



# **NATURE CAMP & FOREST SCHOOL**

## **PARENT FIELD GUIDE**

**SUMMER & SCHOOL BREAK CAMPS  
2026-27**

**Outdoors More, LLC**

Main Camp Phone 404-748-1073

Office Address: 227 Weekes Street, Decatur, Georgia

Owner/Director Scott's Cell Phone 404-502-3196

Email: [office@outdoors-more.com](mailto:office@outdoors-more.com)

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## **ABOUT US**



Outdoors More, formerly named Camp Scene Environmental Adventures, is a metro Atlanta summer day camp and environmental education after-school camp serving the City Schools of Decatur. Founded in 2010, we are focused on nature exploration and outdoor adventure while instilling curiosity about our world.

Owner/Director **Scott Seitz** is a certified environmental educator and outdoor enthusiast. A former middle school science teacher, Scott holds certification in Environmental Education and as a Georgia Master Naturalist through UGA's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Dayton.

Scott is a certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) and a certified facilitator for Project WILD, a leading national program in conservation; Project WET, a worldwide water education program; and Project Learning Tree, a sustainable forestry initiative. He is a member of the Environmental Education Alliance (EEA) and the American Camp Association (ACA). Scott leads a quality staff of experienced and talented educators who are highly trained, background checked, and certified in CPR/AED and First Aid or more, with a minimum staff ratio of 1:7 for field trip camp and 1:10 for on site camp.

All trip leaders are certified Wilderness Lifeguards and licensed commercial drivers who have undergone professional driver training. In addition, they hold certification in Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder. Highly experienced expert instructors teach adventure activities, with state-of-the-art safety equipment and risk management procedures.

## **PROGRAM DETAILS**

### **Program Objectives**

**Our day camp is designed to:**

- Foster a sense of comfort in the natural environment while encouraging campers to enjoy a variety of outdoor recreational activities
- Cultivate an appreciation for and understanding of ecological principles
- Promote awareness of and responsibility for environmentally sustainable practices

We achieve these goals by offering a safe and engaging program led by experienced industry professionals and supportive staff. Through hands-on learning and skill-building activities, campers develop a deeper connection with nature, learn to identify wildlife, and gain insight into Georgia's unique environment. This experience lays the foundation for understanding and valuing environmental stewardship.

## **Communication**

Please keep your contact information accurate on the My Account page of the Parent Dashboard in CampSite so that we can reach you.

Emails will be sent to the email addresses listed in CampSite. The week prior to your session, we will send important reminders about the week. For field trip camps, this includes the detailed Daily Itinerary and required destination forms.

We recommend that families opt in to receive text message alerts, which are used if timely communication is necessary throughout the day, such as a destination change due to weather or an update in estimated return time.

If you need to reach your child during a camp session, call the phone number designated for your child. For field trip camp, you can text or leave a message on the bus cell phone. Although the phone can't always be immediately answered due to travel and/or activities, calls are regularly checked by educators and returned as promptly as possible. Certain parts of our travels may not be accessible depending upon cell phone range; however, we also provide the phone numbers of each destination in the Daily Itinerary, as available.

Outdoors More Facility Phone – (404) 748-1073

Director Scott's Cell Phone – (404) 502-3196

Bus Cell Phones

- Earth (470) 779-1449
- Wind (470) 378-0921
- Fire (470) 378-0938

## **Field Trip Transportation**

Camp utilizes two 24-passenger buses and one 14-passenger bus equipped with seat belts and hands-free technology. Buses undergo annual Department of Transportation inspection and daily inspection prior to use.

We conduct safety orientation for all campers on our transportation procedures. The bus rides are designed to be enjoyable, featuring camper icebreakers and activities. Our driver safety training includes policies on loading and unloading campers, safe operation without distraction within mandated bus speed limits, and enforcement of camper safety, including use of seatbelts and other behavior rules.

The itinerary is subject to change. In the event an activity is canceled, we will attempt to adjust the schedule to preserve as much of the session plan as possible. During the camp session, severe weather or other unexpected circumstances could impact the schedule without prior notice. We will provide alternate activities, but refunds are not available.

