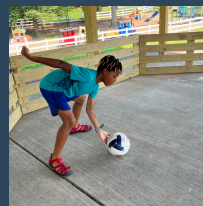


# CAMP RIPPLING BROOK

## SUMMER CAMP FAMILY RESOURCE GUIDE 2025



KATE DADOURIAN  
FOUNDER & DIRECTOR



Hey there **Campers!**

I can hardly believe it's already our third summer together at Camp Rippling Brook! I'm so thrilled to have you joining us this summer! You might not believe it now since I'm running the show, but I was once a nervous camper myself, even with my twin sister and younger brother by my side. Knowing everything I could about camp before arriving really helped ease my nerves, and I hope this guide does the same for you!

This summer, let's embrace the excitement of trying new things, making new friends, and creating unforgettable memories together. Remember, we're all part of something special at Camp Rippling Brook, so I encourage you to bring that same positive attitude every day.

We're gearing up for an incredible summer filled with fun, laughter, and adventure! Most importantly, remember that I'm here for you. Don't hesitate to share your stories or experiences with me - I can't wait to be a part of your camp journey!

Let's make this summer one to remember!

Kate

Dear **Camp Families,**

We are thrilled that you have chosen Camp Rippling Brook for your camper this summer! As a parent of two young children, I completely understand the emotions that come with entrusting your child to a new environment. While we may not know each other yet, I hope this guide helps you and your camper feel right at home in our Camp Rippling Brook family.

Family has always been a cornerstone of my life, from my first experience at camp with my siblings to meeting my husband while working at a camp. Our goal at Camp Rippling Brook is to create an environment that fosters support, growth, and connections for every camper and their family.

This summer, we're dedicated to providing not just fun and excitement but also transformative experiences that will stay with your child for years to come. We're focused on nurturing compassionate leaders who will shape a brighter future. Camp Rippling Brook is more than just a camp; it's a community where your child can thrive and feel valued.



Please consider this guide a valuable resource to help prepare you and your camper for unforgettable summer. If you have any questions or need assistance, we are always here to help and connect with you.

Here's to a fantastic summer filled with adventure, friendship, and growth!

Kate

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## OUR MISSION

Rippling Brook develops future leaders through building confidence and character. We strive to show respect for all, teach responsibility, and keep safety as a priority. Our environment offers the unique opportunity to **try new things, create new memories, and develop as individuals** all while being a **part of the Rippling Brook family**.

## OUR VISION

Camp Rippling Brook's vision is for a better tomorrow where the **youth of today develop** into **caring and compassionate leaders**.

## A PLACE FOR ALL

Camp Rippling Brook is made up of people from **every walk of life** that **come together** to create an environment where **everyone can belong**. We are a **community that works together** to ensure that everyone, regardless of cultural background, ethnicity, faith, gender, gender identity, ideology, income, national origin, race, and/or sexual orientation, has a **safe place** to be **treated with respect and dignity**.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Going to camp can be really **exciting** and **fun**! It can also be a little scary and make campers feel a little nervous. But don't worry, our **wonderful staff** is there to **walk campers through the new routines and activities, help make new friends**, and make **the time at camp awesome**!

## WHO ARE WE – CAMP STAFF

**Connection makes a difference.** We are not just "staff," we are a part of the Rippling Brook **family**. This makes all the difference and we are all ready to invite your family to join our Rippling Brook family.

All staff complete a **criminal background check**, receive **at least 20 hours of training** prior to camp beginning, and a majority of staff are at least 18 years old. Several staff are trained in **first aid & CPR**. But most importantly, our **camper care** and **customer service** is a top priority which makes our staff great **role models**.

## CAMPER GOALS THIS SUMMER

- 1 Build a community
- 2 Create memories
- 3 Try new things
- 4 Have fun!

## CODE OF CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS: HPORRK!

Every day is a day for a great day at camp! For this to happen, everyone is expected to follow our acronym: **HPORRK**. We reinforce these expectations throughout the week and recognize campers that show these values.

- Honest
- Positive
- Open-Minded
- Responsible
- Respectful
- Kind

## PAYMENTS

A **non-refundable \$50 deposit/week** is due upon registration. Families may select to **pay in full** at the time of registration **or pay the deposit only** with the remaining balance to be automatically **paid in installments**. Camp must be paid in full at least 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the camp session. Please contact us if additional payment options need to be arranged.

## DISCOUNTS

We understand that camp costs can add up for a family so we **offer several discounts** for those who qualify.

- **Early Bird** - \$25 off each week if registered before March 31st.
- **Sibling Discount** - \$25 off each week for each additional child after the first registration
- **Multiweek Discount**
  - \$50 off total when registered for 4 weeks of camp
  - \$75 off total when registered for 5 weeks of camp
  - \$100 off total when registered for 6 weeks of camp
- **Referral Discount** - \$25 off total if you refer a first-time family that registers for camp
- **Military Discount** - 5% off total when you can provide a military ID

## CHANGES & CANCELLATIONS

We will happily grant a request to transfer from one week to another at no cost if there is space available.

If a **cancellation** is necessary and the request is made **before June 1st**, the **non-refundable deposit will be retained and remaining fees refunded**. Camp will **retain all fees** if the request is made **after June 1st**. All cancellations and/or adjustments to registrations must be made through email/writing. Cancellations due to medical reasons may be partially refunded if an appropriate doctor's note is provided.

## CAMPER FORMS

There is a lot of information we need from camp families to make sure we have the best and safest experience at camp. **All forms must be completed at least 2 weeks prior to your family starting camp with us.** Most forms can be completed electronically. If your camper requires medications, please review [Medications](#) & [Emergency Medications](#) for more information.

# GROUPS & “GROUPMATE” REQUESTS

Our morning consists of activities that are camper choice. During this time, our activities will be facilitated by **two Senior Counselors** that are **at least 18 years or older**. There will be **approximately 8 campers to every one staff** in a group; this may be less for younger campers and more for older campers or be adjusted based on the activity.

Our afternoons are spent during R&R or split into our Camp Cup teams. We allow campers to **request one friend to be assigned to the same Camp Cup team**. Requests **should be made at least one week prior to the week of camp**. Camp Cup teams are **gender inclusive, varied in age** and **created on Monday afternoon**. We will do our best to keep your camper with their request; if we can’t make that request happen, remember we are building a community and making new friends at camp. Campers will also have plenty of time to see friends throughout the day.

# WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

We will be active throughout the day so campers should be able to **carry everything in a backpack**. This should include a **water bottle, lunch & snacks** (labeled with name), **bathing suit, towel, water shoes** (sandals, sneakers, water shoes - something with a heel strap for water activities), and **sunscreen**. Of course a hat, sunglasses, rain coat, bug spray, and/or a light jacket are always optional. Please **label all items** brought to camp.

# ELECTRONICS POLICY

Camp isn’t really made for electronics. We **want to build a community and that means being present throughout the day without distractions**. For the safety of everyone, we ask that **electronics are left at home**. We understand that phones may be needed before drop off or after pick up; if this is the case electronics may be stored in the camp office.

# DROP OFF

Campers may be **dropped off between 8:30 am - 9:00 am**. Staff will greet campers as they exit vehicles. Families can either do curbside drop off and park & walk. We will gather in the pavilion area and will split into our morning choice activities from there after our Morning Show. Please be aware that **Monday drop off may take a little longer** since we have new campers each week. **All vehicles should follow a 10 mph speed limit**.

# LATE DROP OFF

We understand families may have appointments, hit traffic, or just want to sleep in a little. If campers are dropped off after staff leave the drop off area, please **check in with a staff member**. That staff member will then take campers to the assigned group or activity area..

# MORNING CAMP – EXTENDED HOURS

Campers **registered for Morning Camp** may be **dropped off between 7:30 am - 8:30 am** or join the regular drop off from 8:30 am - 9:00 am. This extra time will be filled with activities supervised by our Morning Camp staff. Drop off for Morning Camp is in the same location as regular drop off and staff will be available to greet campers. Please be courteous of our staff members time and understand that staff will not be available before 7:30 am.

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Our schedule is pretty much the same each week, the difference is what activities campers will be doing during each activity time. Some of these activities will be Central Activities while others are Core Activities, which campers can choose. Below is a sample of what a week may look like, but please remember adjustments may be made.

Monday - Thursday		Friday	
7:30 am - 8:30 am	Morning Camp	7:30 am - 8:30 am	Morning Camp
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Drop Off	8:30 am - 9:00 am	Drop Off
9:00 am - 9:20 am	Morning Show	9:00 am - 9:20 am	Morning Show
9:30 am - 10:15 am	Activity Period 1	9:30 am - 10:15 am	Activity Period 1
10:30 am - 11:15 am	Activity Period 2	10:30 am - 11:15 am	Activity Period 2
11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Activity Period 3	11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Activity Period 3
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	Team Time	1:15 pm - 2:00 pm	R&R (Recreation & Relaxation)
2:15 pm - 3:00 pm	R&R (Recreation & Relaxation)	2:15 pm - 3:45 pm	Special Event
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm	All Group/Camp Activity	3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Popsicles
3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Popsicles	4:00 pm - 4:15 pm	Closing Show (Families Welcome)
4:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Pick Up	4:15 pm - 4:30 pm	Pick Up
4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Afternoon Camp	4:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Afternoon Camp

# CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Throughout the week, campers will participate in our Central Activities which include our Morning Show, R&R (Recreation & Relaxation), team time, all group activities, weekly themed activities and popsicles. The Closing Show takes place at the end of each week as families get to enjoy a glimpse into the Camp experience.

# CORE ACTIVITIES

Our Core Activities are all camper choice — campers make their own day. Camper choices will be offered through our core areas of locomotion, outdoor adventure, and creative arts. With multiple options for each Core Activity, campers get new experiences all day long.

## LUNCH & SNACKS

Campers should **bring their own lunch and snacks, labeled with camper's name**, every day to camp. Refrigerators **are available for storage** before lunch but **snacks should be non-perishable**. Please understand that we will be NOT be able to reheat any food.

We are an **ALLERGY AWARE** facility and will allow campers to bring nuts and nut products to camp. Staff are made aware of any allergies in advance and do their best to **keep those with allergies away from any potential allergens**.

## R&R (RECREATION & RELAXATION)

Summer time means HOT weather. That also means we sometimes just need a bit of time to **relax and re-energize** ourselves. Our R&R (Recreation & Relaxation) time is a great way to provide campers with the opportunity for both. R&R is our take on recess with some independence allowed to campers all under the watchful supervision of our staff. The opportunity to participate in our camp activities like our **inflatable slip 'n slide/water play, archery, friendship bracelet making, and more** is available for all. We'll also have equipment available to have fun with new friends. Campers wishing to participate in our inflatable slip 'n slide/water play should **pack a bathing suit and towel**. Bathing suits may also be worn under clothing. Water Play activities may vary each day but there's always a chance to cool off.

## THEMED WEEKS & SPIRIT DAYS

Check out our [calendar](#) for our **Themed Weeks and Spirit Days**! Each day is filled with something fun and unique! Our **themed weeks are weeks 2, 4 & 6** with special activities throughout! **Showing camp spirit** is one of many ways for campers to help their group **earn Camp Cup points** during the week. Don't have something for today's spirit day? Don't worry about it, there are plenty of other ways to show camp spirit!

## BEADS OF RECOGNITION

Every week, our campers receive a pipe cleaner that represents the week on our Beads of Recognition board. **Campers earn beads** when recognized for doing an act that corresponds to that color bead such as our **HPORRK values, keeping camp beautiful, first time/returning camper, random acts of kindness and more!** Each bead earned adds points to the **Camp Cup competition**.

## CAMP CUP

The **highlight of the week** will be seeing if your camper's group earned enough points to **win the Camp Cup**! Throughout the week our staff will be tracking and adding up points to update on the Camp Cup scoreboard. Campers can earn points for their group by showing **camp spirit**, earning **Beads of Recognition** or **camper awards, keeping camp beautiful**, and so much more. The **winner will be announced during our Closing Show on Friday afternoon**.

