



Things to Bring (Proper Gear)

We look forward to having you at our Iowa Youth Camp this summer! The following information will ensure that you will have everything you need at camp this year:

PLEASE LABEL ALL GEAR WITH FIRST AND LAST NAME

- Medications- (no glass please) - these will need to be checked in with the camp nurse at check-in
- Tent (with stakes and rain fly, for stormy conditions)
- Sleeping bag and pad, pillow
- Personal items: clothing, extra socks, etc. (enough for 3 days)
- Warm jacket for mornings and evenings
- Hiking Boots or Sturdy, **CLOSED-TOED** shoes for being outside
- Waterproof boots/mucks or extra shoes (the fields can get wet if we have rain)
- Old Tennis shoes that you don't care if they get wet
- Rain gear
- Towel for showering (flip flops in shower and bathing suit if you want)
- Toiletries/Personal Items (shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant)
- Camp chair
- Water Bottle
- Thermacell
- Insect repellent/ Bug Spray
- Sunscreen, Lip balm
- Flashlight or headlamp and extra batteries
- Backpack
- Watch (you will not have your phone)

Optional Items

- Archery equipment ie Bow, arrows, hip/quiver, release etc.
(if you are bringing your own bow, please have it in a case. Including all accessories, finger tab/release, arrows with field points, NO broadheads allowed)
- NO Crossbows (our targets are not designed for them)
- 12 matching arrows (if you are bringing own archery equipment, suggested if your kiddo loses arrows)
- Range Finder
- Binoculars
- Compass/GPS unit
- Daypack (used to carry water and snacks around camp and 3D trail)
- Personal Game Calls
- Camera
- Cash, if you want to purchase items at camp (shirts)

*** **Important** - Please contact RAFD immediately if you do not have any of the items listed on the "what to bring" list of proper gear. We may be able to help you out, however we will need to know as soon as possible in order to accommodate.

Things to know about Iowa and camp

Iowa in the June is typically really warm (hot in some cases). We suggest you have a day pack or something with you at all times to carry your water bottle, chapstick, bug spray/Thermacell, or range finder. You do not HAVE to have a backpack.

Hiking boots or muck type boots are highly recommended to protect your feet, make hiking easier and to help with the mud if its wet in the field.

Facilities:

We have a shower house on site. However, they will mostly use porta potties as the shower house is a holding tank unit and if it gets too full they can't take showers until its pumped.

CANCELLATION. All cancellations must be made six weeks prior to the camp start date. Cancellations after six weeks will be considered donations to camp and are non-refundable. Emergency cancellations will be considered and reviewed on a case by case situation.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

*****NO CAMPERS/FAMILIES WILL BE ALLOWED INTO CAMP PRIOR TO 12 pm, noon.** Check in will be from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm on Thursday. Campers need to stop at the check-in table when they arrive at camp. All medications and special accommodations will be reviewed at this point. Parents are allowed and encouraged to stay and help their child set-up their tents and campsite (we want your child to feel comfortable). *If your child has never been to camp, please arrive between 12-1:00 pm.* If you have been to camp before, we suggest arriving between 1pm - 2pm. This is not mandatory, just a helpful suggestion.

All meals, drinks and snacks will be provided beginning with dinner on Thursday and concluding with lunch on Sunday. Campers can be picked up any time after noon on Sunday. An awards ceremony and lunch will be provided at noon and parents are welcome and encouraged to join. At registration please let us know if you will be able to attend the awards ceremony to account for meals.

CAMP Address: 2548 Elderberry Ave, Winterset IA 50273

Beware of the white dog that lives West of camp, he may run after your vehicle but he will move. We don't want anyone to swerve and loose control on a gravel road.

DIRECTIONS FROM WINTERSET At the 4-way stop (HWY 92 and HWY 169) on the west side of Winterset, travel west on Hwy 92 toward Greenfield (approximately 7 miles) until you intersect Deer Run Trail (Macksburg Hwy). Turn Left or (south) at that intersection, travel 3 miles to the intersection of Carriage Trail. Turn left (east) and travel 2 miles until you run right into camp.

