



Parent Packet

Welcome to the Mountain Camp family!

We are so excited that your camper will be joining us this summer. Since 1966, Mountain Camp has provided children from around the world with experiences, memories and friendships that stay with them throughout their lives. Like no other youth activity, we believe camp has the ability to shape lifelong attitudes and behaviors.

Mountain Camp's unique atmosphere allows children to learn in a fun and safe environment that encourages independence while nurturing lasting friendships. Our minimal technology, non-competitive program offers activities that instill a love for self propelled -and wind-propelled travel. In today's hectic, high-tech world, we believe a back-to-basics approach to outdoor recreation and community development is critical to building a child's positive self-image.

Now more than ever, children need the life skills, experiences and time in nature that camp provides. From campfire songs and skits to the first night out in the woods, the camp experience can have a profound impact on a child's development.

Finally, the majority of our new campers learn about Mountain Camp as a result of word-of-mouth referrals from happy campers or parents. If you want to refer a friend, just email us and we will send out information ASAP.

Please contact our office if you have any additional questions and a camp director will be happy to help.

See you at camp!!

The following information will help you and your camper prepare for camp. Please read through it carefully.

OPENING AND CLOSING DAY

Opening Day Drop Off

All Sessions: Sun. Afternoon. . . . 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Closing Day Pick-Up

All Sessions: Sat. Morning 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

- Driving time, on average, is 3.5 hours from the Bay Area.
- We are unable to accommodate campers arriving before scheduled times.
- Please call the camp if you will not be on time, a late pick-up can be upsetting to your camper.
- Pack medications (in their original containers) and store money separate as they are needed at time of check-in.

CAMPER FORMS

From our website www.mountaincamp.com click on 'Login' and use your email address and password to sign in. Once logged in, under the 'Forms Dashboard', click on 'Forms and Documents'.

- All Mountain Camp Families have an online account, which is where you will complete and print out all camper forms.
- Required camper forms are:
 - Health History – Online Form
 - Camper Personal History – Online Form
 - Transportation Form - Online Form
 - Parent's Consent and Insurance – Print & Fax Back Form
 - Doctor's Form – Print & Fax Back Form
- Mountain Camp's Accreditation with the American Camp Association requires that each camper receive a physical examination **within 12 months** of attending camp and also **complete a new Doctor's Form every year.**
- All camper forms are due 4 weeks before camp (except Transportation, which is due 2 weeks before camp)
- **CAMPERS MAY NOT ATTEND CAMP WITHOUT COMPLETED FORMS.**



BUS TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from camp must be arranged through your online account. To access your transportation form from [our website](#), click on 'Login' and then under the Forms Dashboard, click on 'Forms and Documents'. We coordinate buses picking up and dropping off in 3 bay area locations: Lafayette, Larkspur, and Palo Alto.

- Bus space is limited; reservations are taken on a first come, first served basis.
- Cost is \$90.00 each way, \$180.00 roundtrip.
- Please arrive at least 15 minutes before arrival or departure of your camper.
- Bus will not wait for late campers. If your camper is not present upon bus departure, you are responsible for driving your camper to camp.
- Our buses are very comfortable with Air Conditioning, DVD players and a bathroom on board. A Mountain Camp Staff member accompanies the campers on the bus to and from camp.
- A packed lunch is provided for each camper on the way to and from camp. If your camper has strict dietary needs, please pack a separate lunch for your camper's trip TO camp.
- Should the buses be arriving or departing more than 15 minutes after scheduled time, updates will be sent in the form of a text message to the cell phone(s) on file.
- No refunds on bus transportation cancellations.
- Directions to bus locations are available online at mountaincamp.com/current-families/transportation/

Bus Schedule TO CAMP

10:45 a.m. Larkspur – Redwood High School,
395 Doherty Drive

11:00 a.m. Palo Alto – Terman Middle School,
655 Arastradero Road

12:00 p.m. Lafayette – Lafayette Bart Station,
Main Lot, 3601 Deer Hill Road

Bus Schedule FROM CAMP

12:45 p.m. Lafayette – Lafayette Bart Station,
Main Lot, 3601 Deer Hill Road

1:15 p.m. Palo Alto – Terman Middle School,
655 Arastradero Road

1:45 p.m. Larkspur – Redwood High School,
395 Doherty Drive

*Bus times are subject to change

** There are typically 2 buses to and from camp;
One for Palo Alto, and one for Larkspur/Lafayette.

AIRPORT SHUTTLE INFORMATION

For campers flying to attend camp, we provide shuttle service out of the Sacramento International Airport (SMF).

- Flights to and from camp should be arranged so that Departure and Arrival times are between 12:00p.m. and 2:00p.m.
- For young campers flying alone, please contact the office directly for Unaccompanied Minor details.

CAMPER MAIL

- **Please do not send packages containing candy, food or gum.** If sent, these items will be collected by a staff member and will not be returned to the camper.
- Mail and packages are picked up and distributed a minimum of three times a week.

