**North Port Parks and Recreation Letter to Parents for Summer**

Hello, GMAC and Teen Extreme Camp Families!  On behalf of the City of North Port Parks & Recreation Department, I want to thank you for your continued interest in our summer camp program and for your patience as we determine plans for 2020. Our team has been participating virtually in national and regional training seminars, evaluating CDC guidelines, developing and implementing best practices and outlining modifications to our 2020 camp program to ensure a safe, healthy and fun summer for campers and staff and we would like to share some updates with you. To ensure we can meet the current physical distancing and cleaning protocols, a maximum number of 50 participants will be accepted into each camp program per week.  In addition, the following actions have been implemented:

* Registration will be completed on a first come first-served basis based on date the registration was received.
* Camp will begin on the City’s anticipated start of Phase III, which is June 8, 2020.
* While we will not be offering before and after care, we have extended camp hours.  GMAC camp hours will be from 8 am - 5 pm (previously 8:30 am-4:30 pm) and Teen Extreme camp hours will be 8:15 am – 5:15 pm (previously 8:45 am-4:45 pm).
* To help with physical distancing and cleaning, we are adjusting our staff to camper ratio and there will be one counselor for every ten campers.
* We will plan activities within individual groups and do our best to keep groups from intermingling with each other.
* Each camper will have a designated bag of supplies so they will not be sharing communal art supplies.
* Games and activities will be structured with little to no contact with other campers.
* Camp this year will not include any field trips that require bus service. To ensure a fun summer, camp will include increased onsite entertainment and activities.
* Teen Extreme camp cost for summer 2020 will be reduced from $85 to $70 per week.
* Cleaning and sanitation practices will be increased to meet or exceed CDC guidelines.
* All staff members will be required to wear a mask. All campers will be STRONGLY encouraged to wear one, however campers will not be required to wear one.
* Staff and campers will have a health screening prior to entering camp daily, including a temperature check.
* Camp drop off procedures will be amended. Staff will meet the campers in their vehicle outside, screen the child(ren) through the stopped vehicle’s window and permit those that pass the screening entry to camp.
* Camp pick up procedures will be amended to copy school procedures. Parents/guardians will be given a placard for their car with their child(ren)’s name. Staff will identify parents/guardians via photo documentation and then permit the child(ren) to enter the vehicle.
* If a child develops symptoms while at camp, they will be isolated, and their parent/guardian will be contacted to pick the camper up. As recommended by the CDC, there will be a strict, 72-hour sick policy. If your child has a fever, they cannot return until they are 72 hours fever free without the aid of medicine.
* Increased hand sanitizer stations have been installed and campers will have designated hand-washing times throughout the day. All campers will be expected to practice proper hand-washing techniques.
* This year the price of Camp includes the additional staff, additional per person supplies, additional daily hour of camp and great onsite experiences.
* We will contact camp families for payment. Payment for all weeks requested is due in full by June 1, 2020.  If payment is not received by this date, the space will be offered to the next family on the wait list. Discounts for multiple week registrations will not be provided. A limited amount of scholarship funds are available to help families offset weekly camp fees. Please contact us if you would like to apply for a scholarship. Funds are awarded based on eligibility criteria and are contingent upon donations received to the scholarship fund.

Staff will begin contacting families based on registration date to help answer any questions and complete the registration process.  We will continue to follow CDC and officials’ guidelines, so please keep in mind that there may be changes to camp protocol throughout the summer. Camp registration is currently closed; however, if restrictions ease over the course of the summer, we will work to extend camp to additional participants.  So even if we are unable to accommodate your child(ren) currently, make sure to register for the waitlist. While this is not the typical camp experience, our staff is ready to make it a safe and fun summer!