



Thank you for choosing to send your child to Menno Haven Summer Camp this year. We are looking forward to providing a fantastic summer camp experience for your camper!

Menno Haven's Mission Statement: To invite all to experience God's World and Christ's Kingdom in a camp and retreat setting through opportunities for worship, fellowship, recreation, growth, and renewal.

Caring for the camper

SPIRITUAL INPUT – Each week of camp is led by our Program Manager, as well as a Guest Speaker for Junior High and High School Camp, who cares for spiritual growth of all campers and summer staff. While teachings are Bible based and from a Mennonite perspective, campers of all faiths are welcome to attend.

SUMMER STAFF – Our program staff are typically college aged students while our kitchen, maintenance, and office support staff are high school or college aged. All staff provide three references and a background check to guide hiring decisions. A week of staff orientation focuses on the well-being of campers to ensure their physical and emotional safety at camp. All staff are certified in First Aid and CPR.

HEALTH CARE – Our Camp Medical Providers (CMP) on staff will care for campers and dispense medications while youth camps are in session. Emergency care is available within 15 minutes in Princeton, IL at OSF St. Clare Hospital. Parents will be contacted in case of illness, injury or homesickness at the discretion of the Menno Haven Staff & CMP.

Directions:

We are located at 9301 1575 East St, Tiskilwa, IL. Visit our website at: mennohaven.com/directions for directions on how to drive here from Chicago, Quad Cities or Peoria, IL.

Our Week of Camp

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE – Each week of Menno Haven Summer Camps begins Sunday at 6:00 pm and ends at 1:00 pm on Friday (Wednesday at 1pm for Cottontail Camp and Thursday at 1pm for Sports Camp). The first meal served will be Monday morning breakfast. Stay tuned for an email closer to the start of camp.

FULL WEEK PARTICIPATION – We expect campers to attend the full week of camp. We strongly discourage a late arrival and/or the removal of your child early. Leaving Camp affects your child, their cabin mates, the Head Cabin Counselor, and the entire program. If this is unavoidable, please communicate your plan with us ahead of time.

CORRESPONDENCE – Family and friends are encouraged to write to their camper through mail or email! Campers can send stamped letters and postcards through the camp mailbox to family members and friends.



Send snail mail to your camper at:
Menno Haven Camp & Retreat Center
c/o Your Camper's name
9301 1575 East St Tiskilwa, IL 61368



Send an e- mail to your camper at:
mailbag@mennohaven.com

*Please put your campers First & Last Name and Cabin Name in the subject.
handed out the next day. Mail received after

Letters and emails received after 11:45 am will be 11:45 am on Friday (or Wednesday for Cottontail Camp) will not be handed out. We reserve the right to check all email for content unacceptable for a camp situation.

TECHNOLOGY – In order to encourage your child to more fully participate in the week's activities, Menno Haven does not have phone or email access for campers. Additionally, we ask that electronic devices (phones, music players, tablets etc.) not be brought to camp. Our hope is to offer a week of fun and growth away from technology and immersed in the beauty of God's creation. Campers that bring phones, etc. will be asked to take it to the office where it will be stored and returned at the end of the week. Lost or stolen items are not the responsibility of Menno Haven.

TRADING POST – The Trading Post (aka camp store) will be open at Check-In and Closing Campfire for purchasing T-shirts, water bottles, and other camp memorabilia. NO money will be needed by campers while they are here (snacks and crafts are provided as part of the registration cost).

The WHAT TO BRING List

Faith-based	Clothing	Hygiene	Optional
<input type="checkbox"/> Bible	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7 summer-y outfits	<input type="checkbox"/> toothbrush & paste	<input type="checkbox"/> athletic sandals
<input type="checkbox"/> pens or pencils	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 pairs of athletic shoes/boots	<input type="checkbox"/> brush or comb	<input type="checkbox"/> sunblock (SPF 15+)
<input type="checkbox"/> notebook or journal	<input type="checkbox"/> appropriate sleeping attire	<input type="checkbox"/> shampoo & soap	<input type="checkbox"/> postcards & stamps
General	<input type="checkbox"/> rain/mud-capable outfit(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> deodorant(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> camera
<input type="checkbox"/> sleeping bag	<input type="checkbox"/> dark colored outfit	<input type="checkbox"/> feminine products	<input type="checkbox"/> baseball cap & sunglasses
<input type="checkbox"/> pillow	<input type="checkbox"/> undergarments, socks	<input type="checkbox"/> towel(s), washcloth	<input type="checkbox"/> reusable water bottle
<input type="checkbox"/> insect repellent	<input type="checkbox"/> light jacket or sweatshirt	<input type="checkbox"/> vision products	<input type="checkbox"/> twin size bedding
<input type="checkbox"/> flashlight	<input type="checkbox"/> swimsuit	<input type="checkbox"/> laundry bag	<input type="checkbox"/> medications (see more info below)
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle (reusable)	(one piece/tankini/swim-shorts)		

The NOT TO BRING list

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|---|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cell phone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> speedo or bikini | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> valuable items & money | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> inappropriate clothing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-athletic shoes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pets or livestock | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> music, noisemakers, etc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> walkie talkies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> weapons of any kind | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> gaming devices | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> curling irons, make-up | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> food, gum, candy, etc. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sugared beverages | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> drugs, tobacco, etc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lighters, matches, etc. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> perfume, cologne |

Please put your child’s initials on ALL items. We will try to make sure they have all the items they came with, however, Menno Haven cannot be held responsible for lost items. If after departure, you find you are missing something, contact our office to see if it has been found.

FURTHER NOTES:

All campers: Don’t forget to bring green shirts for **Green Shirt Tuesday** or wacky clothing for **Wacky Wednesday**.

Adventure Campers should bring a water bottle, long pants, boots or gym shoes, and socks. **DON’T FORGET BUG SPRAY!!** 😊

High School Campers may bring a formal or crazy outfit for the banquet. High School Campers driving themselves to camp should be prepared to give their keys to the Program Manager at Check-in. The keys will be stored in the Camp Office during the week and returned at Closing Campfire.

Wilderness Campers should bring a water bottle, good sun protection for the canoe trip, and a day pack for carrying the stuff you will need for the day. Wilderness campers should come prepared and excited to sleep in a tent! If your family owns a tent or you have access to one from family and/or friends and would like to bring it, please let us know so we know how many tents we have. If you do not have access to tents, we will have some for your use.

Our greatest desires for your child this summer is that a) they are stay healthy and safe while they are here, b) they have an enjoyable experience at camp and c) they learn more about Jesus in this environment. The above guidelines and recommendations are in place in order to facilitate these goals. Any **deviations from the standards** laid out in this letter must be approved by the Program Manager prior to arrival.