## CAMPER BEHAVIOR

We love it when our campers **show respect, compassion and empathy** for others. Sometimes we have rough days and need a little help along the way. If a **pattern of bad behavior** begins that becomes **unsafe for other campers, staff and/or themselves**, we may ask that a camper gets picked up early. After repeated behaviors, we may dismiss the camper from our camp. We ask that our campers and staff help create a safe environment for all at Camp Rippling Brook. If the unfortunate time comes that we need to dismiss a camper, there will be **no refund issued due to behavior**. All families should review our [Camper Code of Conduct](#) prior to attending camp.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

Wouldn't it be nice if every day was mid-80's, sunny and low-humidity? Unfortunately, we can't count on that. Inclement weather may cause our **activities to pause, be rescheduled or cancelled**. We do our best to keep going, but **safety is always our priority**. We'll always have **back up plans** to keep the fun going. Refunds will not be issued due to weather.

## HOMESICKNESS

Homesickness isn't just for overnight camp; **homesickness is a normal feeling** in any situation where someone is separated from home and loved ones. We **train our staff to be compassionate and caring** to any camper feeling anxiety. Some of the best ways to lessen anxiety is to prepare for the upcoming day by talking about it together, thinking of things that can help cope with homesick feelings beforehand, and making a connection right away. Our staff will help with all of these methods and more. Our goal is to **create a community and family at Camp Rippling Brook** that helps to ease those feelings. **Attending an Open House, booking a home visit meet & greet, private tour, Kids Night Out or attending our Camp Day will all help set expectations early.**

## A SNEAK PEEK INTO YOUR DAY

Communication and knowledge are huge! We understand that families want to know what's been going on (most adults would probably rather be at camp than work). But after a long day of fun in the sun, the last thing campers sometimes want to do is recap it all. Sometimes just keeping their eyes open as you leave camp and head home at the end of the day is a struggle! We get it. That's why we'll do the talking for your campers. Families should **check email for pre-camp preparedness information and daily updates during camp, check out our social media, and try to find your camper in all our pictures through SmugMug**. We **always try our best to get at least one picture** of all our campers but sometimes they're too fast and having too much fun for us to get everyone.





## PICK UP

Our normal pick up time is **between 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm**. Pick up will occur from our pavilion and families can either do curbside pick up or park & walk. Any campers getting picked up at this time will be near the pick up area. **If you are doing curbside pick up, please do not exit the car.** Any campers not registered for Afternoon Camp should be picked up during our normal pick up time.

## AUTHORIZATION TO PICK UP

Safety is our number one priority so we ask that all families complete an Authorized to Pick Up list before camp begins. The **only people that are allowed to pick up** are those on the list. We will check names with ID so please remember to **bring ID every day** as you may be asked to present it. If there is a **change to pick up, please let Camp know beforehand**, we will not release a camper to anyone without permission.

## AFTERNOON CAMP – EXTENDED HOURS

Campers **registered for Afternoon Camp** may be **picked up between 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**. Afternoon Camp is an extension of the camp day. Staff will supervise activities. Activities during our Afternoon Camp may include backyard games, arts & crafts, archery sports and more! Please **pack an extra snack** if your camper will be staying for Afternoon Camp. Please be courteous of our staff members time and understand that campers should be picked up by 6:00 pm.

If a camper needs to be picked up earlier, they will join the regular pick up from 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm. We ask that **any changes to the normal routine be communicated beforehand**.

## CLOSING SHOW – FAMILIES WELCOME!

Every Friday we will wrap up the week with our Closing Show. **FAMILIES ARE WELCOME** and encouraged to attend. The Closing Show will **recognize campers** that have earned awards throughout the week, give a glimpse into the **Camp Rippling Brook spirit**, and award the **Camp Cup**.

Campers may be **picked up right after** the Closing Show but **campers must be properly signed out with a staff member** before leaving camp. Lost & Found and medication pick up will be available right after the Closing Show.

## EARLY PICK UP

If a camper needs to be picked up early one day, we ask that you **notify the camp leadership the day before or the morning of the early pick up**. We will make sure campers are ready for **pick up at the requested time from the pavilion**.

