

## Welcome to Bug Bonanza Summer Camp!

### July 8th - 11th (M-Th), 9am-2pm @ Kings Landing Park

Dear Parents and/or Guardians, welcome to **bug bonanza Camp!** To help ensure that your child has a safe and fun time please go through the following information before camp begins.

#### LOGISTICS:

<u>-Location:</u> Our "home base" for camp will be Tom Wisner Hall at Kings Landing Park. Once you have entered Kings Landing Park, please drive through the park, going past the barn and ranger station on your right, and then past a large meadow on your right. Wisner Hall will be the next very large building, directly on the right hand side of the road. There is a small parking lot next to Wisner Hall. We will meet here for pickup and drop off each day. There is a park map attached to the end of this letter.

<u>-Sign In/Out</u>: Please sign your child in and out every day (with your full name) and let us know if someone else will be taking them home. You will need to sign an authorization form for your child to be picked up by <u>anyone</u> besides the person who registered the camper or their emergency contact. This authorization form is due two weeks before camp starts.

- If you are going to pick up your camper early or will be arriving late to camp on any days, please let me know ASAP.

<u>-Help Make Check-In Faster:</u> Camp forms are due two weeks **BEFORE** the first day of camp. This means all camp forms must be submitted no later than June 24<sup>th</sup>. You may need these forms if, for example, your child will need to bring ANY medication to camp, if your child will be picked up by anyone other than the registering person, if you are carpooling with another family, or if your child has a severe allergy. All our camp forms can be found here: <u>Calvert Nature Society - Summer Camp Forms</u> (calvertparks.org).

Camp forms can be emailed to me at **eva.blockstein@calvertcountymd.gov.** Before sending them to me, please send me an email letting me know you are ready to submit your forms, and I will reply with a secure encrypted email. You can then respond to that email and attach the forms, which will ensure the privacy of your personal information.

<u>-Food/Drinks</u>: We will be having lunch and snack every day. Please make sure to pack these separately and clearly labeled for your camper. We can store food inside Wisner Hall, where it is air conditioned, but cannot refrigerate any food items.

Please send campers with a reusable water bottle full of water that can be easily carried throughout the day. All other items will be left at the building when we go on our hikes.

<u>-Clothing:</u> Wear OLD CLOTHES that can get wet, dirty, and/or painted. Please provide a change of clothes in a Ziploc bag. A complete packing list can be found below.







<u>-Shoes</u>: Comfortable shoes are a must, since we will be walking quite a bit throughout the day. For safety reasons, we ask that campers do not wear flip flops or crocs. All shoes must have closed toes and be securely attached to their feet (straps, velcro, shoelaces).

#### Insect Repellant/Pest Insects:

During Bug Camp, we will be in many areas that have high concentrations of bugs. This may put your children at higher exposure to ticks and mosquitos. <u>Please be sure to conduct a thorough tick check</u> <u>after camp each day.</u> The CDC also recommends showering as soon as possible after spending time outdoors and laundering clothes after spending time outside.

Because of the high concentration of ticks in the area, it is recommended to apply insect repellant to your child and their clothing. However, because a big part of Bug Camp is getting to interact with and hold many bugs, please make sure that your child washes their hands thoroughly with soap and water after applying insect repellant to avoid damage to the bugs we will be interacting with.

It is also recommended that campers wear <u>lightweight</u> long pants with their pants tucked into their socks to avoid the likelihood of ticks and to reduce bug bites. However, please remember to dress appropriately for the weather- jeans and heavy weight pants can easily cause overheating.

#### **SAFETY:**

-All our camp is planned to take place outside – exceptions may include: coming into the building to use the restrooms or needing to shelter indoors from extreme weather. Please make sure campers are dressed appropriately for the weather.

#### <u>Please consider the safety, health, and well-being of all participants in our programs and stay home</u> <u>if the participant(s) are ill. If they are not feeling well in any way, please keep them home.</u>

I am very excited for Bug Bonanza camp and can't wait to share the wonderful world of bugs with your kids! I look forward to meeting everyone this summer; please don't hesitate to email me at <u>eva.blockstein@calvertcountymd.gov</u> if you have questions or if you have anything you'd like to discuss. Please let me know if there is anything you'd like me to know about your camper and how to help them have a successful and fun week.

Sincerely,

EVA Blockstein (She/her) Naturalist, Calvert County Parks and Rec Eva.blockstein@calvertcountymd.gov





# Bug Bonanza Camp Packing List

#### Themes/Camp Activity Info:

Each day's theme is listed below. Each day will include hiking, catching and observing bugs, playing games, reading books, and so much more. More in-depth explanations of each day's activities are available upon request if it is necessary for your camper to be mentally prepared for camp, however all activities may change at the staff's discretion.

Monday: AM: What is a bug? Bug body parts and jobs. PM: Decomposers/Diggers + Water Games

Tuesday: Predator/Prey Dynamics (Food webs) + Special Guests from UMD Insect Zoo!

Wednesday: Pollinators

Thursday: Aquatic Insects + Bug Life Cycles

### \*\* = wear these things. ☺=pack these things

#### For each day, your camper should have the following items:

- \_ Sunscreen (bring extra)\*\* 😳
- \_ Insect repellent \*\*

\_ Old clothes to wear while exploring \*\* (including lightweight long pants tucked into tall socks) \*\*

- \_ Old sneakers (no flip flops or crocs)\*\*
- \_ Hat \*\*
- \_ Raincoat/poncho 😳
- \_ Backpack (no wheels) 😳

- \_ Full change of clothes/shoes in a Ziplock  $\bigcirc$
- \_ Plastic bag for wet clothes  $\bigcirc$
- \_ Towel 😳
- \_ Refillable water bottle 😳
- \_ Snack 😳
- \_ Lunch 😳









