

Dear Parents and Campers:

Welcome to the **Night Owls** summer camp—Tuesday, July 9, Wednesday, July 10, and Thursday, July 11! We meet at Flag Ponds Nature Park each evening from 6pm-10pm. I am looking forward to exploring Flag Ponds at night with your campers. Please go over the attached checklist with your camper so that s/he will be fully prepared for camp.

We will be holding camp with rain or clear skies, but severe thunderstorms will require us to cancel. The decision to cancel will be made by 2:00pm the day of camp. You will be notified via the email address we have on file at Calvertparks.org. Notice will also be posted on the event page for this camp at calvertparks.org.

CHECK-IN - When you arrive at the Flag Ponds front gate, look for camp staff in a green or tie dye camp shirt who will be checking you in to the park – since the park closes to the public at 6pm. Once you have you come through the gate, proceed to the main parking lot (by the Education building and Visitors Center) where you can drop off your camper in our **drive through** check in/out line. Look for the giant orange flag.

CHECK-OUT – When you come back for camper pick-up, the park gates will be pulled closed. Let yourselves in the OUTGOING gate (on the left as you are coming in to the park) and close it behind you. We will have lights or glow sticks on the correct gate. Proceed to the same parking lot and head into the drive through pick-up line (same as the check-in line).

Want to get through camp check-in faster? Camp forms are due 2 weeks BEFORE the first day of camp. **You may need these forms if: your child will need to bring ANY medication to camp, you are carpooling with another family, or if your child has a severe allergy.** All our camp forms can be found here: [Calvert Nature Society - Summer Camp Forms \(calvertparks.org\)](http://calvertparks.org). If none of these situations are applicable to you, we should have all your info from online registration.

Camp forms can be emailed to Tania.gale@calvert.county.md.gov. Please let me know if you need to send in forms and I will send you an encrypted email to reply to and send back your forms securely.

Campers will be expected to wear shoes at all times while at camp-even in the water. Neither flip flops nor crocs stay on the feet during camp activities, so please leave those shoes at home. Old sneakers or sport-type sandals/water shoes are acceptable as long as they will not pull off in the mud. If you have comfortable “amphibious” shoes that can go from land to water and back – they make a great option. Wearing lightweight long pants and long-sleeved shirts will provide protection from biting insects, ticks, and branches/thorns as we explore.

Please be sure that your camper does a thorough “tick check” when they get home each night.

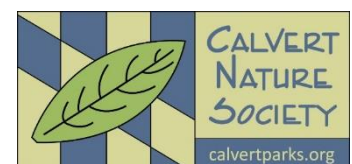
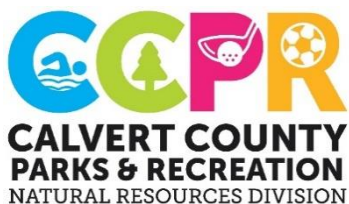
We will not tolerate bullying of any kind while at camp; campers found to be bullying other campers will be permanently expelled from all CCNRD summer camps.

Questions or concerns? Contact me by email @ “tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov”

I look forward to exploring Flag Ponds at night with you!

Sincerely,

Tania Gale, Naturalist



“Night Owls” camp checklist ****Wear these things****

Schedule subject to change

Take the “Unplug Challenge” --Please leave all electronics at home



Tuesday – (Activity: Forest night walk – I’m not planning for this to be a wet day, but you never know)

- ___ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)
- ___ hand sanitizer
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *old clothes that can get dirty...long pants and long-sleeved shirt*
- ___ *sneakers or hiking shoes*
- ___ water bottle
- ___ flashlight or headlamp (not a lantern)
- ___ rain jacket
- ___ backpack (none w/wheels)
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes - not flipflops or crocs

Wednesday- (Activity: Swamp trail – this may involve some exploring the edge of the swamp and our feet will likely get wet)

- ___ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)
- ___ hand sanitizer
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *old sneakers to wear in the swamp – other types of water shoes may be lost in the mud-no flip flops/ crocs*
- ___ *long pants and long-sleeved shirt (old ones that can get really dirty)*
- ___ water bottle
- ___ flashlight or headlamp (not a lantern)
- ___ rain jacket
- ___ backpack (none w/wheels)
- ___ towel
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes - not flipflops or crocs

Thursday – (Activities: Beach/tidepools exploration and closing campfire – this is planned to be a wet/muddy day as we waded in to explore the tidepools/Bay shallows)

- ___ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)
- ___ hand sanitizer
- ___ flashlight or headlamp (not a lantern)
- ___ *insect repellent*
- ___ *hat*
- ___ *old clothes that can get dirty...long pants and long-sleeved shirt – we are definitely doing some wading*
- ___ *well-fitting water shoes/sport sandals*
- ___ ***no flip flops or crocs***
- ___ water bottle
- ___ backpack (none w/wheels)
- ___ rain jacket
- ___ towel
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
- ___ change of clothes and shoes - not flip flops or crocs
- ___ supplies for s’mores will be provided – if your child has allergies, please contact Tania ASAP to discuss a substitute (tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov)