

GIRLFRIENDS CAMP 2018

Dear Parent(s),

Hello and welcome to the Vernon Hills Park District's Girlfriends Camp! Your child(ren) should look forward to a fun-filled and adventurous experience at the Sullivan Center, 635 Aspen Drive, in Meeting Room C.. Arts & crafts, group games, theme days, water play, sports, and recreational swimming await your camper(s) along with some fantastic field trips. All of the camp staff will strive to make this an enjoyable experience for all! Now for a little more information about Girlfriends.

Camp Days:

Camp will be held at the Sullivan Center in Meeting Room C from 9:00 am-3:00 p.m Monday through Friday. Staff will greet the campers each day no earlier than 8:50 a.m. Campers can not be dropped off before 8:50 a.m. and can not be picked up after 3:00 p.m. Please make arrangements for your camper to be dropped off and picked up in a timely manner. **All campers will need to be signed in and out each day**, with the exception of campers coming from and going to Extended care at the Sullivan Center. **Please bring photo ID with you each day**. If you are allowing your child to walk or bike to camp, please fill out our Walking/Biking Waiver, found on our camp webpage.

Lunch Time:

We can not forget everyone's favorite activity, Lunch Time! Your camper(s) will need to bring a labeled sack lunch and drink. **Insulated lunch bags are a great idea**. Please do not send perishable lunch items, due to lack of refrigeration. It is always a good idea to send a snack to hold them until lunch. Also, please provide your camper with a reusable cup, container, or water bottle to use every day at our self-serving water cooler.

Swim days Lunch Program:

If you registered and paid \$24 for the camp lunch program; (see our Summer Planner brochure) on swim days our camp director will ask pre-registered lunch participants their menu choice and will inform the concession staff of our orders. **This is a pre-registered only lunch option**. Campers not enrolled will bring their sack lunches to the pool as usual. It is not too late to add the lunch program option for your camper. Bo-Bo's of Vernon Hills is the provider at our concession stand. Contact the front desk at 847-996-6800 for more information on registration for lunches. If the weather does not cooperate on swim days and we don't go to the pool, lunches will be delivered to our camp site.

Proper Attire:

Proper attire is of great importance. We strongly recommend sending your camper in comfortable, weather appropriate clothing and tennis shoes (No sandals, flip-flops,

cleats, etc.). Please remember your camper will be participating in water play most days, especially when the weather is hot. **We strongly recommend applying sunscreen before camp and sending sunscreen and a hat with your camper everyday!!** It is a good idea to send your camper(s) with a towel and also a swimsuit in their backpack, just in case of water activity. Please mark all of your child(ren)'s belongings (water bottle, backpack, lunch bags, clothes, etc.) with their name.

*Coast guard approved life jackets are allowed at the Family Aquatic Center. If you would like to send one to camp with your child, you may send it on swim days. Please be sure to mark the jacket with your child's name. We will send your child home with their jacket at the end of each swim day.

There is a lost and found available at camp.

Sunscreen:

We strongly suggest that you apply sunscreen to your child each day before they come to camp. On pool days, counselors will encourage campers to apply sunscreen when changing for swimming and again at lunch time. Counselors will help to apply sunscreen to the face and back, otherwise campers are responsible for applying their own sunscreen with lots of reminders and opportunities throughout the day.

Field Trips:

Every Thursday, your camper will travel to exciting places. Camp T-shirts, which your child(ren) will receive on the first or second day of camp, **must be worn on field trip days!!** It is very important that all of our counselors are able to identify ALL CAMPERS, whether the camper is in their group or not. On field trip days especially, we urge that campers DO NOT bring possessions of any type of value. Too many times things have been lost, making the experience upsetting to the camper rather than fun. It is a situation we hope to completely avoid. **Should your child(ren) bring money, he/she, must be responsible for it. Counselors will not hold money for campers.**

On field trip days, campers still need to bring a sack lunch and drink. (Insulated lunch bags work great!) Most places have concession stands to purchase lunches and snacks, if desired. We have on occasion, run into situations where the concession stands do not open up until a certain time. Your child may have to wait to purchase their lunch. For this reason we recommend you send a sack lunch. This way your child will be able to eat at the same time as their fellow campers.

Rain Days:

Should the weather turn into a great day for the ducks, our rainy day activities will be put into action. **CAMP WILL BE HELD RAIN OR SHINE**

Pool Trips:

We will be going to the Vernon Hills Aquatic Center on Tuesdays and Fridays for lunch and recreational swim. We will have an assigned area in the open grassy area located near the water slides to use as our gathering spot and for our lunch. After lunch, campers will have time for recreational swim before getting back to the Sullivan Center. While at the pool, all campers are required to wear a wristband, which we provide. The color of the wristband is based on their swimming ability and is determined by a swim test. Recreational swim is a closely, supervised event, by our staff as well as the lifeguards. We ask that you send your camper(s) with a swimsuit, towel and sunscreen. * (Please refer to the proper attire paragraph concerning Coast Guard approved life jackets). If you will be picking up your child at the pool, we will need you to find the camp director at the pool, so that you can sign your child out. If you are allowing someone else to pick up your child, be sure that you have called the camp director prior to the pick up, or that the person is listed on the Camper Data form.

Camp Swim Tests:

The Vernon Hills Park District is offering two camp swim test days prior to camp. Parents are encouraged to attend one of them to get their camper tested before the first day of camp. Campers who do not attend the swim test days will be tested on their first camp pool day.

Friday, June 8th, 2018: 4:00-6:00 pm
Saturday, June 9th, 2018: 9:00am – 11:00am

Please note:

*Our camp staff must have communication from the camper's parent/guardian in order to allow them to get a ride home with a person not listed on the emergency/transportation form.

*There is absolutely no early drop-off or late pick-up allowed! We offer extended am/pm care, see our Summer Planner Brochure for details.

*Campers are responsible for any money or belongings at camp.

*Do not send electronic games, iPods, cell phones etc.) to camp with your child. Cell phones and other electronic devices (such as iPods, iPads, etc.) usage is not allowed during camp hours. Should you need to get a hold of your camper, please contact the site director.

*No water guns are allowed at camp

*Camp T-shirts will be handed out on the first or second day of camp.

Camp Forms

All necessary camp forms such as Camper Data form, Walking/Biking Waiver, Food Allergy Care Plan, and Medication Forms can be found online. The Camper Data Form can be submitted on line and needs to be submitted by the first day of camp. Medical

related forms and any necessary medication needs to be handed to the camp director on the first day of camp.

Meet the Director:



Hello! My name is Brooke Gregorcy. I have just graduated as an Elementary Education Major from Illinois State University! I have been a counselor at Girlfriends Camp for 3 summers. I am very excited for my new role as director! Family is super important to me; I have two sisters and a brother We are all huge Blackhawks fans! I love playing sports like soccer and volleyball and also love making crafts. I cannot wait to get to meet the new campers and see some familiar faces as well! I know this summer is going to

be a fun one!

Important Phone Numbers:

Gail Herrmann (Camp Supervisor), my office is at the Sullivan Center. I can be reached at 847-996-6808 or gailh@vhparkdistrict.org

Sullivan Center Front Desk: 847-996-6800

You can reach Brooke, the camp director, on her cell phone from 8:30-4:30 M-F. Please do not call her before 8:30 am., after 4:30 pm., or on weekends. Her number will be available when camp begins

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me at the office at 847-996-6808. Thank you very much for your time. All of us at Girlfriends are expecting a great summer!!

Sincerely,
Gail Herrmann
Early Childhood Supervisor