

Parent Handbook

Maine Teen Camp
481 Brownfield Road
Porter, Maine 04068 USA
Tel: 207-625-8581 or 1-800-752-2267
Fax: 207-625-8738
Email: mtc@teencamp.com
Web: www.teencamp.com

Directors: Monique Rafuse-Pines, Matthew Pines, Kris Kamys

Communication with Camp

MAIL can be important to campers, so please feel free to write! Even a quick postcard means a lot to your teen! Mail is distributed at our Evening Meetings.

Our address is: "**Camper**"; Cabin Name (once you know it); Maine Teen Camp, 481 Brownfield Road, Porter, Maine 04068 USA.

FAXES: Dial 207-625-8738 to send a fax to your camper. Be sure to include their name clearly on the fax. We will distribute the faxes with the next-day mail. Campers may arrange outgoing faxes with our front desk.

E-MAIL/WEBSITE: Incoming and outgoing email is available to every camper. You will be notified of their email address before camp. Campers can NOT access hotmail, yahoo, aol, etc. accounts online, as the Internet is not available. Please do not send photos or attachments through email. Messages only please!

CARE PACKAGES may contain small food items, candy, puzzles, books, etc. **Please do not send chewing gum!** We do not sell gum in our store, as it does create a sticky mess on things. Please also do not send your camper any banned items. **Please do not send caffeinated 'energy drinks'**. We do reserve the right to search incoming packages with your camper present.

OUTGOING CALLS: With almost 350 people in residence here, we obviously need to limit phone use. Campers are limited to times when our Camp Store is open. These times are after breakfast (for International campers only), after lunch, during 6th period (their 'free' period), and after dinner. Campers must use one of the four phones in our Camp Store. Please don't panic if your camper calls and leaves a message if you are not home. Usually, they just want to say hello.

INCOMING CALLS: Please understand that campers' active schedules do not bring them near the phone. Leave a message, and our office will have your child call you collect at a convenient pre-scheduled time. ***If you have a particular concern about your child's progress*** or want to "check in" with the Directors, call us at 207-625-8581 or 1-800-752-2267. If we are involved in camp activities or meeting with staff, leave a message and we'll call back at the first opportunity. ***If you have potentially upsetting news to discuss with your child***, please tell

a Director first so that we can provide support after the phone call. This approach is also helpful should upsetting news be included in a letter or email.

CELL PHONES: We understand that many teens have their own cellular phone, and that you may feel that during their travel to and from camp, it may be important for them to carry their phone with them. **CELL PHONES ARE NOT PERMITTED ON CAMP GROUNDS OR ON CAMP TRIPS.** We maintain a policy of banned cell phone usage in camp or on trips. **Cell phones brought to camp may be used by campers only for travel purposes (arrival day and departure day).** At all other times, they must be locked in our camp office for safe-keeping. Cell phones must be turned into us upon camper arrival.

CALLS DURING THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF CAMP SESSION: Generally, we allow campers to call home at any time. The majority of our teens are fine to call home upon their arrival. However, if your camper is having difficulty adjusting to camp and may be feeling homesick, we will encourage them **NOT** to call home. Please understand that it can take a couple of days for your camper to adjust to camp life. If your camper does call home and is upset, please call us. We want to work with you to ensure your child's success at camp. You are our best ally! Please let our experienced staff help your child over this transition period. Of course, you are always welcome to contact us for an 'update' or to verify that your camper arrived safely at camp.

Packing for Camp

A suggested packing list is located on the web site, or you can request one be sent to you. **Please pack WITH your camper** so that you are aware of their belongings that they bring to camp.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND over-the counter medications, cough/cold medications, caffeinated 'energy drinks', jewelry of high value, expensive MP3 players, televisions, personal computers, personal electronic devices that have VIDEO capture capability, sparklers or fireworks, pets, plants, weapons, lighters, pocket knives, matches, etc. Please call with any questions.

