



Guardian's Guide to Day Camps 2024-2025

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. You must register through our online registration page (ducks.ca/events) and receive confirmation to secure your spot. Camps are hosted on select in service days throughout the school year to youth ages 6-12.

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 20 campers and a minimum of 5 campers per camp. We have subsidies available for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of colour) youth, which is 50% (\$20) for the cost of 1 day of camp and has a limited number of spaces.

Day Camp Schedule

Campers will meet 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 4:00 or earlier. Please register as soon as possible to secure your spots as space is very limited.

Rate: \$40/day, BIPOC subsidy of 50% off (\$20).

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) that requires one on one staff 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 and we are a peanut free facility.

Refund Policy

Cancellations can be made with refunds up to seven days before the camp, after which cancellations can be made at any time but without refund. Cancellations can be made by phone (902-758-7094) or in writing to WildlifeParkBooking@novascotia.ca. Camp will run rain or shine. In the event of severe weather that prompts cancellation we aim to communicate this the day before camp if forecasted. Refunds are issued in the event of park cancellation. No refunds will be issued if your child is asked to leave because of their behaviour during their time at camp.

What to Bring to Day Camp

- Activities continue rain or shine and we are outside for long periods of time; please dress accordingly! This includes many layers and proper footwear for outdoor activities (sneakers or boots).
- Change of clothes, especially socks!
- Winter Gear (hats, mitts)
- Sunscreen and 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!)