

Worth Township
Youth Commission
Summer Camp

2011



Table of Contents

Welcome to Camp Letter	3
Summer Camp Dates	4
Registration.	5
Absence From Camp	6
Discipline Policy and General Camp Information	7
T-shirts, Field Trips and Swimming	10
Pick-Up Map for Swim Days	13
New Camp Friends	14
Play Dates	15

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Worth Township Youth Commission would like to thank you for your interest in our Summer Camp Program. The Youth Commission strives to meet the needs of as many children as possible with interesting and diverse activities. Summer Camp is a six-week program that includes arts and crafts, field trips, recreational sports and weekly swimming days for Day Camp and Tween Camp. This is an organized program with many fun and exciting activities planned for both indoors and outdoors throughout the six weeks. This gives children the opportunity to meet and interact with other children the same age. Local high school and college students have an opportunity for employment within their community.

Please read your packet of Summer Camp information carefully and thoroughly. The information contained will give you an overview of the program and camp policies. It is for your benefit and the benefit of your child, that you are aware of the rules, regulations and discipline policy. We encourage you to review this information with your child.

There are several forms to be completed by the parent or guardian. *All* of these forms must be completed before registration. Detailed information regarding registration is contained in this booklet.

On Thursday, June 16, 2011, Worth Township Youth Commission will sponsor "Meet and Greet the Counselors Night." The gathering will be held from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the new gym; entrance is off the parking lot on the East Side of the building. Please come and bring your child(ren) to meet their counselors. For children who will be experiencing their first summer camp, we encourage your attendance. This will allow younger children to become familiar with new faces and new surroundings.

If you or your child(ren) have any suggestions for field trips, theme days or an activity for camp, please contact me by phone or email. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 708-371-2900 x 45. My staff and I look forward to meeting you and your child(ren) at the "Meet and Greet" on June 16, 2011. Know that we strive to make your child(ren)'s summer an enjoyable and memorable one. Thank you again for your interest in the Worth Township Youth Commission Summer Camp.

Sincerely,

Sue Sortino, Director

youthcommission@worthtownship.com

Worth Township Youth Commission Summer Camp

Kiddie Kamp

Ages 3 - 5

(*must* be toilet trained)

Tuesday and Thursday

June 21, 2011 - July 28, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. **

\$140 - Township Resident

\$165 - Non-Resident of Worth Township

Day Camp

Ages 6 - 10

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

June 20, 2011 – July 29, 2011

(No Camp - Monday, July 5th)

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. **

\$150 - Township Resident

\$175 - Non-Resident of Worth Township

Tween Camp

Ages 11 – 15

Tuesday and Thursday

June 21, 2011 - July 28, 2011

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. **

\$150 – Township Resident

\$175 – Non-Resident of Worth Township

** Unless otherwise posted

Registration – In Person and by Mail

Payment must be made in full at the time of Registration.

Registration for all 2011 camp programs will begin on

**Monday, April 4, 2011 through Tuesday, May 31, 2011
Between
9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**

Late Registration

Late registration for 2011 camp programs will begin on

**Wednesday, June 1, 2011 through Friday, June 10, 2011
Between
9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.**

An additional \$25 per family will be charged

Registration will not be accepted after June 10, 2011

No Refunds will be issued after the first day of camp for any reason. If you register your child(ren) and must withdraw from the program before camp begins, you will be issued a refund minus a \$25 processing fee (per child).

Registration will not be considered complete unless all forms have been completed. The information requested is necessary for our records and your child's safety.

For those parents/guardians asking their child(ren) be placed in a group with his/her friends, this request must be made at the time of registration. The Registration Form makes provisions for this. We will *attempt* to accommodate all requests, but cannot guarantee placement. No rearranging of groups will be take place once camp has begun.

Worth Township Youth Commission

Summer Camp – 2011

The following information deals with various aspects of our camp program. It is necessary to read through this information and discuss it with your child(ren). After you have read through our packet of information, if you have any questions, please contact the Youth Commission Director. Sue Sortino, can be reached at (708) 371-2900 x 45 or at youthcommission@worthtownship.com.

Absence from Camp – Please call the Township office if your child(ren) will not be attending camp on a specific day. If you know in advance your child(ren) will be absent because of a vacation or other commitment, please contact the office. This will enable us to have an accurate count of children for an activity or field trip. Some of our scheduled events require a firm head count several days in advance. In the event your child(ren) has contracted a contagious illness, please inform us accordingly. There are some instances when it is appropriate to send a letter home to the camp parents alerting them to a particular disease. This is done anonymously.



