



Camp Eagle



Parent Guide



Visit our webpage!

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Dunwoody Nature Center's programs for children have spanned over 30 years!
We are happy to have your family as part of our Nature Center family!

What to Bring

Snack & Water Bottle

Please bring:

- Snack in a labeled bag or container
- 20 oz (or larger) refillable water bottle

Make sure your child has a reusable water bottle with them as it can get hot outside! Children will be able to refill their water bottles throughout the afternoon.

There is no refrigeration available for snacks, but they are kept indoors.

Our Environmental Impact

We are teaching the kids about the R's (reduce, reuse, and recycle) so please keep this in mind when packing snacks. Our goal is to have zero waste. We will have a recycle bin available for recyclable products and a compost bin for leftover food.

Please pack your child's food in reusable containers and refillable water bottles. Any packaging that is not recyclable will be sent back home in the lunch boxes.

Sunscreen and Bug Spray

- Due to our shady park and the time of the day that Camp Eagle operates, sunprotection should not be an issue, but if you would like to send bug spray you may and we can apply that prior to outdoor activities during the buggy months.

Toys, Phones, Smart Watches and Other Electronic Devices

Please leave at home!

Our goal is to have your child connected to nature and not their toys or electronics during the program. No phones or handheld devices, smart watches, or toys etc. These devices distract the children from being out in nature!

If your child has these they will be asked to put them away in their backpacks and you will be contacted and asked for those items to be left at home.

Camp Eagle Checklist

- Backpack
- Snack
- 20 oz water bottle
- Extra clothes & shoes





Clothing, Shoes, & Bags

Please come prepared for a lot of outdoor fun, creek play, and getting very dirty. This program will primarily be outside - we will go outside even if it is raining!

Clothing

- Weather appropriate clothing.
 - Sunny days = shorts, t-shirts, bathing suit, hiking shoes, etc.
 - Rainy days = rain jackets, waterproof shoes, hat, etc.
 - Change of clothes in a reusable (or plastic) bag.
 - Cold days = long pants, long sleeves, sweatshirts, coats, hats

Shoes

- Sneakers or hiking shoes
- Water shoes - for creek time
 - We do not allow flip-flops, crocs, or in general open-toed shoes.*

Bags

- Have your child bring a backpack to help them carry all of their things.
 - You may bring a bag of items to be left at the nature center - we recommend water shoes, a change of clothes (seasonally appropriate), and rain coat (no umbrellas).

Other

- A towel for creek days. We will send notification on days we plan to play in the creek.

Please label everything your child will bring to camp Eagle (clothes, towels, water bottles, etc.).

Creek Play Days - We will notify you when these are on the schedule

- Our creek play time is dependent on the teacher's discretion, weather and water quality.
- Camp Eagle participants can wear clothes in the creek or bathing suits.
 - They must bring a change of clothes and shoes.

*Shoes in the creek must stay on well. We find that crocs are too slippery and fall off. Old tennis shoes, teva, chaco, natives or other water style sandals/shoes are best. Rain boots tend to get filled up with sand and water and are not good for navigating rocks.



Activities



Class Organization

Our class activities are designed specifically for the age groups we set. The groups are formed by the number of children we have enrolled and their ages/grades. We will determine the groups after the program has filled.

Activities

Each month has a different theme. The activities and crafts are planned around the theme of the month. All camp classes will have outdoor hikes on our trails, time to play on our playground, a creek play time when the weather and water quality is good, indoor camp crafts time, outdoor activities and games. Snack time might be indoors or outdoors depending on the weather.

August: Getting to Know the Nature Center - Exploring our trails, creeks, and outdoor classroom while building community and learning outdoor routines.

September: Water All Around Us - Investigating creeks, rain, the water cycle, and hands-on water science experiments.

October: Fall Changes - Observing seasonal shifts in leaves, weather, and animal behavior.

November: Animals and Habitats - Discovering how wildlife meets its needs through habitat hunts and survival challenges.

December: Winter in Nature - Exploring how plants and animals respond to colder weather and seasonal changes.

January: Ice, Snow, and Frozen Water - Experimenting with freezing, melting, shadows, and winter adaptations.

February: Survival and Adaptation - Learning how plants and animals adjust to thrive in changing environments.

March: Signs of Spring - Tracking new growth, pollinators, and returning wildlife.

April: Earth and Conservation - Practicing stewardship through clean-up projects, recycling challenges, and water conservation.

May: Insects and Pollinators - Studying life cycles, building bug habitats, and exploring the important role pollinators play in our ecosystem.



Brightwheel - Admissions, Billing and Communication

We use the company Brightwheel for all of our admissions, billing and communication. Upon acceptance to the program, you will be invited to create an account and fill out all necessary paperwork through brightwheel.

