Summer Adventure Camp
Parent’s Guide

About Our Program

The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania is an educational institution that promotes an understanding of the important relationships between people and plants. When we think of summer at the Morris Arboretum, many images come to mind. Summer is a time to create new blossoming friendships while cultivating old ones. It is a time to observe Arboretum animals that live in the gardens, celebrate nature, discover the world around us, and make fun memories with our Summer Adventure Camp friends. Exploring the Arboretum’s lush gardens and historical features, while experiencing the beauty in our urban ecosystems is what we do best.

Summer 2017 is a very special time for the Morris Arboretum Summer Camp. Over the past eight years, our camp has grown from just a handful of children, to a sold-out educational program that impacts over one hundred children every summer. This year we are proud to offer a special camp program developed for four and five year old mini-scientists. We offer a variety of themes to appeal to every interest of our curious campers, taught by talented teachers who dedicate their time throughout the school year to classrooms of students. We are thrilled that your child will spend their days making sweet summer memories at the Morris Arboretum.
Drop off & Pick Up Procedures

Little Lightning Bugs

Drop Off/Pick up Location: Widener Visitor Center
Drop off:  9:00am
Pick up:  3:00pm

Campers ages 4 and 5 will begin and end their camp day at the Widener Visitor Center, accessed from the main entrance on Northwestern Avenue. A map will be emailed to parents Two weeks prior to the start of camp. Please park in the parking lot and walk to the Widener Plaza to sign-in or sign-out your child with a camp counselor. If you arrive before 9am, please wait outside the Widener Building with their child until a counselor is present. During inclement weather, please go straight to the café tent, or in the Widener Visitor Center to pick up. If you know your child will be absent or late, please call (215) 247-5777 ext. 127 before 9am and leave a message. Campers will be permitted to leave only with authorized adults (as listed on the Registration Form). If you need to make changes to this list, please email Tiffany Stahl (tifstahl@upenn.edu) or call (215) 247-5777 and speak with an Arboretum staff member. Please be respectful to Counselors and Arboretum staff and pick up your camper no later than 3:00 each day. A $25.00 fee may be implemented for late pick up.

Bloomfield Buddies

Drop Off/Pick up Location: Bloomfield Farm (car line pick up and drop off)
Drop off:  9:00am
Pick up:  3:00pm

Bloomfield campers will be dropped off and picked in a car line. On the first day of camp, a counselor will give you a name card to place on your visor. Please have your visor down so that counselors can identify which camper belongs to you. Follow the arrow signs around to the pick-up/drop-off location. Staff will direct you on the first day of camp. Please drive slowly. Horticulture staff and township employee's use these roads so please be alert and cautious. Students should exit the car on the passenger side only. At no time should students walk between cars unattended. Along with this, parents and guardians are reminded that cars should remain in the car line until the traffic flows naturally. PLEASE DO NOT PULL OUT OF CARPOOL LINE after your child has left your car. Please wait until the car in front of you moves. If the line moves and a car in front of you is still unloading, PLEASE DO NOT PULL AROUND THAT CAR. Once everyone is safely loaded, please wait for the traffic to flow naturally.

Campers will be permitted to leave only with authorized adults (as listed on the Registration Form). If you need to make changes to this list, please email Tiffany Stahl (tifstahl@upenn.edu) or call (215) 247-5777 and speak with an Arboretum staff member.
Weather & Clothing
Camp is held rain or shine. Please dress children accordingly. In the case of inclement weather, activities will be modified and moved indoors. Please dress your child in clothes that can get dirty! Hats, camp t-shirts, and sneakers are strongly encouraged. Flip Flops and open-toes shoes are NOT permitted. Water shoes are appropriate to wear on water days. Campers will be given a camp T-shirt on the first day of camp. Please be sure that your child is covered with sunscreen and insect repellent before their arrival to camp.

