

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

2012 Summer Camp



Parent Info Packet

Included inside:

General Summer Camp Information

What to Wear & What to Bring

Specifics for EACH Camp

Medication Policy

Code of Conduct

Directions

Frequently Asked Questions

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

General Summer SEA Camp Information

Campers attending Summer SEA Camp will be doing a variety of things based on the shore (and for the over grade 4 crowd – on the water) of Long Island Sound. This is a brief overview of how camp will run - please feel free to speak with the Camp Director during your week if there are any questions or comments about your child's experience. **Please note**, however, that since activities will vary depending upon the weather, tides, and group interests, our daily and weekly activities may change from our originally planned agenda. If there are any significant changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.

First Day

Please plan to bring your campers to check-in at 8:45 AM on their first day of camp. We will hold a brief orientation with each parent (or small group of parents) for parents to get agendas and important phone numbers, go over basic camp rules, and field any questions about the week. We will do everything possible to make this quick, but please plan to spend an extra 5-10 minutes at check-in.

Daily Schedule

Campers should check-in by 9:00 AM and be checked-out 4:00 PM each day. Staff will be on the field by 8:50 for check-in and 3:50 for check-out. Campers will meet at the **Schooner Field** each day. Campers **MUST** be signed in each morning and signed out each afternoon. **DO NOT** leave your child without signing in - regardless of how old or mature your camper is, we need this for our state and organizational safety requirements.

If you have registered for AM extended care, you can drop off your child anytime after 7:30 AM in the **Schooner Classroom at our MAIN OFFICE**. Please note that on your child's first day, there will be a brief orientation at check-in – plan for an extra 5 minutes. If you have registered for PM extended care, you can pick up your child anytime until 6:00 PM in the **Schooner Classroom at our MAIN OFFICE**. Please provide an extra snack for both AM and PM extended care. During these extended care hours, campers will be playing games, doing arts and crafts activities, and watching movies with a trained Schooner counselor.

Drop-off / Pick-up Policy

Due to both Schooner and CT State Camp Licensure policies, each child must be signed-in and signed-out each day so that staff can ensure that all children are safely picked up each day. All people picking up children will be asked to have ID available to confirm that they are the person listed as an authorized pick-up. If someone is not listed (including another parent), staff are required to contact you by phone to confirm that your child can be released to that person.

Late Pick-up Policy

Any child not picked up at their scheduled pick-up time will be charged a \$15 fee for every 15 minutes late (rounded up to the nearest 15 minute increment) due immediately.

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Inclement Weather Plan

Schooner will contact parents by 7:30AM in case of inclement weather that requires a late opening or cancellation. If there is inclement weather forecasted in the afternoon that requires an early dismissal, Schooner will contact parents by phone as soon as possible.

Parents of campers enrolled AM Care will be called by 6:00AM if there are any changes to the AM Care schedule.

There will not be a refund or discount for late openings or early dismissals.

Behavior Plan

Schooner staff members are all trained to maintain situations that are engaging and safe for all of our participants. This also requires the help of our campers – please review the attached Code of Conduct. If you have ANY questions, please feel free to contact Schooner at any time.

Accident/Incident Procedures

Schooner staff members are required to make note of any incidents or accidents during each day of camp. This information is communicated to parents as well as the Camp Director on a daily basis either at the end of the day or, if warranted, at the time of the incident.

Health Form Policy

Schooner is required by the state of Connecticut licensing laws to have on file proof of physical examination (physical exam must be dated within 36 months to the last date of camp), including a complete immunization history. Campers may submit Schooner's health exam form completed and signed by a physician or a State of Connecticut Department of Education Health Assessment Record form completed and signed by a physician. Please contact Schooner at the numbers below with ANY questions or concerns about this requirement.

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

What To Wear And Bring

Summer weather in New Haven can be hot (85-95 degrees) and humid, but the breeze off the Sound can sometimes be chilly. Our over 35 years of experience with outdoor education during the summer months has helped us to create flexible schedules and back-up activities for rain or extreme heat as well as these lists of what to wear (LAYERS! LAYERS! LAYERS!) and what to bring to make sure the campers are comfortable and safe during their entire stay.

WHAT TO WEAR

(Make sure EVERYTHING has the camper's name on it!)

Make Sure You Wear Each Day:

- Weather appropriate clothing that can get wet and muddy
- A hat with a visor
- Waterproof Sunscreen (SPF 15 +)**
- Closed-toed, heel capture field shoes (see suggestions below)
 - water shoes with socks (to prevent blisters)
 - old tennis shoes with laces
 - no 'flip flop' sandals or 'Crocs' allowed



WHAT TO BRING

(Make sure EVERYTHING has the campers name on it!)