## **Daily Schedule**

The schedule varies day by day based on the planned activities. Here is a general overview.

### **Field Trip Camp**

- 8:30-8:45 a.m. – Parent Drop-off
- 9 a.m. – Buses depart. Morning snack on bus.
- 9:30-10:30 a.m. – Activity 1 begins (and continues until about 3:30 p.m. for full-day activities)
- 11 a.m.-1 p.m. – Lunch window, at destination or on the bus
- 1-2 p.m. – Destination 2 Activity begins (if applicable)
- 3:30-4 p.m. – Buses prepare for return to camp. Afternoon snack on bus.
- 4-5 p.m. – Buses return.
- 5-5:30 p.m. – Parent Pickup

### On Site Camp

- 9-9:30 a.m. – Parent Drop-off
- 9:30 a.m.-Noon – Activity/Project rotations (Morning snack)
- Noon – Lunch
- 12:30-4 p.m. – Activity/Project rotations (Afternoon snack)
- 4-4:30 p.m. – Parent Pickup

Gates will open at the scheduled time for drop-off. Unfortunately, early drop-off cannot be accommodated to ensure proper staff ratios during daily camp preparation. **One exception is for on site campers who have a sibling in field trip camp, which requires an earlier arrival.** Parents are responsible for their camper's supervision until they are checked in with a camp staff member.

## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

### **Safety**

Safety is our top priority. It is the primary duty of staff to keep campers physically and emotionally safe and avoid injuries by maintaining constant, close supervision and vigilant risk management throughout the day. All staff members receive thorough training on policies and all activity procedures, including proper use of safety gear and equipment. Campers have a safety orientation on the first morning, and they receive daily safety orientations related to the day's activities and specific locations.

Coast Guard-approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) are utilized by all staff and campers when canoeing, kayaking, tubing, whitewater rafting, and swimming at aqua parks.

**Swimming Safety:** We recommend that campers know how to swim prior to attending camp, but it is not a requirement for participation. Many campers prefer to stay on the sandy beach or in shallow areas regardless of ability. Before campers enter the water, swim checks are conducted by our Wilderness Lifeguard to determine level of ability. Swimmers are not permitted to enter deeper water without skills verification and accompanying staff. We discourage the use of swimming aids, such as inflatable arm bands.

**Weather/Building Safety:** Our policies protect campers wherever they are, including in the event of fire; severe weather, such as earthquake, tornado, or lightning; evacuation due to gas leak or bomb threat, lockdown with potential intruder; physical facility problems, such as loss

of heating, cooling, water, electricity; or physical facility damage. Emergency and evacuation plans have been developed, trained, and rehearsed.

**Emotional Safety:** One way we ensure emotional safety is by making sure all campers understand and follow our essential rules of kindness and respect. Bullying is inexcusable at camp. Our leadership addresses all incidents of bullying seriously, and prevention training is conducted with staff and campers.

**Mandated Reporting of Suspected Abuse:** In the state of Georgia, we are mandated reporters for any suspected child abuse, neglect, exploitation, or deprivation. If we suspect that a child has been abused or neglected, we must report this to the Department of Family and Children Services. Staff who have any suspicions, whether by physical evidence or conversation, are instructed to speak with the director immediately.

**Prohibited Items:** Camp forbids firearms on the premises. All illegal substances are prohibited, and no one on the premises should be under the influence of drugs or alcohol. In addition, smoking or the use of tobacco or e-cigarettes is not permitted.

## **Health & Wellness**

Camp is concerned with the health and welfare of each child. As part of annual registration, we ask about any medical conditions, social or behavioral concerns, allergies, medications, or special diets. This information is shared with staff as needed and is communicated on confidential Camper Rosters. It is the responsibility of the camper family to inform camp of any changes to health information.

