



To: Maybury Farm Camp Parents

From: Darlene Egbert-Oliver, Education and Camp Supervisor
Diana Wallace, Executive Director

Re: Maybury Farm Guidance for a smooth and fun 2023 Farm Camp Season

Maybury Farm would like to welcome your camper to the 2023 Farm Camp! We plan to make Farm Camp just as fun and enjoyable as it has been in the past despite COVID-19. We'll have fun, make friends, and learn about the animals.

The Maybury Farm Team (MFT) wants to ensure that everyone is aware of safety protocols for our 2023 Farm Camp. In this communication we will share what you and your camper need to know prior to the start of camp.

Here at the farm, we are all about "Safety First" --not only with the farm animals, but with the health and well-being of all our campers & employees. With everything that is going on due to the COVID-19 virus, we do have a few precautions that we will be taking and requiring. We ask that you read through the following with your camper.

Cohort Groupings:

MF Camp will be establishing cohorts (or pods) for all campers. These are small groups of campers & staff who stay together throughout the day to minimize exposure to COVID while at camp. Cohorts will have the same counselor stay with the small group of campers and remain together as much as possible while at camp. The use of cohort groups can limit the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 between campers but should not replace other prevention measures within Maybury and at home.

Face Masks:

Campers will not be required to wear face masks when they are at the farm, whether inside or outside. Here at Maybury Farm we DO encourage all campers to be vaccinated for COVID before coming to camp in accordance with the directive of LARA,

It is important to note that the CDC and MDHHS recommend the use of masks while outdoors, but they are not required. MF can provide a face mask if your camper needs or wants one. If you, as parents, want your camper to wear a face mask we respect that and totally support your decision.

Note: Campers will have physical activities while at the farm as well as some fun water activities, i.e., slip & slide, water balloons, etc. and campers shouldn't wear masks while doing these activities. During these activities it is not recommended that campers wear a mask during physical activities.

Daily Screenings:

Each morning, upon arrival at the farm, your camper will have their temperature taken with a touchless

thermometer and recorded on the daily check-in sheet. If your camper's temperature is greater than 100.4, or if they have a cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms, they cannot come or stay at camp.

MF will also ask the camper and their parents to certify at check in that they don't have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:

- * Fever
- * Chills
- * Vomiting
- * Or have been in contact with someone in the last 10 days who has COVID
- * Cough
- * Muscle Pain
- * Diarrhea
- * Shortness of breath
- * Repeated shaking with chills
- * Had COVID in the last 21 days

Parents will certify on the sign in sheet that their camper does not have any of the symptoms above and has no temperature.

If your camper has any of these symptoms or are sick before they get to camp, please keep them at home and do not come to camp. We ask that you contact us at 248-374-0202 press 2 or email to Farmteam@mayburyfarm.org to alert camp. Once we have this information, we can determine the next steps to keep everyone safe at the farm. We will keep all information received confidential.

Counselors will monitor all of your campers' health throughout the day. If a camper isn't feeling well, the counselor will isolate the camper and immediately contact the parent/guardian. If the camper is "out of sorts" in any way, we will reach out to determine how the parent/guardian would like to handle the situation. **Parents should not send their camper to camp if they are not feeling well or are sick!**

Personal Hygiene and Hand washing while at the Farm:

Hand washing and sanitizing is one way that we can all stay safe around the farm. Throughout the day campers will be washing their hands and using hand sanitizer often. Campers will find hand sanitizer through the farm, along with signs reminding everyone of the importance of handwashing and/or hand sanitizing. Frequent hand washing and sanitizing will help protect other campers from germs we don't know about yet, as well as protecting the animals at the farm.

Camp Counselors will have hand sanitizer available for all campers after each activity, before meals, after using bathrooms, and after visits with the animals.

Cleaning and Disinfecting at the Farm:

- * Maybury Farm will be disinfecting bathrooms at the end of each day to ensure safety.
- * Our bathrooms are outside, and we will do our best to keep them clean for your camper.
- * All tools used at the farm for gardening, mucking out stalls, etc. will be sanitized if the camper isn't using gloves after each use.

Maybury Farm Team Education:

- * All Maybury Farm Counselors and Administrations have been fully vaccinated.
- * All counselors/employees/volunteers at the farm have been trained in accordance with the Maybury Farm 2022 COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan on our website for review.
- * All counselors are well versed on the COVID-19 symptoms and what to do if they suspect a camper isn't feeling well or is exhibiting the COVID-19 symptoms.
- * All counselors/campers will understand the importance of handwashing and sanitizing throughout the day.
- * All counselors/campers will be following the social distancing recommendation of staying 3 feet from each other as much as possible.
- * Educators/Team Members will all be trained on how to talk to the campers about COVID so as to educate but not scare the campers.

* Counselors/Educators will make every effort to not add stress or concern over COVID with the campers.

To further ensure safety, Maybury Farm Camp will have two camp counselors and two Junior camp counselors to help with the cohort groups of up to 13 campers. This helps to mitigate risk and gives a more personal approach to helping the campers enjoy their week at camp.

