

# Gorman Heritage Farm Summer Day Camp

**Camp Location:** 10052 Reading Rd. Evendale, OH 45241

**Type of Camp:** Day camp at a historic farm

**Camper Requirements:** Campers may walk as much as one mile or more in a day. Walking is done on paved paths, grass, hills, and hiking trails.

- For everyone's safety, campers are expected to follow directions given by counselors and to treat farm animals large and small in a gentle manner.
- Campers are expected to use tools and knives in the way that is demonstrated.
- Campers are expected to treat others with respect, kindness, and empathy.
- Campers should be able to use the restroom and change out of wet clothing without assistance

**Staffing Ratios:** Two staff members will be with children at all times. Staff to camper ratios are no more than 2:12.

**Staff Training Process:** Camp staff is primarily comprised of college and high school students with experience working with children and in the outdoors. They often have experience working at summer camps, are studying outdoor/environmental education, or have experience with large animals. All seasonal staff complete an FBI/BCI background check and complete a weeklong training session that includes child safety and first aid. Strategies for effective communication with special needs campers is a component of our staff training

**Discipline Policy:** Gorman Heritage Farm camp staff will use positive problem-solving techniques with any camper(s) having a discipline issue. Generally, the pattern below will be followed: i. Redirect the camper's behavior

- Attempt to discern the source of the camper's behavior
- Provide alternative positive activities to stop behavior

If behavior continues, camp staff will: i. Remove camper from offending situation

- After securing supervision for other campers, a camp staff will attempt to discern the source of the camper's behavior in a one-on-one conversation, outline steps to positive behavior through conversation, writing, drawing, or other methods appropriate to the child.
- Camp staff will then return the child to camp activities, monitor the behavior, and provide guidance to the camper as needed

If these actions are not enough, camp staff will collaborate with the Director of Education/Camp Manager and the camper's guardian to achieve resolution, with removal from camp being a last resort.

**Safety / Security:**

- There is a small, unfenced pond on site with a boardwalk
- The site for camper dropoff/pickup is located on Reading Road

**Willingness to allow an aide (to be provided by the family or county) to support a specific camper: yes**

**Camp Layout:**

- Campers may walk as much as one mile or more in a day. Walking is done on paved paths, grass, hills and hiking trails.
- The Farm is a 122-acre site, and campers explore much of the property during the course of the week.

**Communication Style with Parents:**

- Counselors make notes as necessary throughout the day, and typically communicate these messages verbally with guardians during camper pickup at the end of the day.
- The Camp Manager will call guardians if an emergency arises.

**Field Trips / Off Site Trips:** All camps take place on-site at the Farm.

**Dietary / Allergy Needs:** If your child requires an epinephrine pen, you may leave it with your child or with camp staff, depending on your child's experience with his/her allergies. Please make sure you note this and all allergies in the child's health profile when registering for camp. Part of camp on the Farm is interacting with farm animals (including chickens, rabbits, sheep, horses, and other animals). Some camps spend more time with the animals than others. Camps utilize our historic barns at the Farm, where campers may be exposed to dust and hay. Please make a special note of any animal or environmental allergies on your camper's registration form. We can accommodate most food allergies by providing alternative snacks and ingredients.

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