

Camp Marimeta

Parent's

'Big Red Folder'

2018 AT A GLANCE

CAMP MARIMETA 2018 DATES:

- ◆ Full Session - June 18th thru August 8th
- ◆ First Session - June 18th thru July 13th
- ◆ Second Session - July 15th thru August 8th

VISITING WEEKEND – JULY 13th – JULY 14th

The following forms are found on your CampInTouch Account:

- Transportation
- Cabin requests
- Camper profile
- Health history
- Immunization
- Mental health
- Parent authorization
- Physicians exam
- Camp Marimeta Prescription Form
- Eagle River Memorial Emergency Release Form
- All about Me form sent in (sent to you via mail)

Please ensure all forms are filled out on your CampInTouch Account by May 1st

Packages:

NEW POLICY!!! Please read!!

Camp is gift enough and the girls truly do not need anything extra sent to camp. We understand the feeling that you want to show your daughters how much you care and a letter daily is such a special gift to them.

We have spoken with many parents and have decided to amend our package policy. Please read it carefully.

WE WILL NO LONGER BE ACCEPTING "FUN" PACKAGES!! The only packages we will be accepting will be birthday packages and necessity packages. We ask that you call ahead and speak to the lodge, and once given approval, send the package addressed to that particular lodge staff member.

Necessity Package: If your daughter needs important items, such as socks, underwear, bed sheets etc., we will allow those to be sent to camp. This will need to be pre-arranged with a lodge staff member, as when we receive packages that have not been arranged they will be returned to the address they were sent from.

Birthday Package: If your daughter's birthday falls on a date while she is at camp, we will allow **ONE** birthday package to be sent to her. Please **DO NOT** send food, as your daughter and her entire cabin will be having a birthday party with food provided for her in the evening.

***Please note that if grandparents, aunts and uncles, or friends want to send her something for her birthday they need to organize it with you and send one package all together. Any packages received after the first birthday package will be returned to the sender.**

Please note that we provide all the girls with a team tee shirt at camp. We have found that our campers are very creative when it comes to showing team spirit even without packages from home. We will also be providing more Mari/Meta, Red/White materials to the campers.

POLICIES TO BE AWARE OF

"DO NOT SEND" ITEMS:

- ◆ CELL PHONES - (this includes senior cabin girls). They may not be used on Town Day or on Pioneer Trips. If a camper is found with a cell phone, they will lose the opportunity to be a Team captain or other leadership role in the future.
- ◆ Any iPod or MP3 player that has a screen with capabilities of paying video media files
- ◆ DVD players or anything resembling a television
- ◆ Electric fans or lights
- ◆ Food or Gum
- ◆ Handheld email devices
- ◆ Laptop computers or iPads and other tablets (this includes iPad mini's and Kindle Fire)
- ◆ Matches or lighters
- ◆ Squirt guns, knives, or weapons of any kind
- ◆ Sparklers or fireworks, and/or like items
- ◆ Televisions or walkie talkies

***Please note...as per our contract, Camp Marimeta will not be held responsible for any lost personal belongings.**

If you choose to send your daughter to camp with an inexpensive iPod speaker set they must have the ability to run on batteries. Please make sure that you send her up with an adequate supply of batteries!

MAKE SURE YOUR DAUGHTER'S NAME IS CLEARLY VISIBLE ON ALL OF HER POSSESSIONS!

TECHNOLOGY AT CAMP

Ah- technology! Faster than we can utter the word, there are new technologies springing up around us. The smart phones, iPods, laptops and digital game systems are slowly taking over a lot of our every day lives! There is a constant race to keep up with the competitor and to provide us with the technology we need to connect us to the Internet, or to Facebook or texting, all whilst on the move. And it had better be instantaneous; else that model is ditched for the newer, faster one.

It is exhausting trying to keep up with it all, and to stay educated about it in order to keep our campers safe and protected while at camp. We have never included a whole page on technology in our Red Folder before, but feel that it is important to do so now.

We do not allow cell phones, iPods with screens, iPads, iPad minis, Kindle Fires or laptops up at camp for the campers. We believe that the children learn how to be social, and how to have truly meaningful conversation with each other without the constant harassment of text messages taking their attention away. If your daughter has a cell phone to travel with, if she is flying in from out of state, we will keep her phone locked up in the safe and return it fully charged for her trip home. If we find cell phones up at camp, we will remove them and keep them safe until the end of the summer. If they try to hide a cell phone from their counselors, leadership roles may be taken away from your daughter. This is not meant to be mean, but it is a crucial part in the trust necessary at camp.