**W. T. Wrinkles has
been the Youth
Commission Mascot
since the early 80's.
Originally a Maltese
stuffed animal
who was later named
by three campers.**

“ W. T. Wrinkles ”

Summer Camp Discipline Policy – The Camp Staff will do their best to create a safe and enjoyable environment for all camp participants. In order to do so, the cooperation of every individual is expected. All campers are expected to abide by the following rules:

- All Campers must listen to and follow any instructions that are given to them by a camp counselor, supervisor or director.
- Campers must behave respectfully to their counselors and supervisors, as well as fellow campers.
- Campers must demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times while participating in activities.
- Campers are to inform a counselor, supervisor, coordinator or the Youth Commission Director when being disturbed or taunted by another camper.
- Fighting, the use of offensive language, or any other demonstration of inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Any inappropriate physical contact* with another camper, counselor, coordinator, supervisor or director will result in immediate disciplinary action. Violence towards others will not be tolerated. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

*Inappropriate physical contact is defined as hitting, punching, biting, spitting, pushing and such.

Please discuss these rules with your child(ren). Failure to comply with the above stated regulations will result in immediate disciplinary action. The first offense will result in a verbal reprimand. The second offense will result in a 20-minute time out in the Director's office. The third offense will result in parental notification and possible removal from the program. Removal from camp has, and will be, enforced. *Refunds will not be issued for campers who have been removed from camp due to disciplinary problems.*

General Camp Information – Below are several guidelines for summer camp. We ask that all parents read this information very thoroughly.

- Campers should bring a lunch with a drink to camp each day. Lunches should be in a plastic bag with the camper's name and group number on both sides.
- We recommend campers have sandwiches without mayonnaise, lunchmeat or other perishable ingredients. We have no provisions for refrigerating lunches. This becomes a health hazard on hot days.

General Camp Information - continued

- Counselors and employees are prohibited from holding camper's belongings and/or money. Worth Township and/or its employees will not be held responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Campers are *never* allowed to leave camp during camp hours without a written note from a parent or guardian. This includes walking home after camp.
- **Drop-off Procedure:** You must enter from 116th Place and Springfield Avenue and go westbound on 116th Pl. **(ABSOLUTELY NO TRAFFIC WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER FROM PULASKI ROAD)**. You will follow traffic to the front of the building, making a right turn, entering the driveway. Children will be dropped off at the end of the driveway (Northwest Corner / Small Gym Entrance). They will enter the gym and their counselor will meet them and take them to their respective group. As you leave the driveway, you will have to turn right onto 116th St. (going East). **(ABSOLUTELY NO TRAFFIC WILL BE ALLOWED TO TURN ONTO PULASKI AVENUE)**. It is imperative that this procedure be followed by everyone to ensure your child's safety.

Pick-up Procedure: Traffic will follow the same procedure for pick-up. However, children will be outside on the hill in their respective groups. As you pull up, you will be informed where to pick up your child. If you need to speak with your child's counselor or the Director, Sue Sortino, you must park your car in the parking lot and come into the building. When all the children have been dismissed, we will be happy to assist you. We are counting on everyone's cooperation in order to make this procedure run as smoothly as possible.

- If someone other than a parent/guardian is picking up your child(ren) from camp, and their name is not listed on the pick up form - we require a letter handed to his/her counselor that morning. The letter must include:

Name of the person designated to pick up your child(ren)

