

Welcome to The Morton Arboretum's 2022 Summer Science Camp!

Updated: 6/21/22- Please note this letter may be subject to change and will be emailed to you the week before camp. Please check that email for updates.

Important Forms to Return

- The camp form will be emailed to you before camp with a link specific to each registered camper. **This form must be completed for children to attend camp.**
- If your child will be bringing an Epipen, inhaler, or other medication to camp, you and your child's pediatrician must complete the [Medication Authorization Form](#). Medication must be in an original container with pharmacy instructions and you may only bring enough medication for one day of camp at a time.

Daily Drop-Off and Pick-Up- **UPDATED for 2022**

- Drop off and pick up for camp will be in Parking Lot 21. Some notes for drop off and pick up include:
 - Drop-Off
 - Park in Parking Lot 21.
 - Campers will be checked in at the picnic tables under the Thornhill Picnic Shelter.
 - Please be sure to apply sunscreen and bug spray at home, before leaving for camp.
 - Camp staff will be available for check-in at 8:50 A.M. for morning and full day sessions and 12:20 P.M. for afternoon sessions.
 - Pick-Up:
 - Park in Parking Lot 21.
 - Pick up campers at the picnic tables under the Thornhill Picnic Shelter.
 - **Present a photo ID for pick-up.** For your child's safety, an authorized adult must sign your child out daily.
 - Please pick up your child promptly at the end of the program. If you are delayed, please call 630-719-4890. Parents/guardians who pick up their children 15 minutes late will be assessed a fee of \$15 per child and an additional \$1 per minute thereafter.
 - Dogs and other pets are not allowed on Arboretum grounds, even in your vehicle.
- After campers are dropped off/picked up, you are welcome to stay on site during or after your child's camp session. To get to the closest exit, follow traffic from the back of Parking Lot 21. You will arrive at an automated gate. Please pull up to the white line and stop to activate the gate. Once the gate opens, proceed to exit the grounds on Park Blvd. **Even if the gate is open, please stop at the line before proceeding to exit, so the sensor recognizes your vehicle and remains open.**
- Camp will not be canceled due to rain. Camp is held outdoors, rain or shine. In case of extreme weather, children will participate in indoor activities at the Thornhill Education Center.

Late Arrivals, Early Pick-Up, and Absences

- To take full advantage of your camp experience, it is recommended that children attend camp each day, arrive on time, and not leave early.
- If you arrive more than 15 minutes late, please park in P21 and call 630-719-4890 to be connected with your camp.
- If your child will miss a day of camp, email Krista Phelps by 9:00 A.M. at kphelps@mortonarb.org.

Note: Summer Science Camp will update COVID-19 procedures in accordance with State guidelines.

Camper safety is of the utmost importance within our programs, and the driving force behind any and all policy adjustment, which follows the American Camp Association and CDC guidance. For questions please contact Meghan Wiesbrock, Manager of School and Camp Programs (mwiesbrock@mortonarb.org). These policies will be updated throughout the summer as needed. This information will be reflected in this letter and resent the week before your scheduled camp.

Updated COVID-19 procedures:

- **Current DuPage County Transmission Level:** Medium
- **Masks:** Currently, masks are not required at The Morton Arboretum. We kindly ask that camp participants bring a mask, in the event that they develop symptoms during camp. Camp participants exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, may be asked to wear a mask. Additionally masks are required for camp participants who are currently monitoring symptoms within the 10 day period from a known exposure.
 - If the threat level changes at any point in the summer to "high" participants will be required to wear a mask indoors. Threat level will be monitored on a weekly basis and updated in this letter for the upcoming week of camp.
- **Cohorting:** During your week of camp, your camper will remain within their assigned camp group throughout the week of camp.
- **Cleaning and Disinfection:** Shared materials and high touch surfaces will be regularly sanitized.
- **Illness:** If your child is experiencing illness, we encourage you to keep them home from camp. Children who become ill while at camp will also be sent home, and we appreciate your prompt response in picking them up.
- **Communication regarding COVID-19 illness:**
 - **Pre-Camp Illness:** If you child tests positive with 5 days from the start of camp, please contact the Camp and Scout Supervisor, regarding your child's return to camp, and the necessary mitigation measure for their return.
 - **During Camp Illness:** If your child tests positive for COVID-19 please contact the camp and scout supervisor, Krista Phelps (kphelps@mortonarb.org) as soon as you are able. Immediate follow-up will allow us to communicate potential exposure to camp participants.
 - **Post-Camp Illness:** If you child tests positive for COVID-19 within 3 days of their last in-person session of camp, please contact kphelps@mortonarb.org, as soon as you are able Immediate follow-up will allow us to communicate potential exposure to camp participants.

