



# Volunteer Guide



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**2021 Camp Season**

# WELCOME!

Thank you for volunteering – we are happy to have you! Camp Courant relies on volunteers for help before, during and after the camp season. There is a lot to do! This guide is intended to answer any questions you may have before arriving to Camp.

Due to Covid-19, Camp Courant did not open for in-person programming in 2020. We are working closely with the State of Connecticut and local health department to plan for a safe re-opening for 750 children on June 21. Your support as a volunteer is essential as we implement a number of new protocols for this summer.

We hope you have an enjoyable time while visiting Camp Courant. We welcome visitors during the camp season, and hope you will return to see Camp in action.

We thank you,

*The Camp Courant Staff*




# Roles of Volunteers/Volunteer Opportunities

*Volunteers provide support in a variety of ways at Camp Courant. Some of the tasks we need help with include:*

## **Before the Camp Season (April—June):**

- Landscaping – raking, picking up branches, weeding
- Planting flowers
- Cleaning windows
- Inventory
- Organizing classrooms and office spaces
- Cleaning inside the camp buildings
- Painting
- Setting up furniture and supplies

## **During the Camp Season (Late June—July):**

- Planning activities for campers – field days, games, arts & crafts
  - Reading with children
  - Having lunch with campers
  - Volunteer to speak about your background / career for one of our programs
  - Help with a special event day at camp
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# Roles of Volunteers/Volunteer Opportunities

## After the Camp Season (August–October):

- Packing up supplies and organizing
- Fall clean-up
- Cleaning inside and outside
- Inventory of supplies
- Helping to set-up for Camp's gala event – Buddy Bash

*There are many ways that volunteers can help. If you have a special skillset or talent and want to share it with Camp Courant, just let us know!*



## Schedule for the Day

### Morning Shift:

- 8:30 – 8:45AM – Volunteers arrive at Camp
- 9:00AM – Introductions and briefing for the day
- 9:20AM – Special projects/activities
- 11:45AM – 12:00PM – Pictures, thank you's

### Afternoon Shift:

- 12:30 – 12:45PM – Volunteers arrive at Camp
- 1:00PM – Introductions and briefing for the day
- 1:20PM – Special projects/activities
- 3:45 – 4:00PM – Pictures, thank you's



# What to Wear, What to Bring

*All volunteers are reminded that Camp is in a rural setting with a majority of its infrastructure located outdoors. In preparation for your day at Camp, please wear and pack the amenities or supplies you may need for the day.*

- Comfortable, sturdy shoes or work boots
- Comfortable clothes that can get dirty, hat
- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Work Gloves (we also have some available at camp)
- Eye Protection, Sunglasses (we have some safety goggles available at camp)
- Face Masks (we have some available at camp)

## **Camp Courant will provide:**

- Water, Coffee, Snacks
- All supplies needed to complete volunteer tasks (rakes, cleaning products, etc.)

*Please inform your volunteer coordinator or the Camp staff of any special requirements needed during your day at Camp.*



# Volunteer Rules & Regulations

*Volunteers working on various beautification projects, clean-up efforts, or program participation are expected to adhere to the following rules and regulations for their own safety and the safety of others:*

- Use caution when working with Camp equipment, machinery, and supplies
- Do not put an individual or group into an unsafe situation
- Bullying or hazing or any sort are prohibited
- Use of the pool area for recreational activities is prohibited
- There are no fires allowed on campus
- Drugs and alcohol are strictly prohibited
- Photos of Campers for individual use or Social Media purposes is prohibited
- There are no glass bottles allowed on campus (PLASTIC ONLY)
- All medical needs should be reported to the site leader at the beginning of the volunteer session
- There is no Medical Staff or personnel available during the OFF SEASON
- Do not venture into wooded areas of Camp alone
- Use of the challenge course without proper supervision is prohibited
- Please dispose of all garbage in the designated areas throughout Camp
- All garbage containers should be deposited into the dumpster at the conclusion of the volunteer day
- Be respectful and aware of all wildlife
- There is no smoking allowed on campus
- Gambling is prohibited
- No person shall engage in threatening, violent, or disruptive behavior
- Possession of firearms and other weapons are prohibited
- No person shall deface or remove any Camp property (signs, structures, etc.)
- No person shall remove or injure any plants, trees, flowers, or rocks
- Violation of any of these rules or regulations is cause for removal from campus
- IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY – DIAL 911