DIRECTIONS FROM MACKSBURG Head North out of town on Deer Run Trail (Only paved road going north). Travel approximately 4.5 miles to Carriage Trail. Turn right (east) on Carriage Trail and travel 2 miles until you run right into camp.

Bowhunter Education

If your child hasn't taken bowhunter education, please follow our directions in the email provide on how to register within the Iowa DNR's website. Bowhunter Education is included within our camp for youth 12+.

RAFD - RULES AND POLICIES

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED AT CAMP

- Electronics (video games, iPods, etc.) Cell phones will be allowed, but will be checked in at the beginning of camp. Phones will be checked out for limited use to make contact with family at specified times during camp.
- Alcohol, tobacco, or drugs of any kind. **NO knives or leathermans**, firearms, short shorts, Low-cut or cropped tops
- Showers are provided, even though inside, kids may feel more comfortable showering with a bathing suit on (this is the only place bathing suits will be permitted).
- RAFD camp does not have a dress code. However, if we feel that clothing is inappropriate in any way, we may ask the clothing to be changed. If the camper disagrees they can be asked to be excused from camp.
- Reminder: Cellphones are taken away during registration. If time allows they can use their phone to call home in the evenings but most nights are packed. This also helps prevent homesickness. If you need to check in on your child you can call the camp host at the number listed below. Notes, Iowa cellphone service is very limited at the camp location.

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

- No bullying, name calling, or foul language.
- Respect your peers, volunteers and property.
- Use the buddy system. Stay in groups of at least 3 people.
- No boys and girls in tents together. (Unless they are siblings)
- No boys in the girls shower area, and vice versa.
- No game calls after lights out - camp often provides things that make noise (Turkey /deer calls, etc...)
- Lights out at 10:30 pm unless camp programs run later.
- We need to be very respectful of the land we are camping on, therefore we ask that campers clean up after themselves and after each other. Especially around their camping area.

All campers are expected to behave in a respectful manner while at camp. If at any point a child has broken the camp rules or demonstrates unacceptable behavior, they may be sent home from camp. Please alert the RAFD staff and volunteers of any issues that may arise. We understand that kids may get homesick, but we will not allow phone calls to home except during specified times, or in case of an emergency. Volunteers/Supervisors will be available around the clock, if needed.

ZERO TOLERANCE FOR THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIORS (CAN BE SENT HOME IMMEDIATELY)

- NO Co-ed tents (unless it is brother/sister), NO male/female physical conduct
- Fighting or harassment of any kind
- **Unsafe handling of archery equipment. At NO times should others be in harm due to careless behavior.**
- Alcohol, tobacco, or drug use
- For all other infractions volunteers are trained to discipline in a "three strikes" manner.
- **Strike 1:** Volunteers will document the situation and talk to the camper. They will be informed of what they did was wrong and why. In some cases, the camper may be asked to sit out of an activity for a period of time.
- **Strike 2:** Again, the volunteer will document the incident. At this time, the camper and volunteer may draft a behavior agreement where they discuss the problem and list ways to correct the problem as well as the consequences of further misconduct. This document will be signed by both the camper and the volunteer.
- **Strike 3:** The camper's parents will be notified that the child must be picked up as soon as possible and not be returned to camp.

MEDICATION/SPECIAL NEEDS

All medication must be checked in with the camp nurse when campers arrive on Thursday. Please indicate any special instructions at that time. In certain cases, the camp nurse may be in contact with you prior to camp if the camper's registration indicated that special accommodations may be needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the RAFD prior to camp.

Any camper with dietary restrictions that may need to bring their own food must check those items in at check in on Thursday. Those items will be stored securely in the kitchen area.

**Questions or comments please contact Iowa Host Family Mike Wityk: (515-669-8743)
Cellphone service is limited at the camp location.**