APPAREL: Campers may wear what they wish at camp, so long as it is not offensive or revealing. We do reserve the right to ask campers to change their clothing. Female campers are permitted to wear a two-piece bathing suit on our waterfront. **Campers are asked to please always wear a t-shirt or tank top when in camp, with the exception of waterfront activities. We provide each camper with a MTC logo t-shirt, but do not require them to wear it as a uniform.**

SHIPPING... It's best if luggage accompanies children by car, bus, or plane. If this is not possible, UPS (www.ups.com) is a good option. **Please ship ahead (by courier), ANY prescription medications that your camper must take while at camp.**

STORAGE...Each camper has a two-shelf wooden "cubbie" that they use to keep their personal belongings in the cabins. Cabins have some additional hanging space for coats, towels, etc. If your camper brings musical instruments, we will store them in our music studio.

LINENS...Each camper is given a good-quality sleeping bag, sheets and pillowcases, & pillow. **Please send your camper with a 'beach' towel and a bath towel.**

WEATHER...Maine weather is typically sunny and 80-85 degrees, with water temperature 65-70 degrees.

Camp is not responsible for lost items. Items left unclaimed at the end of the camp season are donated to a local charitable organization.

Transportation Planning

Families are responsible for transportation planning.

PLANE TRAVEL: Please call to ask any questions about airline travel and please adhere to MTC's required arrival/departure dates. Check with airlines regarding their policies about unaccompanied minors and overweight luggage. Our counselors will meet children at the gate at the airports. We ask campers to hand-in their return tickets to be locked in our office. The ideal time of arrival or departure is generally mid-late morning into Portland International Jetport, or Logan International Airport in Boston.

DRIVING CHILDREN TO CAMP: Directions are noted on our web site or can be mailed to you. You may plan to arrive any time on arrival day, but usually between 12 noon and 4pm is best. Good-byes may be difficult for all, so we suggest that you tour camp with a counselor and then allow your child to spend the afternoon getting acquainted and playing games with campers and staff while we await the arrival of camp buses.

Car pickup at the end of the session usually takes place in the morning hours. Most campers are gone from camp by 12 noon.

BUS TRAVEL (Extra \$): Our MTC charter buses stop at various locations in MA, CT, NJ, and NY. These details are provided on the **Travel Questionnaire** that you must return to our office. Please remember:

- Please pack a lunch and/or snacks for the trip.
- Chaperones (from among the camp staff) will spend time on the bus introducing themselves to the campers and to each other.
- Hard trunks are not advised on the buses. Please use soft duffel bags and send any trunks via UPS or another carrier.

Our MTC Travel Coordinator will arrange camper pick-ups/drop-offs from the designated stops and airports. His/her job is to confirm the arrangements that families make. Contact the Travel Coordinator after June 1, when he/she begins work.

Spending Money and Supplies

Camp provides standard items such as trip-day money, camp store money laundry, email, and linens. Campers can obtain stamps, shampoo, stationery, souvenirs, etc. at our camp store, at no extra charge, with a **\$80 limit** that we track. **There are no refunds for money not spent in the store.**

Programming and Class Issues

Because MTC offers an elective program, our campers need to take a tour of camp program activities during their second day in camp, followed by the 'sign-up process'. The third day of camp is the first official day of regular activities. Although the majority of campers arrive at camp ready to try any activity, if ***your child has his or her heart set on an activity - or if you have any preferences*** this winter, let us know.

Campers sign up for 5 activity periods per day and are in that schedule for a week of classes. If they go to a class that they don't care for in the first two days, they can drop/add. **We expect campers to attend the classes they choose.** We keep attendance records in our Program Office and the Program Director will follow-up with any camper who misses a class.

Cabin Assignments

MTC makes cabin assignments based on the grade each camper is entering in the Fall. If you have a cabin request, please simply send us an email or note. **We will do our best to be flexible and meet your requests.** Once a cabin is established, we avoid making cabin changes whenever possible.