We suggest purchasing an iPod Shuffle- if these are lost or damaged it is a far cheaper asset to replace. **We are not allowing any old iPhones to be used as an iPod!** Please DO NOT SEND ANY PHONES. Even if they no longer have service we will not allow the girls to keep them!

We have eliminated video watching on iPods and iPod touches because it truly takes away one of the special times at camp- being in the cabin with your camp friends! With that being said, we will not allow any iPod with video capabilities. We understand that the music may be relaxing, and help the campers to wind down or fall asleep at night, but the videos are unnecessary. Movies are part of our incentive program, and something that the whole cabin will enjoy together. iPods may be used at rest hour and whilst falling asleep- once again, this is in order to keep the cabin as a social place. Our policies are the same with Nintendo DS and the portable playstations. The campers are not allowed to connect to the internet during their time at camp, and many of these portable devices do allow internet connections. If we find that a camper has been on the internet we will confiscate the device for the summer, and return it at the time when your daughter goes home. **We cannot stress enough that an iPod shuffle is the only device the girls need!**

In addition to this, the new Apple Watch 3 does have access to cell service. We ask that if your daughter has one of these that it remains home for the summer. We will be checking any Apple Watches that come into camp for this, and we will keep any that arrive in our office safe until the last day of camp. First and second generation Apple Watches are still permitted.

Included in our staff contract, is an agreement that the counselors will not deface Marimeta's name on any website, or on any social networking site such as Facebook. We have no way of monitoring all that goes on on the web- with sites such as Youtube there

are countless ways that Marimeta can be labeled and associated with certain behavior and language that we do not condone.

We have our Alumni group, as well as a staff Facebook group, created in order for there to be free and easy communication between our counselors. We monitor these constantly. Any other group that associates itself with Camp Marimeta does not have our permission, and it should not be assumed that we are aware of it and their viewpoints.

We ask that you remain connected with your children, and educate them about their presence on the Internet. It is incredible how much influence it has in our lives, and it should be treated as such. Children do not understand the ramifications that are associated with anything that you post on the web- whether it is on Facebook or elsewhere. There are many companies who check Facebook before hiring individuals, and many colleges are following with that trend.

We have our rules in place in order to keep our campers safe and protected and encourage you to have your own at home too.

TRANSPORTATION AND LUGGAGE

DEPART: Monday Morning, June 18th @ 8:45 am
(Be there and checked in by 8:30 am)

or

Sunday Morning, July 15th @ 10:00 A.M.
(Be there and checked in by 9:30)

PLACE: Staples
1919 Skokie Valley Road
Highland Park, IL 60035

**** THIS IS THE SAME LOCATION AS LAST YEAR****

If need be, for any reason, you and/or your camper will not be checked in by the designated time please contact camp directly at 715-479-9990. This also applies if you will be late for the pick-up time as well.

LUNCH: PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR DAUGHTER'S WITH LUNCH
(Drinks will be provided)

Campers will be travelling via air-conditioned motor coaches.

Each camper will be pre-assigned to a bus. She will receive her bus number when she checks in that morning. We try our best to keep the campers with other girls in their grade on the bus.

Please remember that the parking lot gets very busy and campers don't always pay attention to the traffic. It is our policy that you as the parents keep your camper and their siblings safe until the buses pull out. There will be a brief safety meeting for the campers once they are all boarded.

At the end of camp the motor coaches are expected to arrive back at the same locations. The buses will return on July 13th or August 8th. The time will be determined at a later date. You will be contact via email regarding the time.

Campers flying to Marimeta should plan to fly into either Rhinelander, Wisconsin or into Eagle River, Wisconsin. Delta Airlines offers service from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Rhinelander. When making your flight arrangements, we prefer early-afternoon arrivals and mid-morning departures. We will meet your daughter's flight at the airport. Please keep us informed of her travel plans and provide us with an itinerary

Campers being driven to and/or picked up from camp should arrive sometime in the early afternoon on the first day of camp. If you are picking your daughter up from camp at the end of the summer, please plan on arriving at 11 am. Directions to camp are enclosed.

