



DODGE
NATURE CENTER

Dodge Nature Center

Camp Policies and Information

Things to bring

Campers will spend most of their time outside. Please have children dress for the weather in clothing that can get dirty. Campers should bring:

- a lunch
- two snacks
- a full water bottle
- sturdy, closed-toed shoes/boots
- weather-appropriate gear, such as a sweatshirt, rain jacket, coat, hat, and mittens
- two face masks

Check-in and check-out

Campers will be checked in and out at the location listed for the camp they are attending. To ensure the health and safety of campers and their families:

- **Drop-off will begin at 8:15 am and end at 8:30.** Adults dropping off campers will remain in their vehicle in the drop-off loop. One staff will check in your camper and record their responses to wellness questions as well as persons authorized for pick-up at 3:00 pm.
- Campers who are healthy will be sent to their group leaders.
- **Pick-up will begin at 3:00 pm and end at 3:15*.** Adults picking up campers will remain in their vehicle and must be on the authorized adults list in order to pick up their child. Campers must have written permission (including dates) to sign themselves out; no camper may walk or bike home without prior written permission.

*After camp checkout ends, there is a **\$5 charge for every 15 minutes an adult is late** picking up a child.

Weather

Camps will not be cancelled due to inclement weather. Activities will be adjusted for the safety of the campers. Always dress campers to be comfortable in forecasted weather conditions.

Covid-19 Safety

Dodge Nature Center is committed to providing high-quality environmental education while ensuring the health and safety of everyone involved. Camps will be held mostly outdoors, with CDC and MN Department of Health recommended procedures in place.

- **Face masks are required for all campers and staff while indoors.** We allow exemptions for those who have medical or other health conditions; disabilities; or mental health, developmental, or behavioral needs that make it difficult to tolerate wearing a face mask. **Please contact us in advance of your camp if this exemption applies to your child.** Based on state guidelines regarding outdoor settings, face masks are not currently required during outdoor activities, but anyone is welcome to wear a mask outdoors if they feel more comfortable doing so.
- Physical distancing of at least 6 feet will be incorporated into activities when possible.
- Camp leaders will coordinate to use separate facilities and conduct separate activities.
- Frequent handwashing with soap and water will be required. Hand sanitizer and disinfecting supplies will also be available.
- Sunscreen and bug spray (if desired) should be applied before camp and will only be reapplied by campers, under the supervision of staff.

Camper behavior

If children are having a hard time controlling themselves, staff will intervene in an educational, rather than punitive, manner. We help children see the connection between their behavior and its consequences. Methods of discipline will include clear rules, redirection, encouragement, planning ahead to prevent problems, and the use of logical and natural consequences.

In the rare event that a child's disruptive behavior escalates to physical or verbal violence, Dodge Nature Center has the right to remove the child from camp without a refund. We strive to keep Dodge a safe and friendly environment for all our campers, staff, visitors, and animals.

Cancellations and changes

Requests for cancellation must be made at least **one week prior** to the start of camp to qualify for a refund. All cancellations will be assessed the following fees:

- Summer Camp: \$50 processing fee per camp cancelled
- Fall Break Camp: \$20 processing fee per camp cancelled
- Spring Break Camp: \$20 processing fee per camp cancelled

No refunds will be issued for requests made less than one week before the start of the camp. No substitutions or transfers will be permitted.

More camp policy details can be found here: <https://www.dodgenaturecenter.org/camps/camp-policies-information>