



Parks & Recreation Summer Youth Program Handbook 2023

For Somerville children 5-13 years old

First Session:	June 26 - 30
Second Session:	July 5 – 7 (Excludes July 3 rd & 4 th)
Third Session:	July 10 - 14
Fourth Session:	July 17 - 21
Fifth Session:	July 24 - 28
Sixth Session:	July 31 – August 4
Seventh Session:	August 7 - 11

Program Headquarters is at the West Somerville Neighborhood School located at 177 Powderhouse Blvd.

Drop off and pick-up times are:
8:30am to 4:30pm Monday through Friday.

General Statement- Parks & Recreation Summer Youth Program under the direction of Mayor Katjana Ballantyne was designed with the intention of creating a structured, fun, and safe environment for children in the City of Somerville during their summer school vacation.

1. **Dates of Operation-** Monday, June 26th through Friday, August 11th, 2023. Providing we have openings, there is no limit on how many sessions a child can attend.
2. **Hours of Operation-** Monday through Friday, 8:30 am until 4:30 pm.
3. **Ages-**School age children ranging from ages 5-13 years old.
4. **Location and Daily Itinerary-** Each morning the program will meet at the West Somerville Neighborhood School located at 177 Powderhouse Boulevard. at 8:30am and will participate in activities such as games, arts and crafts, sports, and pool use. Every child will be given a swim test prior to pool use.
5. **Fees-** The cost of this weekly Summer Youth Program will be as follows:

\$180.00 per week per child which includes the daily programs and all field trips and pool use.

Checks, online credit card payment, or money orders made payable to Somerville Recreation will be accepted as forms of payment.

A Non-Refundable registration fee is due at the time of your completed application; this fee of \$80.00 per child/per week will hold a spot for your child in the program.

Example: If you child is attending all seven weeks a deposit of \$560 is required along with your completed application.

Weekly payments will then be \$100.00 to total the \$180.00 per week.

6. **Refund Policy-**If your child leaves the Summer Youth Program, is removed, or suspended, you will not be entitled to a refund for the remainder of that week. Please see our Code of Conduct Policy.
7. **Registration-** Please complete the Summer Youth Program Application in its entirety and return to Manny Saez, Somerville Parks and Recreation, 8 Bonair Street Somerville, MA 02145. This application can be emailed, mailed, or dropped off in person.

The following must be attached to your application at time of drop off:

- a. Copy of your child's Birth Certificate
- b. Proof of residency; (copy of any bill sent to your Somerville address.)
- c. \$80.00 for each child for each week you are enrolling them for

Applications will be date-stamped upon receipt and will be reviewed and accepted on first-come, first-serve basis.

Applications must include all requested information to be accepted.

To keep the child-counselor ratio to a minimum the first one hundred twenty-five children per week will be accepted into the camp.

You will receive written notification as to the acceptance of your child to the program.

Payments for subsequent weeks will be due by the Wednesday of the preceding week at 12:00 pm as follows:

Payment Schedule:

Week 1 due June 21 st	Week 4 due July 12 th	Week 7 due August 2 nd
Week 2 due June 22 nd	Week 5 due July 19 th	
Week 3 due July 5 th	Week 6 due July 26 th	

Credit card payments can be made at www.somervillerec.com by logging onto your account.

You may register for various sessions by checking off the appropriate box on your application, include deposit fee, and make payments as directed above on a weekly basis.

Non-Refundable Registration Fee: At the time the completed application is dropped off, a non-refundable fee of \$80.00 will be paid in the form of check/money order for each week that the child will be attending.

8. **Waiting list for Program-**This program will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications for those who were not one of the first to register for the program will remain on file. If a vacancy becomes available, the next applicant on the waiting list will be contacted.
9. **Statement of Confidentiality-** All medical information provided in your application, except for information provided on the Emergency card or consent forms, will be considered privileged and confidential.
10. **Staff-**The Program Developer of the Recreation Department will oversee the day-to-day operation of the Summer Youth Program.
11. **Statement of Non-Discrimination-** This camp is a multi-cultural program that does not discriminate.
12. **Swimming at Pool-** (If applicable) Lifeguards and certified swim instructors will be available at the pool. Children will follow the pool guidelines and instructions of the lifeguards and Counselors.
13. **Sports and Games-** Non-competitive, low impact sports and active games will be incorporated into the program daily. Games vary from softball, kickball, volleyball, basketball, and other active games.
14. **Field Trips-** To add variety to the camp, field trips will be scheduled, and parents will be notified of dates and locations. All children present the day of a field trip will be required to attend. If you wish not to allow your child to attend the field trip, you will be asked to keep your child home for that day as all counselors will accompany the children during field trips.
15. **Photography and Videotaping-** Children may occasionally be photographed and videotaped throughout the seven one-week sessions. Photographs may be placed in local newspapers or on the Parks and Recreation website for advertising purposes. Videotaping may be aired on local cable access television or the Parks and Recreation website and may be shown to children and staff members.
16. **Clothing-**Children will be provided with 2 t-shirts upon acceptance into the program and for safety purposed and **are required to wear their T-shirt daily.** Additional t-shirts will be available at the cost of \$10.00 each.