Make Sure You Bring Each Day:

- Nutritious bagged **SNACK**
- Nutritious bagged **LUNCH** with a drink*
- Backpack containing:
 - Waterproof sunscreen - **lotion, not spray** (SPF 15 +)
 - Water bottle - reusable** (water provided as needed)
 - Towel in Ziploc bag
 - Bathing Suit in Ziploc bag
 - Sweatshirt or light jacket in Ziploc Bag
 - Full set of extra clothes in Ziploc bag
 - Alternate pair of shoes
 - Sandals , TEVAs, sneakers, etc
 - Please, **no flip flops or Crocs**

*please no glass bottles, candy, or caffeinated beverages

NOTE: There is NO Lunch for Sea Squirts (PreK-K halfday camp)



Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Specific Camp Information

Sea Squirts (Grades preK-K; half-day 9AM-12PM; Send Snack ONLY)

The Sea Squirts will be learning about the amazing things that are found on the shoreline of Long Island Sound, from shells and sand to crabs and fish. Each day, Sea Squirts will focus on different 'treasure' that they can find on the shores of Long Island Sound. Their days will include exploration, crafts, and games. **NOTE: Classroom is in the MAIN Schooner Office.**

Sea Sprites (Grades 1-2; full day 9AM-4PM; Single Week; Send Snack & Lunch)

The Sea Sprites will be learning about all of the different marine life found in Long Island Sound. Each day, Sea Sprites will focus on different animals (and even some seaweeds) that they can find on the shores of Long Island Sound. Their days will include exploration, crafts, and games that focus on marine life. Since campers spend a great deal of time outdoors each day, the days are organized to include active times during the morning and more relaxed activities in the afternoons.

Sea Otters (Grades 3-4; full day 9AM-4PM; Single Week; Send Snack & Lunch)

The Sea Otters will be learning about the different habitats found on the shore of Long Island Sound and the animals, plants, and seaweeds that live there. Each day, Sea Otters will focus on a different habitat. Their days will include exploration, crafts, and games that focus on the habitats of Long Island Sound. Since campers spend a great deal of time outdoors, the days are organized to include active times during the morning and more relaxed activities in the afternoons.

Opti Sailors (Grades 4-6; full day 9AM-4PM; Two Weeks; Send Snack & Lunch)** see next page

The Opti Salior's program is a two week program that combines the best of both worlds – science AND sailing! Campers will spend half the day on shore, exploring and learning about Long Island Sound, and the other half sailing in Sail New Haven's fleet of Opti sailboats. Participants can expect to spend some time each day discovering the plants and animals of Long Island Sound, as well as working on basic sailing skills in Optimist Dinghies, sailing vessels which are perfectly designed for this age group. **NOTE: Groups are on the water from either 9:30AM-11:30AM or 1:30PM-3:30PM – late drop-off or early pick-up needs must be coordinated ahead of time to prevent any delays in joining or coming back from activities.**

Sound Explorers (Grades 5-8; full day 9AM-4PM; Single Week; Send Snack & Lunch)

Campers will navigate and sail their way around New Haven Harbor while learning to work together as the 'crew' of the tall ship *Quinnipiack*. Under sail each day, campers will participate in different marine science experiments that will be performed at different locations. This combination science and sailing camp is perfect for campers with no sailing experience, but even the most advanced sailor is welcome. This camp will end with a camper-led sailing adventure on Friday! **NOTE: The boat leaves at about 9:30AM and returns at about 3:30PM daily – late drop-off or early pick-up needs must be coordinated ahead of time to prevent any delays in joining or coming back from activities.**

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Coast Quest (Grades 7-12; full day 9AM-4PM; Single Week; Send Snack & Lunch)

Paddles in hand, this camp will explore the shore and become an expert on all things in, on, and around the water! Daily excursions bring marine science to life with Schooner. In partnership with the University of New Haven, each day's activities will be led by our trained paddling and Marine Science experts... finding the best spots around the Harbor to explore, paddle, and (of course) have fun! ! **NOTE: Since the daily excursions can require leaving the launch immediately after check-in and/or returning just before check-out AND the group may be out on the water to remote locations during the day – late drop-off or early pick-up needs must be coordinated ahead of time to prevent any delays in joining or coming back from activities.**

Flying Juniors (Grades 7-12; full day 9AM-4PM; Two Weeks; Send Snack & Lunch)

