



Camden County Extension/4-H  
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Dear Parents,

This year has been one for the books for sure! We are still having to modify and change what we would normally do as we continue to serve our youth during a pandemic. We are truly thankful for your support and understanding as we continue to strive to serve you and your children.

I am writing today about summer camping experiences. The way we are able to camp has also been altered in response to COVID. We just got word that we will be able to do in-person, overnight camp in a limited capacity this summer, and I wanted to be transparent with everyone on how that works.

In a normal year, we start advertising in January and start our fundraising in February. We usually are able to take 80-90 kids from our county. We are unable to do that this year. To be able to offer the safest camping experience possible, our camping capacity has been drastically reduced to allow for social distancing and the ability to have cohorts that remain together for the entire camp experience. In order to create those cohorts, counties have been assigned a set number of male and female camper spots.

It has been a struggle to find a way to be fair and inclusive with how we select who will be given a spot at camp. I really don't think there is a great answer to this predicament. What I have decided, with input from several folks in similar situations, is to offer the available spots to those who signed up for camp last year first. They will be given a chance to submit their interest in going to camp via a provided link that will be active for a limited amount of time. All entries will be placed in a lottery, and names will be selected randomly from the collection. Any remaining spots will be filled by a lottery selection using names collected via the link that will be provided.

As of right now, I have 9 available spots for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders: 6 girls and 3 boys. They are scheduled to camp at Rock Eagle July 6-9. The cost will be \$285 (this is drastically reduced from previous year's cost since we will not have to pay for a bus and camp will be 4 days instead of 5). Deposits of \$90 would be due to our office in cash or check form by May 12<sup>th</sup>. The remainder of the balance would be due by June 30.

I have 7 spots open for current 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders: 3 girls and 4 boys. They will also camp at Rock Eagle. Their week of camp is July 12-15. This cost will also be \$265, and includes transportation. \$90 deposits would be due to our office by May 12, with the remaining balance due to our office by June 30.

Links for the above two camps will go out to everyone who registered for camp by April 22. A separate link for those interested in camping this year that did not sign up last year will also be made available by April 22. Those parents will have until April 28<sup>th</sup> to place their child in the lottery. We will draw names on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Parents will be notified of the results on the 29<sup>th</sup>. We will maintain a waiting list that will include anyone that did not get selected.

*Commit to Georgia* | [give.uga.edu](http://give.uga.edu)

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For high school 4-H'ers, there will be a Senior Extreme camp offered at Rock Eagle. This is a primitive tent camping experience. There are two options for this: June 7-10 & June 15-18. The cost is \$225, and you would have to provide transportation to and from Rock Eagle for your child. Your \$90 deposit would be due by May 2, with remaining balances due by May 30. Please email me at [ssahadeo@uga.edu](mailto:ssahadeo@uga.edu) if you are interested in attending this camp (9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders only).

There are several folks with fundraising balances from last year, and these can be used to pay for camp.

Here is our Georgia 4-H website with all the safety measures that will be a part of camp: <https://georgia4h.org/4-h-centers/summer-camp/covidsafety/>. I encourage you to review these prior to indicating your interest in camp.

We will also have several summer fun trips and experiences scheduled for our Camden County 4-H'ers, so look for that information soon. I appreciate your patience, support, and understanding.

Thank you all!

Ms. Shawnie, County Extension Agent/4-H  
Camden County