



2026



SUMMER CAMP PARENT HANDBOOK

Buxton Recreation Department
174 Portland Rd
Buxton ME 04093
Phone: 207-929-8381

TABLE OF CONTENTS



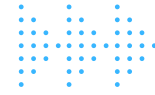
This handbook reviews the Buxton Recreation Department's Summer camp policies, and answer program questions throughout the summer.

Contact Information	01
Program Hours of Operation	01
Pick-up/ Drop off Procedures	02
Payment Information	03
What I should pack	04
Discipline Procedures	05
Health and Safety Procedures	06
Health and Safety Procedures continued	07

BUXTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

174 PORTLAND RD

Office Phone: 207-929-8381



Summer Camp Program Phone: 207-841-7320

Website: www.buxtonrec.com

RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF

Grace Mulherin, Recreation Director

gmulherin@buxton.me.us

Matt Willis, Assistant Director

mwillis@buxton.me.us

Natalie St. Onge, Programmer

nstonge@buxton.me.us

Dylan Vonderhaar, Childcare Services Programmer

dvonderhaar@buxton.me.us



PROGRAM HOURS

Summer Camp Operation Hours: 8:45am-3:30pm This is a 7 week program that will have your camper active everyday! Your camper will have 1- 2 field trips a week. Each week will have a special theme and or event. This is the summer your child will not want to miss!

Extended Care Summer Camp Operation Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm. This is a 7 week program that covers the hours for those families that may want extra time at camp! We will provide activities such as coloring, gym activities, and other summer camp favorites before summer camp starts and after summer camp ends. Extended care hours are 7:30am-8:45am and 3:30pm- 5pm.

Due to staffing schedules we will not be accepting any camper that are not registered for extended care prior to 8:45am or after 3:30pm.

While we understand that things can happen that is out of your control; we ask that if you are attending camp for the day to promptly show up at the program start time. We often run our trips and activities on a tight schedule. If your camper misses the bus on a field trip day we will not be holding the bus back. We will also not be able to move your camper into a different camp for the day. At your discretion, you may drop-off your camper at the field trip location.

There will be a \$1.00 late fee for every minute a parent/guardian is late for pick-up. This will promptly be billed 24 hours after a late pick-up and paid by the end of the business day.



DROP-OFF/PICK-UP PRODURES

Summer camp will be held at Buxton Center Elementary School. Summer camp will take place Monday-Friday From Jun 29th-Aug 14th. There will be NO camp on Friday, July 4th.

Camper Drop-Off Protocol: Drop off runs from 7:30 am-8:45am. Parents should not enter the bus loop. Drive up to door number 2 via the parent drop off loop. Parent should remain in their vehicle child may exit the vehicle at this time, and the staff person will check them in. Staff will walk the child inside away from the drop-off area. Parent will then drive away from the drop off area.

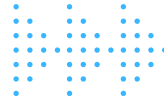
Pick-Up Protocol: Pick-up runs from 3:00pm to 5:30pm. Parent/Guardians enters the family drop-off loop. We will have staff located out front. A staff member will walk to the vehicle and check in. Parent/Guardian should stay in their car. The child will be called for dismissal, and will be walked to the car. Authorized Pick-Ups: Our staff will only release your child to people who are listed on the authorized pick-up list. You can add or delete people to this list at any time. Please be prepared to show your photo ID at pick-up while our staff familiarize themselves with you.

PROGRAM ROUTINE

Field Trips: Camp K-2 and 3-5 will have 1-2 trips a week. Teen Extreme will have 2-3 trips a week. Schedule will be released in May! Field Trips are TBA and will be announced at a later date.

On-Campus Days: For the days the campers are on campus there will be special activities, and events brought in. Such as the ice cream truck, Sparks' Ark, Mad Science and much more! Activity schedule will be released in May!