Billing

You will be invited to join the billing at Brightwheel where you can link your bank account or credit card for online payments.

Tuition

- **DNC Members:** \$1,900 per child/semester (10% off discounted member price)
- **Regular:** \$2,090 per child/semester

Tuition can be paid in full or in 4 equal installments per semester (August, September, October, November and January, February, March, April). All payments are made through Brightwheel. Upon registration all participants need to enroll in automatic billing through Brightwheel.

The tuition payment covers our program for each school day in the semester, we do not pro-rate for days not attended and we do not accept drop-ins.

Withdrawal from Program

Should you need to withdraw from the program, you need to give two weeks notice and you will be refunded the remainder of your tuition, less an administration fee of \$50.

Communication

Program communication will go through Brightwheel. We will send all information through that platform and you can communicate with us through that as well.

Arrival and Departure



Check-In

- Children attending Austin will be collected from the school with the walkers. Our staff member will check them in through Brightwheel. If your child is absent for the day please notify our staff through Brightwheel. If you are dropping off your child for the program, please come to the Learning Lab foyer and check in your child with our staff.

Check-Out

- We will call for your child via two-way radio and they will be escorted to meet you at the Learning Lab.
- If the pick-up person does not have the check-out card with them or a picture of the card, we will check the pick-up person's ID. Please email the program director with your pick-up person's name.
- This policy will ensure the safety of your child being picked up by the designated person and we will do everything we can to make sure that it does not slow down the check out procedure.



Check out is at the Wildcreek Learning Lab Foyer from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. If you have not picked up your child by 6:00 pm you will be charged \$5 per minute late. If you pick up after 6:00 pm more than a few times, you will be excused from the program.



Health & Safety

Illness

If your child...

- Has been sick, they must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to camp.
- Has an active cough or runny nose, we ask that you keep your child home until they are feeling better.
- Has had a stomach bug, they need to be free of those symptoms for at least 24 hours.
- Manifests symptoms of illness at camp, we will give you a call and ask that you pick up your child.

We have the children wash their hands prior to eating snacks and after bathroom breaks. We also wipe the camp tables down each day with disinfectant.

Allergies

Please make us aware of any food or other allergies that your child has with detailed instructions. You can send those instructions to the camp director via email.

We will alert the staff and class families if we need to enforce any restrictions. We will keep your EpiPens or other allergy medications with the camp teacher or in our camp office per your instructions.

Other Medications

While our staff is First Aid/AED trained, there is not a nurse on staff. We cannot be responsible for dispensing medication to your child.

If you have medications that need to be taken during the day, you will need to make arrangements to come to the nature center and dispense the medications to your child.

Children with Special Needs

We would like every child to be able to enjoy our nature program! Please help us accommodate your camper to the best of our abilities.

If your child has any of the following:

- special needs (either behavior or physical in nature)
- medications for behavior or medical reasons
- has an IEP in their school for behavior or other reasons
- have an aide in their classroom

We ask that you contact the program director prior to registration so we can determine if our program is a safe and good fit: camp@dunwoodynature.org.



Behavior

Behavior

Please review the Nature Center's Behavior Policy with your child and sign the [Behavior Form](#).

As a camper, I will:

- *Be polite to other campers. I understand that horseplay, unwelcome teasing or other unkind behaviors such as pushing, kicking, hitting or fighting are not allowed at camp.*
- *Show respect to staff, and cooperate fully with their instructions.*
- *Communicate in an appropriate manner, which means I must not use foul language or gestures, harsh words or tone of voice.*
- *Treat nature with kindness. I will stay on trails and show respect to animals and plants.*
- *Use program equipment, supplies, and facilities properly.*
- *Respect the property of others.*
- *Be fully responsible for my actions and understand that irresponsible behavior could result in disciplinary action.*

In the unlikely event disruptive behavior arises, the staff of the Dunwoody Nature Center will use a positive approach to redirect behavior. Should disruptive behavior continue, the staff will seek parental support to resolve any issue. The staff of the Dunwoody Nature Center reserves the right to dismiss any participant who remains disruptive after consultation with the parents.

We expect each child to abide by our Nature Program Code of Conduct. The camp teacher will review this with the children on the first day of Camp Eagle.

If a camper has problems keeping to the agreement:

- **1st occurrence**
 - they will be reminded of the agreement
- **2nd occurrence**
 - they will be asked to speak with the program director
 - the parent will be notified via email or phone call of the first two incidents
- **3rd occurrence**
 - child will be sent to the camp director's office
 - we will give the parent a call to speak with the child over the phone
- **4th occurrence**
 - the parent will be asked to pick up the child and dismissed from camp
 - no refunds will be issued due to behavior problems