



Camp Gordyland

Camper's Guide 2017 Summer

WELCOME TO CAMP!

This is Gordy the Gator's Great Camp Gordyland Camper Guide. Whether this will be your very first summer with us or you're a long time camper, this guide will help you find all kinds of info and helpful tips to make sure your summer at camp as fun, safe and memorable as possible.

You'll be making friends, making memories and making a difference in no time!

Our Camp...

Camp Gordyland, as you know it today, has only been around since 2006. Camp at the Wilton Y has been taking place since the 1970's when the YMCA was first built on the Kiwanis Park. Since the Y was built, we have constructed two Gaga Pits, refurbished the High Ropes Course, added a Bocce Court, expanded the Archery Range and most recently added a whole new Mini Golf course for the Summer of '17. Over these years we have had numerous campers grow to be CITs, then become counselors, specialists or paras and later rise to be Camp Directors. We are excited to see what the next years will bring!



Our Camp Family:

- * 200+ staff strong (Counselors, Specialists, Lifeguards & Directors)
- * Over 100 years of experience
- * 1 Awesome Gator named Gordy
- * Local staff (many attended as campers)



Director



Head Staff



Counselor



Specialist



Counselor in Training

Friends at Camp

We have so many popular parts of camp, one of our favorites is **FRIENDS!** If you're from around here, Wilton, Weston, Redding, Norwalk or Ridgefield, you'll probably see some friends from school. You can ask to have a friend or two in your camp group with a **friend request**. If they aren't in your camp group, you'll probably see them during Opening Ceremonies, at Lunch, swim time, at the Beach or Pool, Camper Connections and even other activities where there may be a few groups playing together! And don't worry if you're new to the area or aren't from around here, we're sure you'll meet your new best friend this Summer.



everyone to feel welcome. Our Camp Community is made up of all the kids in your camp group, your Counselors, the Specialists, Counselors-in-Training (C.I.T.s) and Directors.

There are lots of people playing, creating and making memories all day, everyday, so it's really important that we follow our **5 Character Values: RESPECT, CARING, HONESTY, RESPONSIBILITY, and UNITY** so that everyone has the **BEST** time at Camp Gordyland!



Gordy says, "Don't forget camp is about **making friends!** It's part of the Camp Gordyland motto."

OUR CAMP COMMUNITY

This summer you will get to make new friends, not just once, but for every week you come to camp as there will be new friends in your camp group each week. We want

Character Values	Examples of our character values		
Respect	Listening to your counselor & specialist	Listening when your friends are talking	Listening to what is being asked of you
Caring	Helping a friend	Helping a staff person	Helping Camp Gordyland
Honesty	Telling the truth	Answering questions	Showing good Sportsmanship
Responsibility	Helping to clean up	Taking pride in yourself	Taking care of your area & camp
Unity	Teamwork	Collaboration	Problem Solving

Gordy says, "We all take care of each other & our camp when we practice our **Character Values.**"



A DAY AT CAMP...

is like no other. Every week of camp is made special by its unique **theme**. The theme of the week is seen throughout camp.

Each morning you'll find your Camp Counselors on the Field. When everyone has arrived, we start our



Opening Ceremonies

by competing in themed events with staff and campers from your Color Team. Winners earn points for their Color Team and other rewards. Opening Ceremony events may include **Lip Sync battles, Egg Toss, Water Jug Knock Down, Potato Sack Races, Hungry, Hungry Hippo, Blindfolded Free Throw**, and many more. At the end of Opening Ceremonies you'll hear

announcements about the day and week ahead before joining in our Camp Song*!



*(see the last page for the Camp Song lyrics)

After Opening, you'll go with your group to 4 camp activities including 1 water activity like Beach or Pool, before meeting up with all of camp at our Lunch Area.



Everyone eats with their group or you might even join up with another group. Once you've eaten your lunch, you'll have a quick group meeting where you'll talk about the day so far and what's coming up next. After reapplying sunscreen you'll head off to the last 3 activities. One of the activities will either be the Beach or Pool. After all the afternoon activities, you will all head back to the Field to be picked up. One of your counselors will bring you to PM Care if you will be picked up later. There you'll have a snack and then go to a few more activities with your PM Care group. When you come back the next day, you'll have some different activities, but everything else will move along in the same way.

