



# Tamarack Nature Center

## Day Camp Newsletter 2017 Summer Camp Adventures

### Welcome to Tamarack...

Your 2017 Summer Camp Adventure is about to begin! Tamarack's summer camps are jam-packed with hikes, games, songs, stories and, of course, KIDS!

### Communication

We want summer camp to be a great experience for everyone. Please make sure we have your current email and phone numbers (cell, work, home) so we can reach you in case of emergency. Please let us know if your child:

- Has a severe allergy. Please download and complete the *Epinephrine and Benadryl Medication Order and Consent Form* 2 weeks prior to first camp start date.
- Has any particular fears, allergies or physical limitations that would affect his/her experience.
- Will be carpooling with another family or will be picked up by someone else.
- Has recently stopped taking medication that would affect his/her behavior.
- Is on any medication we should know about.

We will make every effort to inform you of your child's activities at camp and please do not hesitate to come to us with any concerns or questions.

### Drop Off and Pick Up

**Check-in/out** Parents are required to check-in and check-out each child every day. Please be courteous and drop off/pick up your child according to the scheduled hours of the program. Mondays only: Please stop at the registration table to find out your child's camp location. Check in/out is located in the grassy lawn area to the east of the building. If it is raining, check in/out may be inside.

**Drop off/Pick up Times** Staff cannot accommodate children arriving early or being picked up late, campers may be placed in Before or After Camp Care for a fee. Leaders need the extra time before and after hours to prepare for the program. If your child isn't picked up in a timely manner, they will be transferred to After Camp Care and a fee will be assessed.

**Parking** Please park in the first lot on your right (old lot) and walk your child(ren) to the large grassy area to the east of the building.

### Before and After Camp Care

Before and After Camp care activities include Naturalist supervised activities emphasizing nature play and child-centered programming. This service is available most camp days from 7:30 a.m.-9 a.m. and 4 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Advanced online registration is required, as space and staffing is limited. Fee: \$9.75/session/day.

If registered on a Snail Lake day, campers will be transported between Tamarack and Snail Lake. Information and Permission slips (*when applicable*) will be sent home before the camp week. \*Please note: *Care is not available between the half-day Sprouts and Critters camps.*

### Behavior Guidelines

Our goal is for every child to have a positive experience at camp. Therefore, Tamarack Nature Center staff will identify and enforce clear, reasonable limits for child behavior. Our staff reinforces positive behavior, while attempting to redirect negative behavior. Staff will remove a child from any activity where the child's behavior is harmful to him/herself or others.

The Tamarack summer day camp staff reserves the right to remove any child from camp in the case of extreme behavioral problems. For more information, see the Day Camp Page of our website.

### What to Bring to Camp Each Day

Please mark all belongings with your child's full name and send along in a backpack or bag each day.

- Healthy snack and beverage for half-day campers
- Substantial lunch, healthy snacks and beverages for full-day campers
- Refillable water bottle (filled with water)
- Hat to protect from sun and insects
- Light jacket for cool mornings
- Extra set of light-colored clothing is recommended along with closed-toe shoes (no flip-flops)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent, spray discouraged
- Rain gear, if necessary

**All items of sentimental or monetary value (including toys) should be left at home.**

## Lunch and Snacks

Due to the increasing frequency and potential severity of peanut/nut allergies, **please avoid sending any peanut/nut related food items.** We ask that you send food and beverages in a travel safe and insulated container marked with your child's name. Supervision during snack and lunch is provided. Refrigerated storage space is not available.

**Preschool/Half day programs** - Please send a healthy snack and beverage.

**Grade School/Full day programs** - Please send a substantial lunch, healthy snacks and beverages to keep their energy level high.

**Before and After Care** - Meals are not provided during this program. If think your child will be hungry, please send a labeled snack.

We take frequent water breaks during the day. Please send a refillable water bottle, filled each day.

## Insect Repellent/Sunscreen

Please apply insect repellent and sunscreen to your child each day before camp. For campers staying all day, we will remind everyone to reapply protection after lunch. Please mark your repellent/sunscreen with your child's name, for safety reasons, we discourage spray applicators in favor of wipes or lotion. As an extra precaution, we recommend you check your child for ticks every evening after camp.

## Camp T-shirts Available

Tamarack Nature Center Summer Camp T-shirts are available in youth and adult sizes in multiple colors throughout the camp week. Show your camp spirit by purchasing a T-shirt for only \$15.

## Weather

Nature never stops, so during light rain or wind, activities will continue. During severe weather, children will be moved to a safe location. Children should be dressed in appropriate gear for outdoor fun!

On days when the heat and humidity are high, we bring out special games and activities designed to keep kids cool while having fun!

In case of severe weather, children will be moved to a safe room inside the building. Off-site groups will be brought to the nearest safe shelter. You will be notified if you need to pick your child up at a different location.



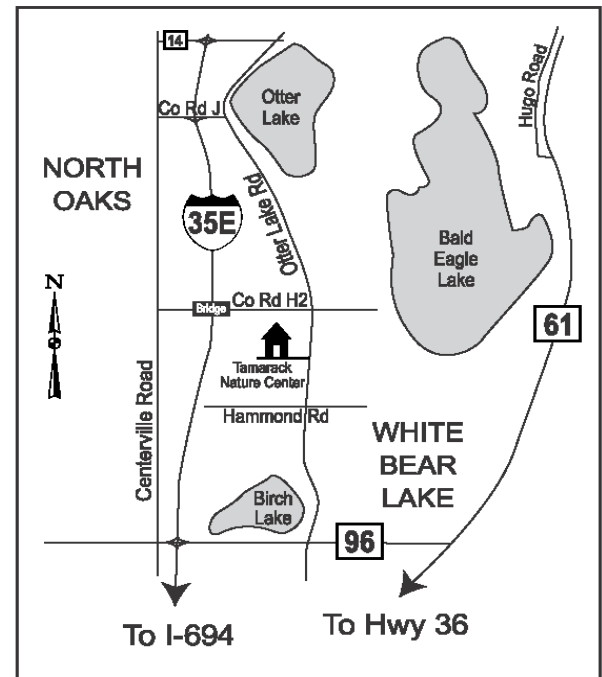
**TAMARACK**  
Nature Center

*A Destination for Discovery*

5287 Otter Lake Road  
White Bear Township, MN 55110  
phone: (651) 407-5350 fax: (651) 407-5354  
[www.tamaracknaturecenter.org](http://www.tamaracknaturecenter.org)  
[tamarack@co.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:tamarack@co.ramsey.mn.us)

Tamarack Director, Marcie Oltman, ext. 110  
Camp Coordinator, Megan Nysse, ext. 102

**A Facility of**  
 **RAMSEY COUNTY**



**Voted Best Summer Camp**  
**by Sun Focus Readers**  
**Three Years in a Row!**