Get ready to set sail for a summer of fun on the water! Each day of this two week program will be a different adventure in sailing and discovery – led by certified US Sailing instructors and Marine Science students from the University of New Haven. What could be better than sailing away for the summer? **NOTE: Since the daily excursions can require leaving the launch immediately after check-in and/or returning just before check-out AND the group may be out on the water to remote locations during the day – late drop-off or early pick-up needs must be coordinated ahead of time to prevent any delays in joining or coming back from activities.**

****Parents of Opti Sailors** – We have noticed in the past few years a pattern or cycle in the sailing progress/attitudes of campers during each session. Monday-Tuesday everyone is cautiously excited and the group is doing activities that are relatively easy and in groups. Wednesday – Thursday are the first sailing days and are often met by apprehension, irritation, and/or fear for some campers. By Friday, if the campers keep sailing each day, the campers are doing GREAT and everyone is having a blast. Monday is a wildcard – some campers jump right back into sailing after the weekend while some are worried that they don't remember what to do. Tuesday & Wednesday are typically difficult days as campers are learning to sail with a purpose – from point A to point B or in a specific pattern/path. By Thursday, they are cruising for their relay race and Friday is a blast.

When we see campers who are having a hard time, we are seeing them say – “I'm scared”, “I hate sailing”, “Can I stay with science all day”, “I don't feel good”. Truthfully, there are kids for whom sailing is not a good fit – we can transfer these sailors into other camps if this is the case – no judgment from us. For others whose sickness is cured by not sailing or going home early, what has worked best is a ridiculously positive attitude towards sailing combined with a hardline – this is Sailing Camp, so our campers need to sail. When we have parents and staff working together & saying the same things, we have had some great successes with campers who came in on the first Wednesday CONVINCED that they could not sail and were too scared to try. We look forward to working with you during this camp and hope that little note helps you understand this natural progression of emotions and be extra supportive – especially in the middle of week 1 and at the beginning of week 2!

Please call us with ANY questions as the Summer approaches – looking forward to another great season!!

60 South Water Street New Haven, CT 06519 • www.schoonerinc.org

Camp (direct): 203-815-5046 • Office: 203-865-1737

Schooner's Medication Policy

Schooner's staff do **not administer medications of any kind**. If your child will need medication, it is required by the State of Connecticut that the Authorization for Administration of Medication be filled out and signed as required (see below). The only medications that can be brought to camp must to be self-administered by the camper, which means that the camper must be able to determine which medications are theirs by size, color, amount, or other label identification; know the frequency and time of day for which the medication is ordered; and consumes the medication appropriately.

Non-prescription Topical Medication Requirements:

- Only applies to ointments free of antibiotics, antifungal, or steroidal components; medicated powders; and gum or lip medications available without prescription (i.e. Abreva, Gold Bond Medicated, etc – NOT sunscreen, though)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent (physician signature not required).
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medication must come in its original container with a label containing camper's name, name of medication, and directions for the medication's administration.
- Medication will be held by camp staff
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

Non-Prescription (other than topical) and Prescription Medication (Non Emergency):

- Includes oral medications, topical medications not described above, inhalant medications, and injectable medications (by premeasured syringe for emergencies only)
- Authorization for Administration of Medication must be completed and signed by parent and physician.
- Medication Administration Record will be completed by Schooner Inc staff and kept on file
- Medications must come in original child-resistant safety container with a label that includes the child's name, the name of the medication, the directions for the medication's administration, and the date of prescription.
- Medication will be held in locked container/area and refrigerated as necessary.
- Any unused medication will be returned to the parents or destroyed by the program staff member within one week of the camper's departure from camp.

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Participant Code of Conduct

During our 35 years of providing Marine Science Programs, Schooner has developed a code of conduct to make sure that everyone has a positive camp experience. This means that all participants – campers, parents/guardians, and staff – shall respect the individual rights, safety and property of others.

Parents: please review these rules with your child (or read these rules aloud to your child if more appropriate).

I will:

- be mindful of my instructors and respect their requests and follow their directions
- respect the differences in other people, make an effort to include everyone, and refrain from behavior that may hurt another camp member or staff member's feelings
- wear closed-toed shoes to camp every morning and during every field activity
- pick-up after myself and throw all trash away
- respect other people's property
- let my counselor know if I am or I am not having a good time
- have fun at camp in ways that are safe to others and myself
- have a positive attitude

I will not:

- fight with other campers with my hands or my words
 - bring candy or soda to camp
 - share food with other campers
 - go anywhere without the permission and accompaniment of my counselors
 - use derogatory terms or offensive language when talking to or about other campers
 - tease or bully other campers
 - bring inappropriate items (includes electronics, weapons, drugs, etc) to camp
-

If I chose not follow this code of conduct:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| First time: | I will be given a verbal warning explaining problem and the expected behavior. |
| Second time: | I will be removed from the activity and my parent will be called; the Camp Director may call home to discuss a behavior plan. |
| Third time: | The camp director will be notified and my parents will be called to pick me up. |
-

This information was found online and was agreed to in order for registration to be processed. Please review this prior to the beginning of camp.

