

# Winter Camp Letter



RIDGE HAVEN  
BREVARD | CONO

DECEMBER 28, 2019 - JANUARY 1, 2020

Thank you for registering for Winter Camp! We are delighted to have your camper(s) join us for what we trust to be an exciting and spiritually rewarding camp experience.

If your plans change, and your camper cannot attend camp for any reason, please notify us immediately at 828-862-3916. *All cancellations are to be handled through our office. Please do not pass on your cancellation to your church or to your friend to fill. Ridge Haven often has its own waitlist.* Cancellations made prior to three (3) weeks before the first day of camp will receive a full refund minus the non-refundable, non-transferable registration fee. Cancellations made within three (3) weeks of the first day of camp may apply their payments to another camp during the 2020 camp season, minus the non-refundable, non-transferable registration fee. Final payment must be made at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of camp.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- I. **Directions:** 215 Ridge Haven Rd. Brevard, NC 28712 – We encourage you to follow the directions from our website only, <http://ridgehaven.org/directions>, as many GPS systems are not accurate navigating Old Toxaway and Frozen Creek Roads.
- II. **Arrival:** Registration is from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm on December 28th. Please do not arrive early (see registration instructions below).

Should your arrival be delayed past 5:00 pm on Dec. 28th, please call the camp office at 828-862-3916 and to give us an estimated arrival time so we can be prepared and available to greet you.

- III. **Departure:** Parent pickup will be 10:00 am to 11:30 am on January 1st. Pickup will be at Shepherds Hall. No camper will be dismissed without their counselor receiving a name and a signature of the person picking them up.

If you need to pick up your camper early, please call our office 828-862-3916 to coordinate. Your pick up will need to be scheduled between 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM.

- IV. **Health and Wellness Procedures:** An infirmary staffed with adults certified in First Aid, AED and CPR are available to handle minor injuries and illnesses and for the distribution of prescription medication. In addition, a Registered Nurse (RN) will be on-site daily and available 24/7 to screen

minor complaints as well as oversee our infirmary staff, healthcare procedures, and the distribution of medications. Access to emergency medical systems will be available at all times. We have an excellent relationship with a doctor's office in nearby Brevard with a well-equipped clinic and hospital. Be assured that we will contact you for any doctor and/or hospital visits. Please refer to the Packing List and 'When You Arrive' instructions in the following pages of this letter regarding our medication policies. Most counselors are also certified in first aid, AED and CPR.

- V. **Meals:** All meals are included in the price of the camping program. We are not an allergy free facility. While we limit the use of typical allergens in our menus, we are not altogether free of allergies. Campers will be able to list medically diagnosed food allergies during their online registration process. Please note the severity of any allergies. **Those with severe allergies should bring and carry emergency equipment (i.e. EpiPen) with them at all times.** Campers with dietary restrictions should supplement our menu by bringing food with them. Any supplementary food items may be stored in our kitchen and refrigerator/freezer. We are happy to microwave supplementary items but cannot cook food to order. Dietary preferences such as vegetarian, vegan, dairy free, paleo, etc. will have limited options at meal times. Please plan accordingly! For those with Celiac Disease, please note that our Gluten Free Camp Menu is very basic. For example: At breakfast, you will be provided gluten free French toast; Lunch, a gluten free sandwich; Dinner, gluten free pasta with red sauce and toast. Other standard items on the menu are gluten-free as well such as oatmeal and Cheerios at breakfast. Still, we encourage you to supplement your meals if you wish for more variety.
- VI. **Camp Store:** Deposits for the camp store can be made online before and during camp. Campers should not carry cash with them. Purchases can be made during store hours. **We do not accept cash or check camp store deposits on registration day. Please add money to your child store account when you register them online.** This can be done by logging into your camper's account via the "Register Online" link at [ridgehaven.org](http://ridgehaven.org). Campers with a balance of more than \$5 after camp is over will get it refunded on the card it was deposited with on the following week. Balances that are less than \$5 will be donated to our camper scholarship fund.
- VII. **Pictures:** All pictures can be viewed and printed free of charge from our Facebook page or Flickr account, [facebook.com/ridgehaven](https://facebook.com/ridgehaven). A small selection will be in each Facebook album with a link to view all photos on Flickr. Uploading will begin on the second day of camp during the late afternoon.
- VIII. **Lost and found:** Be sure to check the lost and found table when you sign out your camper. Lost items not requested within 30 days will be donated to a local charity. Requested items can be shipped back to you and shipping fees will apply.

## PACKING LIST

*Please pack light! Your camper's items should be packed in a duffle bag or something that could slide under a bunk bed (trunks are too large for our cabins).*