PAYMENT AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Registration will open for residents of Buxton on **Monday, February 23rd**, and for non-residents on **Monday, March 2nd**. Registrations can be completed online at buxtonrec.com. A minimum deposit of \$100 per child is due at registration. **Final payment is due by Friday, June 26th.**

Second Child Discount: Families who register 2 or more children for the full seven week program will receive a 10% discount on each registration after the first child.

Scholarship: Buxton Recreation has a Scholarship Fund for Families that need financial assistant. The Scholarship Fund is a first come, first serve basis. Families will need to complete an application form by May 8th. Applications will be reviewed and awarded by Friday, May 22nd. Applications can be found in the Forms and Links tab on the Summer Camp Program. You can also obtain a copy by contacting the Recreation Director, Grace Mulherin at gbibber@buxton.me.us

There are four ways you can make a payment:

1. Mail a check to Buxton Recreation, 185 Portland Road, Buxton, Maine 04093.
2. Call the Buxton Recreation Office at 207-929-8381 to make a payment using a card over the phone. There is a .5% processing fee on all credit card payments.
3. Stop by the Buxton Town Hall at 174 Portland Road to pay with cash, check, or card.
4. Make a payment online by scanning the QR code below.



For instructions on how to use the payment portal, please see Pay Portal Instructions located on the Buxton Recreation website homepage.

Buxton Recreation does not give refunds for days missed.





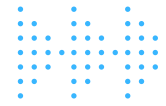
WHAT SHOULD YOUR CHILD BRING EVERY DAY?

- **Sneakers** or closed toe/closed heel footwear are to be worn every day! **NO FLIP FLOPS!** This is in the best interest of your child's safety. Should you send your child to camp in flip flops, parents will be asked to return home and pick up sneakers.
- **Lunch**, along with snacks to last the entire morning and afternoon. (At least 2-3!)
- **Plenty of water** and other healthy drinks: (no soda!), Also, please no glass bottles!
- **Sunscreen**- Please apply generously in the morning, and we will re-apply throughout the day.
- **Hand Sanitizer**- We will have plenty on hand, but feel free to send a travel sized bottle with your child.
- **A hat and extra t-shirt** to wear on extremely sunny days to help avoid sun damage.
- **Backpack** to store your child's belongings, complete with a change of clothes.
- **Medications**- To be stored with the Camp Director. Parents must turn in a Medical Authorization Form with the doctor's signature before medications will be administered. This can be found at buxtonrec.com, as well as at the Buxton Recreation Department.
- **Bathing Suit and Towel**-There may be a water game at any point.
- **Money** -The ice cream truck will be at camp every Friday. You may pack your child with money if you wish for them to participate. Staff are not responsible for your child's money .

PLEASE DO NOT SEND: iPods, iPads, tablets, computers, electrical games, toys, or cell phones. Buxton Recreation is not responsible for any personal items that are damaged.



DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES



Discipline Procedures:

In order to provide a safe and enjoyable summer camp experience for everyone, we have established discipline policy and procedure for campers in our summer camp Programs. The discipline procedure will be followed when a campers exhibiting behaviors that are not in the best interest of program participants, including staff, and the child themselves. **(i.e. not following directions, exhibiting profanity, being disrespectful to campers or staff, jeopardizing the safety of others or self, and/or using threatening or bullying behavior.)**

Phase 1: A verbal reprimand or 'cue' will be given by the staff member to re-direct the child to a more appropriate form of behavior.

Phase 2: The child, under staff supervision, will be removed from the group for a few minutes and will re-join the group when the staff person has determined that they can do so without further disruption.

Phase 3: Should the behavior not change, the Recreation Director will be notified, and the incident will be documented. The parent will have to sign the communication form upon pick-up that afternoon. A copy of this report can be mailed to the parent if requested.

Phase 4: If a problem persists, parents will be notified and the child will be advised to take a day, or more, away from camp and can possibly be suspended from the program. When possible, we will work with the parent to develop a system of discipline that will work for the child.

The above procedure will be used when there is a gradual progression of inappropriate behavior. In extreme cases, the Buxton Recreation Department reserves the right to establish an appropriate consequence immediately. No refund will be given should your child be removed from any childcare program for any period of time due to disciplinary reasons.

