

# Asbury Woods Camp Health and Safety Guidelines

## **Late Arrival/Early Departure:**

We discourage late arrival and early departure for the benefit of the camper

The success of a camping experience is dependent upon full-time participation

In the event of early departure or late arrival no fee refund/pro rating will be provided

Approval for any late arrival or early departure must be given by the camp dean(s) and coordinated ahead of time

A camper will not be allowed to arrive to camp after Monday

## **Homesickness:**

Homesickness can, and does, occur at camp, even among experienced campers. It is our experience that most homesickness happens during the first full day, and most who get through that early time get over the homesickness and go on to have a wonderful week. In the event that a camper remains homesick or becomes severely homesick, parents will be called by a camp dean so the best decision can be made regarding the camper. As you prepare with your child for camp, please encourage them and talk positively about the experience. Do not tell them to “just try it for a couple of days,” or “if you don’t like it, you can call me,” or “if you don’t like it, I will come and get you.” In saying these things, the child is being set up to not make it through camp.

## **Emergency Contacting**

The safety and well-being of our campers is our highest priority. In the event of situations involving injury, accidents, medical need, repetitive behavioral problems, etc., parents will be contacted. Please rest assured your child is in safe hands and we will contact you should there be any problems.

Camp personnel will notify you if your child displays the following health symptoms:

- Any illness that persists longer than 24 hours; including fevers, coughs, excess expulsion of bodily fluids, allergic reactions, severe tiredness.
- Any injury that causes severe prolonged pain, swelling, and/or discoloration.
- Any condition that cannot be sufficiently treated by camp personnel/camp nurse.
- Any condition requiring transport to other medical services.

## **Visitation / Phone Calls**

Parents or guardians are asked not to visit, call, or text a camper during the week of camp. Personal contacts from parents can have negative effects of homesickness and community building times. Remember, if there is a problem we will contact you. We will also offer designated times throughout the week campers can call home. Please discourage your camper from bringing cell phones to camp.

## **Camp Appropriate Dress Policy**

Please review your packed clothes and make sure that none of your items of clothing make reference to cigarettes, alcohol, illegal drugs or are overly tight-fitting, loose, or otherwise inappropriate for a Christian camp setting. If something is “questionable”, please leave it at home. Camp staff has the responsibility of encouraging appropriate dress.

## Asbury Woods Lice Policy and Treatment / Prevention Plan

Head lice have reappeared over the past few years in schools, camps, and workplaces across the U.S. This is a national issue and has been discussed at length through camp associations throughout the country. Lice is a very common problem and not one that occurs from being “dirty.” It also cannot live without a human host, so it’s not possible for lice to be living at camp prior to campers arriving. The only way it gets in to camp is on a person.

### Step 1: Asbury Woods No Lice/No Nits Policy

*Head lice have reappeared over the past few years in schools and camps across the U.S. Self-contained communities like camps are especially vulnerable and must be vigilant to control this problem.*

*If any positive cases of lice are found, we will treat the camper on-site. We will begin treatment immediately so that campers can stay in their rooms on the first night of camp. We will also put all of that camper’s clothing and bedding in a hot dryer for 30 minutes.*

*We encourage you to have your child checked for head lice by a school nurse or pediatrician two weeks prior to departure and again immediately before camp begins. If any sign of head lice is found, please call your pediatrician to arrange for appropriate and immediate treatment well BEFORE your child leaves for camp and let us know that such treatment has taken place. If your child had head lice or was exposed to it (family member, friend, schoolmate, etc.) within four weeks of their arrival to camp, please notify us. We are committed to doing all we can to keep lice out of our community.*

***\*Please be aware! Having your pediatrician check for lice prior to arrival at camp is NOT always a guarantee, as there is a 3 to 7-day period of gestation during which the nits are invisible.***

### Step 2: Screening Upon Arrival at Asbury Woods

When your child arrives at camp, they will have a brief medical check-in with our camp nurse. Any medications will be left with the nurse and hair will be checked at this time.

If nits or lice are found, we will begin treatment immediately of their hair, clothing, and bed clothes. Parents will have the option to take their child home and treat them and then return to camp (see Mothers Against Head Lice website for full treatment procedures at home and much more information).

### Step 3: Talk to your child

Please talk to your child and share with them information about lice. It can be embarrassing and even scary for some, but if they have more information they will know it can happen to anyone, it can be treated, and how it can spread. Remind them not to share hair brushes, combs, clothing, etc. Also remind them if it does occur, the camper is probably embarrassed so they need friendship and support. We will handle this as discreetly as possible, but that does not guarantee others will not know.

### Step 4: Partnering Together

We are committed to doing all we can to keep lice out of our community. We encourage you to have your child checked for head lice by a nurse or pediatrician prior to camp. If any sign of head lice is found, please call your pediatrician to arrange for appropriate and immediate treatment well **before** your child leaves for camp and let us know that such treatment has taken place.

However, remember that lice have a gestational period during which they are invisible, thus if your doctor says your child is all clear, they could still appear upon arrival at camp. If your child had head lice or was exposed to it (family member, friend, schoolmate, etc.) within four weeks of their arrival to camp, **please notify us.**

Thank you for your understanding and your support in helping us have a lice-free summer at Asbury Woods!

We know you understand that all of these efforts are being made solely in the best interest of the campers, so that they may have a stress-free camp experience that is not interrupted by lice treatments.