Where possible, the groups of up to 13 will be set up based on the ages of the campers. However, if there are concerns over the Cohort Groups MF reserve the right to change the groupings.

Activities at the Farm:

All activities at the farm will be held outdoors. Maybury Farm Camp is a 100% outdoor camp except when the campers are in the barn. When in the barn, precautions are taken to ensure the supplies needed for the activities are disinfected for each camper.

One of the key activities at our farm camp is being with the animals. At each weekly session, the camp counselors and barn staff will be educating campers about the animal and how to safely approach/work with the animal. The campers will also be educated on animal biosecurity.

Maybury Farm wants all campers to have fun, learn, and create friendships while here at the farm. We will be doing this within our small groups of up to 12 campers. Most activities will be rotated so that our Cohort Group stays together as much as possible.

Weekly Tractor and Wagon Rides will be given to the campers. On the wagon, the campers will all go out at the same time. Hand sanitizing will take place after the campers get off the wagon.

Communication:

Maybury Farm counselors can be reached by phone at 248-374-0200 # 2 or by email to their individual email addresses at the end of this communication. We ask that you please "cc" a copy of your email to the Farmteam@mayburyfarm.org as well. The counselors and administrative team will reach out to all camper families through this email box unless it is an emergency and then the team will call or text the parents/guardian on file.

Farm Camp will be held rain or shine, hot or cold. If there are severe storms in the area, Maybury Farm will decide on whether we should continue to have Farm Camp, delay the start time, or have the campers picked up earlier than usual. Watch for emails/text messages, when severe weather is in the area, from the farmteam@mayburyfarm.org email box, giving you updates and directions for next steps.

When you get a text message to pick up your camper earlier, they will be tucked away safely in the Maybury Farmhouse, come to get them by entering the "employee" entrance to the farm.

We do have a covered shelter to keep the campers out of the rain. If we have a severe storm with thunder/lightning, the campers will be taken into the Maybury farmhouse where it is safer. Should a tornado pop up, campers will be in the farmhouse basement or will be taken to the Maybury State Park Tornado shelter.

Preparation for your time at Camp:

What you should pack:

1. A lunch in a lunch bag from home. (There is refrigeration available to keep it cold until lunch). Maybury Farm will be offering snacks of fresh fruit or veggies. Snacks will be prepackaged (i.e., applesauce, fruit cups, raisins in a box, oranges, apples or baby carrot prepackaged or bananas.) If your child does not want our snack, they are welcome to bring a healthy snack of their own. All snacks should be put into the camper's backpack–NOT in their lunchboxes. This makes getting the snacks much easier for everyone. Please make sure that your camper has a substantial breakfast before they come to the farm. They will be constantly busy and will need the proper energy in order to participate. Please keep in mind that the first snack will be given

around 10:15, so campers who have not eaten breakfast will be very hungry by snack time. A second snack will be given to the campers at 1:15-1:30 each day.

2. Each camper should bring their own reusable water bottle. We will be refilling the bottles in the General Store through our water cooler. We want to keep the campers well hydrated. (Maybury Farm has well water and we do not use this water for drinking, even though it is tested and safe). We will have frequent water breaks throughout the day to ensure hydration.

3. In addition to water bottles campers should bring their own:

- * Sunscreen
- * Bug Spray
- * A raincoat or rain poncho. Please: NO umbrellas, having 20 umbrellas causes issues.
- * Closed toed shoes--no sandals or crocs. Dress for the weather and for being on the farm.
- * A small towel and change of shirt in case we do water activities.

What NOT to Bring:

- * Any gaming systems (campers are here to learn, meet new friends & have fun)
- * Toys of any kind (you don't want to lose your favorite teddy bear!)
- * A cellphone or any other technology
 - * If you bring technology, you'll have to give it to your camp counselor for safe keeping.
 - * If you need to get a hold of a camper, we have a phone in the General Store that you may use. Parents or Guardian please call 248-374-0200 # 3. If the camper needs to call you, they can use the phone in the General Store.

What you should wear:

- * Wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty in! (Or your Maybury Farm T-shirt)
- * Wear close-toed shoes. Boots, if you have them. Absolutely no flip flops, sandals, or crocs.
- * You should dress for the weather, if it is going to be colder wear long pants/sweaters/sweatshirt/long sleeves, something that can be layered so as it gets warmer the layers can be removed. If it is raining, a raincoat would be a good idea.

What NOT to wear:

- * Do not wear your best dress or favorite shirt--we are a farm camp. You will get dirty.
- * Do not wear flip-flops, sandals, crocs or heels-- they are not safe at farm camp.
- * Do not wear jewelry (the chickens like to peck at anything shiny, even if it's in your ear!)
- * Do not wear anything that's hard to run and play in.

Check-In and Pick-Up Procedures:

Check in:

*Parents/Guardians will bring campers to the farm between 8:45-9:00 AM. Camp starts promptly at 9:00 AM, so please don't be late as this will hold up camp from the beginning. We give key messages to the group from 9:00-9:15 AM each morning, and it is important for all campers to hear them.