Daily Schedule

Each day, we begin with an 8am wake-up. Periodically, we will have a later wake-up scheduled if we know the weather is going to be inclement. Our breakfast is at 8.30am, followed by a morning meeting. At this meeting we announce birthdays, trips out of camp, sporting events, evening activities, and we often ring in the morning with some fun! Our first period of the day begins at 9.30am. Campers are scheduled to be in classes and must attend. We have three classes in the morning, followed by lunchtime. We have two more classes in the afternoon, followed by our sixth period of the day, which is the camper's free period. Their 'free' period is usually spent at the camp store, showering, emailing, recording music, on the waterfront, playing sports, in the theater, or completing an art project. Another meeting is held just before dinner, in which more announcements are made and the community 're-groups' after a long day. After dinner there is some time for campers to shower and 'hang-out' before our evening activity at 8pm. All campers must attend evening activities. Our evening ends at approximately 10pm and bedtime is at 11pm.

Dietary Issues

Our kitchen staff puts much effort into providing appealing meals for your child. The menu is full of variety, so if your camper is a "picky eater" encourage them to try new foods!

- We can make reasonable accommodations for some allergy sensitive diets, so please let us know your child's needs.
- Alternatives are available for those campers who are vegetarians.

Overall, we monitor eating habits, and are experienced in serving well-balanced, delicious meals.

Health Issues

MEDICAL FORMS: American Camp Association regulations, state law, and common sense, require that you return our health form, completed by a physician during the calendar year, based on a recent exam (within 24 months of camps' start) and signed by a parent... **This is absolutely critical.** Your camper **MUST** have a current medical form on file in our office and with our nurses. Make an appointment for a physical as soon as you enroll your camper, **or** if a physician has seen your child within a 24 month period before camp begins, have the form signed by the doctor. Please forward the medical form to our office before the start of camp so that our Infirmary staff can preview your child's health. **There are NO exceptions and if your camper arrives at camp without a medical form on file, we will contact you to make arrangements to have this done locally at your expense.**

MEDICATION must be kept in our Infirmary. PLEASE MAIL (BY COURIER) YOUR CAMPER'S PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS PRIOR TO THEIR ARRIVAL AT CAMP! This is the best way to account for all medications incoming.

Prescriptions/vitamins: Include copy of prescription labels, medicine names, dosages, and frequency of administering.

Over-the-counter: **Do not pack** as our Infirmary is fully stocked.

PREVENTION AT CAMP: To best care for your child and other members of the camp community, we must have full information about campers' histories of communicable diseases, inoculations, medical conditions, recent accidents, illnesses, etc. Please take time to inform us about all relevant situations right up until the first day of camp.

HEAD LICE: Though very rare in our age group, head lice can happen at any camp! Please do your part by checking your child's head before arriving. We will send a camper with lice home temporarily while receiving treatment.

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS: In the rare instance of injury or an illness requiring an overnight at the Infirmary, our Infirmary staff will contact you. We can arrange conversations with campers and local physicians as needed.

MEDICAL BILL PAYMENTS: MTC has camper medical insurance coverage for basic visits to the local healthcare clinics. Beyond this, medical bills are the responsibility of the individual families. We ask that you provide us with a copy of your medical insurance card.

Leaving Camp with Other Families

Written permission is necessary to leave camp with anyone other than a parent or legal guardian. To avoid disappointment, please anticipate such visits, and send or fax notes to us in advance. Please name the person

authorized for the visit. Thank you! Please make note that **friends under the age of 21** are NOT permitted to visit campers unless accompanied by parents.

Please advise us if there is **anyone who may NOT visit or contact your child**.

Birthdays

If your camper is going to have a birthday while at camp, let us know if you want something 'special' in addition to our usual birthday celebration. We always sing to the camper in the morning, arrange a small gift, and a cake for the cabin. You may wish to send a gift or arrange a phone call with our office. Please contact us for additional options once camp begins.

