

Dear Parents and Campers:

Welcome to the “**Wild Waters**” summer camp – July 15-19, 2024. We will be holding camp with rain or clear skies, but severe weather will require us to cancel. The decision to cancel will be made by 7:00pm the day before. Cancellations will go out via email and be posted on the event page for this camp at calvertparks.org. Please go over the attached packing list so that campers will be fully prepared for and comfortable during camp.

Drop off/pick up schedule for the week:

| Day | Drop off | Pick up | Location |
|------------------|----------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Monday (7/15) | 9am | 3pm | Gatewood Preserve (By the house) |
| Tuesday (7/16) | 9am | 3pm | Kings Landing (pool parking lot) |
| Wednesday (7/17) | 9am | 3pm | Kings Landing (pool parking lot) |
| *Thursday (7/18) | 7:30am | | Kings Landing (Wisner Hall) |
| *Friday (7/19) | | 5:30pm | Kings Landing (By the barn) |

LOGISTICS

Thursday-Friday overnight-to western Maryland (Thursday is canoeing, Friday is rafting). Return time on Friday may be slightly later/earlier depending on water levels in the river and traffic coming home. We will be tent camping at the Brunswick Family Campground. Tents, dinner Thursday, breakfast, lunch, and snack Friday will be provided. Any electronics should be left at home.

Late-comers/early departures-cannot usually be accommodated for this camp. Please alert me ASAP if you foresee any problems with this for your camper.

River and Trail Outfitters waivers-each camper needs **two** waivers - one for Thursday (canoeing) and another for Friday (rafting). Please fill these out **online** at least 2 weeks before camp begins. You will receive an invitation via email to a waiver for each day. Campers will not be allowed to attend the overnight without these. A separate waiver is needed for EACH camp for EACH day.

Camp forms-are due 2 weeks before camp. You need these paper forms if your child: needs ANY medication during camp, has a severe allergy, does not attend a MD public school or if you are carpooling with another family. Our camp forms are here: [Calvert Nature Society - Summer Camp Forms \(calvertparks.org\)](https://calvertparks.org). If none of these situations apply to you, we should have all your info from online registration. If you need to send in forms, please email me and I will send you a secure email to send back your forms.

Overnight gear- bring this to camp **Wednesday morning** so that staff can pack the van. Use the bag provided on the first morning of camp. *Space is limited - pack lightly and only bring items on the list.* Pack clothes in Ziploc bags labeled for each day/time so each change of clothes is easier to find. Sleeping bags/pillows will be separate from our duffle bags.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please let me know of any of the following at least 2 weeks before camp begins (tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov):

--Any health concerns (including food allergies, diabetes, asthma, etc.).

--Special meal needs (vegetarians, allergies, etc.) Snacks, dinner Thursday, and breakfast Friday. Lunch on Friday’s rafting trip will be prepared by the outfitter. Campers may not keep food in their tents.

Long pants and long sleeves-Long pants/long-sleeved shirts provide necessary protection from the sun, biting insects, ticks, and branches/thorns in the water as we explore.

Appropriate footwear - Campers will be expected to wear shoes at all times while at camp. 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 vs changing shoes. No flipflops or Crocs.

We will not tolerate bullying of any kind while at camp.

Questions? Reach me via email @ “tania.gale@calvertcountymd.gov”. I’m looking forward to our aquatic adventures this summer!

Sincerely,

Tania Gale, Naturalist

"Wild Waters" camp checklist

Take the "Unplug Challenge" - Please do not bring any electronics to camp.

Wear these when you come to camp

Monday- Gatewood Preserve (creek crawl)

- ___ lunch - packed in a Ziplock bag
 - ___ a small snack (trail mix or granola bar)
 - ___ **sunscreen (have this on and bring extra)**
 - ___ insect repellent
 - ___ **hat**
 - ___ water bottle (1-2 liters)
 - ___ backpack
 - ___ **shoes to wear in the water** - no flipflops/crocs**
 - ___ towel
 - ___ hiking shoes/sneakers
 - ___ **long pants and long-sleeved shirt (old ones that can get really dirty)**
 - ___ change of clothes and shoes (no flip flops/crocs)
 - ___ plastic bag for wet clothes
 - ___ rain jacket or poncho
- **these MUST be well-fitting, or they will be lost in the mud****

Tuesday- Kings Landing (kayaking)

- ___ lunch-packed in a Ziplock bag
- ___ a small snack (trail mix or granola bar)
- ___ **sunscreen (have this on and bring extra)**
- ___ insect repellent
- ___ **long pants and long-sleeved shirt (old ones that can get really dirty)**
- ___ **shoes to wear in the water - no flipflops/crocs**
- ___ **hat**
- ___ water bottle (1-2 liters)
- ___ backpack
- ___ towel
- ___ change of shoes (no flip flops or crocs)
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes

Wednesday- Kings Landing (kayaking)

- ___ lunch packed in a Ziploc bag
- ___ a small snack (trail mix or granola bar)
- ___ **sunscreen (have this on and bring extra)**
- ___ insect repellent
- ___ **long pants and a long-sleeved shirt (old ones that can get really dirty)**
- ___ **shoes to wear in the water - no flipflops/crocs**
- ___ **hat**
- ___ water bottle (1-2 liters)
- ___ backpack
- ___ towel

Wednesday continued

- ___ change of clothes and shoes (no flip flops or crocs)
- ___ rain jacket or poncho
- ___ plastic bag for wet clothes

Overnight Gear-bring Wednesday morning

In the duffel bag provided--everything packed in Ziplocs. Gear will be stored under the seats of the van.

- ___ socks, long pants, long-sleeved shirt, and jacket for night activities (have these in a Ziploc)
- ___ hiking shoes/sneakers
- ___ rain jacket or poncho
- ___ insect repellent
- ___ pajamas (in another Ziploc)
- ___ flashlight or headlamp
- ___ personal toiletries-in a Ziploc labeled with camper's name
- ___ ear plugs (the campground is by the train tracks)
- ___ medications (with med forms, if needed, let Tania know ASAP)
- ___ shorts and shirt for rafting Friday AM
- ___ shorts and shirt for Friday PM (in a Ziploc)

These can be wrapped in a plastic garbage bag or stuff sack:

- ___ sleeping bag (in its stuff sack or in a garbage bag)
- ___ pillow (will be with camper on seat)
- ___ sleeping pad (optional)

Thursday AM: put in a plastic grocery bag or large Ziplock - not another backpack, these will ride on the seat with the camper in the van

- ___ bag lunch (everything must be disposable, label bag with camper's name)
- ___ water bottle (1-2 liters)
- ___ **shorts and shirt for canoeing**
- ___ **shoes to wear in the water - no flipflops/crocs**
- ___ **sunscreen (have this on and bring more)**
- ___ small towel
- ___ hat
- ___ sunglasses (optional)
- ___ change of clothes for Thursday afternoon (shorts and T-shirt, have these in 1 Ziploc)