The person's phone number

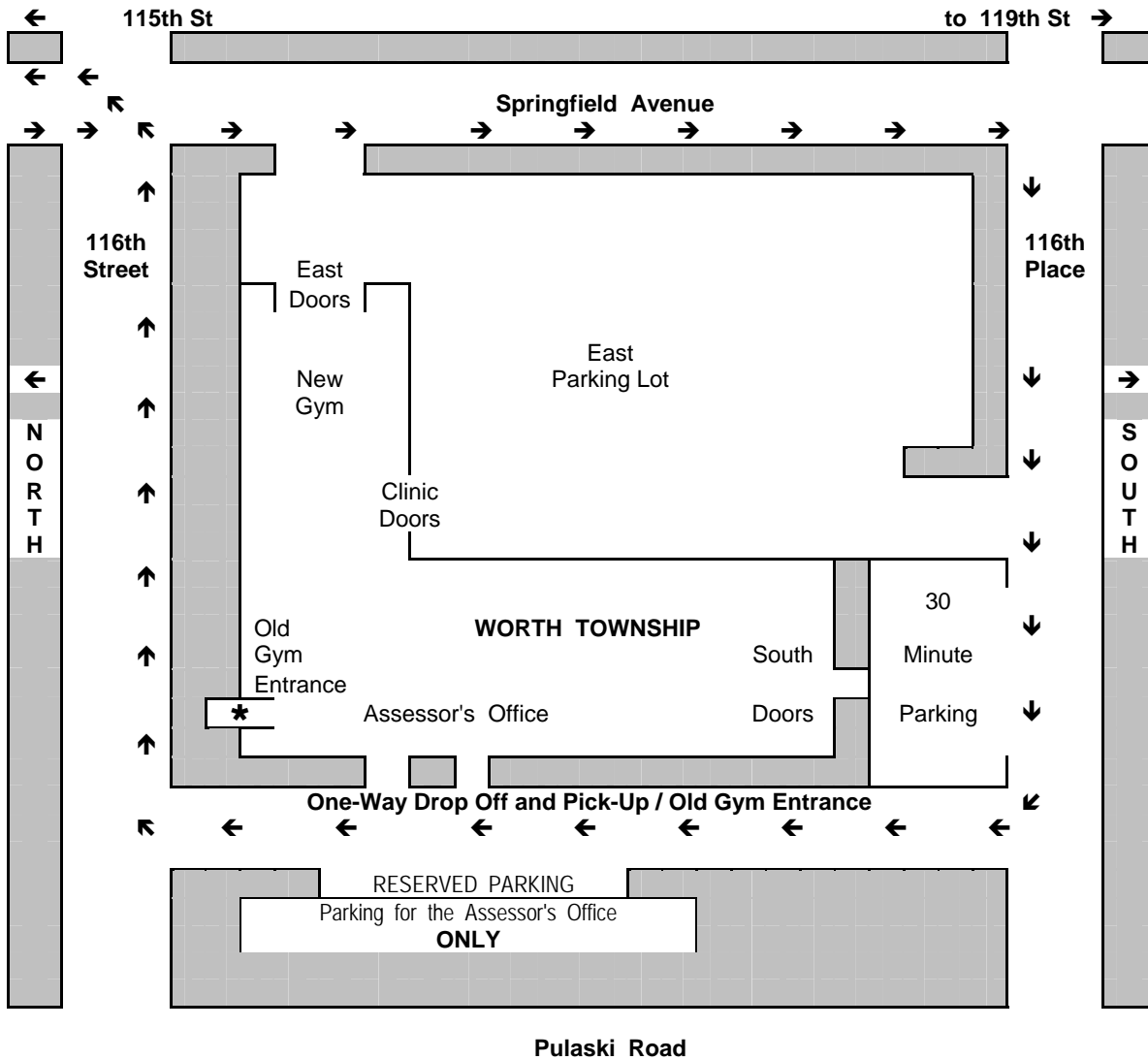
Your signature

That individual must be prepared to show proof of identification

In addition, be certain your child(ren) knows who is picking them up

- Camp is held rain or shine

DROP-OFF and PICK-UP MAP



- We are not responsible for your child(ren) before 10:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. We ask that you please be prompt when picking up and dropping off your child(ren). If your child(ren) is not picked up by the designated time, he/she will be brought to the Youth Commission Office. You must then come upstairs so we can release the child directly to you. If you are late on a continual basis, the Youth Commission staff has the option of dismissing the child from the program without benefit of a refund.

- The following is a list of dismissal times for the various camps:
 Day Camp: 3:00 p.m. – Monday, Wednesday and Friday
 Kiddie Camp: 2:00 p.m. – Tuesday and Thursday
 Tween Camp: 3:00 p.m. – Tuesday and Thursday
- Parents are not allowed to drop off children at our field trip destination for any reason. If your child misses the bus for our scheduled field trip for whatever reason, they will have to miss the full day of camp. No exceptions.
- Busses will leave promptly at the scheduled times listed on the program that was given to each parent prior to the start of camp. We are on a tight schedule and will not hold busses for children who are late getting dropped off for whatever reason. So please drop off your child at the appropriate time to avoid missing camp for the day.
- Parents - Please allow our counselors to help your child(ren) in and out of the vehicle. The traffic line will move along more quickly if you stay in your car. Please do not park or get out of the car. We are happy to put your child(ren) in the car for you. If you wish to speak with your child(ren)'s counselors, you may do so by parking your car in the lot and walking over to them after all of the children their respected groups are released to their parents. They will be more than happy to speak with you at that time.