LUGGAGE OPTIONS:

- ◆ The Chicago-area baggage for four and eight week campers is handled by **CAMP BAGGAGE EXPRESS** (605) 290-7404. **They will be calling you with your exact pickup date.** You are responsible for the cost of getting your camper's luggage to and from camp. All trunks and duffels will be returned to your home within three days of the end of the session. Please **DO NOT** lock your daughter's trunk or duffel. Camp Baggage Express will send you luggage tags to attach to your daughter's luggage. Campers may bring a backpack on the bus.
- ◆ Luggage from the Chicago area will be shipped home via Camp Baggage.
- ◆ Luggage from other areas should be sent via United Parcel Service, DHL, or Fed Ex. Please make arrangements for luggage to arrive by 6/15 for the first session, and 7/10 for the second session. (Please don't forget to insure your luggage.) **We are asking that you make arrangements for your luggage to be shipped home by the same method in which you shipped it to camp.**
- ◆ Due to the number of children on the buses, **we are unable to accommodate duffels on the bus.** Please arrange for their luggage to be sent by one of the methods mentioned above.
- ◆ If you plan on traveling as a family immediately following camp, please leave those items you plan on taking at home. The bus home can only accommodate one carry on bag per camper.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP MARIMETA

From Madison

From Madison Area, Take 51 north
47 miles to Hwy 8
Take Hwy 8 east to 17 North,
(Rhinelander)
Take 17 North, 23 miles to 70 East
into Eagle River... then take 45 South
3 miles to Evergreen Road, left,
to first stop sign Meta Lake road,
left two more blocks to Gaffney Drive,
Turn right! (only way) then follow down to CAMP!!'

From the Chicago area :

Take 294 to Milwaukee. 294 turns into 94 in Wisconsin
Take 94 to the 894 bypass. Get off at 41-45 North.. (to Fond Du Lac)
Stay on 41 to 45 North. You will go past Fond Du Lac, and just after Oshkosh, you will cross a bridge.
After the bridge, look for the 45 North exit. Follow 45 North to Eagle River... Prior to Eagle River... you
will go through the town of Three Lakes. 5 miles north of Three Lakes... turn right on Meta Lake Road..
(there's a new green highway sign that says Meta Lake Road). (as a girls camp, we opted to not have a
highway arrow). Stay on Meta Lake Road just past the first intersection (about 2 blocks) Turn right on
Gaffney Drive. The Marimeta entrance is down the road a little on your left.

*Please Refer to a Wisconsin map for additional assistance.

Miles to Marimeta

Chicago.....	331
Cincinnati.....	632
Columbus.....	692
Ft. Wayne.....	504
Indianapolis.....	519
London.....	4294
Madison.....	236
Minneapolis.....	256
St. Louis.....	590
Sydney.....	9566
Tel Aviv.....	6509
Tokyo.....	6645

****NEW VISITING DAY POLICY****

CAMP MARIMETA VISITING WEEKEND

We offer one visiting weekend per summer. Visiting Weekend is a great way to see what your child has been doing, or what your child will be doing! It is also a great way to see camp, meet your child's counselors and enjoy the WONDERFUL food that your daughter enjoys all summer! If you have not yet made motel reservations we recommend doing this today, as the motels fill up fast! We have enclosed a list of motels in the area to assist you in your quest.

- ◆ On **Friday**, just like last year, we will be scheduling pick up times ranging from the morning to early afternoon. We will send out a schedule prior to the weekend. We ask that the girls be back at camp at camp by 9 P.M. If you would like to have your daughter sleep out Friday night please let us know and that won't be a problem!
- ◆ On **Saturday** you will be permitted to enter camp at 11:00 A.M. You may observe your daughters in their favorite activities at this time. We also invite you to our Annual Visiting Day Lunch! You may take your daughter out of camp at any time after 11:00 A.M. **On Saturday night, your daughter will sleep out with you for some extra quality time to spend with her!**
- ◆ If your daughter is attending the First session only and you intend to pick her up, she will sleep in camp on Friday night and then leave with you on Saturday. We have found that the girls really benefit from this last night together in their cabin. ***NOTE YOUR CHILD'S LUGGAGE WILL BE SENT HOME THE SAME WAY THAT IT CAME.** Unfortunately, we do not have room on the bus to send home additional luggage.
- ◆ If your daughter is attending the second session of camp, and you are driving her to camp, you may drop her off **after** 11:30A.M. on the Sunday of parents weekend.
- ◆ If your daughter has a younger sister, who is 6 years of age or older, that would like to find out what Marimeta is all about, we invite her to sleep over in her sister's cabin Friday night!

