

2018
**GARAYWA Camp & Conference
Center**
**MISSIONS CAMP INFORMATION
& FAQ's**

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Camping is an enriching experience for your child and can be a memory of a lifetime. We are excited that you are allowing your child to spend time with us at Garaywa. We want to help you prepare your child for the best possible experience. The following is information you need to be aware of as you prepare your child for a meaningful week of camp.

Registration

Registration will open January 4, 2018. Cost is \$185.00 per camper which includes snacks and a summer camp T-shirt. Mini Camp is \$130.00 per camper. You may register online or download registration forms at www.garaywa.org.

REFUNDS

Refund of fees can be made **no later than 15 working days** prior to your camp session date. Substitution of a camper is allowed. If you make a substitution, please check with Garaywa for authorization. **Refunds are forfeited if not requested by the time specified. In case of an emergency, such as serious illness, accident, or death in the immediate family, fees will be refunded minus a cancellation fee of \$20.00. Emergency refunds are given at the discretion of Garaywa.**

ARRIVALS AND PICKUP

Camp registration will take place between **9:00 and 10:00 A.M. each Monday**. Campers are encouraged to be present by 10:00 A.M. so they can take full advantage of programming. Girls should not arrive before 8:45 A.M. unless absolutely necessary and someone should stay with them until registration is complete.

On the last day of camp, parents and leaders are invited to participate in a closing session from 11:00-11:45 A.M. The camp store will be open after the closing session. Once the closing session is over, adults may pick up their campers from their cabins. You will need to check out your campers from their cabin leaders **with a photo id**. Please plan to arrive at camp for pick up by 11:45 A.M. **CAMPERS ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN AT CAMP THE FULL WEEK OF CAMP.** Please do not plan for your camper to leave during camp or to leave early on the last day for any reason. If there is a schedule conflict, please choose an alternate week of camp.

MINI CAMP

Camp registration will take place between 9:00 and 10:00 A.M. each Monday. Campers are encouraged to be present by 10:00 A.M. so they can take full advantage of programming.

Parents and/or leaders may pick up their campers from their campers at 11:00 A.M. on Friday. You will need to

check out your campers from their cabin leaders **with a photo id**.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND
SNACK FOODS, RAZORS (2nd-6th GRADES),
ELECTRONICS SUCH AS IPODS, IPADS, OR
CELL PHONES WITH CAMPERS. THESE
ITEMS WILL BE TAKEN FROM CAMPERS
UPON ARRIVAL ON MONDAY.**

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Campers will be guided and supervised by competent, trained cabin leaders and staff members secured by the Camp Director. However, Garaywa is not equipped to handle persons with certain emotional, mental, or physical disabilities. Contact the Camp Director for consultation. A camp nurse will be on site during camp and will dispense all medication. All medications **MUST** be sent in the **original containers**. All prescription medications must have pharmacy label attached clearly identifying the camper in order to be administered, including inhalers and epipens. Sample prescription medications must be accompanied by signed, written instructions from the physician. Medications not in the original properly-labeled container will not be administered at camp. Adults bringing campers to camp are not to leave campers with medication at camp until medication is properly checked in with the nurse.

If your child has signs of any health concerns (a fever, stomach virus, sore throat, head lice, etc.) please take necessary precautions before sending her to camp. We want to provide a healthy environment for everyone. We will conduct lice checks as part of registration. If your camper is found to have lice, she will be asked to go home.

CABIN MATES

In an effort to meet the developmental needs for each camper, we will be dividing the girls in cabins so that they are no more than one grade level apart. We would like to ensure that a girl who just finished 2nd grade is not in the cabin with girls who have finished 6th grade. This will allow us to talk with each group on their own level during Bible Study, low ropes, devotions, etc.

We will allow groups of 3 girls to be together as long as all three request this arrangement. It is very important to mark those who would like to room together. Changes cannot be made at the registration desk at camp.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

Campers will be involved in the following activities:

Drama	Skits
Making New Friends	Worship
Music	Meeting Missionaries
Mission Emphasis	Crafts
Morning Devotions	Bible Study
Swimming	Recreation
Ropes Course	

PHONE CALLS

From experience, we have learned it is best for a camper not to call home (especially if there is homesickness involved.) Talking with family & friends actually encourages homesickness. If for some reason

she must contact you, the camp director will call you. Also, we find that it is best for parents not to call unless there is an emergency. If there is an emergency in your family, please call camp to speak to the director concerning the situation. Campers are not allowed to have cellular phones at camp.

