



Summer Camp 2010

Frequently Asked Questions

YMCA of Grays Harbor
2500 Simpson Ave.,
Hoquiam, WA 98550
Phone: 360 537-9622
Fax: 360 533-2471

YMCA Camp Bishop
Located on Beautiful Lost Lake
1476 W. Lost Lake Rd.
Shelton, WA 98584
Phone: 360 482-5930 Cell 360 580-5833

1. What is the program at YMCA Camp Bishop like?

Summer camp at YMCA Camp Bishop is a fun place for campers to learn and grow. Activities are designed to help young people meet the challenges that youth face in today's changing world. Our program encourages cooperation, tolerance and teamwork within a group living environment. Camp Bishop is truly "The Experience that lasts a lifetime."



2. Tell me about your Staff? Applicants for summer camp are selected on the basis of their experience, leadership ability and maturity. Reference checks and criminal background checks are conducted. All staff has CPR and First Aid certification and all aquatic activities are supervised by certified Lifeguards. All staff attends a comprehensive 30 hour training orientation program prior to the start of the summer season.

3. How safe will my child be at Camp? We give children a measure of independence in as safe an environment as is reasonable. Safety guidelines and policies for the entire camp as well as specific program areas and emergency procedures are thoroughly covered during staff training. Every precaution is taken to ensure your camper's safety while having a fun, enjoyable experience.

4. What is the daily schedule like at Resident Camp?

A general schedule looks like this:

7:30am Good Morning! Polar Bear
(a Camp Bishop tradition!)

8:00am Flag Raising

8:15am Breakfast

9:00am Morning Inspiration followed by Morning Activities

12:00pm Lunch

1:00pm Cabin Time

2:00pm Afternoon Activities

4:00pm Snack time & Cabin Activities

5:45pm Flag Lowering

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Evening Activities

8:00pm Campfire

9:00pm Cabin Time Embers

9:30pm Lights Out



5. **Is there a religious emphasis at YMCA Camp Bishop?** Our goal is for campers to grow in all aspect of their lives (physical, social, mental and spiritual) while at camp. The YMCA values of **Honesty, Caring, Respect** and **Responsibility** are at the core of every activity. We help campers explore and develop their values, encouraging them to think about what they believe and share how they feel in a safe accepting way.
6. **Why should I send my child to Camp Bishop?** At YMCA Camp Bishop, our activities and facilities are tools we use to teach basic values. Learning activity skills is secondary to developing interpersonal ones. Campers not only swim, boat, hike, sing, and camp out, they meet a diverse group of people, make friends, live without TV, and learn to appreciate home. Campers also learn to take responsibility for themselves and their own learning in a warm, positive environment. The camping experience at YMCA Camp Bishop is so unique, no child should miss it.
7. **Can my child choose a friend to be in the same cabin?** Campers can choose one friend to be in their cabin. Requested cabin mates need to request each other on the registration form and they need to be within one grade of each other. We will do our best to place them in the same cabin.
8. **How do I enroll my child?** You may register in person at the YMCA of Grays Harbor, or call (360) 537-9622 and we will mail or fax the registration form to you. There is a \$25 non refundable registration fee that is applied to the total camp fee. Balance is due 10 days prior to the start of the camp session.
9. **How many children and how many staff are there per cabin?** There are two cabin leaders in each cabin which holds 10 to 12 campers.
10. **What about my child's medical or dietary needs?** Camp Bishop can accommodate most camper medical or dietary needs. Parents complete a medication schedule form at check-in and supply the exact amount of medication needed during the session. Also, we have alternative food options for those who need them, or parents may send individual food packets clearly labeled in zip lock bags for their child.
11. **Can my child help earn their way to camp?** Every child has the opportunity to help earn their way to camp by selling YMCA Peanuts. For every 15 jars of peanuts sold, \$25 is credited towards the camp fee.
12. **Is financial assistance available?** Financial assistance is available for those who qualify under the YMCA of Grays Harbor guidelines. Applications for financial assistance are available at the front desk.
13. **How do I send a care package to my child at camp?** You may send letters, postcards and care packages to the following address:
Camper's Name, YMCA Camp Bishop, 1476 W. Lost Lake Rd. Shelton, WA 98584
We are unable to return letters and packages not delivered to camp by Thursday. After checking in, you may also leave mail in the camp mail box located on the right as you exit the camp gate.
Food items should be store bought and please include enough for your camper to share with cabin mates. Absolutely NO GUM or SILLY STRING. When a camper receives a package or 3 pieces of mail in one day, they jump in the lake. (*a Camp tradition!*)
14. **What if my child wants to come home?** It is normal for campers to be a little homesick at first. Preparing your child for camp by visiting camp during one of the camp preview dates can help overcome hesitancies. Usually even the most hesitant campers begin having fun within a short time and are busy meeting new friends and becoming involved in activities. If in the rare instance we are not successful in relieving your child's anxiety about camp, we will contact you and formulate a plan together that will be in your child's best interest.
15. **Can we visit our child during the camp session?** Part of the magic of camp is making great friends while being away from family. We are busy and involved with the campers and all their activities and find that visits are disruptive to our full and busy schedule of events.