1. **Bedding:** Twin sheets, sleeping bag or blanket, pillow with pillowcase, towels, toiletries.
2. **Clothes:** Casual clothes for informal meetings, warm sweaters/jackets for outdoor activities, waterproof/quick drying pants /jackets in case of snow, gloves, hat, warm socks, and laundry bag.
3. **Shoes:** Athletic shoes or hiking/sturdy outdoor shoes for hiking and playing outdoor games. We recommend 2 pairs of athletic/hiking shoes in case one pair gets wet. Several camp activities require closed toed shoes. Campers without the proper footwear may not be allowed to participate.
4. **Medications:** Any *prescription* medications your camper takes or might need to take while at camp should be logged in the camper's online portal. Additionally, medications must be brought in **original labeled container** and discussed with the infirmary staff upon arrival (see details in registration instructions below). Special instructions must be on the camp registration form for those taking prescription medications or those with special dietary needs. If your camper needs to keep emergency items with them (for example: an inhaler or EpiPen that you bring with you) please speak to the RN or infirmary staff upon arrival.
5. **Backpack/Sling bag:** Campers will often participate in multiple activities during the camp day before returning to their cabins. A small, comfortable bag allows campers to keep some essentials with them throughout the day. Ideally, your camper's towel will fit inside.
6. **Optional for Games & Special Events:** Fun/warm Hoedown outfit for the New Year's Eve Barnes Party that would be comfortable and good for dancing, 1-piece swimsuit (if you want to participate in the Polar Bear Club), camo/dark clothing (Mission Impossible Night Game).
7. **Other items:** Bible, notebook, pen, water bottle, flashlight, insect repellent and sunscreen.
8. **NOTE:** Camp Store money should be deposited into each camper's account online

→ *PLEASE DO NOT BRING: electronics, cell phone, snacks, alcohol, tobacco (any form), drugs, firearms, knives, or t-shirts with questionable advertising or sayings.*

→ Please mark all items with camper's full name.

## FACILITIES FOR PARENTS AND YOUTH WORKERS

Guest rooms are available for youth leaders and parents to stay at Ridge Haven during camp. However, reservations MUST be made through the office PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. Youth workers, pastors, and/or parents wishing to stay at Ridge Haven during the time their camper is at camp must contact the Ridge Haven office to make a reservation for a room. While on campus, all visitors must wear a visitor tag at all times (provided) and should not plan to participate/be involved with the camp program. Youth Leaders wishing to participate with campers should register as a leader and stay with the youth group as their counselor for the week.

## RIDGE HAVEN CAMP RULES & REGULATIONS

Every camper receives focused attention from his/her counselor. Ridge Haven Winter Camp counselors are selected from the past summer counseling staff. They have at least 1 summers experience and have all been thoroughly screened and trained. These young men and women exhibit godly lifestyles and provide tremendous role models of faith in Jesus Christ. (Ridge Haven stresses mutual respect and teamwork. All campers are expected to conduct themselves accordingly). A list of camper Rules and Regulations are listed below and should be read by or read to each camper. They are expected to know, understand, and follow these rules.

Campers, the staff at Ridge Haven wants you to have the best experience possible while you are at camp; therefore, we have established some guidelines for you to follow. For a fun and rewarding time at camp, please read and remember the following:

1. Be respectful in your words and actions to other campers, counselors, and staff.
2. Accept the authority of the Ridge Haven staff by listening and obeying.
3. Only use kind and thoughtful words. Foul language, including gestures, will not be tolerated.
4. Participation in all activities is strongly encouraged, but a positive attitude about camp is expected.
5. Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.
6. All weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, and fireworks are strictly forbidden.
7. Sexually inappropriate behavior of any degree will not be tolerated.
8. Campers are expected to refrain from the use of technology during camp. Campers are encouraged to leave their phones, laptops, tablets, etc. at home.
9. Campers are expected to demonstrate respect for Ridge Haven property. Campers are responsible for any damages resulting from inappropriate use of property.
10. Campers are not allowed to enter the cabins of the opposite gender at any time.
11. Campers must gain permission from their counselor before playing any pranks.



12. Campers are not allowed to go to the rooms of chaperones (including parents) that are staying at Ridge Haven during camp without approval from the Camp Director.
13. Campers (Senior High) that drive to camp must leave their car parked for the entire week.
14. Campers will not be allowed to wear crop tops (blouse or t-shirt that reveals the stomach) or spaghetti strap tops (blouse or t-shirt that has thin straps that come across the shoulders) tops.

Campers that do not follow these rules/ act inappropriately will receive correction from counselors that may result in disciplinary action (i.e. sitting out of an activity). If misconduct continues or the first offense is severe, they will be sent home.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR CAMP!

*Instructions for Registration – please follow carefully*

Do not stop at the office. Follow registration road signs and parking attendants as you enter Ridge Haven. Please have medications ready before entering the registration line.

Step 1 - Registration: Registration is held between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm on Dec. 28th. Each camper will be checked-in and receive his/her bunk assignment. All accounts must be paid in full 2 weeks before the first day of camp unless other arrangements have been made by the Office Manager.

Step 2 - Camper Mail: You may drop off mail to be delivered to your camper during the week. Please leave mail at the "Camper Mail" table and clearly label each package with the camper's name, cabin number, and day the package is to be delivered. Mail call occurs starting the second night of camp.

Step 3 - Infirmary: The infirmary staff will **only** collect/administer medication prescribed by a physician. These medications **must be in the original labeled container**. The infirmary is stocked with over the counter medications your camper may need, so there is no need to bring those. Vitamins/supplements will not be collected/administered unless accompanied with a physician's orders. Left over medications should be picked up from the infirmary staff when you pick up your camper. Campers can also expect a lice check administered by Ridge Haven staff.

Step 4 – Meet the counselor & Move in!

## QUESTIONS?

We'd be happy to answer any questions you may have! Feel free to call us at 828-862-3916 or email our office [ridgehaven@ridgehaven.org](mailto:ridgehaven@ridgehaven.org)