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Directions - Drop-off / Pick-up Site

Bayview Park Field – Corner of Sea Street and South Water Street New Haven

Drop off is at the corner of South Water Street and Sea Street, New Haven, CT. There is a small field where you will meet your child's Program Coordinator. The Camp Director or other Schooner SEA Camp staff member will direct you to the location of your camp's check-in table on the first day!

From the West (West Haven, Stratford, Bridgeport, Norwalk): Take 1-95 North to Exit 44 (Kimberly Ave.) At the first traffic light, turn right onto the Boulevard (Rte. 10). At the blinking red light, turn right onto Howard Ave *.

From the East (Branford, Guilford, Madison): Take I-95 South to Exit 45 (Boulevard - Route 10). Bear left as the exit ramp forks. At the stop sign, turn left onto the Boulevard (Rte. 10). At the blinking red light, turn right onto Howard Ave *.

From the North (Hamden, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Middletown): Take I-91 South to I-95 South. Follow directions for 'From the East' above.

* **Once on Howard Ave:** Follow Howard until it ends at the intersection with South Water Street (there will be a stop sign). Turn left onto South Water Street and follow to the end of the street. Parking is found beside the brick building adjacent to the field where check-in/out occurs. The location is marked below with the letter A.



60 South Water Street New Haven, CT 06519 • www.schoonerinc.org

Camp (direct): 203-815-5046 • Office: 203-865-1737

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

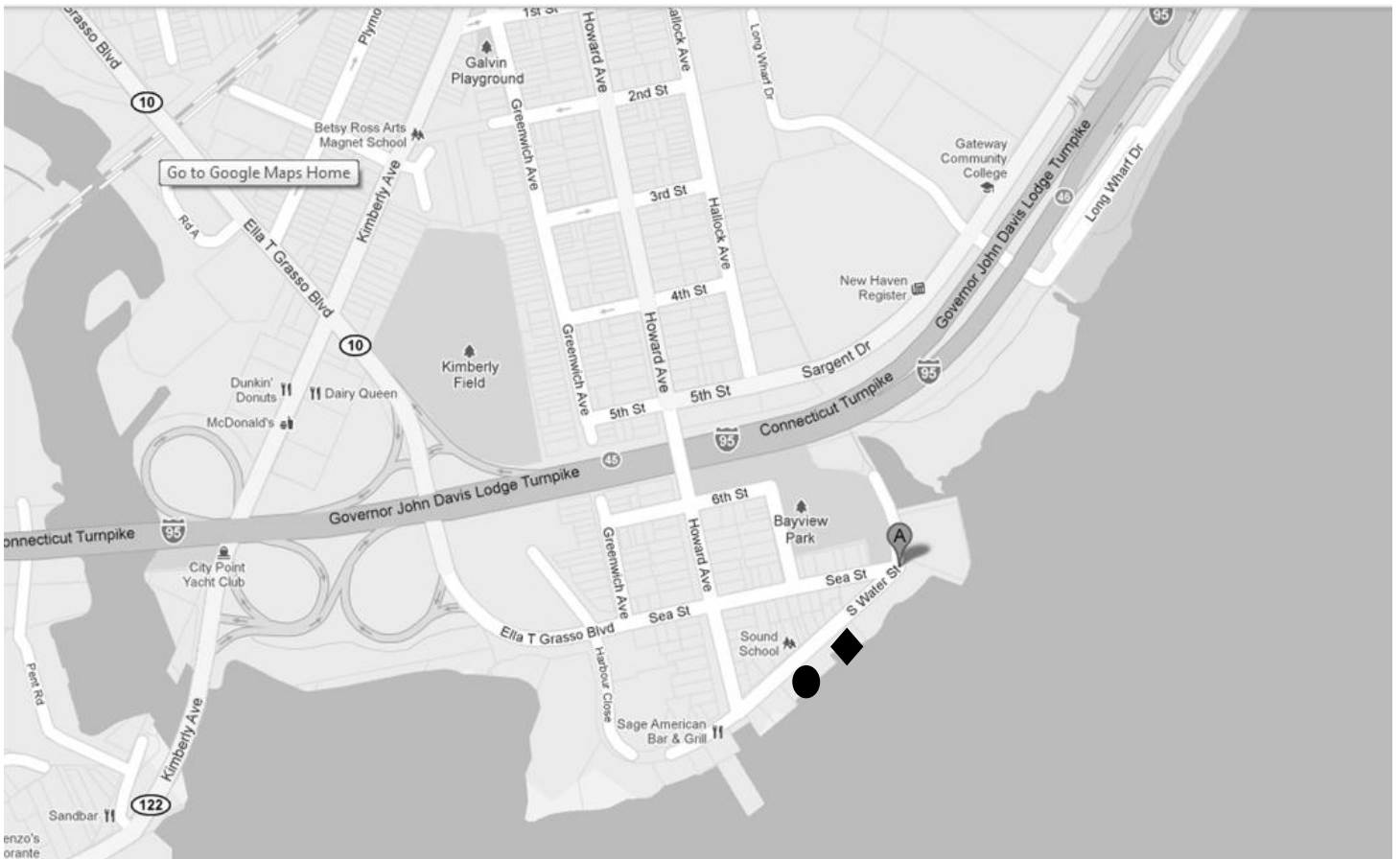
Directions: Alternate Drop-off/Pick-up Sites