Mandated Reporters

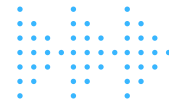
In accordance with recreation procedures, as municipal employees & childcare staff, we are mandated reporters. This means that we are mandated by law to report any and all suspicions of child abuse. Abuse can be physical, mental, or verbal.

“Maine law states that certain people must report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation of an adult if they believe the adult is incapacitated or dependent. Maine law also states that certain people must report to the Department if they know or have reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected.”

-Maine Department of Health and Human Services



HEALTH AND SAFTY PROCEDURES



Buxton Recreation Department will be following the Childcare Guidelines as outlined by the State of Maine. Our policies and procedures will change in the event that there are alterations to the guidelines.

Cleaning and Sanitizing: All equipment will be cleaned before and after use. The school maintenance team will be conducting their cleaning routine in the spaces that we will occupy.

Hand Washing and Sanitization: Staff and camper will wash or sanitize hands before and after every snack, lunch, and activity, as well as upon entry of the program.

Pre-existing Medical Conditions: If your child has a pre-existing medical condition, please contact Grace Mulherin, Recreation Director, at 929-8381.

If a child is feeling ill during childcare hours, Parents/Guardians will be notified, and is expected to pick up their camper within 45 minutes.

Please keep your child home if they have the following symptoms:

- Fever (100.4 F)
- Shortness of breath
- Lost of taste or smell
- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Sore Throat
- Runny Nose/Congested

If a child or staff member develops symptoms they will be sent home. If a child is feeling ill during the day, the parent/guardian will be notified, and expected to pick up their child within 45 minutes. If a child or staff member is sent home with symptoms and continues to have worsen symptoms a negative COVID-19 test will be required before returning back to our childcare programs.

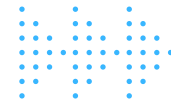
Lice: Children with or have lice or nits will not be permitted to attend. If staff suspect head lice on children participating in one of our programs, they will receive a lice check. If lice or nits are found on your child during program hours, you will be required to pick up your child up immediately. Your child will be permitted to return once they are lice and nit free, and have a doctor's note.

Toilet Training: We require that all children are fully toilet trained. We do not have the staff resource to provide a 1 on 1. We are understanding and accommodating when/if accidents do happen. If multiple accidents occur during our childcare programs, the participant may be required to take a break from the program.

First-Aid Procedures:

We are equipped with first aid kits to handle minor injuries and emergencies. If there is any question that an injury is more serious than our staff is able to handle, we will then make a decision about the next step. In most cases, the parent will be notified before taking action, however, if the emergency is severe, emergency personnel will be called. It is important that camp staff have updated contact numbers in case of an emergency. If your contact information has changed since registration, please contact the main office at 207-929-8381 to update your records.

HEALTH AND SAFTY PROCEDURES



Sunscreen Policy

When we are outside on strong UVA days, we strongly encourage the use of sunscreen. Our staff will be applying sunscreen on your child. The staff will be applying Coppertone Kids SPF 50 spray sunscreen. You are welcome to send sunscreen with your child. Our staff will assist children with applying sunscreen. Please talk with your child about the importance of sun protection. A hat will help shield your child's face from the sun. All of our staff are trained in sun safety. We will be tracking sunscreen applications throughout the day. If you do not want your child to use sunscreen, we must have a signed note from the parent or guardian on file.



MEDICATION POLICY

To administer any type of medication (prescription or over the counter medications) we must have a signed "Medical Authorization Form" on file, containing the prescribing doctors signature. You can find this form on our website at www.buxtonrec.com. Prescription medications must be in their original bottle with the current pharmacist label on it. Buxton Recreation does not have a trained medical professional on staff. Should your child need to take medication at camp, it will be self administered with the assistance of our Childcare Coordinators. If you have any questions regarding our medication policy, please contact the Buxton Recreation Department at 207-929-8381.