It is important for parents or legal guardians to carefully review the camp activities and confirm the child's ability to participate. If you have concerns, please notify us so that we can discuss any possible modifications to your child's participation. We are not structured to be able to provide one-on-one focus for an individual camper.

**Allergies:** All severe allergies require an Allergy Action Plan form. The form and any required medication, such as epinephrine injectors, will be kept with the camper's trip leader at all times. These Allergy Kits travel on field trips with the camper, or will remain in the office if the camper is on site. **It is the parent's responsibility to provide current, unexpired medication.** Staff are trained in recognizing and responding to signs of anaphylaxis.

Precaution is taken to avoid exposure to any allergens. No nut products are served at camp. Snacks are stored in labeled bins to clearly identify products that are free of allergens, separate from those that may have been processed in a facility with allergens.

**Medication:** If your child requires any medication(s) to be administered during camp, we must have a signed Medication Authorization giving us permission and instructions to administer the medication(s), including the dates that the authorization is in effect. Campers should not be sent with medication. All medications must be labeled in the original prescription container. Medication is stored in a locked container.

Please be sure to collect all medication at pickup on your camper's last day.

**Illness Screening:** Our health and wellness policies are designed to keep campers healthy. They include preventive measures as well as plans for identifying, separating, and keeping sick campers and staff at home.

To ensure that all children arrive at camp healthy, they should be monitored at home for any symptoms of illness, including respiratory viruses like COVID-19, flu, and RSV. The CDC recommends staying up to date on vaccinations for everyone ages 5 and up.

- Campers should stay home if they have symptoms like fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, and headache, among others.
- Campers can return to normal activities when symptoms are improving AND there is no fever (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours. Added precautions are advised for the next 5 days. At camp, this includes a mask requirement on the buses and indoors following an illness.
- Please notify us if your camper develops symptoms throughout the week or receives a positive test result.

**Illness:** Any camper who exhibits new symptoms throughout the day must be picked up as soon as possible. We will care for the camper according to our health procedures as permitted in Camp Permission and notify the parent to discuss pickup arrangements within one hour. We will keep the ill camper separated from other campers to the extent possible. In some field trip camp circumstances, this may be after the return bus ride home. In a rare event, there is a possibility that a parent will need to travel to the destination location for pickup.

In order to prevent any illness from being spread, neither campers nor staff may remain at camp with any of the following symptoms:

- Fever greater than 100.4 degrees
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Severe headache or abdominal pain
- Flu-like symptoms, such as chills or body aches
- Rashes that cannot be identified or have not been diagnosed by a physician
- Untreated head lice

Children sent home may not return the next day. To return to the program, they must:

- Be free of symptoms for 24 hours,
- Have taken the appropriate medication for 24 hours,
- OR Have a note from your health care professional stating the diagnosis, if appropriate, and that your child is not contagious and/or that your child may return to the program

Some more serious illnesses require longer recovery before a return to school and program. We adhere to the Communicable Disease Recommendations by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

**Injury:** Staff are certified in CPR/AED and First Aid and well trained in emergency procedures. We stock first aid kits at the facility and on the bus. All field trip leaders have Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder certification. Parents will be notified of treatment of minor injuries at the end of the day. Parents will be notified by phone in the event of a more serious injury.

**Emergency Medical Care:** In the event of a medical emergency, we will consult with 911 on the closest emergency care. Our default local emergency medical care facility when at base camp is Children's Healthcare of Atlanta—Arthur M. Blank Hospital at 2220 N Druid Hills Rd NE, Atlanta. (404) 785-5437. Campers may be transported by ambulance or camp vehicle, depending on the situation. Parents will be notified immediately.

## **Drop-off & Pickup**

Curbside operations take place in a loop at the dead end of Weekes Street. Please follow the directions of on-duty staff to the numbered cones. After departing camp, we request that drivers make a right turn onto East College Avenue back toward Sams Street. Because there is no traffic light at this intersection, we want to minimize delays during peak traffic hours.

**Attendance:** If your child is going to be absent from camp, please email [office@outdoors-more.com](mailto:office@outdoors-more.com) to notify us before 8 a.m. Unfortunately, there are no camp make up days or refunds for missed days.

