



**KEEWAYDIN**  
**WILDERNESS**  
**PARENT MANUAL**  
**2021**

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**Information Sheet.** If you have any special needs or requests, please be sure to include this in the "Important Information About My Child" form on CampMinder. The information will be helpful in giving your son the best possible trip experience. Though we will not acknowledge personally the helpful comments you have made, the information will be shared with his trip leaders. It is essential that we have this information by May 15. Please help us by completing this as soon as possible.

**Health History and Examination.** Medical forms must be completed on CampMinder website **no later than May 1st.** We need to do a thorough review with wilderness and camp health staff of all trippers' health histories prior to the end of May, so it is especially important that your son's health forms on CampMinder are 100% complete as soon as possible.

If your son has been exposed to a contagious disease just prior to his arrival at camp (Covid-19, chicken pox, measles, mumps, etc), he should not be sent to camp until the period of incubation has passed. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, campers should be fever free for 24 hours before drop-off at camp (if Covid, longer). All trippers must have an up-to-date tetanus booster (within the last 5 years).

In order to ensure timely arrival and review of any medications, Wilderness follows a different procedure for medications from the rest of camp (i.e. you do not use CampMeds). If a tripper will need to take medication on the trip, please make arrangements with your local pharmacy for a six-week supply. Bring the medication with you when you come camp and turn in to the Wilderness trip leaders. Medications need to come in the original bottle from the pharmacy with the original label. The camp health staff will be in touch in June to discuss how the medication will be administered by the trip staff during the course of the trip.

**Head Lice.** Please be sure that your son is examined for head lice before coming to camp. Because head lice can spread rapidly and because it is hard to get rid of, a tripper with head lice at a residential camp can be a big problem!

**Medical Insurance.** Keewaydin does not provide medical insurance. ***Trippers must be covered by their parents' or guardians' medical insurance in order to attend Keewaydin.*** Parents are responsible for reimbursement to Keewaydin of any bills related to hospital or doctor visits. These bills will be sent to you.

**Protocol for Calling Parents in Medical Situations:** Communicating with parents is an important part of our medical procedures. Parents will be contacted in the following situations:

1. Tripper goes to the emergency room (when he goes and after he returns)
2. Tripper goes to see doctor, dentist or orthodontist (before he goes and after he returns)
3. Tripper spends more than a night in the Health Center

**Bills.** Your final bill for your son's camp this summer was sent to you prior to March 1. In order for your son's place at camp to be secure, your bill must be paid in full. **No refunds are given after March 1.**

**Trip Insurance:** We strongly encourage you to purchase trip insurance. This will allow you to recoup your tuition fee in the event that your son is unable to come to camp for reasons approved by the insurance company and will pay for evacuation costs. Keewaydin, as per our application, does not give refunds. We recommend Travel Insured International. You can apply on line at [www.travelinsured.com](http://www.travelinsured.com)

**Passport:** All trippers need to have a valid passport and signed travel authorization form in order to cross the Canadian border. *Make sure that you or your son has the passport in hand when you leave for camp!* Some trippers from outside of the US may also need a visa. Please consult your embassy or consular office.

### **Camp Arrival and Departure Information**

***Trip 1:*** Arrive on June 27 between 4:00-4:30 p.m. at Van Lot. Depart on August 4 between 9:00-9:30 a.m. at Van Lot. We are providing a chartered bus from New York City to Keewaydin on June 27. To sign up for the bus go the "Transportation Form" on CampMinder. The fee for the bus is \$125.

***Trip 2:*** Arrive on June 30 between 10:00-10:30 a.m. at Van Lot. Departure on August 8 between 9:00-9:30 a.m. at Van Lot. Bus transportation is not available.

If you are flying to camp or from camp, use the Burlington, VT airport. We will provide transportation from the airport to camp and vice versa. Please provide flight information on the “Transportation Form” on CampMinder.

**Baggage Information.** Trunks and other baggage may be sent to camp in the following ways:

1. UPS - They will deliver right to camp.
2. Federal Express Ground
3. Private deliveries

**Outfit List:** See Outfit list as a separate document.

We ask that your son not bring to camp any clothing that advertises or promotes alcohol, drugs, or other questionable areas. Trippers should pack clothes for the “banquet” at the end of the trip that we will store at Keewaydin during the trip.

**Technology:** Cell phones and other devices may be used while at camp, only in special situations with the Trip Leaders' permission, and then only in designated areas. These items will be kept in a secure location at camp while you are on the trip.

