



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

2024: BERKSHIRE FAMILY YMCA'S NORTHERN BERKSHIRE CAMP FAQ'S

Questions? Liz Baker, NBFYMCA Branch Director, 413-499-7650 x 225, lbaker@bfymca.org

WHY CHOOSE THE Y FOR YOUR CHILD'S SUMMER?

At the Berkshire Family YMCA's Northern Berkshire Camp, your child will have a blast while making new friends and learning valuable life skills. Our camp is a safe and fun environment where kids can develop decision-making and problem-solving abilities, as well as teamwork and much more.

We know how important it is for parents to find an affordable and trustworthy camp, which is why we prioritize safety and enjoyment. Our dedicated staff, many of whom were once campers themselves, are college and high school students who bring enthusiasm and experience to their roles. They undergo extensive training, and all our lifeguards are certified. Plus, all staff members are certified in First Aid and CPR and have been thoroughly background checked.

Camp Abenaki in North Adams, MA, follows all regulations set by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and is licensed by the local board of health, ensuring a high standard of care and safety. Camp is based out of the Church Street Center on the campus of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA)

Join us for a summer filled with fun, growth, and unforgettable memories at the Y!

OUR GOAL:

At YMCA Summer Day Camps, caring professional role models create experiences that help youth build character, gain confidence, and learn friendship skills. All our Y Summer Day Camps instill the Y's four core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility into every activity, every day.

- **Caring:** Considerate to the feelings of others
- **Respect:** Treating others, the environment and yourself with dignity
- **Honesty:** Being trustworthy and truthful
- **Responsibility:** Accepting accountability for your actions and role in the community

CAMP ACTIVITIES: STEAM, SWIM & SPORTS!

Camp Abenaki offers activities that include studying nature, weather, gross motor, arts, dance, music and talent shows! YMCA counselors provide hands-on lessons that focus on developing skills that will be used outside of our program.

- Free/Recreational swim time
- Field, group games
- Arts and crafts
- Sports, Play & Active Recreation for Kids
- Team building
- Traditional sports
- Field trips to Mass MoCA, Camp Abenaki Windsor Pond site, splash pad, Pittsfield and Bennington YMCA, and so much more!

PARENT PROVIDED DAILY SUPPLIES

BERKSHIRE FAMILY YMCA: www.bfymca.org

Pittsfield (Corporate Office): 292 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201 **P:** 413-499-7650 **F (All Locations):** 888-965-0663

Northern Berkshire: Y Without Walls, North Adams, MA 01247 **P:** 413-499-7650 x225

Bennington Recreation Center: 655 Gage Street, Bennington, VT 05201 **P:** 802-442-1053

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Closed toed shoes with a back must be worn

Flip flops are permitted for swim time ONLY

Water bottle - no glass bottles

Sunscreen

Bug spray

Swimsuit and towel

Snack

Lunch is provided by YMCA for campers, thanks to a partnership with the North Adams Public School System!

OUR NORTHERN BERKSHIRE CAMP LOCATIONS INCLUDE:

- CAMP ABENAKI based at MCLA Church Street Center, Corner of Church Street and Porter Street, North Adams, MA
And
- Windsor Lake, Intersection of Bradley Street and Kemp Avenue, North Adams MA

AGES SERVED: Children entering Grade 1 – 8

CAMP GROUPS

- **Pioneers:** Entering 1st grade
 - Our youngest children begin the camp experience with the excitement of trying new things! Daily schedules provide a balance between active and quiet play and group and individual activities.
- **Explorers:** Entering 2nd grade
 - Our more experienced campers will enjoy new challenges and new excitement. We emphasize increased self-confidence, encouraging others, responsibility and team building.
- **Voyagers:** Entering 3rd grade & **Trailblazers:** Entering 4th grade
 - As the child grows so will his camp experience. Emphasis in this unit is on increased self- confidence, encouraging others, responsibility and team building. Campers may also choose their activities in the mornings and the afternoons.
- **Pathfinders:** Entering 5th-6th grades
 - Our most experienced campers will take leadership programs and specialized activities that are designed to be progressive and challenging, as well as fun and entertaining. As the oldest unit, campers may choose their morning and afternoon activities.
- **Leaders in Training (LIT):** Entering 7th-8th grades
 - LIT campers will have the opportunity to work side-by-side with experienced counselors. They enjoy the schedule of the traditional campers with nature, arts and crafts, sports, and more. LIT campers will also lead a Community Outreach Project that connects with the environment. These campers learn how to become a counselor while also developing their leadership and team building skills that they will value throughout their lifetime.

