

a farm experiment



Root Farm Summer Camp Parent Handbook

Root Care Farm

Bringing children and nature closer together through organic farming with greater compassion and responsibility towards animals, the earth, and each other

707.477.3542

www.rootcarefarm.com

info@rootcarefarm.com

Program Policies

1. **Enrollment.** Children will be enrolled on a first come, first served basis. A waiting list will be kept for additional enrollment.
2. **Authorized Pickup.** Only a person authorized by the parent or guardian may pick up a child. If someone who is not on the Root authorization form is going to pick up your child, you will need to bring us a written notice in advance.
3. **Absences.** If your child will be absent, you must call or text to let us know. (Note: there are no refunds for absences.)

Discipline and Behavior

We have basic principals that will be encouraged among our community of animals and humans. The first three are: safety first, kindness always, and respect (What's that?) We start with boundaries, listening for boundaries and having our limits honored.) Next, we learn what it is we value and how we value, i.e. ourselves, each other, our positions, responsibilities, roles, the earth, food, trash, and other things. Children are encouraged to maintain a positive atmosphere and to help take care of each other and the animals.

When problems occur, adults will help with intervention.

First offense: Adult intervention and face-to-face communication and apologies and forgiveness are encouraged to address problems.

Second offense: Settle Down Time. Your child may be removed from the group activity to think about how to re-enter the situation and go on calmly. Some conversation with Director or teacher will be had to create resolve.

Third offense: If for some reason a child is having a great deal of difficulty getting along with children, following instructions of the teachers, acting aggressively towards others or our animals or without regard for the community leaders, your child may be suspended for 1-2 days.

In extreme circumstances, a child may be dismissed from the program.

We expect all children to treat staff, other children, and the animals with respect, honesty and courtesy.

As we expect staff to treat children with the same values. Any behavior which endangers any child will not be tolerated.

These behaviors include but are not limited to the following:

Fighting or Hitting

Teasing

Threatening

Use of inappropriate language

If reoccurring behavior continues, we ask for your assistance in re-directing the child's behavior pattern. We reserve the right to withdraw any child from our program. No refunds will be given when removal of a child is due to infractions having to do with the abovementioned behaviors.

We strive for a fun and happy environment where we learn to care for each other and the animals on the farm...

What Campers Need to Bring Every day:

(PLEASE label everything!)

- A Camp T-Shirt! (will receive on first day of camp)
- Healthy lunch and a Water Bottle (reusable packaging is encouraged)
- Sun block, Backpack, and Sun hat
- Closed toe shoes or boots
- Farm clothes!! Farm work is dirty work!! So please save your prettiest dress or nicest pants for another occasion... Thank YOU!!!

Arrival and Departure

State law requires parents/authorized persons to bring the child into camp and to sign him or her into the program.

Parents/Authorized persons must also sign out when picking up the child.

Please make an effort to pick up your child in a timely manner.

Our standard day camp program ends at 3PM. Allow time for your child to collect belongings and say good-byes.

Late fees will be enforced as needed

Schedule Changes

We will make every effort to accommodate needed changes.

When Your Child is Sick

Children exhibiting signs of sickness should be kept at home for at least 24 hours after last signs have disappeared. Children exhibiting signs of illness, fever, runny noses, vomiting, diarrhea and irritability will be presumed sick.

Parents are required to pick the child up immediately.

Medication Policy

We will only administer an epi-pen in case of emergency for the child. No other medication will be allowed at or administered at camp. The exception of an asthma inhaler will be approved with prior notification.

Please do not send any medication in your child's lunch box or backpack or you'll be asked to pick it up immediately.

Bringing Toys and Videos

Root discourages children from bringing any toys, videos, electronics and any other materials from home. This will avoid any risk of conflict or broken items! Root is not responsible for any lost or broken items. (Please let your child know that cell phones will need to be kept in backpacks and that use of cell phones (including texting) will not be allowed.)

Lunches

With all the activities we do, your child's body will need all the energy it can get. Please send your child with a good nutritious lunch and plenty of water each day. Whenever possible, we appreciate minimal packaging as trash often has a way of becoming litter.

Thank you for your extra mindfulness.

Thank You and Welcome to Root Farm!

We are looking forward to sharing our world of playful goats, happy hens, and majestic horses with your children this summer! We hope you enjoy our farm as much as we do.

Stay up to date with all the farm happenings... visit www.rootcarefarm.com and be sure to like us on FACEBOOK!

with gratitude,
joy