Tipping Policy

Not encouraged, but some families like to extend a small monetary 'tip' or gift to cabin counselors. The most discreet and easiest is simply cash (no checks please) or gift cards, given to our front desk to give to the staff member/s on your behalf. Again, please don't feel this is necessary – counselors thank you of course, but cookies from home are perhaps just as nice a gesture!

The Camper Contract (see below)

Fortunately, most campers have few, if any, behavioral problems at camp. However, some teenagers "test limits" and from time to time, we regretfully find it necessary to send one or more campers home for serious infractions. At MTC, we believe in the pro-active approach of behavior management. We want to work with parents and counselors as to how best to make a camper's stay successful and we will make every effort to do so. If however, the safety or happiness of our community is affected adversely, we will send a camper home without a tuition refund. Breaking the camper contract in any way is grounds to send a camper home, but we will work hard to keep this from happening. Parents can help their campers succeed by thoroughly discussing each point of the camper contract with their child before camp. Our campers also go over the contract with their counselors on the first night in their cabins. Our expectations are high, and we make our campers aware of our expectations early on. We have found that knowledge, understanding, and communication are key to helping "at risk" campers avoid putting their stay at camp in jeopardy. We want all campers to succeed at camp!

MTC CAMPER CONTRACT – please review with your camper

The following Maine Teen Camp guidelines are designed to insure that MTC is a happy, safe, and productive community for everyone. Here are the conditions under which we accept camper participation. Read them carefully. On opening day campers will be asked to reaffirm their commitment to these guidelines by re-signing this "CAMPER CONTRACT". Refusal to sign this form or violation of any of these policies ***may subject you to immediate dismissal from camp without a refund.***

1. The use or possession of **alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, or any other controlled substances or drugs** is not permitted at camp or on camp trips. It is illegal in the State of Maine to purchase tobacco if you are under the age of 18.
2. **Sexual harassment or intimidation**, whether verbal or physical, is inappropriate and not permitted at camp.
3. **Inappropriate sexual contact** is not permitted at camp.
4. **Hazing or acts of initiation** are not tolerated at camp.
5. Verbal or physical **displays of racial, sexual, or religious discrimination** are not permitted at Maine Teen Camp.
6. Distribution or possession of **lewd, indecent, or offensive materials** is not permitted at camp.
7. Obtaining **body piercing or permanent alterations** of physical appearance while at camp is not permitted.
8. **Weapons, fireworks, lighters, matches, and any other incendiaries** are not permitted in camp.
9. Campers **may not leave the camp property** except on organized camp trips or with their parent(s) or guardian(s). To leave camp with someone else, campers must have **written permission** from parent(s)/guardian(s).
10. Camper **cabins are private** and open to residents of that cabin only. Visitors may visit a cabin other than their own only when a staff member is present and has given permission.
11. **Theft** at camp, or on camp trips, will not be tolerated at camp.
12. **Valuables** (traveler's checks, passports, etc.) must be kept in the camp office. Maine Teen Camp will not be responsible for lost or damaged property (cameras, CD's, music players, etc.) kept in cabins or other camp buildings. The use of **VIDEO capture capability in personal electronic devices** is NOT PERMITTED for use in camp or on camp trips. **Cellular telephones** are NOT permitted in camp or on camp trips.
13. Respect for **private property** must be observed while at camp.
14. **Attendance** at activities, meals, and evening activities is mandatory, unless the director(s) and/or infirmary grant an exception.
15. Campers must maintain a **healthy lifestyle** at camp. It is essential that campers eat nourishing meals, hydrate, and get ample sleep.
16. Everyone must adhere to **program area rules**. The program staff have authority in each respective area. Lakefront and Ropes/Wall are off limits at all times unless otherwise indicated.
17. **Leaving the cabin** after the last bell at night or before the breakfast bell in the morning is by permission of staff only.
18. **ALL MEDICATION** (prescription or non-prescription) **must be kept in the infirmary at all times**. Cough/cold medications (i.e. Robitussin, Sudafed, etc.) must NOT be kept in camper's possession. There are only a few exceptions such as asthma inhalers or bee-sting kits. The camp medical staff is responsible for individual exceptions to this rule.
19. Each member of the camp is expected to contribute to keeping camp facilities properly cleaned and maintained by participating in **camp and cabin chores**. **Graffiti and other forms of vandalism** are not tolerated.
20. Respect for indigenous animals and plants around camp and the **natural environment** in general is expected.