## LATE PICK UP POLICY

We truly value your time and want to respect our staff's time as well. This means we ask that campers be **picked up on time every day**. If campers are **NOT registered for Afternoon Camp they must be picked up by 4:30 pm**. If campers are registered **for Afternoon Camp they must be picked up by 6:00 pm**. A late fee of **\$1 per minute will be charged**. Please **notify camp** if you are running late. We understand some situations are out of our control and communication is important.

## LOST & FOUND

It can be hard for campers to keep track of all their things throughout the busy camp day. Our staff will do our best to minimize the lost & found by scanning any areas before leaving. Any unclaimed items will go to our **Lost & Found area**. This will be available for families to **check throughout the week**. We will be unable to keep any items after the last camp session and will **donate any remaining items one week after camp ends**. Please let us know as soon as you know something is missing. To help reduce lost items, please **label everything** brought to camp, as this will help us return any misplaced items.

## CAMP SURVEY

We strive to always **make good better and better our best**. If it's not the best then it can improve. We will send a **camp survey at the end of each week** to families. We will **review this immediately and put any changes into action** to make your family's future experience the best. We're all part of the Camp Rippling Brook family and are here to support each other. Support us in making your family's summer last a lifetime by offering constructive criticism and/or showing your support through the survey. We appreciate any feedback about us in person, email, phone, or even notes on napkins.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

Of course we want everyone to have fun at camp, but we need to know everyone is **healthy and safe first**. We have staff available at all times who are **certified in First Aid and CPR** and are **able to administer medications**. We also always have a health supervisor (a doctor and/or nurse) on call for consultation as needed. We are fortunate enough to also be within a **short distance from emergency medical care** as well. Our goal is to work in partnership with families to make sure we are prepared to **address any health or safety concerns that come up while at camp**.

We always want everyone to feel comfortable enough to address any concerns with a staff member. We strive to create a safe environment through various means such as a camper never being alone with only one other person, low staff to camper ratios, proper pick up procedures, providing health care and communicating that care as necessary.



# MEDICAL CONCERNS & SPECIAL NEEDS

Health and safety are our number one priority for all our campers and staff and we strive to **provide a positive experience for everyone**. However, we **do not specialize in serving children with special needs**. If your family has **any concerns regarding special needs, including significant physical, mental, emotional, social, and/or behavioral concerns**, please **contact camp to discuss** this further. Our goal is to be as prepared as possible for each camper's arrival and knowing about any potential challenges in advance will allow us to better support your family and specifically your camper. After some discussions, it may be decided by camp that a one-on-one support may be needed and camp may ask your family to contribute towards the additional cost.

# INJURIES & ILLNESSES

While we always do our best to provide a safe and healthy environment, sometimes injuries and illnesses happen. We always **take any of these circumstances seriously** as **camper and staff care is our top priority**. In these situations, campers may be taken to our health center and your family will receive a phone call from one of our staff.

If your camper is not feeling well because of an **illness** we may be able to **treat them in the health center**. However, if your camper **continues to not feel well after 30 minutes, we may ask that they get picked up early**. If your camper is **not feeling well before camp begins they should stay home**.

If your camper becomes **injured** while at camp our staff will **treat within their scope of care**. Any emergencies and injuries that need further attention may require outside care. In any of these cases, our **staff will notify your family before or at pick up depending on the severity** of the situation. If your camper **requires outside care, a doctor must provide a note stating the camper may return** to camp and if there will be any restrictions.

# ALLERGIES

Our camp consists of diverse needs and it is important we are **made aware of any allergies before attending camp**. Knowing the **type of allergies, reactions** and how to **treat** any symptoms should be completed on your camper's forms. Staff are made aware of any allergies in advance and do their best to **keep those with allergies away from any potential allergens**.

Please note we are **NOT a nut free facility, we are an ALLERGY AWARE facility** and will allow campers to bring nuts and nut products to camp. However, we will work with families on a case-by-case basis to determine if special accommodations are needed to ensure the safety of your child.