Daily Notes:

- Dress your child for outdoor play and apply sunscreen then insect repellent at home. Camp is primarily outdoors and clothing will get wet or dirty.
- Wear sturdy, closed-toed walking shoes.
- Do not bring personal materials such as: cell phones, electronic devices, fishing poles, binoculars, toys, books, etc. to camp. Camp is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items brought to camp.
- For lunch and snack, do not pack items that require refrigeration.
- At the end of the camp week, you will receive an evaluation of the science camp experience. Please take the time to complete this evaluation with your child. Your thoughts are very important to us.
- We recommend that parents check children after camp for any "hitchhikers" that may have come home after a day of camp. Ticks and other insects are a reality of summer days outside. We recommend doing a complete check of your child from head to toe for ticks they may have picked up while at camp.
- Friday is Popsicle Day!!! We provide a popsicle for every child in our day camps. Please inform us if your child cannot eat popsicles. Here is the link to the [ingredient label](#). In addition, some camps may have small snacks related to the activities they are doing during the day. Please make sure your camp instructor is aware of any dietary concerns for your child.

Daily Supplies

- Backpack
- Water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Snacks (2 or more)
- Lunch (for full day)
- Hat
- Insect repellent (Deet recommended)
- Rain gear (weather dependent)
- An extra long-sleeve shirt and pants in a backpack to protect from bugs or sun (optional)
- Facemask (optional)

Safety and First Aid

- All camp managers, camp coordinators, and camp instructors are certified in CPR and First Aid.
- If any minor first aid is administered during camp, parents/guardians will be notified at the end of the camp day. Parents will be asked to sign a First Aid Card acknowledging that this conversation occurred.
- If a camper has an illness or injury that requires more than minor first aid, camp coordinators or camp supervisor will call parents immediately to discuss the situation.

Questions or Additional Information

- Please feel free to contact Krista Phelps, Camp & Scout Supervisor, at kphelps@mortonarb.org or 630-719-4890.

Behavior Agreement: Review with your child before camp

Summer Science Camp should be a positive and memorable experience for every child. In order to achieve this, we ask that you begin by knowing the expectations for behavior at camp. Each Camp Instructor will also remind the campers of the rules at the beginning of each camp week.

Summer Science Camp Rules:

1. Children will follow directions given by Arboretum staff.
2. Children will treat other children and staff with respect; profanity, bullying, name-calling, or other hurtful verbal behavior will not be tolerated.
3. Children will keep their hands and feet to themselves; acts of physical aggression towards staff or participants will not be tolerated.
4. Rules and procedures regarding the possession and use of medications will be strictly enforced.

Summer Science Camp Consequences:

The disciplinary steps set forth below are merely guides for action to be taken when camp rules are violated. These steps are discretionary at the sole determination of The Morton Arboretum and the Arboretum reserves the right to take any level of disciplinary action it deems appropriate under the circumstances, including but not limited to, moving a child to another camp session or dismissing a child from a camp session without a refund.

1. Verbal Warning: If a child does not follow rules, the instructor will restate the rules and re-clarify the expectations. If a second warning is required, parents will be notified (at pick-up time or by phone) of the incident.
2. Time Out: If the child continues to not follow rules, they will be removed from the other campers and must speak with the Camp Coordinator (who will restate the rule and re-clarify the expectations). Parents will be notified of the incident (at pick-up or by phone).
3. Parent Involvement: Continued incidents will warrant sending the child to the camp coordinator's or manager's office to call their parent/guardian to explain and discuss the situation. If the issue is resolved and agreed upon by all three parties the child will be allowed to rejoin the group. If the issue is not resolved the parent/guardian will be asked to pick-up their child (Step 4).
4. Removal from Program: Any further rule breaking will cause the parent/guardian to be contacted and asked to pick their child up. The child will not be permitted to return to camp for the remainder of the week and a refund will not be given.

THE MISSION OF THE MORTON ARBORETUM

“To collect and study trees, shrubs and other plants from around the world and to display them across naturally beautiful landscapes for people to study and enjoy, and to learn how to grow them in ways that enhance our environment. Our goal is to encourage the planting and conservation of trees and other plants for a greener, healthier and more beautiful world.”

THE GOALS OF SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP:

- **CREATE AWARENESS:** Connect children to the natural world by providing opportunities for them to explore, discover and investigate nature.
- **DEVELOP APPRECIATION:** Serve as a stepping-stone to future learning experiences about the natural environment.
- **INSPIRE CONSERVATION:** From these experiences, pave the way for future values, behaviors and attitudes to care for or contribute to supporting our environment.

Explore [other learning opportunities](#) at The Morton Arboretum, including the nine-month [Little Trees Early Learning Program](#), now enrolling for Fall 2022.



The Morton Arboretum is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization. Your support advances education, research, and conservation initiatives for trees at the Arboretum and throughout the world.