

## Summer Shack Recreation Program Parent/Guardian Information & Guidelines

### Program Information

The Summer Shack Recreation program is a FREE, DROP IN active recreation program that provides children ages 5-12 years with the opportunity to engage with other kids, enhance physical literacy skills by playing games, sports and crafts in a semi-structured program environment and connect with the great outdoors! *Children younger than 5 years of age are permitted to participate provided an adult/guardian is there to care for them the entire time (games/activities may not always be suitable for younger participants but encourage all to participate where they can) and is encouraged that children under 8 years attend with older siblings/neighbours where possible.*

One Recreation staff (*and possibly some teen volunteers who have completed the Teen Leadership program through FCSS*) will be located at 5 different sites (*see front for locations*) throughout the County each weekday from 12:30 to 4:30 pm starting July 2 to August 23 (*no program on Aug 5*). Limited sites may be offered the last week of August and will be promoted later in the summer once confirmed.

We are committed to providing a fun and safe environment for children to play and explore, however, as this is a drop-in program, children are permitted to come and go and can participate as much or little as they wish. Staff are certified in First Aid & CPR and High Five™ training. In the case of a serious injury or emergency, EMS will be contacted if we do not have parents/guardians contact numbers. Participants **do not** sign in and out however, it is encouraged that parent/guardians leave a phone number should staff need to contact them.

### Participant Behavior & Discipline Guidelines

To create a fun, welcoming environment and to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment during the program, staff will review general rules/guidelines with participants such as treating others and equipment with respect, trying activities, having fun, being a good sport, using appropriate language, etc. Staff will reward and praise positive behavior. If children are misbehaving or minor issues arise, staff will try discussing it with children and come to resolution or change activities up. Fighting, bullying and major behavioural issues will result in children being asked to leave the program for the day or entire summer depending on the severity of the situation.

### Weather & Program Cancellations:

The program will be cancelled during inclement weather (heavy rain or severe weather alerts) and will be posted on Bold Center Facebook page that morning. If bad weather arises during the program, staff along with the children will seek shelter in one of the shacks or community buildings nearby. If weather persists for more than 30 minutes, staff will start contacting parents/guardians to pick up children. If attendance is regularly lacking at certain sites, the County may cut back or cancel sites throughout the summer.

### What to send with children?

- Water bottle
- Snacks (peanut free)
- Hat
- Sunscreen/bug spray (*Staff will not be able to assist with application*)
- Running shoes
- Dressed appropriate for weather
- Parent/Guardian contact #'s on paper/card (*for emergencies, especially if they don't know #'s*)

*\*Please note that lunch and snacks will not be provided during the program. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure that the children have what they need for the duration of the program.*

### Photo Disclaimer

Photos may be taken to promote the program and will be displayed on Bold Center website, Facebook and other print publications. If you do not want your child(ren)'s photo taken or displayed please notify staff at sites.

We encourage parents/guardians and children to provide staff with feedback, so we can continue to improve the program this summer and for future years because ALL kids should have the opportunity to attend a summer recreation program in their community! Please contact us by calling 780-623-6357.



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welcoming by nature.