**Late Drop-off:** Please notify us as soon as possible if you are running late. For field trip camp, we need to ensure there is plenty of time for bus loading and prompt departure for our travel schedule. We will contact you for an ETA, but we may not be able to wait for a late arrival. For on site camp, call the camp phone at 404-748-1073 or Director Scott at 404-502-3196 with a time estimate or arrival update as needed. A staff member will proceed to the carpool lane for check-in.

**Late Pickup:** Late pickups incur a \$1 charge per minute beginning 5 minutes after the pickup period ends. If we are unable to reach a parent or guardian for more than 30 minutes after pickup, we will begin to call other listed authorized pickups.

If the bus is running late for some reason, such as due to unexpected and heavy volumes of traffic, parents will be contacted by text message alert with an update. We are aware of normal traffic and delays and work hard to manage the schedule.

**Authorized Pickups:** Electronic checkout will be managed by the staff who brings the camper to the vehicle, and the PIN number should be provided verbally. You can find your Attendance PIN on the Parent Dashboard under My Account.

These are unique to every individual, so rather than giving out your PIN number, please add additional pickups on the Authorized Pickup page. They will receive a text message with their number. For forgotten numbers, PIN retrievals can be requested on site via text message to the cell phones listed in the system.

## **Behavior**

We advocate a positive guidance and discipline policy with a focus on positive reinforcement, redirection, prevention, and the development of self-discipline. Any form of physical punishment, threats, or verbal abuse, such as belittling or humiliation, are prohibited at camp.



Our primary emphasis is on establishing a framework of respect in a supportive environment with vigilant staff presence. We begin this by involving parents and children in a code of conduct. Our behavior guidelines require:

1. Respect for other campers
2. Respect for directors and staff
3. Respect for the environment

**Philosophy:** The staff is dedicated to providing clear behavioral expectations. They are trained in bullying prevention and conflict management with a goal to help campers build new skills in social interaction, social understanding, self-expression, and decision-making.

**Consequences:** If expectations are not met or rules are not followed, consequences are outlined. For minor offenses, a 1<sup>st</sup> offense will be a brief time-out with a verbal reminder from a staff member. A 2<sup>nd</sup> offense will be a longer time-out for a discussion or upcoming activity delay, followed by a written or verbal conversation with parents describing the behavior and how staff attempted to redirect the behavior. A 3<sup>rd</sup> offense will be removal from the activity and a parent discussion to review a behavioral action plan.

Repeated offenses could lead to a one- to three-day suspension from the program, or removal from the program without refund.

**Removal:** If a camper's behavior intentionally threatens the safety of themselves, other campers, or staff, the camper will be immediately removed from the activity and the parent will be called for early pickup. This could include hitting children or staff and/or physically endangering others or repeatedly refusing to follow safety rules or stop dangerous activities such as throwing objects; and/or other uncontrollable behavior.

Expulsion will be considered if the camper's disruptive behavior cannot be redirected. Refunds are not available for suspended or expelled students.

## **Lost & Found**

Camp staff work diligently to prevent campers from leaving items at destinations, including beach towels, changes of clothes, lunch boxes, water bottles, and more. Occasionally, these items are left on the bus or at camp. We recommend labeling all personal items, such as with permanent marker on tags.

Personal belongings that are unlabeled will be stored in the Lost & Found bin and displayed at the drop-off and pick-up fenced area. If your camper is missing any items, please let us know and a staff member will check for you.

## **Changes & Cancellations**

### **Summer Camp**

**Change & Cancellation Policy:** Full payment by credit card is due at the time of registration, after applicable discounts are applied. Any change requests are subject to

availability. A \$25 change fee will be applied for changes made more than 72 hours after registration.

