

How will my life be different at Cedar Lodge in 2020?

No doubt about it. There will be changes, but we are determined to try and run with out wrecking your fun! There are two different groups at Cedar Lodge: Overnight campers and Day/Mini-Me Campers. They will be handled slightly different. Please keep in mind that this will be what you can expect at the beginning of summer. If Michigan remains at Stage 4, this will apply. If, for instance, half way through the summer Michigan upgrades to Stage 5 or 6, many of these rules might be relaxed.

Overnight Campers:

If you read the Parent's guide, you already know that the Sunday you come to camp will be different than normal. We will be meeting you at your car when you arrive, and parents will need to say good bye to you there, before we take you and your luggage up to the cabin. This is very different for us at Cedar Lodge, but it is not very different than many camps have functioned for years. Many camps send a bus into big cities. The kids say good bye to their parents and board the bus with their belongings. Then they travel to camp where they stay for 4 or up to 10 weeks before they board the bus once again and travel home. It's a very traditional format for camps, and it just so happens that it is a safer way to run camps in a pandemic.

Your temperature will be taken (on that first Sunday and every morning at breakfast) and you will be assigned a cabin group with other campers close to your age. Your cabin unit, along with your counselor will form your "pod." Your pod will be like your family unit at home. Within that group, you can act like you would with your family. No masks, comfortable distancing, etc. You will sit with your pod at meals, and try to do as many activities during the day as possible together. There will be times (like riding and vaulting) that you will branch away from your pod to do other things. That's totally ok. When you're done, go back to your pods once again. There are also times that you may want to do something your pod doesn't want to do. That, too, is alright. As long as there is social distancing and disinfecting, this is allowed. If the activity it going to be such that social distancing is not possible, that's when the face masks will come into play.

Day Camp and Mini-Me:

Much like the overnight campers, day camp will be handled differently for 2020. As you read in the drop off/pick up directions on another link, we will be meeting Day Campers and Mini Me at the flag pole outside of camp. They will be met by a camp official, or their day camp counselor. The day camp counselor is an individual that will not be staying at camp. They will come in the morning and will stay just with the day campers, going home at night when they do. Day campers, mini-me, and the day camp counselor will form their own pod. Their temperatures will be taken daily before they enter camp. We would like parents to take their temperatures at home too, before they travel to camp. This pod will eat together, have rest hour together and and travel from activity to activity together. Much like in the overnights, they will be some activities, like riding that may not be an all pod activity. That is fine and pod members will move out to the activity and then back to their pod. Like above, social distancing and disinfecting will be required and if social distancing cannot be maintained, face masks will be worn. Activities outside their pod will be more limited than with overnight campers. As day campers will have more access to people and activities outside camp, their contact inside Cedar Lodge will be more restricted. If this is not a method that you feel will work for your child, you might want to consider switching to overnight camp.

We are confident that thees changes, though they sound tremendous, in the end will not be such a big deal. Sometimes, change is good. Who knows? Maybe we will learn some new games or create a new song that will hold for Cedar Lodge camp life for years to come. Life is an adventure! Won't you join us?