Inclement Weather: Anderson Building – Yellow/tan building on stilts

If there is inclement weather, you may receive a text message (if you chose this option during registration) or a Camp staff member will direct you from the field towards the Anderson building. On the map below, it is indicated by the Diamond. Once inside the building, the Camp Director will show you to your child's classroom.

AM/PM Care or Late Drop-off/Pick-up: Schooner Classroom / Main Office

If you need to drop-off your child before 8:50AM / after 9:15AM or pick-up your child after 4:15PM, you can go directly to the Schooner Classroom in our Main office. On the map below, it is indicated by the Circle. Go into the doorway on the right and up the stairwell with the underwater mural. Once inside the main office, the classroom is on your right.



60 South Water Street New Haven, CT 06519 • www.schoonerinc.org

Camp (direct): 203-815-5046 • Office: 203-865-1737

Schooner... more than just a tall ship!

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are kids asked to wear bathing suits under their clothes each day?

On days with good weather, younger campers (grades preK-4) may explore and wade in the Sound. Older campers (grades 4 and above) in boating camps will often go swimming as a part of their day – at the very least, they will get wet during their time on the water. Since Schooner has many campers and limited changing facilities, we would ask that they wear their bathing suits to camp so that we can cut down on the changing time.

Why all the extra clothes & Ziploc Bags?

After 35 years, we have seen it all... and when a camper gets muddy or wet, it is usually not just a little. At best, there are shoes & socks to change – at worst, a complete wardrobe change. And when they take off the wet/muddy shoes & socks – better to seal them in a bag than just stuff them back into the backpack. It seems like overkill (50% of the time, never gets used) but better safe than sorry! Just don't forget to check for a bag of wet clothes every night!

Why must my child bring a sweatshirt for summer camp – isn't it too hot?

The weather at the shore is usually different than inland - it is generally ten degrees cooler on the shoreline. Since we are often getting wet, it is important for campers to have something warm to put on each day in case it gets cool. Layers of clothing help campers deal with these variations in temperature.

What happens when there is a water quality issue?

Schooner monitors local beaches and water quality issues throughout the summer. If there are any local issues, we are in close contact with local authorities regarding their decisions. We have back-up activities planned if we are not allowed in the water.

Why do I need to send sunscreen lotions rather than sprays?

We put sunscreen on inside – if campers use the spray inside, it causes a cloud of sunscreen and propellant within the building that can cause an allergic reaction to any campers/staff with asthma or other sensitivities (especially when 50 or more people are putting on sunscreen in the same building!). Also, it creates a thin sheen of sunscreen on the floor – a slippery mess that can also cause an injury for anyone walking in the area.

Where is drop off / pick up if it is raining?

Thanks to our new online registration system, you can receive a text message on your phone with drop off / pick up changes due to inclement weather. On these days, campers will be dropped off / picked up in their classrooms located either in the Sound School Anderson building or the Schooner Classroom in our Main Office. Any campers who are being picked up late will be in the Schooner Classroom in our Main office.

Why does my camper need to wear closed toed / heel capture shoes each day?

Since your camper's day at Schooner's SEA Camp is a very active day, involving exploration of the shores along Long Island Sound or on the water sailing or canoeing we require closed toed / heel capture shoes in order to ensure the safety of your camper's feet!

Can my child bring their digital camera/MP3 player/cell phone/etc?

NO – they are a distraction from normal socializing that is an important part of camp AND the saltwater is notorious for destroying electronics. We cannot be responsible for caring for such items. Waterproof cameras are a great option for budding photographers.