Any cancellation requests made in writing to [office@outdoors-more.com](mailto:office@outdoors-more.com) before April 1 will receive a full refund, less a \$50 cancellation fee per session. Cancellation requests between April 1 and May 1 will receive a 50% refund, less a \$50 cancellation fee per session. Cancellations within 48 hours of registration will receive a 100% refund. Please allow up to 4 weeks for processing. No typical refunds are available after May 1.

If your camper misses two or more consecutive days of camp due to other illness, injury, or qualified family emergency, a partial camp credit may be available upon request with acceptable documentation, such as a doctor's excuse. A change of travel or camp plans is not a valid excuse for a credit.

If you are offered a waitlisted spot and request to cancel an existing registration upon acceptance, the cancellation policy will apply.

### **School Break Camp**

Full payment by credit card is due at the time of registration. Any change requests are subject to availability. A \$25 change fee will be applied for changes made 48 hours after registration.

Any cancellation requests made in writing to [office@outdoors-more.com](mailto:office@outdoors-more.com) more than three weeks before the session will receive a full refund, less a \$50 cancellation fee. Cancellation requests between one and three weeks prior to the session will receive a 50% refund, less a \$50 cancellation fee. Please allow 2-4 weeks for processing.

No refunds are available less than one week prior to the session. If your camper misses two or more consecutive days of camp due to illness or qualified family emergency, a partial camp credit may be available upon request with acceptable documentation, such as a doctor's excuse. A change of travel or camp plans is not a valid excuse for a credit during that period.

### **Non-Discrimination**

Outdoors More, LLC. adheres to a strict non-discrimination policy in its employment practices (except in limited instances when age or gender considerations are bona fide occupational requirements, such as to provide a proper ratio of male and female staff based on camper population) and in the provision of services to its clients. Outdoors More, LLC. is an equal opportunity employer.

We will not refuse, withhold, or limit the provision of any services to any present or prospective client, or make any employment decision regarding any current or prospective employee, based solely on that individual's race, color, religious creed, handicap, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, veteran status, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or citizenship status.

## **CAMP PREPARATION**

### **Forms**

The Camp Permission form must be completed online prior to enrollment. Other field trip activity forms specific to your camper's session destinations can be found on the "Forms" page of the Parent

Dashboard. **Please print and sign these forms prior to the start of your session and bring to your camper's first day of camp.**

### **What to Wear & Bring**

Outdoor activity in hot summer weather can be physically demanding even for healthy, active children. It is extremely important that all campers get plenty of rest and eat a substantial breakfast.

**Water bottle:** Campers should bring a water bottle, preferably a wide-mouthed, reusable bottle. We provide ice and regular water refills to keep campers hydrated. **Label the bottle with your child's name.**

**Packed lunch & snacks:** Campers will not have access to refrigeration or microwaves, so please prepare your child's lunch accordingly with an ice pack. Please pack morning and afternoon snacks separately to ensure easy access in backpacks. We have found that campers often have a larger than usual appetite with all of the daily activity, so please keep in mind during preparation. We love when our campers utilize reusable containers to produce as little waste as possible. We model Leave No Trace principles during all camp activities.

As a supplemental snack, apples, oranges, and cereal bars will be available every morning to ensure all campers are fueled for their day. We do not serve any nut products.

**Clothing:** We will be outdoors, so clothes should be appropriate for comfort, wear and tear and of course, dirt or mud. Every day, campers should bring a bathing suit, towel, extra pair of dry clothes and bag for wet clothes. For girls, two-piece suits such as tankinis often provide easier changing and restroom visits. There will be water activities on most days of on site camp and swimming on most days of field trip camp. It's recommended to bring swim shirts for additional sun protection, but not wear them all day.

**Suitable shoes:** All campers should wear closed-toe hiking shoes or tennis shoes and socks. Open-toe shoes, such as Teva sandals, are only allowed as secondary shoes for water activities, such as kayaking. If Crocs are worn, they must have a strap. Flip flops are never permitted.

**Sunscreen:** Campers should bring their own sunscreen daily, and we also recommend a face stick. During enrollment, registrants select who should apply sunscreen to their camper by selecting "Self" for independent camper application (except backs) or "Staff." Any camper who does not have sunscreen will be provided camp supplies, which is SPF 50 lotion free of oxybenzone and octinoxate.