2024 ONE-WEEK SESSIONS:

Note: No camp July 4, 2024.

Session 1: July 1 – July 5 (Closed 7/4) – Arts Enrichment

Session 2: July 8 – July 12 – Community Hero

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Session 3:	July 15 – July 19 – Sports & Play
Session 4:	July 22 – July 26 - STEAM
Session 5:	July 29 – August 2 – Fun & Fitness
Session 6:	August 5 –9 – Live Like a Local
Session 7:	August 12 – 16 – Color Wars
Session 8:	August 19 – 23 – End of Summer

COST: \$209 per Camper per Week

CAMPER TRANSPORTATION

Parent/Guardian Transportation Only: **No bus transportation is available for Camp Abenaki.**

- Parent/Guardian transportation to/from camp site. Drop-off: 9:00 a.m. Pick-up: 4:00 p.m.
- Please note that after camp care ends promptly at 5:30 p.m. There will be a fee of \$1 per minute for children who are picked up after 5:30 p.m.
- CAMP ABENAKI at MCLA, Intersection of Church and Porter Street , North Adams MA
 - As you turn onto Porter Street, you will see YMCA Camp Abenaki signage to your right. Parents must accompany children into the building to be dropped off and picked up.

BEFORE- AND AFTER-CAMP CARE:

No cost to attend. Pre-registration is required. There is no bus transportation for those who attend extended care.

Before- and After-Camp Care at camp site.

- Before-Camp Care: 7-9 a.m., Monday – Friday
- After-Camp Care: 4:00-5:30 p.m., Monday – Friday

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

The Berkshire Family YMCA offers Financial Assistance for children to participate in summer day camp. Eligibility is based on household size and income. Applications for Financial Assistance can be downloaded from our website – [Financial Assistance | Berkshire Family YMCA \(bfymca.org\)](#) The Y reserves the right to deny or discontinue service at any time. Applications for Financial Assistance MUST be received at least two weeks prior to first camp week. Financial Aid is given on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified families. Vouchers are also accepted.

- **Eligibility**
 - Families must work or reside in the Y service area.
 - Assistance will be granted on financial need for low income on a first-come first-serve basis.
 - Financial assistance is for the current camp year only.
 - Prior account balances must be paid in full before applying.
- **How to Apply**
 - Applications must be filled out completely. See complete details on Financial Assistance Packet.
 - Federal tax form and one month of current pay stubs or other form of income (SSI, food stamps, etc.) must be submitted.
 - Copies of documentation must be provided.
 - A registration fee of \$25 is required for NEW registrants in order to process an application. This is a non-refundable deposit if you decide not to attend the camp.
 - Applicants will be notified by mail of their award.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Make all checks payable to the Berkshire Family YMCA, 292 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201.
- Camp fees must be paid in full the Thursday before the week of camp by check or automatic EFT from a bank account or credit card. Put your child's name on the check.
- Full Voucher or Partial Voucher with parent fee accepted.

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- After the program has met twice, no credits or refunds will be issued.
- There will be a fee of \$1 per minute for children who are picked up after 5:30 p.m. Please note that after camp care ends promptly at 5:30 p.m.
- Payments accepted at the YMCA only, not at Camp.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Three emergency contacts are required. Every effort will be made to contact a parent/guardian in the event of an emergency requiring medical attention for your child. However, if you or one of the three listed emergency contacts cannot be reached, per your registration form, you will authorize the program to transport your child to the nearest medical care facility to secure necessary medical treatment for your child.

PROVIDE CHILD HEALTH INFORMATION

- Proof of medical physical and immunizations by licensed physician within the last 12 months is required.
- Children with allergies must include individual health care plan and medication consent.
- Provide details of child's sensitivities (i.e.: food, sensory, noise, etc.) and helpful tips.
- Children with chronic health conditions must include individual health care plan and medication consent.
- YMCA staff must be authorized (indicated on camp registration form) to apply sunscreen for my child.