What to Bring
Campers should bring a lunch (peanut free), a peanut free snack, and refillable water leak proof bottle marked with their name to camp each day. A backpack or small bag may be helpful in carrying these items. Less is more! Be sure to label all items with child’s name. Please do not bring toys, phones, cameras, electronic devices, money or valuables to camp. The fewer items that your child carries with them the better! Morris Arboretum is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged items. Campers may be asked to bring a towel and water shoes for our water exploration days.

Camper Behavior
Our camp environment is informal but structured. Campers will be informed of Arboretum rules and etiquette on the first day of camp. All campers are expected to respect each other, as well as the Arboretum plants and wildlife. Disruptive behavior affects the fun, safety, and overall quality of the camp experience in the group. In the event of repeated misbehavior, counselors will notify the parent/guardian and request that the camper be picked up or dismissed. No refunds will be given to campers dismissed.

Safety & Medical information
Summer Adventure Camp is an outdoor camp that incorporates physical activity. Nature interpretation and hikes to different areas of the Morris Arboretum may have hidden dangers (including but not limited to: risk of bee stings, poison ivy exposure, ankle sprains, and exposure to ticks and mosquitoes). Camp staff is trained in administering first aid and will contact authorized medical personnel in the case of an emergency. In the event of a family emergency during camp hours, please contact (215) 247-5777 and speak with the operator, or see the Visitor’s Service staff in the Gift Shop to get in touch with the camp counselors, who will be called on portable radios.

Sun, Mosquitoes & Ticks
If you choose for your child to use sunscreen and/or insect repellent, please apply it prior to camp. Counselors will apply as needed with permission (see Registration Form). Campers will be hiking through grass, wooded areas, and trails—all places where ticks may be found. While ticks have not posed a problem in the past, we suggest that tick checks be done when campers are home. Neem oil is a natural critter deterrent.
Registration Policies
On-line registrations will be processed as they are received. A completed Registration Form, Parent Permission & Liability Form, must be submitted **two weeks after an on-line registration has been completed** in order to hold a camper’s place in the program. Please email Tiffany Stahl (tifstahl@upenn.edu) to be placed on a waiting list. Cancellations occasionally occur.

Cancellation Policies
Refunds will be made if notification of cancellation is received at least 14 days prior to camp start date. A **$50** processing fee will automatically be deducted from refund. Please carefully select the weeks that you select before registering on-line. The Morris Arboretum reserves the right to cancel camp due to insufficient registrations.

Morris Arboretum Membership
Arboretum members receive a member discount on summer camp and a number of other great benefits. To learn more about becoming a member contact the Membership Office at (215) 247-5777.

Frequently asked questions

- **Can my child be put on a waiting list if registration is full?**
  Yes. If a camp week is indicated as full on the on-line registration page, please contact Tiffany Stahl (tifstahl@upenn.edu) to be placed on our waiting list.

- **What should I do if my child cannot attend camp one day?**
  If your child is sick, please notify the camp counselors or call (215) 247-5777 ext. 127.

- **What happens if it rains?**
  In the event of inclement weather, campers will play games, conduct experiments indoors.

- **Can I send my child home with another parent?**
  Campers can be sent home with those listed on the Registration Form. Alternates can be arranged a head of time by calling (215) 247-5777 ext. 127, by emailing Tiffany Stahl (tifstahl@upenn.edu)

- **What happens if I am late dropping off or picking my child up?**
  Drop off begins at 9:00am each day. If a camper will be late, please call (215) 247-5777 ext. 127 and leave a message. Pick up is at **3:00pm**. Campers picked up after 3:15 will be charged a late fee.

- **Can I stay at the Arboretum after I drop my child off?**
  The Arboretum does not open to the public until 10:00am. Unfortunately, parents and family cannot stay on the grounds after a child is dropped off. The Arboretum closes Monday through Friday at 4:00pm.

More questions?
Please call Tiffany Stahl 215-247-5777 ex127, or via email tifstahl@upenn.edu