**Knives:** A knife or multitool is handy to have on the trip, but is not required. Please do not bring a knife with a long blade; a pocket knife is fine. Switchblades are illegal in Canada. If you are flying, please be sure your knife is packed appropriately in checked baggage.

**Please Note** - Keewaydin is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen personal items or clothing. If anything happens to such items, consult your homeowner's insurance to cover the loss. Boys who collect caribou antlers as souvenirs may be charged \$100 for transportation of the antlers back to camp, plus whatever costs they incur if they are traveling by air to get home from camp.

**Personal Website:** In order to protect the privacy of our campers and the reputation of Keewaydin, we ask that trippers and staff adhere to the following policies regarding the use of photos on personal website and Social Media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram):

- not use the Keewaydin logo on any personal website or on social media
- not post pictures of campers
- not post any photo that might jeopardize the reputation and good name of Keewaydin.

Keewaydin welcomes excellent photos of camp (campers, staff, activities, trips) for its website. If you have photos you would like to have posted on Keewaydin's website, consult the Camp Director.

**Letters Home/ Communication:**

Trippers receive mail just once during the trip—at the “resupply” at the mid-point of the trip (between July 17 and July 21, depending on the trip). The address for resupply mail will be provided along with an updated planned itinerary for each trip prior to the trip's departure. Please follow the specific address exactly for your son's trip, so that the mail gets on the correct trip!

Any mail sent after the “resupply deadline” should be sent to Keewaydin and will be given to the trippers when they get picked up.

The camp does not permit “care packages” to be sent to boys at resupply. In order to prevent animal problems, promote sharing, and manage dietary and environmental issues, we will be packing one shared “care package” for each group, which will be transported with the rest of the resupply. If you have a particular item that you think your son must have to share with the group, please let us know before June 20 so we can try to arrange for that item to be included.

Each trip carries a satellite phone and geo-locator for use in an emergency. Trip leaders periodically check in to report their location and progress. You may receive automatic “spot” updates via e-mail that indicate the location of the trip and mean that all is well. Please do not contact the camp for further information in response to these updates, as that will be all we know. Also do not be alarmed if you do not receive “spot” updates because they are not on a set schedule.

## **E-mail and Faxes:**

**Camp Office Phone: (802) 352-4770**

**Camp Office Fax: (802) 352-4772**

**Camp e-mail: [daria@keewaydin.org](mailto:daria@keewaydin.org)**

**Keewaydin's Website:** Other useful information including photos from the current summer can be found in the current parent section of the Keewaydin website. Unfortunately, given that the boys are in the wild all summer, don't expect there to be many photos of them!

## **Money :**

Trippers will not need money at camp or on the trip. If they need money for purchases before they leave or for their trip home, their trip leader can lock up what they have in the camp safe before the trip leaves. The leaders will give the trippers pocket money (Canadian currency) while in Canada when they need it. If there are any unusual expenses, we will pay for them and bill you.

**Camp Store:** Our store makes available, on a charge to the parent's account, necessary personal items such as toothpaste, stamps, stationery, flashlights, batteries, etc. Campers may not use money for these purchases. For such standard items the charges generally amount to not more than \$75. If trippers purchase such things as baseball caps, T-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts, or waterproof trip bags, the amount will be larger. We attempt to keep all purchases to a minimum. Please advise your son of any limits you expect.

**Extra Days at Camp:** We do not have the ability to have trippers arrive early or stay for extra days.

**Gratuities:** We ask that you not give gratuities to our staff or directors. We do encourage you to express your appreciation by making a contribution (in the name of the staff person you wish to honor) to the Abby Fenn Wilderness Trip Scholarship Fund which helps provide financial aid to campers in need.

## **Transportation.**

**Travel to Camp.** We need to know how your son will be traveling to and from camp. Please complete the Transportation Form on CampMinder by May 15.

**Automobile.** If your son is arriving by **automobile**, Keewaydin is located about 4 hours from Boston and 5-6 hours from New York City. From New York or Boston, take Vermont Route #73 to Route #53 to Lake Dunmore or Vermont Route #7 to Route #53. Keewaydin is at the north end of the lake. Look for our sign and the footbridge over the road.

**Airplane.** If your son is arriving by **airplane** please try to arrange the flight for a late morning or early afternoon arrival at the Burlington, Vermont airport on the arrival date. Camp staff will meet flights that you designate. **Our fee is \$100 one way and will be charged to your account.** Departures should be made for late morning if possible. Please let us know the following on the General Information Form: airline, flight number, and arrival date and arrival time at Burlington airport.