If any **emergency medications** are required camp should be given those in advance or upon arrival, please remember that a **doctor's note will be required**. These will be returned at the end of the week or as requested by the family.

# MEDICATIONS

**All medication should be checked in with camp staff prior to camp or during drop off**. Please do not pack your camper's medications in their belongings. All prescription medication brought to camp **must be in the original container**, have **written orders** ([Medication Administration Authorization form](#)) **signed by a medical professional**, include the **camper's name, dosage, and time to be administered**. **All medication, including over-the-counter medications, must be checked in and dispensed by the appropriate staff**. Medications may be picked up at the end of the week or as requested by the family. Any medication not claimed within a week is required to be disposed of properly by Maryland State law.

# EMERGENCY MEDICATIONS

If a camper requires **emergency medications, such as EpiPens or inhalers**, our **staff will keep that on them throughout the day**. The medication will **follow the camper around from one activity to the next**, always within easy access of the camper. Self-administration must be indicated on the written orders ([Medication Administration Authorization form](#)) and authorized by the prescriber.

# INSURANCE

Camper **health insurance information is required** as part of the forms to attend camp. This information will be used **if your camper requires medical attention outside of camp**. In these events, your family will be **notified immediately**. Your family's health insurance is responsible for covering any medical charges and/or prescriptions that are provided.

Any health care provided through our health center or first aid are no additional cost.

# SUNSCREEN & BUG SPRAY

Appropriate use of sunscreen and bug spray are important for your camper's comfort and safety while at camp. Sunscreen and bug spray are NOT considered medication and do NOT require special permission to be used while at camp. Your camper should **come to camp with sunscreen and bug spray on in the morning** and **bring some in their backpack** to be reapplied throughout the day. **Sprays are encouraged as staff will not assist with lotions**. **Staff will remind campers to reapply throughout the day** as necessary and at regular intervals.

# POTTY TRAINING

All campers **must be fully potty trained** to attend camp. Unfortunately, Camp Rippling Brook may have to dismiss any campers with consistent issues.



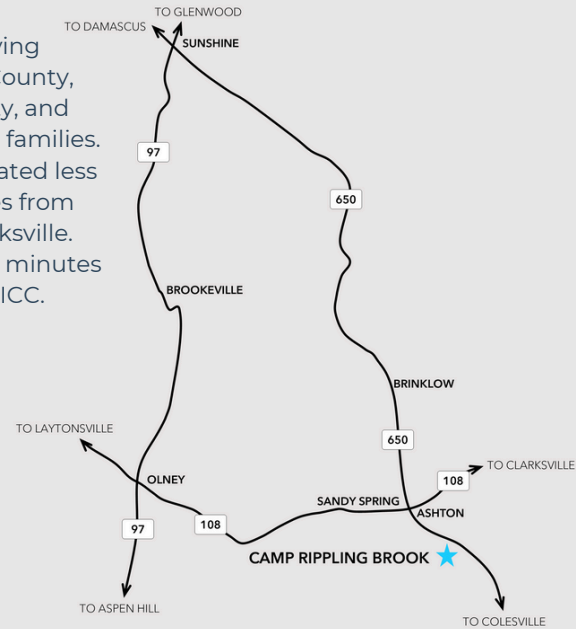
### CAMP ADDRESS

17314 New Hampshire Ave,  
Ashton, MD 20861

### MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 5693  
Derwood, MD 20855

Happily serving  
Montgomery County,  
Howard County, and  
Washington, D.C. families.  
Conveniently located less  
than 10 minutes from  
Olney and Clarksville.  
Approximately 10 minutes  
north of the ICC.



## CAMP DATES & HOURS

### Dates

June 30th - August 8th

### Camp Hours

Drop Off: 8:30 am - 9:00 am

Pick Up: 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

### Extended Hours

Morning Camp: 7:30 am - 8:30 am

Afternoon Camp: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Phone

301-852-0909

### Email

info@CampRipplingBrook.com

## MORE QUESTIONS?

Please reach out, we're happy to help!

## FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@CampRipplingBrook

www.CampRipplingBrook.com