



## **Guardian's Guide to Summer Camp 2024**

### **Ages 6-10 (Junior Leaders Ages 11-13)**

Day Camp Week 1 – July 8-12

Day Camp Week 2 – July 15-19

Day Camp Week 3 – July 22-26

### **Ages 9-13 (Junior Leaders Ages 14-15)**

Day Camp Week 1- Aug 12-16

Day Camp Week 2- Aug 19-23

Day Camp Week 3- Aug 26-30

The beautiful Shubenacadie Wildlife Park, Wetland Interpretive Centre and surrounding trails offers the perfect outdoor location to learn about wetlands and wildlife. Day campers will explore the wonder of nature through a variety of hands-on activities in an outdoor setting to encourage a lifelong enjoyment of nature. Please read through this guide for details on camp activities and policies. Spots are limited each week. You must register through our online registration page ([ducks.ca/shubenacadiesummercamp](https://ducks.ca/shubenacadiesummercamp)) and receive confirmation to secure your spot.

### **Our Staff**

Day camps are run by experienced outdoor educators, well versed in animal knowledge, best practices for accommodating special education needs, and trained in first aid and CPR. The camp has a maximum of 16 campers and a minimum of 5 campers per week. We have subsidies available for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of colour) youth, which is 50% (\$100) for the cost of 1 week of camp of limited spaces.

Camp is open to youth ages 6-13. Weeks 1- 3 of camp will be open to ages 6-10, and Week 3- 6 of camp is open to ages 9-13.

### **Day Camp Schedule**

Camp runs all day, come rain or shine. Cancellations can be made with refunds up to seven days before the first day of camp, after which cancellations can be made at any time but without refund. Campers meet up each day at the Wetland Centre (155 Creighton Rd), at the Shubenacadie Wildlife Park, beginning at 8:30am. Most camp days spend half or more of the day outside, depending on the weather. Pick up must be arranged for 4:30 or earlier. Please

register as soon as possible to secure your spots as space is very limited. Please note, we are only accepting week-long applications, no individual day registrations.

Rate: \$200/week per child. There is an option to purchase camp shirt for \$10.

### Registration

You must register through our online registration page. A confirmation email will be sent once registered. This confirmation email will include a link to our camper information form (using Microsoft Forms) that must be completed for EACH camper. This form details all important contact information as well as medical, physical and behavioural considerations our staff need to be aware of to ensure a safe and fun environment for campers.

**Children with special needs can participate in camp.** Please tell us how we can best accommodate your camper. We ask children with special needs that require an increased level of care (e.g. feeding, or washroom assistance) to be accompanied by an aid in order to accommodate their needs and ensure maximum enjoyment of camp activities during the day.

### Day Campers

To maintain a safe and fun camp environment, campers must be able to (independently or assisted): safely travel through Park pathways and trail networks, respect rules around animals in enclosures (staying behind fences, feeding only where permitted, etc.), get wet or be around splashing water, and strive for a positive attitude even in wet weather or buggy conditions. Some days may give campers the opportunity to: build a structure from fallen forest materials and handle small insects in nets (like snails, fly nymphs, and other small critters). Campers must bring their own lunch, snacks and reusable water bottle. Please note campers do not have access to refrigeration or microwave for lunches.

### Junior Leaders

We're excited to announce we are implementing a Junior Leader Program- an opportunity for youth to assist with the camp programs and earn a certificate of participation. The rate of this is half the cost of registration (\$100). This opportunity is open to youth 1-2 years older than the camp age (i.e. Camp Leaders must be 11-13 years of age for Weeks 1-3 and 14-15 years of age for Weeks 4-6) and must have participated in at least one week of camp before. To register for summer camp, youth must complete the Youth Leader form [here](#), and on the website.

### Refund Policy

Cancellations can be made at any time by phone (902-758-7094) or in writing to [WildlifeParkBooking@novascotia.ca](mailto:WildlifeParkBooking@novascotia.ca). No refunds will be issued within 7 days of the first day of camp. Furthermore, no refunds will be issued if your child is asked to leave because of their behaviour during their time at camp.

## **2024 Day Camp Activities**

Campers will participate in a number of hands on activities while exploring the Wetland Centre, Wildlife Park and Wetlands Trails. Each day of camp will have a theme for youth to focus on. Activities will include “critter dipping” in our wetland, birdwatching from our bird blind, and exploring the beautiful St. Andrew’s Marsh Trail. Details on the week’s activities will be provided during the beginning of camp.

## **What to Bring to Day Camp**

- Activities continue rain or shine and we are outside for long periods of time; please dress accordingly!
- Change of clothes, especially socks!
- Rain boots
- Durable clothes are recommended, including a light jacket or rain jacket
- Hats are great for keeping the sun off your face during the outdoor portion of camp
- Bring sunscreen; sunglasses are recommended
- Bug spray
- Pack snack, lunch, and drink (please not peanuts or peanut by-products)
- Reusable water bottle
- A smile and readiness to have fun!

## **What NOT to Bring to Day Camp**

- Toys, computer games (etc.) from home (they can get lost or broken)
- Phones are permitted, however they are only to be used on break times.
- Peanut products
- Food with lots of disposable wrappers (we try to minimize our waste when we venture into Nature!)