



Dear Parents and Campers:

Welcome to the Marvelous Mud Summer Camp--June 24-June 28! I am looking forward to a muddy and fun-filled experience this summer. Please go over the attached checklist with your camper so that s/he will be fully prepared for camp. We will be holding camp rain or shine – please be sure that your camper is dressed appropriately for the weather - and in clothes you are ok with your camper never wearing again (it IS Mud Camp after all).

**Drop off/pick up schedule for the week:**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Drop off</u>	<u>Pick up</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday (6/24)-Wednesday (6/26)	9am	3pm	Flag Ponds Nature Park
Thursday (6/27)- <u>no camp before 6pm</u>	6pm	overnight	Flag Ponds Nature Park
Friday (6/28)- <u>no camp after 9am</u>		9am	Flag Ponds Nature Park

LOGISTICS –

- Please note that we are doing a DRIVE-THRU check-in and check-out Monday - Wednesday. Please watch for camp staff in green shirts who will be directing you in your car to check-in. Stay in your car – we will come to you.
- If your camper will need to miss part of camp – come late/leave early – please alert me ASAP. We are often far afield and having a camper leave early/come late can be a disruption for the day’s schedule.
- When you arrive at Flag Ponds each morning, stop at the entrance station to tell Flag Ponds staff you are here for summer camp. If there is a line at the gate, please do not go around (in the afternoon as well). Camp staff will be preparing for the day right up until 9:00 AM – we will not begin without your camper/s.
- Help make check-in faster - camp forms are due **two** weeks BEFORE the first day of camp. Let me know if you have things to send in and I will send you an encrypted email that you can reply to with your forms. You may need these forms if: your child will need to bring ANY medication to camp, if 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).
- For the overnight – we will be sleeping in tents outside. There will generally be 2 campers/tent.

SAFETY NOTES:

- Campers will always be expected to wear shoes while at camp.
- Wearing long pants and long-sleeved shirts will help to protect campers from getting scratched by branches, etc. as we wade in the mud. I realize that this is a weird request in the summer. Know that we are usually wet – so the long pants/long sleeves are not as much of an issue as one might think.
- 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

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... the mud. If you have comfortable “amphibious” shoes that can go from land to water and back – they make a great option vs changing shoes.

- Please be sure that your camper does a thorough “tick check” when they get home each day.
- 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? Email is best - “[tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov)”

I look forward to celebrating mud week with you!

Sincerely,

*Tania Gale*, Naturalist and Mud Enthusiast





## “Marvelous Mud” camp checklist - **Wear these things**

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

Wear these things (brown text) ..... bring these things (black text)

### Monday (Activities: Bay/beach mud exploration)

- \_\_\_ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- \_\_\_ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)
- \_\_\_ sunscreen (be sure to bring extra)
- \_\_\_ insect repellent
- \_\_\_ hat
- \_\_\_ old clothes to wear while exploring to block the sun and bugs – long pants and long-sleeved shirt
- \_\_\_ well-fitting shoes to wear in the water - water shoes/sport sandals-no flip flops/ crocs
- \_\_\_ water bottle (approx. 1 liter)
- \_\_\_ backpack (campers are carrying their own gear)
- \_\_\_ towel
- \_\_\_ rain jacket or poncho
- \_\_\_ plastic bag for wet clothes
- \_\_\_ full change of clothes and shoes - not flip flops or crocs

### Tuesday (Activity: swamp wade-in)

- \_\_\_ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)
- \_\_\_ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)
- \_\_\_ sunscreen (be sure to bring extra)
- \_\_\_ insect repellent

\_\_\_ hat

\_\_\_ old clothes that can get dirty...*really dirty* – long pants and long-sleeved shirt for extra protection while wading in the swamp muck

\_\_\_ old sneakers or well-fitting water shoes/sport sandals-no flip flops or crocs

\_\_\_ water bottle (approx. 1 liter)

\_\_\_ backpack (campers are carrying their own gear)

\_\_\_ towel

\_\_\_ rain jacket or poncho

\_\_\_ plastic bag for wet clothes

\_\_\_ full change of clothes and shoes - not flipflops or crocs

### Wednesday (Activity: creek crawl/mud pit fun)

\_\_\_ bag lunch (non-perishable food, no glass)

\_\_\_ snack (trail mix, granola bar, or similar)

\_\_\_ sunscreen (be sure to bring extra)

\_\_\_ insect repellent

\_\_\_ hat

\_\_\_ old sneakers to wear in the creek – other types of water shoes will be lost in the mud-no flip flops/ crocs

**Wednesday continued ...**

- \_\_\_ long pants (not capris) and long-sleeved shirt (old ones that can get *really dirty*) to wear in the creek to block bugs and scratches
- \_\_\_ water bottle (approx. 1 liter)
- \_\_\_ backpack (campers are carrying their own gear)
- \_\_\_ towel
- \_\_\_ rain jacket or poncho
- \_\_\_ plastic bag for wet clothes
- \_\_\_ full change of clothes and shoes - not flipflops or crocs

**Thursday/Friday (Activities: Potluck Family Cookout, Sunset Beach Exploration, Night walk, Campout)**

Hot dogs, veggie/hamburgers, rolls, drinks are provided – a dessert or side dish from each family would be appreciated. We will have a sign up at camp check-in

- \_\_\_ insect repellent
- \_\_\_ water shoes/sport sandals-no flipflops or crocs
- \_\_\_ shorts and T-shirt
- \_\_\_ hat
- \_\_\_ water bottle (approx. 1 liter)
- \_\_\_ backpack
- \_\_\_ extra shorts and t-shirt
- \_\_\_ plastic bag for wet clothes
- \_\_\_ towel
- \_\_\_ hiking shoes/sneakers
- \_\_\_ **\*\*long pants and long-sleeved shirt\*\*** – (campers will be more comfortable if they have warm clothes to put on after being in the water)
- \_\_\_ sweatshirt or jacket
- \_\_\_ **\*\*rain jacket or poncho\*\***
- \_\_\_ sleeping bag and pillow
- \_\_\_ sleeping pad (optional)
- \_\_\_ pajamas
- \_\_\_ flashlight
- \_\_\_ personal toiletries (in a Ziplock labeled with camper's name-we will store these in the building overnight vs in campers' tents)

*Tents, s'mores, and breakfast are provided for the overnight.*

*Please do not send extra food.*