AM Care - The AM Care Counselors will bring you from the Activity Center to your camp counselor on the Field.

Summer Swim Team - One of the Camp Directors will bring you to your practice and then back to your camp group.

Lego Camp - If you signed up for Free-To-Be & Lego Camp, we will bring you to your group after Lego Camp or take you to Lego Camp from Free-To-Be.



Here's a look at a Camp Schedule.

Each group has their own unique schedule.

Camp Gordyland Schedule Example

Your Camp Group					
	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr
Drop off/ 5 Minute Games					
Opening Ceremonies 9:20-9:55					
Period 1 10:03-10:33	Dugout Derby	Break	Break	Exploring Time Paddle Court 1	Dance Dance
		Drama	Picnic Games		
Period 2 10:41-11:11	Beach	Outdoor Adventure Outdoor Adventure	FTB Playground Studio Playground	Fishing Fishing	50M Pool 50M Pool
	Line				
Period 3 11:19-11:51	Break	Gate	Street Hockey Street Hockey	Gate	Break
	Dance	Beach		Beach	Sports
Period 4 11:59-12:29	AC Pavilion	Grams Galore	Beach	Break	Beach
			Line	Drama	Line
Lunch 12:37-12:57					
Group Meeting 12:57-1:07					
Period 5 1:15-1:45	Street Hockey Street Hockey	9 Square in the air	Camper Connections	Mini-Golf Mini-Golf	Low Ropes Low Ropes
		Break			
Period 6 1:53-2:23	50M Pool 50M Pool	50M Pool 50M Pool	50M Pool 50M Pool	50M Pool 50M Pool	FTB Playground Studio Playground
Period 7 2:31-3:07	Break	FTB Playground Studio Playground	Break	AC	Wall Wall
	Theme		Gaga Gator Pit	Break	
Closing 3:15-					

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SPECIAL DAYS

Throughout the summer we have some Camp Gordyland traditions that take place each week:

- ◆ Kiwanis Wednesdays- 1 group gets to sing a song to the Kiwanis Members at Lunch
- ◆ Hot Dog Thursday- Hot Dogs are sold at lunch on Thursdays! 1 = \$3 or 2 = \$5



- ◆ Theme Dress-Up Day- Thursdays- Dress-Up Contest at Opening Ceremonies- Dress in the week's theme
- ◆ Color Team Friday- Show your Color Team pride! **Red, Orange, Yellow, Green & Blue**, what color will you be?

ANNUAL TRADITIONS

★ Gordyland's Got Talent

Week 3, July 10th-14th

Friday, July 14th at 10am in the Gym- *Gordyland's Got Talent Show*

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, campers can sign up with the Free-To-Be Director for the Talent Show. On Wednesday, they will hear if they will be performing on Friday. Campers can perform individually, with a friend or your group. Performers do not need to be in the same group to sign-up. Music will be approved by the Camp Directors. Parents are welcome to come and watch the Talent Show. The entire camp will vote on the Top 3 Performers. The Winners will be announced at lunch and will receive Color Points for their Color Team.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Team Activities: Sports, Gaga, Dugout Derby, Picnic Games, Street Hockey, Basketball, Camper Connections, 9 Square in the Air, Exploring Time

Independent: Archery, Mini Golf, Fishing

Creative Activities: Arts & Crafts, Grams Galore, Dance, Open Mic (Drama)

Nature & Life Skill Activities: Fishing, Canoe, Outdoor Adventure, Gordy's Gourmet, High Ropes, Low Ropes/Teambuilding, Wall

Aquatic Activities: Pool, Beach, Canoe, Water Games

★ Color Games XXV

Week 5, July 24th-28th

Friday, July 28th at 1pm in the Gym-
Color Games XXV The Big Show

ALL this week, the Color Teams work together to create a Team Mascot, learn a Dance routine, a Team Chant, and a Team Entrance to be performed on Friday for the BIG SHOW. We encourage all campers and staff to dress in their team's color all week long, and especially on Friday. Face paint, colored hairspray, bandanas, and being dressed in your color from head to toe is what you'll see come Color Games Friday. Throughout the week your group and Color Team will be able to earn points at camp activities, during Opening Ceremonies and Gordy's Gold Rush (where finding special coins will earn your team extra points) along with Penny Wars. The Color Team having the best all around Entrance, Dance, Mascot and Chant at the Big Show will be awarded the Big Show Belt. The Color Team earning the most points during the week will earn the Character Cup.



Gordy says,
"Wear your
Colors all
week to show
your **COLOR**
Spirit!"

Theme Dress-up Ideas

Week 1: Summer Rodeo

- * Bandana, hat, boots, plaid, flannel
- * (Cowboy/girl, sheriff, Western)

Week 2: Hero Week (Everyday Hero)

- * Camo, scrubs, boots

- * (Firefighter, police officer, doctor, teacher, military)

Week 3: Gordyland's Got Talent

- * Animal prints, t-shirts, bright colors, feather boa, sparkles
- * (Movie star, celebrity, rock star)



Week 4: Ocean Commotion

- * Tropical, Hawaiian shirt, sun dress, swim wear
- * (Moana, fish, mermaid)

Week 5: Color Games

- * Wear your colors all week!
(There will be no costume contest this week)

Week 6: Welcome to the Jungle

- * Cargo shorts/pants, vest, bucket hat, jungle animals, animal prints
- * (Tarzan, explorer/adventurer, jungle animal)

Week 7: Comic Carnival

- * Superhero shirts, capes, mask, silly/mixed up clothes
- * (Superheroes, clowns & carnival characters)

Week 8: Jedi Academy

- * Star Wars shirts, robes, costumes
- * (Star Wars characters)



Week 9: Marsh Madness

- * Sport Uniform, Jerseys, sporting accessories
- * (Players from different sports)

WEATHER WONDERS

Sun Safety

- ✓ Always apply sunscreen before camp
- ✓ Pack spray-on sunscreen to apply after water activities and lunch
- ✓ Please label your sunscreen
- ✓ Use a "swim shirt" or rash guard for beach times
- ✓ Bring & wear a hat (label it)



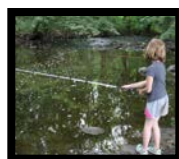
Water Safety

- ✓ Camp-To-Come-To campers **ALWAYS** wear a lifejacket at the beach
- ✓ Camp-To-Come-To campers **ALWAYS** wear bubbles during swim lessons and a lifejacket during recreation swim in the pool
- ✓ Water shoes must be worn in the Splash Pool.
- ✓ ALL campers and counselors wear lifejackets at Canoe
- ✓ Bring a water bottle. (Refill stations are located at all activities and throughout the Y)

- ✓ At the beach, Buddy Checks are called every 5 minutes. When the whistle is blown, **EVERYONE** must come out of the water and line up with their camp group.



- ✓ Ask your counselor and the lifeguard to take the dock test when you think you are ready. The Dock bracelet **MUST** be returned to your counselor.



- ✓ Only water shoes are acceptable to go into the river at Fishing.

Extreme Weather Days

Rain or shine, there **WILL** be Camp! We like to call rain "Liquid Sunshine". Depending on how much of that Liquid Sunshine is coming down, we will either be following our normal schedule, with a few changes to where those activities will take place, or be inside the Y having a giant DANCE PARTY, doing Arts and Crafts or some other exciting gym activities! We'll head into the Gym or Activity Center first to find out what we'll be doing. If there is Liquid Sunshine coming down at Drop-off or Pick-up be sure to check where the campers will be. So bring a jacket and your towel...you never know when the sun will shine through!