UPS/FedEx Address:

Camper's name and cabin (if known)
Mountain Camp
100 Wrights Road,
Pollock Pines, CA 95726

Postal Service Address:

Camper's name and cabin (if known)
Mountain Camp
P.O. Box 1348
Pollock Pines, CA 95726

CAMP STORE

- Recommended amount for a 1 week session:
Basics (toothbrush, batteries, flashlight, chapstick, etc.): \$20-\$40.
Apparel (sweatshirts, t-shirts, pants, stuffed animals, etc.): \$60-\$80.
- Store money can be deposited in cash or check (made out to Mountain Camp) upon arrival at camp, or by credit card in your online account.
- Any amount remaining in the camp store is donated to the Mountain Camp Scholarship Fund. This fund was established to send deserving children to camp that could otherwise not afford to go. If you would like your store money returned, and it is more than \$10, please notify the staff member upon depositing your store money at camp.





CANCELLATION POLICY

Our Cancellation and Refund Policy has recently changed. Please make a note of our new policy.

(All cancellations or changes must be submitted in writing)

- You are welcome to change sessions as needed at no cost, provided there is space available in your desired session, and the session length is greater than or equal to the currently enrolled session. If you switch to a session that is shorter in length, the below policy applies.
- **All cancellations made prior to March 1st: Tuition returned, less \$50 processing fee.**
- Cancellations made between March 1st & May 1st: Tuition returned less \$500 nonrefundable deposit.
- Any cancellations made after May 1st: No refund.
- **We highly recommend purchasing Camp Tuition Insurance to cover your expense in the event you should need to cancel. Camp Tuition Insurance is available through [Travmark](#) or [AmSkier](#).**
- Campers sent home for disciplinary reason or because of homesickness: No refund.
- Campers sent home due to illness or injury: No refund.
- Bus fees are non-refundable.

COMMUNICATION

We have a "no cell phones" policy at our camp. We believe camp is a great opportunity for children to be independent from their parents, in a safe and supportive environment, for a short period of time. Cell phones are a great convenience when you're trying to figure out when and where to pick up your child and to touch base with them during the day. Camp, for most kids, is the one time when they handle issues directly with their peers and counselors without relying on their parents. The boost of confidence the campers gain from these experiences is one of the most valuable things they will take away from their time at camp.

Communication with your child and knowing how your child is doing are both very important. We encourage you to write letters and send emails to your child at camp. We will also encourage your camper to write you letters while they are here. We agree to call you if your child is experiencing a problem at camp and you are welcome to call our camp office with any questions or concerns you have about your camper. Thank you for your support in keeping Mountain Camp cell phone free.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS

Going to camp is an excellent time for children to grow, gain independence, confidence, and make lasting friendships. Sometimes the separation from family, friends, and familiar surroundings can be a difficult transition. Mountain Camp takes pride in our counselors and their ability to help your child gain independence and learn how to adjust by keeping them involved in the camp. It is very important to us that all children attending camp have made the decision to come themselves. Because of the strong emphasis on the child's desire to come to Mountain Camp, homesickness is rare.

Please keep the camp office informed on any recent changes in your family. Divorce, death, serious illness, or a recent move may be unsettling for a child. Also, let us know if your camper has a lot of anxiety about going away to camp for the first time. Any information that will help make the camp experience the best it can be is welcomed and strictly confidential.

We suggest writing letters that are newsy and dwell on the things your camper is doing at camp. Lonesome letters about how much the dog misses your child or how the house just is not the same usually contribute to feeling homesick. Include in your letters wishes of fun, good times, and support. It is helpful if bad news can be withheld until your child returns from camp. If this is not possible, please call us and we will assist you.

When actually packing for camp, be excited and encouraging.

Please do not make deals with your camper concerning his or her length of stay. Deals such as those make it very difficult for campers to fully commit to the camp experience and typically end badly. The commitment to cabin-mates, counselors, and themselves is an experience camping can offer that is unequalled.

We understand that parents also get homesick for their child. Just remember how valuable the experience is for them and how much they will have to share with you when camp is over.