# FAQs

## 1. How does Camp Courant remain free for campers?

The Camp Courant staff and Board of Directors works to raise funds through grants, individual and corporate donations, and events to fund Camp Courant's program. Camp Courant's 2021 Budget is \$1,335,968.

## 2. What kinds of programs does Camp Courant offer?

Camp Courant offers a dozen educational programs, all designed and taught by certified teachers with a goal of lessening summer learning loss. Examples of programs include music/performing arts, early learning, STEM, computer lab, healthy choices and financial literacy. We also provides lots of fun programs like sports, swimming and arts & crafts.

## 3. How does Camp Courant partner with businesses and nonprofits?

We are incredibly grateful to our community partners. We work with organizations like The Bushnell, Hartford Stage and the CT Science Center to offer field trips. We welcome guest speakers from area businesses and our campers love to hear from people in the community about their backgrounds and careers.

## 4. What about Covid-19?

In 2020, Camp Courant made the difficult decision to offer a virtual camp for the first time in 126 summers. While we were still able to provide programming for 200 children, we definitely missed seeing the campers in person. At this time, the State of Connecticut has approved camps like Camp Courant to open in 2021. We are working closely with the Office of Early Childhood and the CT Camping Association and local Health Department to ensure that we have a safe summer in 2021.

## 5. When does Camp Courant open and what is the schedule?

In 2021, Camp Courant will open on June 21. We will operate for six weeks, Mondays-Fridays. Campers arrive at Camp in buses that come from a dozen bus stops across Hartford around 9AM. Campers have breakfast and then engage in activities with other campers in their age cohort. Campers have lunch, then more fun activities before leaving for the day, around 3pm.

# FAQs Cont.

## 6. Why does Camp only serve 1,000 kids per summer when there is a waitlist?

The Camp Courant Board of Directors and staff work to set a budget for the following year. The cost per camper is \$200/week and we plan to accommodate 750 campers each day during the summer. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis, with the only criteria for registering being that the child is a resident of the City of Hartford and age 5-12 on the first day of camp. Some campers come for 1 week, others for the entire six week season. Campers are registered based on which bus stop they select. Once a bus is full, the camper has a choice to move to another bus stop, or go on the waitlist. Once all buses are full, all other registrants are placed on the waitlist. Typically, some campers go to summer school mid-summer, which allows some campers to move from the waitlist to attend Camp. The Camp Courant staff and Board of Directors works actively to raise funds to support more campers each year.

## 7. What are some other ways to help Camp Courant?

There are lots of ways to support Camp Courant!

- ⇒ “Like” us on Social Media – Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- ⇒ Attend one of our fundraising events – 5k, Opening Day, Buddy Bash
- ⇒ Make a donation online at [campcourant.org](http://campcourant.org)
- ⇒ Start a fundraiser with your friends using our Peer to Peer fundraising toolkit
- ⇒ Join a committee

**Hartford's Camp Courant is grateful to all of the volunteers who make the trip to the campus in Farmington each year in an effort to make Camp a better place for the children of Hartford!**

**Thank YOU!**





# Directions

## Hartford's Camp Courant

96 Batterson Park Road, Farmington, CT 06032

### From the East:

Take 1-84 West to Exit 37, Fienemann Road. Take a right at the end of the exit ramp, then your first left at the light, onto Batterson Park Road. Camp Courant is on your left, just past Pond View office complex.

### From the West:

Take 1-84 East to Exit 37, Fienemann Road. Continue across Fienemann Road onto Batterson Park Road until you pass Pond View office complex, on your left. Camp Courant is the next driveway on your left.