Listing of Motel's in Eagle River Area

Eagle River:

Bayside Motor Lodge: 715-479-1411
Best Western Derby Inn: 715-479-1600
Braywood Motel and Resort: 715-479-6494
Bridgewater Inn: 715-479-5153
Chanticleer Inn: 715 479 4486
Eagle River Days Inn: 715 479 5151

Eagle Point Condos & Villas: 715-479-5233
Eagle River Inn: 715-479-2000
Eagle Waters Resort 1 800 892 8377
Edgewater Inn & Resort 715 479 4011
Gypsy Villa Resort: 715 479 8644
Hiawatha Motor Inn: 715 479 4442
Inn at Pinewood: 715-477-2377
Lake Forest Resort and Club: 715-479-2455
Super 8 : 715-477-0888
Travelers Inn: 715-479-4403
Wild Eagle Lodge 877 945 3965, 715-479 3151

Three Lakes:

Northenair Resort: 715-546-2700
Pine Isle Rentals: 630-447-0333

Oneida Village: 715-546-3373

Rhineland:

Best Western, Claridge Motor Inn: 715-362-7100
Comfort Inn: 715-369-1100
Holiday Acres: 715-369-1500
Holiday Inn Express: 715-369-3600

St Germain:

Black Bear Lodge: 800-563-4340
Hearthside Inn: 715-479-2500
Rustic Manor Lodge: 715-479-9776
St. Germain Motel and Resort 715 542 3535

Minocqua:

Americinn 715 356 3730
Aqua Aire Motel: 715-356-3433
Chalet Motel: 715-356-3003
Comfort Inn: 715 358 2588
Lake View Motor Lodge: 715-356-5208
New Concorde Inn: 715-356-1800
Pointe Waterfront Resort 715-356-4431
Sill's Lakeshore B & B: 715-356-3384
Super 8 : 715-356-9541
The Waters: 877-992-8377
Whitehaven B & B 715-356-9097

Woodruff

Arbor Vitae Motel 715 356 3393

HEALTH, WELLNESS, MEDICATION AND NUTRITION

THE HEALTH CENTER:

At Camp Marimeta, we have two nurses in residence for the summer in the Health Center. The nurses will distribute medication after each meal and before bed in the Health Center. If your child is to receive medicine at other times during the day, the nurse will distribute them **as noted on the prescription**. Our medical director also monitors all of your child's health needs. Any and all communication regarding your child's health will be with her. We will contact you if your child spends the night in the Health Center or to communicate any urgent health issues.

It is always an extra added bonus when a camp parent or relative is a physician and would like to come with their family to spend a week at Marimeta. Please call if there is an interest. There is a small financial incentive along with a wonderful week on the lake.

CAMPER MEDICATION:* *New Policy!!!

We have partnered with Rosens Morseview Pharmacy in order to provide the best and most reliable way to ensure that your camper gets her medicine. Steve Rosenberg is the pharmacist we are working with, and he has experience packaging camper medicines in the past.

Please note that we require all the medicine to be sent to camp by Rosens Morseview. All pills that are taken on a routine basis will be packaged, sealed and sorted according to day and time of administration. Our nurses will then dispense the medicine at camp.

There is a form that you will fill out, that we will send to Steve. He will contact your insurance company to confirm that they will cover the medicine. All prescribed medicine, inhalers, vitamins, allergy meds and any 'as needed' medicine will be handled this way. Any liquid medicine will also be handled by Steve and then will be sent directly to camp and dispensed accordingly.

If your child takes a 'controlled substance' Steve will need the original prescription. Please send a separate prescription for every 30-day supply in order to comply with the law.

There is a nominal fee for this service...you will contact Steve directly to arrange payment for this service. The service will be \$15*. It is extremely affordable, and worth every cent to ensure that your daughter is receiving her medicine on time and with the correct dosages.

We believe this will be the most efficient, and the most reliable way to have the girls receiving their medicine. It will also allow the nurses to have more time caring for the camp community, and helping the entire community remain as healthy as possible throughout the summer. We are dedicated to providing the best care for your daughter, and this is something we are very excited about!

