Years at camp necklace _____
Lanyard/annual pins _____

Optional Equipment

Sunglasses _____	Camera _____	Fishing Tackle _____
Shower Shoes _____	Clip-on Fan _____	Book _____
Pictures for scrapbooking _____		

Campers may also want to bring:

- Items related to this year's theme of *25th Anniversary All-Stars – Sports*.
- Old clothes and shoes for a mud hike should your cabin choose this activity.