CAMPER NAME PRINTED: _____

CAMPER SIGNATURE: _____ DATE _____

PARENT'S AUTHORIZATION: THE PERSON HEREIN DESCRIBED HAS PERMISSION TO ENGAGE IN ALL PRESCRIBED CAMP ACTIVITIES EXCEPT AS NOTED BY MY PHYSICIAN OR MYSELF. I HEREBY GIVE PERMISSION TO THE PHYSICIAN SELECTED BY THE CAMP DIRECTOR TO ORDER X-RAYS, ROUTINE TESTS, AND EMERGENCY TREATMENT FOR THE HEALTH OF MY CHILD. IN

THE EVENT I CANNOT BE REACHED IN AN EMERGENCY I HEREBY GIVE PERMISSION TO THE PHYSICIAN SELECTED BY THE CAMP DIRECTOR TO HOSPITALIZE, SECURE PROPER TREATMENT FOR AND ORDER INJECTIONS AND/OR ANESTHESIA AND/OR SURGERY FOR MY CHILD AS NAMED ABOVE. I HEREBY AGREE THAT MAINE TEEN CAMP INFIRMARY STAFF MAY DISPENSE OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATIONS WHERE DEEMED NECESSARY. I HEREBY RELEASE THE USE OF PHOTO/VIDEO IMAGES AND WORK PRODUCT OF THE ABOVE REGISTERED CAMPER FOR THE PURPOSE OF CAMP PROMOTION AND DISPLAY TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. I HAVE READ THE POLICIES WRITTEN INCLUDING THE CAMPER CONTRACT, AND AGREE TO ALL TERMS SET FORTH IN THIS AGREEMENT.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Policies

This policy reminder is a word to the wise. Possession of alcohol or drugs at MTC will result in staff or campers involved in any incident leaving camp immediately. See our Camper Contract (above) for full details.

MTC is a smoke-free camp for everyone, including visitors. Campers in possession of tobacco will be sent home. Live-in staff are required to leave camp in order to smoke on time-off only.

Physical contact between campers

This topic is always discussed because we deal exclusively with teens. All campers sign the Camper Contract that indicates agreement with all our policies. One of these policies is refraining from inappropriate physical contact between campers. Male and female campers return to their respective sides of camp when their evening activities are over. Our camp is designed so that males and females live on opposite sides of camp. Our counselors are trained on how to identify and correctly deal with inappropriate physical contact. Many staff are on a shift rotation to walk the perimeter of camp and the cabin lines throughout the day and evening, and our Group Leaders/Head Counselors patrol the cabins late into the night to ensure each camper is accounted for prior to lights-out time. Please be assured that the safety of your children is paramount to us. We will send campers home who violate this policy without a refund.

Missing Home

Even though you may wish to call or contact your child, our experience tells us that you should wait to make first contact by phone/email at least two days. During this time, some campers may experience homesickness and it is best to let us handle these issues at camp. If a homesick camper hears from mom or dad early in their stay, it may be difficult to conquer the homesick feelings. If you do speak to your child about missing home, please **do not make promises** or private 'deals' with your child, such as, "If you don't like camp after one week, I will come and get you". These comments tend to undermine a child's ability to get through the transition from home to camp life. When parents are supportive

of efforts to stay at camp, campers have the opportunity to gain independence and self-confidence while spending valuable time away from home. You are our best ally! Please let our experienced staff do the best we can to help your child over this difficult transition period. Of course, you are always welcome to contact us for an 'update'.