SKINNED KNEES & SICK TUMMIES

Everyone gets sick, even in the summertime and at Camp. If you don't feel well before camp, it is best to stay home and rest. Summer is a hot time of year and camp keeps us busy, moving and having fun. If you feel sick during the camp day, tell your counselor and they will bring you to our First Aid Station called the Meeting House. There you'll be checked out by one of the First Aiders, just like the School Nurse. If you have to go home sick, you'll get picked up at the Meeting House.

Get a bug bite, cut your finger, skin your knee, get sand in your eye or any other boo-boo, you'll go to the Meeting House for First Aid.



Gordy says, "The best way to stay healthy this summer is to **Drink lots of water, get a good night's sleep, eat fruits & veggies and wash your hands!**"

CAMPING TIME

WHAT TO BRING:

- ✓ Backpack*
- ✓ Towel*
- ✓ Swim suit*
- ✓ Goggles*
- ✓ Water shoes*
- ✓ Hat*
- ✓ Change of clothes*
- ✓ Sneakers*
- ✓ Sunscreen*
- ✓ Water Bottle*
- ✓ Peanut & Treenut Free Lunch & Snack*

***Please Label**

FOOD AT CAMP

Snack Time

Camp-To-Come-To

- ❖ You'll eat a short time after you get dropped off to your group so you'll have lots of energy for the morning.
- ❖ Snack Ideas: Popcorn, Pirate's Booty, Veggies- carrots, cucumbers, fruit-apple slices, squeezable apple sauce, **PEANUT/TREE NUT FREE Products**
- ❖ Pack snack separate

Free-To-Be

- ❖ You'll eat during you're 1st or 2nd period activity
- ❖ Snack Ideas: Popcorn, Pirate's Booty, Veggies- carrots, cucumbers, fruit-apple slices, squeezable apple sauce, **PEANUT/TREE NUT FREE Products**
- ❖ Pack snack separate

Lunch Time 12:23-1:10pm

- ❖ Be sure to pack food that will give you energy for the rest of your day!

- ❖ Lunch Ideas: Sandwiches, Rollups with meat & cheese, Chicken Nuggets, Cheese stick, Salads, Veggies-carrots, cucumbers, peppers, Fruit- apple, clementine, banana, Whole Grains-Popcorn, Goldfish, Cheerios
- ❖ Please included an Ice Pack
- ❖ NO **PEANUT/TREE NUT Products**
- ❖ Label Lunch Bag



Birthday Celebrations

Happy Birthday to You!

Does your Birthday fall on a Camp day? That's super exciting! Want to share it with your friends? We hope you do! Due to the wide variety of allergies our friends might have, we suggest Ice Pops for your special day. Just hand that bag or box of pops to a Director and we will keep it in the freezer until lunch time, so you can celebrate with the group!



CAMP BREAK DOWN

Busy Bees (3s & 4s)

Drop Off Locations

Good Weather: Activity Center Playground

Poor Weather:
Activity Center 1st
Half

Activities: Pool,
Splash Pool
(daily), Sports,
Dance,
Playground, Mini
Golf, Beads, Arts &
Crafts, Nature Walks



Camp-To-Come-To (CTCT) (4s & 5s)

Drop Off Locations

Good Weather: Left Baseball Field

Poor Weather: Activity Center 2nd Half
(Opening), Community Room (Pick-Up)



Activities: Pool,
Splash Pool,
Sports, Dance,
Playground, Mini
Golf, Sensory
Motor, Arts &
Crafts, Picnic
Games, Canoe,
Theme, Grams
Galore, Open Mic
(Drama), Soft Play

Gym, Exploring Time, Water Games

Free-To-Be (FTB) 1st-6th

Drop Off Locations

Good Weather: Right Baseball Field

Poor Weather: Gym

All Age Activities: Pool, Beach, Dugout
Derby, Fishing, Gaga, Mini Golf, Playground,

Arts & Crafts, Theme, Picnic Games, Dance,
Water Games, Backyard Games, Open Mic
(Drama), Exploring Time, Canoe, Street
Hockey

1st-3rd Only- Outdoor Adventure, Low
Ropes, Wall, Grams Galore

3rd & Up- Archery & Camper Connections

4th & Up- Gordy's Gourmet & High Ropes

5th & Up- Water Polo, Basketball

Teens (7th & 8th)

