



Firefly Camp

Dear Firefly Campers,

Welcome to Firefly Camp! We're so excited to explore, play, and learn with your family during this adventure in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. **Please read this letter in full, as it contains essential information for your stay at Tremont.**

Arrival

As long as you arrive between 11:00 am and noon, you will have plenty of time to move into your living space before 12:15 lunch. One floor of the dormitory will be co-ed for families who want to stay together. The other floor will be separated by gender. (Please note that food is not allowed in the dorm.) **Departure will be around 11 am on your last day.**

Parking Passes

Valid parking tags are required on any vehicles parking for longer than 15 minutes inside Great Smoky Mountains National Park as part of the Park it Forward program; this includes when parked at Tremont. **Please purchase your parking tag in advance, not when you arrive.** Click here to [purchase your daily or weekly pass online](#). All revenue will stay in the park to provide sustainable, year-round support focusing on improving the visitor experience, protecting resources, and maintaining trails, roads, historic structures, and facilities. [Learn more about Park it Forward.](#)

Camper T-Shirts

We are happy to provide camper t-shirts at no cost to participants this year. Complimentary summer camp t-shirts will be available upon check-in. The store will be open on the first and last day of camp.

Weather

Here in Walker Valley, the average daily high in July is 87°F and the average daily low is 64°F. Come prepared for cool mornings and hot afternoons. You can count on needing rain gear in the Smokies, so bring it with you at all times.

Activities

Our activities will take place in the forest, in the river, and on the trail. Come with a spirit of adventure and openness to experiencing new things and making new friends. Our activities typically *won't* depend on the weather. We have fun outdoors rain or shine!

Bring a small backpack each day filled with the following items for you and your child: Good walking shoes (with closed toes and a secure heel—not Chacos, river shoes you can get wet, a raincoat or poncho, a flashlight, and clothes you don't mind getting dirty. Time is built into the schedule to

change into swimsuits prior to the swimming period. However, you may simply wear swimsuits during other activities if you choose.

Logistics

[You can find a packing list here.](#) Please also read "[Your Visit to Tremont](#)," which includes other helpful information for your stay. Along with linens and toiletries, you may want to bring a mattress pad to ease the firm mattress. You also may want to bring an alarm clock, binoculars, notepad and pencil, field guides, a camera, and a garbage bag for storing wet clothes. Rain gear and a hat are also important for your comfort.

Safety

We are proud to report that we have an outstanding safety record when it comes to kids and the outdoors. However, we do take the concerns of parents very seriously and have provided some insight into risk factors during summer camp. Please call or visit our website if you're interested in learning more about the precautions we take to ensure your child has a safe experience.

Please read our [latest COVID-19 guidelines](#) prior to your trip and let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Phone Calls

Because telephone calls interrupt the magic of the camp experience, we are not able to field incoming telephone calls on your behalf except in case of emergency. Likewise, we ask that you "disconnect" during the short time you are here and plan not to use the telephone. Rest assured, your loved ones not hearing from you is a sure sign that you must be having fun!

If your family must absolutely reach you, instruct them to contact us by calling our office Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. When our office is closed, they can leave a message on our answering machine and we will get it first thing in the morning. If it is urgent to contact us immediately when our office is closed, call the National Park Service Dispatch at 865-436-1294.

Lost and Found

When picking up your child on the last day of camp, please make sure they return home with every item they brought with them. Following the end of camp, we are able to keep items for only a brief period due to the large amount of lost and found items left behind. If you wish any items to be returned to you, you must notify us immediately following the end of camp and we'll send you instructions to arrange for a UPS pick-up.

Questions?

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about your experience. We can't wait to see you!