**Insect repellent:** During enrollment, registrants select whether to authorize use of camp insect repellent, as needed on hikes or outdoors. Our supplies include 25% DEET, per CDC guidance for avoiding ticks and mosquitoes. If you choose to provide your own insect repellent, please label and provide to the staff member at check-in on the first day of the session.

### **Field Trip Camp (See Field Trip Day Camp Checklist)**

**Weather Preparation:** Most activities are rain or shine. As long as conditions are safe without lightning, we will be outdoors! Rain ponchos will be provided in the case of unforeseeable conditions; however, please send your child with rain gear if the forecast calls for rain. If an activity is canceled, we will attempt to adjust the schedule to preserve as much of the

session plan as possible.

**Water Days:** Water shoes or all-weather sandals with straps (such as Teva or Keen sandals) are highly recommended as a secondary pair of shoes for water activities. Crocs with a strap are acceptable.

On river days, please pack lunches in a brown paper bag. Lunches will be transported by staff members in dry bags with ice packs.

**Additional Items:** Swim goggles are permitted during lake swimming for campers who prefer to use them; however, they can't be worn at aqua parks. Eyeglasses should be secured with a strap. Jewelry is not permitted. Hats are helpful for additional shade from the sun. Long hair should be tied back securely.

**Please DO NOT bring any electronics or valuables to the program, as they may be lost or damaged, and camp cannot be responsible.**

# ON SITE CAMP CHECKLIST

## What to bring

- ☐ Labeled water bottle
- ☐ Packed lunch
- ☐ Morning, afternoon snack
- ☐ Backpack or small daypack
- ☐ Bathing suit and towel (every day), with bag for wet clothes
- ☐ Extra pair of dry clothes, in case needed throughout the week
- ☐ Sunscreen (labeled)
- ☐ Insect repellent (labeled, if not authorizing camp supplies)
- ☐ Optional: Extra snacks
- ☐ Optional: For long hair, extra ties

## What to wear

- ☐ Comfortable outdoor clothes, such as T-shirt and hiking shorts
- ☐ Closed-toe hiking shoes or tennis shoes with socks
- ☐ Optional: Face masks
- ☐ Optional: Hat, for shade

**We ask that you do NOT bring any electronic devices or personal items of value because of the risk of loss or damage. Outdoors More, LLC. cannot be responsible.**

# FIELD TRIP CAMP CHECKLIST

## What to bring

- ☐ Signed destination forms on first day
- ☐ Labeled water bottle
- ☐ Packed lunch (For river days, packed in a brown paper bag if possible)
- ☐ Morning, afternoon snack
- ☐ Backpack or small daypack
- ☐ Bathing suit and towel (every day), with bag for wet clothes
- ☐ Extra pair of dry clothes, in case needed throughout the week
- ☐ Sunscreen (labeled)
- ☐ Insect repellent (labeled, if not authorizing camp supplies)
- ☐ Recommended: Rain jacket or rain gear, in inclement weather
- ☐ Optional: Swim goggles
- ☐ Optional: Extra snacks
- ☐ Optional: For long hair, extra ties

## What to wear

- ☐ Comfortable outdoor clothes, such as T-shirt and hiking shorts
- ☐ Closed-toe hiking shoes or tennis shoes with socks
- ☐ Bathing suits may be worn under clothes for planned swimming days. For girls, two-piece suits such as tankinis provide easier changing and restroom visits. Pack undergarments.
- ☐ For water days (kayaking, canoeing, whitewater rafting, stream ecology), a secondary pair of water shoes or all-weather sandals with straps (such as Teva or Keen sandals)
- ☐ Recommended: For eyeglasses, a strap
- ☐ Optional: Face masks
- ☐ Optional: Hat, for shade

**We ask that you do NOT bring any electronic devices or personal items of value because of the risk of loss or damage. Camp cannot be responsible for loss or damage.**