FOR GROUP SAFETY REASONS T-SHIRTS MUST BE WORN.

Children are required to bring a swimsuit, towel, flip flops, hat, sunscreen, and a water bottle everyday. It is recommended that children take a plastic bag to store their wet swimsuit and towel and, if necessary, an extra change of clothes.

Please clearly mark all your child's personal belongings with their full name and telephone number, including their backpack, and program T-shirts, using Permanent marker.

Somerville Parks and Recreation will not be held responsible for any lost, misplaced, damaged or stolen items.

17. **Pick-Up-** All children must be picked up **promptly at 4:30pm** at the West Somerville Neighborhood School. Hours of operation are 8:30am to 4:30pm only. If you are later than 4:45pm you will be charged an additional \$20.00 late fee. If this occurs more than 3 times throughout the summer, you child will be removed from the program.

Any child who is picked up late on more than 3 days will be subject to review by the Parks and Recreation Department Director. Continuous abuse of late pick-up may result in the child's termination from the program entirely.

*If your child is age 12 or 13, you may indicate on your Authorization to Release Child Consent form that your child has permission to leave the program without a parent or guardian. We strongly encourage parents/guardians of these children to make arrangements for their child to walk home in a group with other children.

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to ensure that their child has arrived at the program safely and has arrived home safely.

18. **Sickness or Vacation-** please call Manny Saez at 617-625-6600 ext. 2980 between the hours of 8:30-8:45 am to inform the Head Counselor that your child will be absent that day. Attendance will be promptly taken, daily, at 8:45 am sharp.

It is the responsibility of the parent to keep their child home if their child has any of the following ailments: temperature, diarrhea, vomiting, impetigo, conjunctivitis, strep throat, scarlet fever, chicken pox, ear infections, respirator infections, head lice, scabies, hand-foot-mouth disease, COVID-19, or any other contagious medical conditions.

19. **Health Care Policies-** if a child becomes ill during the day, a staff member will contact the parent or guardian to ask that the child be picked up. The child will be monitored by the Head Counselor until such parent, guardian, or designee arrives to pick up the child.

20. **Administering Medications-** Prescriptions and a doctor's note are needed to administer medications.

21. **Emergency First Aid-** The Head Counselor, of staff member, may perform simple first aid in the event of injury or illness to a child.

In case of major accident, injury, or illness requiring immediate medical or surgical care, the Head Counselor/or a staff member will contact 911 and have the child transported to medical facility to secure any necessary medical treatment for the child. The Head Counselor will obtain the necessary information

and attempt to notify the parent or guardian. The child's parent or guardian shall incur all costs associated with any medical treatment.

22. **Fire Alarm Evacuation Drills-** Emergency evacuation exercises will be conducted to ensure the safety of the children. For an evacuation procedure to be effective in the event of an emergency, each student will need to be familiar with the location of the exits while at the program.

23. **Behavior Management and Discipline Policy-** Children are encouraged to practice social skills that will allow them to resolve conflicts and have their needs met without the use of harmful or destructive behaviors.

When disciplinary situations occur which require intervention, counselors provide the child with clear explanations why specific behavior is inappropriate and help them to find alternative behavior that fits within the classroom guidelines of behavior. These guidelines revolve around concerns for the safety of all children. If a child is unable to manage their own behavior on a particular occasion, a counselor may ask them to sit out for a few minutes to regain control.

After sitting out for a few minutes, or further conversation does not remedy the situation, the child's parent or guardian will be contacted, and the child will be removed from the program for the remainder of the day.

If child continues to demonstrate unruly behavior, the Head Counselor will inform the Parks and Recreation Department Program Developer, and disciplinary action will be discussed ranging in action from short-term suspension to termination from the program.

24. **Conclusion-** It is the desire of the Parks and Recreation Department to create a safe summer program that is both socially educational and fun for the children residing in Somerville.

25. **Swim Test-**All children will be required to take a swim test before going into the big pool at Dilboy.

This is a fun summer program not summer school!

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Manny Saez at the Parks and Recreation Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 2980.

Thank you for your interest in this fantastic program and we look forward to our Annual Recreation Summer Youth Program and a great summer!

Parks & Recreation Personnel: 617-625-6600 ext. 2980
8 Bonair St. Somerville MA 02145
www.somervillerec.com