*Should there be the need for next day shipment to camp (excluding Saturday or Sunday) there will be a \$42.66 UPS fee to pay. We don't anticipate this happening if everything is arranged ahead of time.

HEALTH AND WELL BEING:

If your child has been exposed to any communicable diseases (for example, strep throat), is being treated with antibiotics for an acute illness, or has recently been treated for head

lice or ring worm, PLEASE LET US KNOW BEFORE YOUR CHILD ARRIVES AT CAMP!!! This way we may ensure her continuing recovery. Please have a professional check your daughter's hair for lice prior to her arrival at camp. If she has had lice please let us know so we can continue treatment and/or monitor her further.

NUTRITION:

At Marimeta we provide three healthy meals daily. Most meals consists of a protein, a starch and usually two vegetable. We try very hard to encourage campers to make wise choices. With that said, it is *important that you talk to your child about trying new and healthy options at camp, as well as portion control.* Pasta, sauce and cheese nightly are options but not meant to be eaten every night. They are for the rare occasion that she *really* doesn't like what is being served.

ACTIVITIES

We have over 40 different types of activities at camp. There are certain activities that are required and the girls have many others that they can choose from. We try to encourage our campers to try an activity for at least a week before they change their schedule...this ensures they have really experienced the activity before hastily changing into a different one.

All campers at Marimeta are required to participate in:
SWIMMING six days per week and TENNIS three days per week.

Pioneers: (campers currently in grade 7 and up)

- **Are required to take swimming and tennis.**

Dudes: (campers currently in grades 5 and 6)

- In addition to the above-mentioned activities, Dudes are required to take CANOEING AND KAYAKING three days per week.

Ranchers: (campers currently in grades 4 and under)

Along with the aforementioned, Ranchers, are required to take:
CANOEING AND KAYAKING three days per week.

All Other Activities: are chosen by the campers on the activity choice sheet. Occasionally a class will become full. If this happens, we will work with your daughter to accommodate her choices. At Marimeta, we encourage your daughter to try many new activities. Changes may be made to schedules during the session. Activity schedules change at the onset of each session.

We offer horseback riding as well as the Marimeta International Tennis Academy. Both of these activities are offered for an additional fee. If you are interested in having your daughter participate in horseback riding, please mark it on your CampInTouch account. If you would like her to participate in the Tennis Academy, which is an intensive tennis program, please contact us.

The cost of these activities per session are:

Horseback Riding: \$250 (\$500, full season)

Tennis Academy (private lessons): \$200 (\$400, full session)

BIRTHDAYS / TELEPHONE SNAIL MAIL / EMAIL / FAX

SUMMER BIRTHDAYS:

If your daughter has a birthday during the summer, a very special day is in store for her. Not only will we be hosting a party for her, but she will be able to receive phone calls from immediate family (mom, dad, sister, brother)! **As this is our business line, we will only be allowing one phone call per family member.** Please place your calls between 11:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M. and 4:15-5:30 P.M. (before lunch and dinner) at 715-479-9990.

Campers are not permitted to return phone calls. Hopefully she will get ONE package with lots of neat (**non-edible**) birthday gifts in the mail. However, **PLEASE DO NOT SEND GIFTS FOR THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CABIN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.** This tends to create inequities and other problems.

THE TELEPHONE:

If for ANY reason you wish to speak with us, please do not hesitate to call. We can be reached at 715-479-9990. The best times to reach us are between the hours of *9:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.* If you should call at other times, we will try to return your call as soon as possible. During the hours not listed, we are out participating in activities with your children! With the exception of birthday's, your camper may not receive or make phone calls. We have found this to be the best for your daughter. **NOTE...WE WILL NOT ALLOW CAMPERS TO USE CELL PHONES AT ANY TIME...INCLUDING THE BUS RIDE TO AND FROM CAMP, PIONEER TRIPS AND TOWN TRIPS...SO PLEASE DO NOT SEND THEM.**

SNAIL MAIL: After lunch each day, every camper looks forward to receiving mail. Every camper has their own mail box and although emails are nice, snail mail is better! Please address your letters to:

“SUZIE CAMPER”
CAMP MARIMETA
3782 GAFFNEY DRIVE
EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521

EMAIL / FAXES: In addition you may email your daughter at:

camper@marimeta.com

If you choose to email your child, please **put her full name in the subject column** as we have many children with the same first name and don't always recognize nicknames. If your child's name is not in the subject column, the email may be recognized as spam and be automatically deleted. **Please do not email pictures or attachments !**

Although we prefer snail mail and email to faxes, if you do choose to send an occasional fax, again, please **do not fax pictures.**

CLOTHING/LAUNDRY

Clothing and Equipment List

We are so thrilled to be partners with Everything Summer Camp as our clothing outfitter! You will be able to access Camp Marimeta's own clothing store from our website and choose items for camp from there. There will be a link right from our website that will take you to Marimeta's custom clothing site and packing list there.

The only Marimeta item we require to have purchased is our Photo Day T-Shirt, which can be purchased at Jelli Goods. The shirt can be found at: <http://www.jelligoods.com/marimeta-photo-day.html>. Jelli Goods also has a large variety of Marimeta gear for your daughter, both previously designed and customizable for her to show off at camp!

Clothing Labels: We are excited to announce that we have joined up with Label Daddy, a fantastic, fun, and convenient way to label all of your daughter's camp gear! Please feel free to browse the website: <http://labeldaddy.com>, and use the promo code: MARIMETA for a special discount upon checkout!

Laundry

When packing for your child, please remember that your child's laundry gets picked up each week and returned within two days. The clothing list is designed to ensure that your daughter will have more than enough clothes. Please remember, this is camp, so don't send your favorite clothes, as they may not come back in the same condition. To help ensure that your child has all clothes returned to them without incident, please make sure their name is on EVERYTHING!

ALL ITEMS YOUR CHILD BRINGS MUST BE LABELED!

NOTE: Unlabeled items, left unclaimed at the end of the session are donated to charity. Also, please note that we do not pack spillables (shampoo, conditioner, sunscreen etc.) at the end of your daughter's camp session. In the past items such as shampoo have broken open and spilled over the contents of the duffels. We donate these to the Eagle River Food Pantry.

CABIN REQUESTS:

One of the best things about camp is being able to be with your friends for the whole summer! Camp friends are known to last a lifetime and these friends will spend many hours recalling the times they spent at camp and the memories that they shared! At Marimeta, we are proud to have had this tradition going for many years and hope it will continue for more still to come!!

We believe camp, among many other things, can provide our campers with tools for life. There are several different things we do to help our campers develop into unique individuals and grow as people. One of the many ways in which we try to do this is by ‘matching’ personalities within cabins. We know our campers personally and this is one of the things that we pride ourselves on and place great emphasis on. We spend hours and hours creating our cabins and work very closely with you, the parent, during this process. **We offer our campers the choice of one cabin mate preference.** Your daughter WILL be with her friends but please don’t be alarmed if the cabin group may look different to how you may have envisioned it before camp started. We have had great success with our cabin groups in the past.

One of the most important aspects one can learn from camp is how to get along with several different kinds of personalities. The cabin is its’ own unique community within camp and there are countless opportunities for *new friendships* to be forged, for *leadership opportunities* to be taken and for *being recognized as an individual* amongst many other individuals. At camp, **we often mix cabins and split up groups who have been together before.** This is an incredible chance for the girls to meet new campers and to make friends with campers who they may have known at camp but not been fortunate enough to know them as friends! This is how we control the cliques that so often follow girls. **This is what makes camp so special!**

We write this information page on Cabin Requests primarily to let you know that we try real hard to honor all requests, yet we have to look at the cabin from everyones point of view, so we can give every camper the ultimate camp experience. We want everyone to be an important part of their cabin group. Creating that chemistry is a difficult chore, yet please remember that we have all of your best interests at heart. The happier our girls are, the better summer they all have together.

Communication During Camp

During camp we want to ensure that you feel comfortable in the knowledge that your camper is well cared for and having the time of her life! One of the biggest reasons why camps are so vital in childhood development is that the children are away from Mom and Dad...in a safe environment and where they are gently encouraged to stand up for

themselves, to problem solve, to mature and to become independent, strong, successful young ladies. That being said, we understand it is important to try to keep you in touch with what is happening at camp as much as is reasonably possible.