Drop Off Locations

Good Weather: Studio Playground

Poor Weather: Studio
Building

Activities: Pool,
Sports, Dance,
Playground, Mini
Golf, Arts & Crafts,
Picnic Games, Canoe,



Theme, Open Mic
(Drama), Exploring
Time, Water Polo,
Archery, Gaga, High
Ropes, Basketball,
Fishing, Camper
Connections

Possible Trips: Lake Compounce, Brown
Stone, Maritime Aquarium, Pottery, Roller
Magic, Bethel Movie Cinema



WHAT TO EXPECT ON YOUR 1ST DAY OF CAMP:

Excited about the first day!? Not really sure where to go? Well, as soon as you get to Camp, make sure you have everything on our list, then come and find your name on

the big white poster hanging at the entrance of the Baseball Fields. Find your name and then see what group you're in*. The counselors will be standing near colored signs, like this. M=males (boys), F=females (girls), the number is what grade your going in to and the last letter A-C is the section.



For Camp-To-Come-To there is only 1 letter. Letters A-C= Girl Groups and letters G-I= Boy Groups.

Free-To-Be groups are on the right field and Camp-To-Come-To Groups are on the left field. Teen Camp will be at the Studio Playground and Busy Bees are in the back Activity Center Playground. Keep your backpack on and head over to your group to meet your counselors and have your parent sign you in! There, your counselor will introduce themselves and check your lunch to see what awesome goodies are inside! After that, make sure you hang out by your group and chat with your friends while you wait for Opening Ceremonies to start!



If you don't see your name then you have to go to the 1st Aid Tent that is located in between the fields with our First Aiders! There you'll find out if you are missing information so you can start camp as soon as it is brought in. The First Aiders will tell you what you need.

See you then!

Camp Will Always Be My Home

We are very excited for the 2017 Camp Summer to begin! We have been preparing the camp grounds, including our newly renovated Mini Golf course. Thank you to all of our families for their generous contribution for this summer's Enhancement fee which made this renovation possible.

Our Staff are preparing of your arrival and are eager to make sure that you have a fantastic and fun filled summer!

We can't wait to see you on your first day of camp!

You'll never want the summer to end!

♥The Camp Gordyland Staff & Directors



Camp Song

"I'm Going to Camp"

By Aaron Britton/Bill

Where you going? I'm going to Camp.
What you gonna do? Gonna swim and dance.

Where you gonna do it? Out in the sun.
Whatcha gonna have? Have lots of fun.

You know I'm never going to leave,
You know I'll always want to go,
Even when the summer days are done,
Camp will always be my home!

What'd you play? Played ball and tag,
Climbed the wall and captured the flag.

Who'd you meet? My best friend,
I never want this summer to end.

You know I'm never going to leave,
You know I'll always want to go,
Even when the summer days are done,
Camp will always be my home!

This winter came and it started to snow.
I missed going fishing and my archery bow.

Don't worry Camp's only 'round the bend,
I never want this summer to end!

You know I'm never going to leave,
You know I'll always want to go,
Even when the summer days are done,
Camp will always be my home!

Important Camp Contact Info

Camp Director: Mike Kazlauskas
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 277
(E) mkazlauskas@riverbrookymca.org

Busy Bee Director: Lynda Rushka
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 214
(E) prekclubhouse@riverbrookymca.org

Camp First Aiders: 203-763-8384 ext. 286
(E) campnurse@riverbrookymca.org
(F) (203) 286-2260

Camp-To-Come-To Director: Kimberly Fejes
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 293
(E) kfejes@riverbrookymca.org

Free-To-Be- Director: Molly Blosser
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 283
(E) mblosser@riverbrookymca.org

Front Desk: 203-762-8384 Dial "0" to speak with the Front Desk and then ask to speak with a Camp Director

Special Needs Director: Chris Foley
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 207
(E) cfoley@riverbrookymca.org

Teen Camp Director: Mike McGowan
(P) 203-762-8384 ext. 283
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