Camp T-Shirts – On scheduled swim days and field trips, Worth Township Summer Camp requires your child(ren) to wear their Summer Camp shirt. This is an issue of safety for the children in our care. If your child(ren) does not wear the camp shirt as required, he/she will not be allowed to participate in the event scheduled for that day and will be sent home. The cost of the first T-shirt is included in the registration fee. The order form is included in this packet. If you would like to purchase a second T-shirt, the cost is \$10. Orders for the second shirt will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis while supplies last. Your child(ren)'s T-shirt will be handed out at the time of in-person registration. It is recommended that you come to the township to register your child so your child will receive a correctly sized T-shirt. Sample sizes are available for viewing. If you register by mail, the T-shirts will be given the first week of camp (some T-shirt sizes may not be available at this time as T-shirt sizes are on a first come first serve basis). Please remember to write your child's name on the tag of the shirt.

Field Trips – Several field trips are scheduled during the course of Summer Camp. Many vendors require a firm count of attendees several days in advance. Therefore, if you know in advance that your child(ren) will not be attending a particular field trip, we request you notify our office. To defray the cost of transportation, we require each child pay \$5 toward the cost of a field trip. This money is to be brought with them the day of the trip in an envelope with the child(ren)'s name and group number on it. In addition, all children going on a field trip are required to wear their camp shirt. I cannot state strongly enough that this is a safety issue. Children who do not wear their T-shirt will not be allowed on the field trip and will be sent home.

Swimming - Day and Tween Camps Only – Awareness of a child's swimming ability or inability is a serious issue at camp. Safety is paramount in any program for children. Thus, water safety must be addressed.

- **Swim Test** - On the first scheduled swim day, children are tested for their ability to swim in deep water and go off the diving board. The certified lifeguard staff administers this test at Alsip Pool. If you know that your child(ren) does not possess the ability and/or maturity to swim in the deep end of the pool, provisions are made on the Worth Township Youth Commission Permission Form to indicate accordingly. This gives you the option to restrict your child(ren) to the shallow end of the pool. A child(ren) whose parent/guardian feels confident he/she is able and mature enough to swim in the deep end and go off the diving board must sign the Permission Form agreeing to a swim test. This test will determine if the child(ren) meets the Alsip Park District Aquatic Pool Standards. During the course of the summer, parents can request their child be retested for readiness to swim in the deep end and go off the diving board. Send in this request the morning you wish to have the child(ren) retested. A child can retest as many times as he/she wishes.

Swim Bracelets - Children whose parent/guardian has chosen to restrict them to the shallow end of the pool or children who fail the swim test, must wear a yellow bracelet. This yellow bracelet will be provided on each swim day by Worth Township. It allows us to quickly identify the children who belong in the shallow end of the pool. If a swimmer deliberately tears off their bracelet, he/she will lose their swimming privileges for the remainder of the day. If your child can swim but appears not to be a strong swimmer he/she will be given an orange bracelet. This will allow the child to be limited to a larger swimming area but will not let him/her go to the deep end of