*Parents will be parking in the Maybury Farm parking lot and bringing their camper to the General Store patio for check-in. It is recommended that you maintain a 3ft social distance while waiting for your camper to go through the check-in process.

* Campers will go through the COVID check-in process and certification on the camp roster with our camp counselors.

* Once the camper has been checked in they will be walked to the Pavilion by one of our team members.

* Parents/Guardian will then leave. Since the farm does not open until 10:00 AM, the parent/guardian or other siblings cannot walk around the farm to see the animals as from 9-10 is feeding time and barn maintenance chores need to be completed.

* On the first day of camp each week, MF will be collecting the "CARES" Behavioral Agreement that we ask

parents to go over with their camper. Both parents and the camper will be asked to sign the agreement to ensure that they understand the steps that need to be taken in case of behavior issues. (Our CARES agreement covers: C: Cooperation, A: Attitude, R: Respect, E: Empathy, S: Safety.) Camp counselors will go over the Cares Agreement with the campers on the first day of camp. Please note: if a camper chooses to not behave at camp, they may be dismissed for the day, week and/or future camp sessions. Maybury Farm wants camp to be a safe and enjoyable week for everyone!

* Camp Counselors will also go over the values that we practice here at the Farm: Kindness, Respect and Gratitude. That means we'll treat each other the way we want to be treated. It is easy – just be kind to everyone! We'll also teach the campers how to treat the animals with respect and empathy. Please ask your camper to listen closely to what the camp counselor tells them to do. Their instructions are for both the camper's and animals' safety.

Pick-Up:

* All campers need to be picked up at 4:00 PM sharp. The campers will be in the same location on the patio of the General Store to be signed out to the "authorized individual". Maybury Farm **DOES** require picture identification to prove the person picking up the camper is the person shown on the roster. After showing identification, the authorized individual will sign the camper out. **No campers will be released at pick up without a picture ID.**

* If campers are going to be late, and/or need to be picked up early, please contact the Maybury Farm administration office or make arrangements with the office or the camp counselor when checking in the camper. (Maybury Farm does discourage this-- we do however understand that at times plans may need to change. We are a small enough camp that we can work with our campers.)

* **There is a late pickup fee of \$1.00 per minute for each camper not picked up by 10 minutes after the camp sessions ends (4:00 PM). This is paid as you pick the camper up.**

* In case of emergency/severe weather, MF will communicate to the parents through email and by text message. We will give specific instructions such as where to pick up the camper. Typically, if the farm closes early, the campers will be picked up at the MF farmhouse. (This is the white house located at the employee entrance off 8 Mile, between the Maybury Farm public entrance and Maybury State Park.)

If for any reason your camper is not going to be at camp for the day, please notify us immediately so that we don't hold up the start of the camp activities for the day waiting for their arrival.

In closing:

Maybury Farm is a State of Michigan Licensed Day Camp and follows all Guidelines/Recommendations issued by LARA/MDHHS/MIOSHA and best practices by the CDC. The State of Michigan has recommendations and guidelines that MF will be following to keep every camper safe. Health and Safety is a priority here at the farm.

Maybury Farm requires that all Campers turn in a Health History Record Certification Form that is due by 6/1/2022. The form, which is on our website, is also being sent to each camp family with your registration confirmation. The form needs to be completed by the camper's authorized individual following instructions listed. Please note that a complete immunization history including information regarding COVID vaccines, where applicable, is required before attendance at camp. We do promote all campers getting their COVID vaccines for the safety of others. If you have any questions, you can call us at 248-374-0200 # 2, including questions about immunization waivers. If the **camper does not turn in the Health History Record Certification form, they cannot attend camp.** No refund will be given for cancellation of camp due to not turning in the form and camp session being canceled.

Medication: If you need to send medication to camp, please place the medication and directions in a sealed plastic bag with the camper's name on the bag and on the medication. All instructions regarding your child must be in writing and parents or guardians need to place a call to the Maybury Farm Administrative Office (248-374-0200 # 2).

EPI Pens: If your camper will be coming to camp with an epi-pen, please let us know by sending an email to farmteam@mayburyfarm.org. Please let us know as early as possible so that we can include that information on the roster for the camp counselor to know at time of check-in.

Sick Campers:

There may be a time when your camper isn't feeling well. If they are sick, please stay home!

If your child has any COVID symptoms, please see the earlier section on how to communicate with Maybury Farm.

It is important that all children are well, hydrated, free of any symptoms, and ready to participate when they come to camp. Maybury Farm relies on each family to ensure their camper is following all the safety measures here at the farm and at home as well. We also recommend vaccinations when a camper can actually get one.

If you need to reach the management team at Maybury Farm, below are your contacts:

- * Darlene (Education Supervisor) – darlene@mayburyfarm.org
- * Diana (Executive Director) - diana@mayburyfarm.org
- * Connie (Administrator & Farm Education Coordinator) -connie@mayburyfarm.org
- * General Information – FarmTeam@mayburyfarm.org
- * Phone Number: 248-374-0200 # 2
- * General Store: 248-374-0200 # 3

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