MAP TO MOUNTAIN CAMP

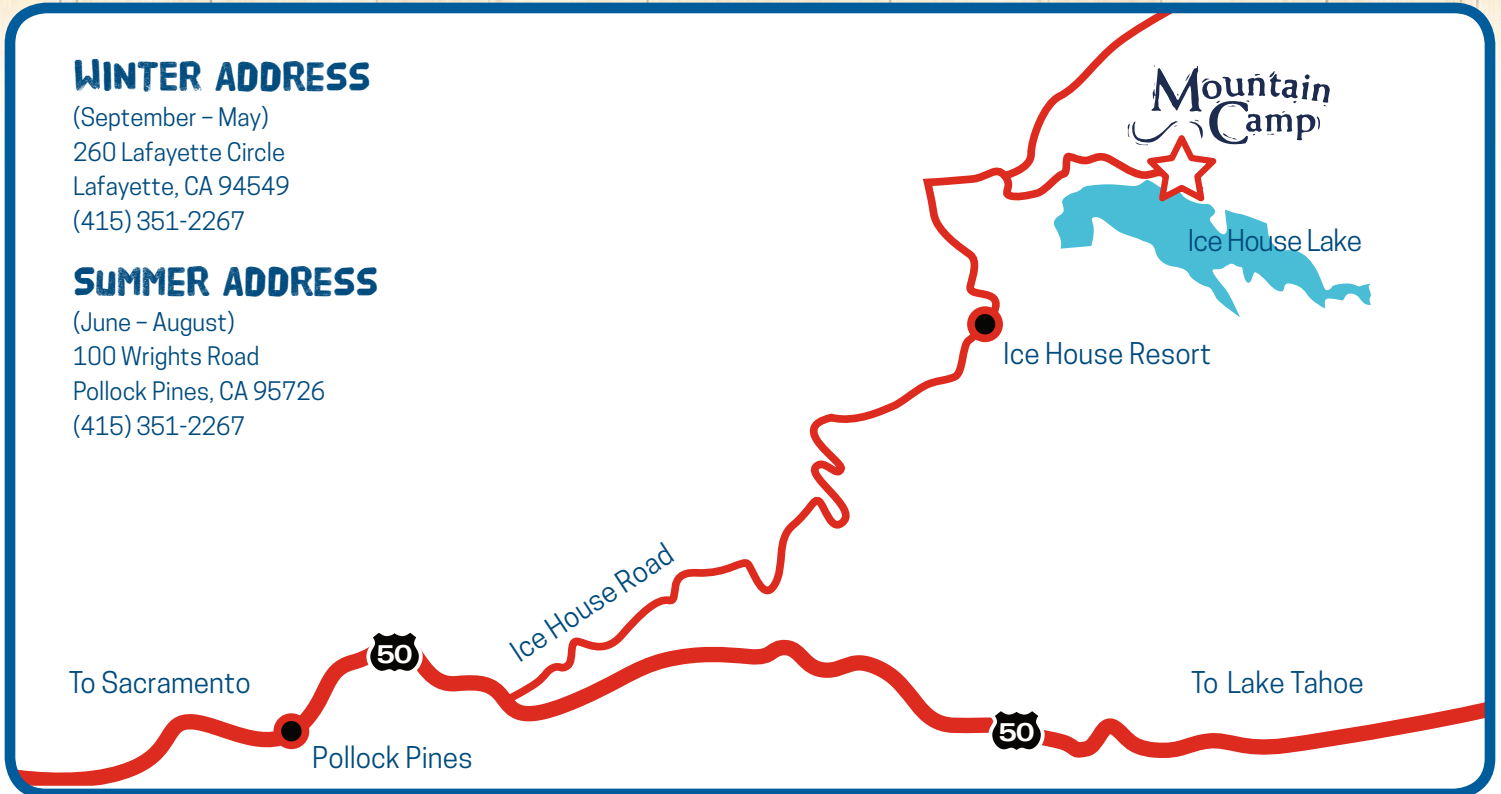
Summer address ONLY works with Google Maps and not with other Internet Maps or GPS Devices.

WINTER ADDRESS

(September – May)
260 Lafayette Circle
Lafayette, CA 94549
(415) 351-2267

SUMMER ADDRESS

(June – August)
100 Wrights Road
Pollock Pines, CA 95726
(415) 351-2267



DIRECTIONS:

- From Sacramento, head East on Hwy. 50 past Placerville and Pollock Pines
- 8 miles past the 2nd Pollock Pines exit (Sly Park Rd.) you will cross a bridge above the South Fork of the American River
- Immediately after you cross the bridge, turn left onto Ice House Road
- Drive .7 miles and follow the sharp curve in the road to the right (do not go straight)
- From this curve, proceed 8.5 miles on Ice House Road. At this point you will see Ice House Resort on the right
- Continue on Ice House Road for 1.5 miles and turn right immediately after the sign that reads: "Ice House C.G." and "Mountain Camp"
- Continue 1.2 miles to a four-way intersection and take the left fork towards Wright's Lake and Mountain Camp
- After 1.7 miles take a left at the intersection marked by a sign says "Wright's Lake - 9 miles" and "Mountain Camp"
- This sign is the corner of the Mountain Camp property, the camp entrance is on the right 100 yards after turning left at this corner

LODGING:

Best Western Stagecoach Inn, Pollock Pines
530-644-2029, www.bestwesterncalifornia.com

Best Western Placerville Inn, Placerville
530-622-9100, www.bestwesterncalifornia.com

Strawberry Lodge, Strawberry
530-659-7200, www.strawberrylodge.com

RESTAURANTS:

Pizza Factory	6536 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines
Burger Barn	6404 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines
Sweetie Pies	577 Main Street, Placerville
Cascada	384 Main Street, Placerville
Cozmic Cafe & Pub	594 Main Street, Placerville
Forester Pub & Grill	4110 Carson Road, Camino