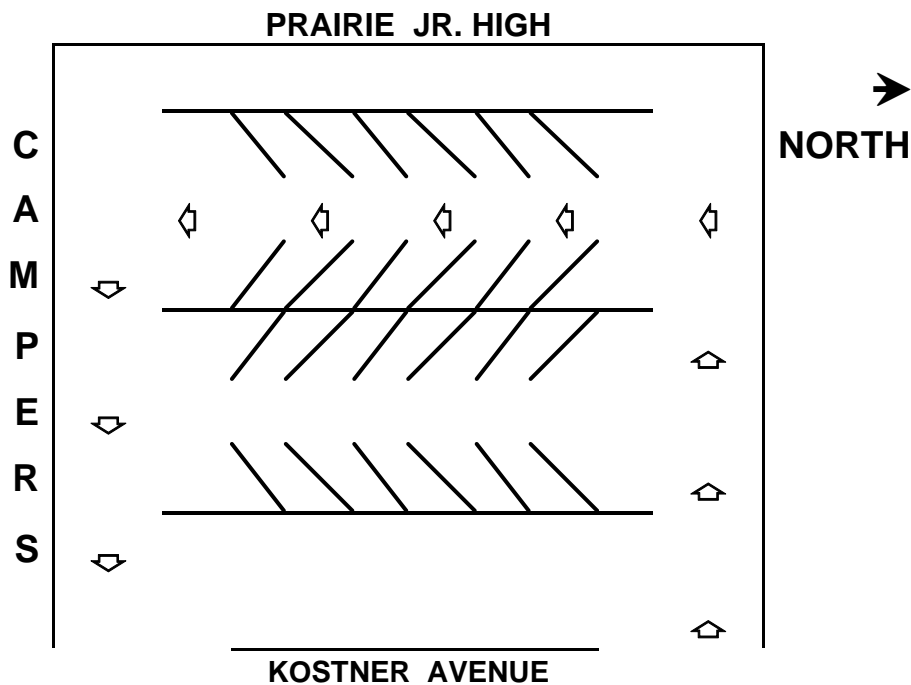
Swim Bracelets, cont'd.

the pool or be able to go off the diving boards. If your child passes the swim test and appears to be a strong swimmer he/she will be given a green bracelet and will not be limited in the pool. Campers are not allowed to go inside the fenced baby pool area for any reason.

- **Weather** – Obviously weather plays the most important part in the scheduling of a swim day. We continually hope for six warm and sunny days, but that isn't always the case. We have alternative plans in place at the Township if we cannot go to the pool. If we are at Barnes Park during our lunch period and a storm should arise, we will return to the Township for dismissal at the regularly scheduled time. If the situation warrants, campers can be shuttled back to the Township in a Township vehicle. If the weather has deteriorated and you are uncertain as to where you should pick up your child, please call the Township office at 708-371-2900.
- **Swim Day Procedure** – On swim days we will walk from Worth Township to the Alsip Park District Aquatic Center at 11930 S. Kostner in Alsip. (Phone: 708-396-1133) Your child(ren) is to be brought to Worth Township in the morning by 10:00 a.m. as usual. At approximately 11:00 a.m. the entire camp will walk to Barnes Park for lunch. They will have the opportunity to play at the park until all campers have finished with lunch. At approximately 12 Noon we will head to the pool. On swim days, the children will be released in front of Prairie Junior High School between 2:45 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The Jr. High is just north of the pool and a map detailing the pick up from this location is shown on page 13.
- **Route to the Pool** – The Director and counselors will walk the children South on Pulaski to 117th street and then West to Barnes Park on Kolin. The campers cross Pulaski at 117th street with the assistance of our maintenance staff that will stop traffic in both directions until all campers have crossed safely. If the campers are walking back to the Township, the same route and safety measures are followed.
- **Attire on Swim Day** – Campers should wear their swimsuit to camp on swim days under their regular clothing. It is mandatory for campers to wear their camp shirt on swim days. If your child(ren) is not wearing his/her camp shirt on a swim day, we will contact you to bring his/her shirt to the Township or to pick up your child(ren) as they will not be allowed to participate.

- **Swimming Necessities** – Please send a towel with your child(ren) which has his/her name on it, along with his/her lunch in a backpack. The backpack should also have your child’s name on it. The counselors cannot carry every child’s belongings, therefore we recommend the backpack for the child’s convenience.
- **Protection from the Sun** – Please rub your child(ren) down with sunscreen in the morning if you feel it is necessary. Remember, even on cloudy days it is possible to receive a sunburn.
- **Pool Toys** – Water wings, flotation devices or toys will not be allowed in the pool.
- **Concession Stand** – You may send money with your child(ren) for the concession stand. However, counselors cannot and will not be responsible for their money.
- **Pool Regulations** – Campers are not allowed to play in the bathroom showers during the lifeguard breaks. Nor are they allowed in the bathroom area alone. If a camper needs to use the restroom, he/she can obtain permission and a staff member will accompany them.

REVISED POOL PICK-UP PROCEDURE



Names and phone numbers of my new friends from Camp:

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

Name

Phone Number