Camp Pictures

We try to post pictures at least twice each day to give you an idea of what we are doing at camp. We have a media team that we hire each summer to try to ensure that we have great pictures to post, and to work on the highlight video that we produce each summer. It is a challenging job to guarantee that every camper is in a picture at least once per day and we try our best. Please understand that if your daughter is not in the pictures for a day or so it probably means that she is out having fun and participating in her activities, and not paying attention to the photographers! We will always be the ones to call you if your daughter is sick, or if there is a reason to be concerned. We know it is hard, but try not to read into the photos for more than what they are...just a tiny snapshot of what is happening up at camp ☺

Letters from the Lodge

This is what we call our blog at camp. It is posted 3-4 times per week, and it takes on various different formats depending on who is writing it. The idea behind the blog is for us to share what we are doing at camp...to talk about the special activities, day-to-day life, the meals etc.

Special Celebrations

The last few years it has become more popular to request that your camper makes a sign for a special birthday, or anniversary, that is happening at home. We try to accommodate these requests as much as we can, although these are particularly challenging for us. We would like to suggest that you send your daughter with birthday cards or anniversary cards for her to send out from camp...and if a sign is required please write to her in an email on the day of the celebration. We will try our best to post that picture on that day although with over 1000 pictures to sort through each and every day we cannot promise this will always happen. We thank you for your understanding in this.

*If you are the parent of a first-time camper we will call you within the first 48 hours of camp to give you an update on how she is doing.

**There are sometimes circumstances that are outside of our control that may interrupt these communications. The internet is very sensitive, and a windstorm or rain storm can leave us without internet for days at a time.

Our Camp Staff

There is nothing more important to us at camp than your child's health and safety. We have an incredible team that we work with at camp to look after your daughters and it takes several different positions to do so.

It is a lot of work to make certain that camp is the best it can be each year! We hire staff throughout the entire off-season and work diligently to try to find the best lodgies, counselors, activity specialists, head chef, kitchen staff and nurses that we can. All of our staff have been interviewed and have to provide at least 3 different references before we hire them at camp. We perform a background check, have the staff sign voluntary disclosure statements and social media agreements prior to them being offered a contract to work for the summer.

Our staff comes from diverse backgrounds and we hire from several different states and countries. We value the many different cultures and feel it is one of the most exciting aspects of camp for the girls...to meet people from all over the world. There have been countless stories of campers and counselors traveling and visiting each other all over the world...showing how deep the bonds run between the campers and their counselors.

During our staff-training week, we work with the counselors to train them for the summer ahead, and we are constantly learning their personalities, who they get along with, where they struggle a little and where they shine. This all plays an important part of how we make our cabin assignments. The lodge (the directors) spend several days planning which counselors are going to work best with which age groups, what personalities are going to work well together and how they are going to bond with their campers. These assignments are one of the keys to a summer's success and we take it very seriously.

We try to have a mix of returning camp staff and new camp staff in each cabin. We hope that your daughter loves all of her counselors...but mostly that she has at least one that she feels truly comfortable with! We understand that sometimes the dynamics don't work as well as they should do and we make changes as we see necessary.

We hope that most of our staff becomes role models to your children...and that they remain an important part of your child's life long after the camp year has finished!

YOUR INVOICE

Included in your statement price is laundry, daily snack or soda at the canteen, and most incidentals (store expenses) based on the length of your daughter's stay. Occasionally, your camper may exceed the amount billed. If that is the case, the amount will be reflected on the final invoice in September.

YOUR STATEMENT IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO YOU IN YOUR CAMPINTOUCH ACCOUNT.

- ◆ **CAMP MARIMETA MEMORY BOOK:** We are delighted to have MOBILE PHOTO at Marimeta again this year. They supply us with beautiful pictures of all of the girls. You will receive a bound photo album, which will include your daughter's 8X10 portrait, her cabin picture, an all session camper picture, and an assortment of activity shots.
- ◆ **TOWN TRIPS:** During each session, the girls have the opportunity to go to town. Our First session campers go to Eagle River for the afternoon and during the Second session the whole camp goes to Minocqua. **You need not send extra money.** As part of your invoice, we have included \$30.00. This is for us to give to your daughter for her trip to town. We believe this amount is sufficient and that extra money is not necessary.
- ◆ **CAMP MARIMETA PIONEER TRIPS:**
All of our First Session Pioneers (ages 13 and up) take trips out of camp. Our 13-year-olds go to the Wisconsin Dells, our 14-year-olds to Mackinac Island and our 15-year-olds sail the Apostle Islands. These are not "roughing it" trips. With the exception of the sailing trip, your daughter's stay in nice motels. The cost for your portion of the trip appears on your statement.
- ◆ **PIONEER TRIP SPENDING MONEY:** \$40.00 spending money for the Pioneer trips should be more than adequate. Your trip fee covers your portion of the bus, room, and admissions to parks, shows, etc. that we attend as a group. To avoid any confusion, we have also included this \$40.00 on your statement.

