

# Frequently Asked Questions

Please read through these carefully prior to contacting the camp. Do not hesitate to call or email if you still have questions.



How do I register my child for camp?

Please contact the organizer of the trip to see when your group will be attending camp. Our registration process at [www.campwapo.org](http://www.campwapo.org), but you will need a group specific link from your church to access your Wilderness trip's registration. Ask your church staff about this link.

If I/my child has to cancel, can I get a refund for his/her deposit?

The deposit is Non-Refundable and Non- Transferable, after the deposit deadline. The final payment deadline is two-weeks prior to arrival at Wilderness. In the result of a cancellation after that deadline, the final payment is also non-refundable, nontransferable. We have this policy to help cover administrative costs, such as BWCA permit, food arrangements and staffing needs - specific to each group.

When is the final payment due?

Final payment is due 2 weeks prior to arrival for groups and individuals. Please contact your church/organization to confirm method of payment, and amount due.

What if I can't afford to go to Wilderness?

It's Wilderness' and Wapo's goal to serve every youth who wishes to attend camp. Camperships are available, for either partial or full payment. If you would like to apply for a campership, please talk with your organizer of the trip/church staff to apply for a campership at Wilderness.

I/My child takes medications. What do I need to do with those?

First, please list all medications on the health form provided. Second, all medications are collected by our Director of Health and Safety upon arrival and dispensed by guide/counselors during the week. **All medications must be in their original container.** Prescription medications must have doctor's directions clearly labeled. We must count each pill upon arrival and departure, so we encourage parents to only send along the amount of medication necessary during your child's time at camp. Please **DO NOT** send non-prescription drugs of any kind. Medications will be returned prior to leaving for home unless otherwise specified. Please contact camp at least 3 days prior to arrival if this is not acceptable.



# Frequently Asked Questions, cont'd

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What about cell phones and other electronics at camp?

We ask campers NOT to bring cell phones or other electronic devices to camp. These items can be easily lost, broken or become a distraction from the camp experience. If campers do not follow this rule, and bring phones and electronic devices, camp reserves the right to collect and hold these items and return them at the end of the week. Camp is not liable for any broken or lost electronic devices brought to camp.

Can my child bring xyz shampoo to wash up?

At Wilderness, shampoos and soaps are not recommended. Even biodegradable products need some soil in order to break down, and there is not enough soil on the ground in the BWCAW to support this. All campers will clean up in our sauna, which involves spending a short amount of time in a hot building followed by a dip in the lake. Any camper who is in an emergency situation at camp who needs a shower will be provided with one.

Can my child bring xyz food to camp?

We do not recommend bringing any personal food to Wilderness. We do provide accommodations to all types of food issues if they are brought to our attention prior to the camper's arrival (peanut allergy, lactose intolerance, gluten-free, vegetarian, etc). Please indicate any food issues to your trip advisor and place the correct information on the health form. For specific allergies requiring more accommodation, please call camp as soon as you know you or your child will be attending. As for any other types of food: for those out on a canoe trip, all food is kept together in a food pack and hung in a high place to avoid attracting bears. For campers on-base, any outside food must be placed in the kitchen to avoid attracting mice, squirrels, and other wildlife into your cabin or sleeping bag.

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I don't have/can't afford all the gear on the packing list. What can I do?

Depending on the type of gear, it is possible to have Wilderness provide it to the camper while at camp. We have extra wet shoes, sleeping bags, and some rain gear. Certain types of clothing can also be found at discount stores (ie: nylon windbreaker pants are often available at thrift stores). Please contact the camp if you do not have the correct gear.

What can my child do to avoid mosquitoes? Is bug repellent okay?

Mosquitoes are a fact of life in northern Minnesota. The best way to repel them is by using long-sleeved shirts/coats and long pants. Bug repellent is flammable and can be harmful to place on certain types of clothing. If your camper does bring bug repellent, please make sure it has **no more than 30% deet**, as it soaks into the skin and is not easily washed off. Repeated applications can cause some campers to become ill. There are some natural, non-toxic insect repellents available that are also effective for an alternative option.

What are the general goals of Wilderness' program and what general outcomes can I expect for my child?

We hope that as the week goes on, all campers will continue to gain skills that are both related to physical camping and canoeing competence as well as what it takes to work together in a team, to see their unique gifts valued by themselves and others. We hope they experience God in a new way and can begin to articulate how that impacts their faith. Throughout the week and during reflections at the end of the week we start the conversation about how campers have changed and what they are taking away from the week - and we hope that the conversation continues at home!