



Re: Camp Raintree Mask Policy

As we continue to follow the research around how the Coronavirus is spread, we have made the decision to require mask-wearing for the older children at Raintree. It seems quite likely that wearing a mask is a health recommendation that will be with us for some time and the sooner we simply make it part of our normal routine, the easier it will be.

As you know our camp staff wear masks while inside as well as at arrival and departure. Our plan is to require masks for all Raintree children of elementary age and older while inside the Raintree buildings as well as when waiting at drop-off and pick-up. Children and staff will not be required to wear masks while eating or playing outside.

Camp Raintree will implement this on June 22nd. In the meantime we will be assembling outside clips, labeled with children's names outside each of the camp rooms for children to hang their masks when they go out to play, to swim, and when they go outside to eat. The masks will be spaced apart and have the added benefit of airing out. The sunlight and heat will be helpful as well.

The following are some thoughts on how to encourage and explain the need for masks:

- Older children play a crucial role in promoting the fashion of wearing a mask.
- Involve your child in picking out cloth masks or making them together. Pick out fun fabrics!
- Talk about:
 - The current situation of Covid-19, how the virus spreads (through the air)
 - Where the virus likes to live (humid and warm place, the mouth and the nose)
 - What happens if the virus goes into your body (sick, fever, have to stay home and can't enjoying Camp Raintree with friends)
 - How to prevent the virus from entering your body (wear a mask)
 - Acknowledge uncomfortableness due to wearing a mask all day long
 - Learn to endure uncomfortableness and sometimes sacrifice yourself a little to protect yourself and people you love from sickness

We ask that your child wears a mask, labeled with your child's name, when they arrive at camp on Monday, June 22nd (or sooner). It may also be a good idea that they have extra masks in their backpack. (Raintree will have some extra disposable masks should a child forget theirs, but they are adult-sized!) We expect your child to wear their mask home each day to be washed.

Helpful information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
<https://www.pnas.org/content/early/2020/06/10/2009637117>

Thank you for your support and understanding!

The Raintree Administration and Camp Raintree Staff