We are frequently asked why everything is itemized on the camp statements. Many parents would prefer an "all inclusive" fee without feeling "nickel and dimed". This is a good question and of course we feel that we have a good answer. In our business, we deal with various agencies that require referral fees. These fees are based on tuition. If everything was "all inclusive", then we would be paying fees based on laundry, town trip cash etc.. We hope you understand our position on this, as we don't want to pay any additional fees, nor do we want to pass them on to you unnecessarily.

We don't have a problem, yet!

How to Have a Head Lice Free Summer

Unfortunately for us, head lice do not take summer vacations!! According to statistics, incidence of head lice increase during the summer months when kids spend a quantity of time in close proximity at camp.

In fact, the amount of head lice cases in August is higher than when schools are in spring session.

Lice thrive anywhere kids gather, anytime of the year. Summer camps are no exception. Therefore we ask that you follow these tips to help us with a lice-free summer.

1. Start with a clean slate. Before camp begins, check your child for lice. Use a comb to part the hair in one or two inch sections and look for lice and nits (eggs). If you find any, treat it right away.
2. Don't share head gear. This includes hats, sports helmets, combs, brushes, pony tail holders, head bands, hair clips, towels, head phones, etc.
3. Watch for early signs of infestation that include scratching or fiddling with the hair.
4. Stop infestation from spreading. If your child gets lice, inform friends and family to prevent further infestation.

Most cases of head lice are brought to camp from home. The first day of each session we perform Head Checks on every camper and counselor. Early detection is the key to controlling any situation.

As a result, we have implemented the following policy:

Please have your daughter checked by a professional in the month prior to camp (either a doctor or a lice professional). We are asking that you agree to inform us if your child has been treated for lice within one month prior to her session at camp. We are also asking that you perform multiple lice checks starting three weeks prior to her session. If we are aware of an existing situation, we can control it and keep your child's self esteem in check. Please help us by cooperating and communicating. It will be the key to all of our success.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOUR DAUGHTER COMES HOME

After 4 or 8 weeks of camp, there are certain things to watch out for when your daughter returns home from Marimeta! The first, and perhaps most tough for them to go through, is PMS (post Marimeta syndrome). This is something that has been occurring for years and is completely normal! The girls will have cabin reunions, will have Marimeta days at school where they may wear some form of Marimeta clothing, they may even bring one of the Marimeta Special Events to school to play, such as Gotcha!! Countdowns to camp for the next year may begin- and several mentions of Omar's cooking may come up at dinnertime. Don't take offense- your cooking is still great- it is just a camp thing!

Humor aside, camp can be a tiring experience. The girls are active from when they wake up, until they go to bed at night. They are participating in several activities, and have their friends around them at all times of the day. We take a great deal of care in planning their bed times and to ensure that rest hour is used for resting. Towards the end of each session, there are several large special events that are very exciting and the girls do not want to miss out on! Our counselors are trained to care for your daughter's as if they were their own, and are with the campers all day and night. We do everything we can to protect them and keep them healthy. When they come home, they will have more down time than they do at camp. This can let little illnesses in that have been hiding, and it may also be the time when your daughter lets it show that she is not feeling well. At camp, they do not want to miss out on anything, and will often avoid going to the health center for minor complaints just in case they are told to not participate in a certain event. Rest assured that we have the best doctor's and nurses up at camp- and you will be contacted immediately if there is ever a reason for your daughter to take medication other than an over the counter medication such as Sudafed, or if she needs to spend time in the health center. We are a team and take great pride in our communication with you, the parents! We have your most precious possession in our care!

Your daughter will talk about her summer experience over and over again- little camp snippets may crop up throughout the year as she remembers something that happened at camp! We love hearing from our campers all year long- and would love to hear about what they are up to during the school year- when we miss them! Perhaps it can help with our own PMS!!