HOMESICKNESS

Homesickness is usually over in a few hours. Staffers are trained to deal with homesickness and will make an effort to ensure that your camper has the best week possible. **Please do not tell your child she may call home.** Help your child by encouraging her to have a great week and talking to her about all the fun things and special times she is going to have at camp. Homesick Policy- We realize, however, that sometimes homesickness can't be overcome. If this is the case, we will call you to talk to you about your child and determine a course of action.

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP

Listed below are items your camper may want to bring to camp. Encourage her to keep up with clothing and personal items so they will not be left at camp. We will help in this area as best we can. Please mark all items with camper's name.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| ➤ Casual clothes | Sweater/Jacket |
| ➤ Shower shoes | Tennis shoes |
| ➤ Camera | Toiletries |
| ➤ Pillow & pillowcase | Sunscreen |
| ➤ Sleepwear | One-piece swimsuit |
| ➤ Sleeping bag or single sheets | Umbrella & Raincoat |
| ➤ Towels & washcloths | Insect repellent |
| ➤ Bible, notebook, pen | |

CAMP BANKING

Campers may bring a small amount of money to purchase souvenirs at the camp store. Items in the store range from **\$2.00 - \$15.00**. They will not need money for snacks and drinks as these are provided. You may also send an offering if you would like for your child to participate in the mission offering.

Camp staff will collect **all money** on Monday morning and keep it in the camp bank. Please have money out and ready to be turned in for your camper at the time of registration. We ask that campers do not have any money with them in the cabin and we ask family not to mail money to your camper during the week. Any cash money your child has left at the end of the week will be given back to them on Friday before leaving camp.

You may deposit money in your child's camp store account online using your credit/debit card. This must be done at least a week prior to your child attending camp. If your child has a balance upon leaving camp, it will be refunded to your credit/debit card online.

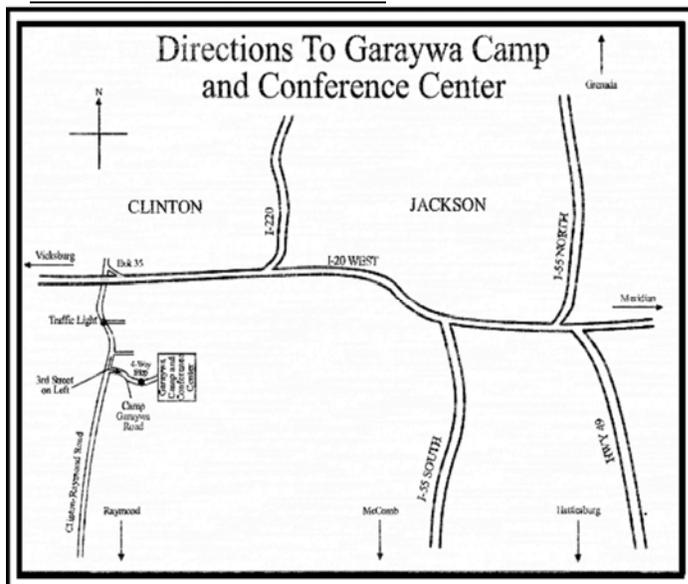
MAIL

Campers may receive mail at 312 Camp Garaywa Road, Clinton, MS 39056-5406. Include your camper's first and last name. Please write early in the week so campers will receive their mail before the end of camp. Please be encouraging in your letters. Be positive about the camp experience.

Emails

NEW FOR 2018: We have a new email system for you to send emails to your camper. Campers may receive emails through our email, mailbag@garaywa.org. Include your camper's first and last name in the subject line. This allows you to send one-way emails to your camper. This email can be accessed through our website www.garaywa.org. go to **CONTACT US** tab a drop down menu will appear then click on **MAILBAG**. Fill out the form and click send. This email will be checked daily and any emails will be given to your camper daily.

DIRECTIONS TO GARAYWA



From I-20, take Exit 35. Go south on Clinton- Raymond Road and go through two traffic lights. Turn left onto Camp Garaywa Road, which is the 2nd entrance to Country Woods Subdivision. Camp Garaywa Road ends at the camp.

FAQ's

How do I register my daughter for camp?

The quickest way to register is online at garaywa.org. There is a link provided to access the online registration process. All of her information can be entered and fees paid by credit card securing her spot at camp. If you prefer, you may print the forms and mail them to camp with the registration fees. More information about camp can also be found on our website.

What do the registration fees cover?

The registration fees cover lodging, a camp T-shirt, all meals and snacks. All activity supplies are also included.

How much money should I send to camp?

The only need your child will have for money is the camp store and optional mission offering. The campers will attend the camp store once during the week giving them the opportunity to buy souvenirs. Items in the camp store range from \$2.00-\$15.00. Please do not send large amounts of money to camp.

What is Garaywa's refund policy?

Refund of fees can be made no later than 15 working days prior to your camp session date. Substitution of a camper is allowed. If you make a substitution, please check with Garaywa for authorization. In case of an emergency, such as serious illness, accident, or death in the immediate family, fees will be refunded minus a cancellation fee of \$20.00. Emergency refunds are given at the discretion of Garaywa.

How are cabin mate assignments made?

We will allow groups of 3 girls to be together as long as all three request this arrangement. It is very important to mark those who would like to room together. Changes cannot be made at the registration desk at camp.

How are campers assigned to cabins? How many girls are in each cabin?

Each cabin will be assigned girls who are no more than 1 grade level apart. We try to keep the cabins balanced according to how many of each grade are attending that week. During student weeks, 7th-12th grades will be assigned in the same manner. Each cabin will hold 14 campers. All cabins have two cabin leaders each.

If we have an odd number of campers coming in our group, how are cabin assignments made?

Campers will be assigned in groups of 2 or 3 based on their requests on the registration form. We will not assign anyone to a cabin without someone from their group unless they request to be by themselves. Please make sure to list the church name or group name your child is attending camp with if they want to be with someone from that group.

My daughter wants to attend camp but doesn't have anyone to come with her.

Girls come to camp by themselves all the time! Our cabin leaders are aware that they didn't come with a friend and help with that transition. Typically, there are several girls here each week that didn't let that stop them from experiencing camp!

Student /girls lodging & activities

Two weeks during the summer 2nd-6th grade girls and 7th-12th grade girls are both attending camp. These weeks are scheduled for June 12-16 and July 10-14, 2017. During these two weeks, the 2nd-6th graders are lodged in cabins separately from the 7th-12th graders. Their activities are mostly separate. They are in the dining hall at the same time but sit together as a cabin.

How are cabin leaders chosen?

Cabin leaders are college students who have applied to be on staff for the entire summer. The application process includes checking the references each is required to provide. Applicants are interviewed and must pass a background check before being hired.

Are lifeguards on duty at the swimming pool?

Red Cross certified lifeguards are on duty every time the pool is open. Girls wanting to swim in the deep end will take a swim test requiring them to swim the width of the deep end and back. If the swim test is passed, they will be given a bracelet indicating they are allowed access to the deep end.

What security measures are taken at camp?

Garaywa is completely enclosed with fence and has a locked gate at the entrance. A security guard is on campus during the night. He arrives when the office closes and is on the premises until office employees arrive in the morning.

How can I help my daughter with nervousness about being away from home?

Nervousness is completely normal when attending camp. Going to camp is a big step for a child and sometimes the parents also. A positive outlook from you will help your child tremendously. Assure her that you understand how she feels but that you are confident she is going to have a good time and experience new adventures. Talk about how busy she will be with new, fun activities. We understand that at this age, campers are becoming more independent. One way you can help is to make sure your camper is confident in her ability to wash her hair and pick out her own clothes. Cabin leaders will assist when needed. Spending a week at camp is an accomplishment and we know you want to help your child have a great experience.

Am I allowed to call my camper?

We have found that it is best if campers do not talk on the phone with family and friends during their stay at camp. It actually encourages homesickness. Their day is a busy one! Campers love to receive mail! We encourage you to be positive when writing your camper.

What types of activities do campers participate?

Campers will go through their day as a cabin. They sit together at meals and worship. Weather permitting, campers will swim every day. Girls participate in the ropes course once during the week and make a craft. Time is set aside each morning for quiet personal time with God. Group Bible study is also a vital part of camp. Each week we have a missionary here that campers visit and hear about other cultures.

What does my camper need to wear/bring to camp?

Please send casual clothes to camp. Girls will also need a one-piece swimsuit. Tankini swimsuits are only allowed if the camper's midriff is completely covered at all times. If you are unsure, you may send a dark t-shirt to wear over it. She will also need to bring sheets, towels etc. A suggested list of items can be found with other important information online and will be sent with your registration confirmation.

Can the camp accommodate my child's food allergy or special diet need?

We are accustomed to special diet needs at camp. Please make sure you note this on the registration form, giving us as much information as possible. We will call you if we have any questions regarding your child's food allergy or dietary needs. If you have questions or need more information, please don't hesitate to call us.

What if my daughter has a health condition requiring special care?

At least one nurse is on site during camp. Nurses administer all medications. Please list any conditions requiring special care on the registration form in the space provided. Garaywa is not equipped to handle some persons with certain emotional, mental, or physical disabilities. If you have questions about whether to register your child due to a special condition, please call us. We want campers to have a safe, successful week at camp.

If you have any questions that aren't answered here, please don't hesitate to call us, (601)924-7034.