Problems at Camp

If a situation develops that involves your child, we have to speak with all parties involved and 'get to the bottom of the problem'. We do not judge early in the process of problem-solving. Not only is passing judgement early damaging to the child, but also to us, who have to be the fair voice of reason with teens. Our Group Leaders (head counselors) are pivotal in the process. They speak to counselors in cabins, instructors, campers, parents, and directors before making any decisions. Group Leaders have daily meetings with the directors to keep everyone abreast of any issues at camp. Generally, you will be notified of any behavioral issues with your child. Working together, we can act quickly to solve most issues. We believe we do a good job of communication at MTC and we strive to make your child's stay at camp a great one. Likewise, we rely on parents to communicate with us – If your child tells you something that you feel that we should be aware of, please contact us. Help us to help your camper!

Camper Progress

If you have concerns about how your camper is adjusting and he/she does not call or email you for days, simply call or email us. We will get the message to your camper to call/email you right away. No news really is good news and likely they are having a wonderful time meeting new friends and learning new things. However, you are the parent and we are here to help. If you want to hear from his/her counselor, we can arrange one of the counselors or a head counselor to speak with you. If your child is having a problem at camp, we will let you know immediately. Parents know their child best and we will often turn to you for suggestions or assistance.

Addressing questions or concerns

Your questions can be emailed to mtc@teencamp.com or you may call our office and speak with our front desk and we will try to return your call within the day. We do have someone at the front desk into the evenings, but this is mostly to leave messages for the next day. Do not expect to reach administrators in the evenings, as this is our best time to enjoy the company of our campers and our staff.

We know that camp is a special experience for your family and we will work very hard to do the best possible for your child. Please inform us prior to the summer if you have any concerns about your child's adjustment to camp. Once your child has arrived, if you feel that there is a problem, bring it to our attention immediately. We hope that you will feel comfortable speaking with us about any camp situation.

Collaboration

By working with campers and their parents, we at MTC can make your child's summer a success. ***We thank you for the opportunity and the immense support you give to us.***

Visiting Your Camper

Generally, we are an 'open camp' and do not have a special visiting day for parents. If you do wish to visit, please notify us in advance of your plan. Note that the majority of camp families do not visit their campers, since many of our teens come from faraway locations.

Younger Siblings

Do you have younger campers looking for a similar camp experience? MTC can recommend the following camps for younger children. We are not affiliated with any other camp.

Med-O-Lark Camp (Washington, Maine):

MOL is an ACA accredited community with 275 campers from grades 6 through 9 (ages 11 to 14). MOL is an elective program with emphasis on arts.
www.medolark.com

Camp Nashoba North (Raymond, Maine):

Nashoba North offers four, seven, and eight week sessions to approximately 200 boys and girls between 7 and 15 who hail from many countries around the world. (www.campnashoba.com)

Hidden Valley Camp (Freedom, Maine):

HVC is an ACA accredited community for 8-13 year olds. www.hiddenvalleycamp.com

Visiting Maine

If you are able to visit beautiful New England, please check out some of the recommended sites in our Parent Corner online. Just 45 minutes to the west of camp is the gateway to the White Mountains National Forest and a major outlet shopping area in North Conway, New Hampshire. During the summer months, *advance reservations at nearby motels or inns* are essential. Below are the local motels and dining establishments within a 10-minute drive of camp. An hour away, is beautiful Portland, Maine, where most major hotel chains are located.

- **Local motels (in Cornish, Maine):**

Midway Motel www.mainemidwaymotel.com 207-625-8835

Cornish Inn www.cornishinn.com 207-625-8501

Oak Hill Farm Cottages www.oakhillfarm.com 207-625-7151

- **Local Restaurants (in Cornish, Maine):**

Krista's – Fantastic food, cozy atmosphere, and friendly service.
www.kristasrestaurant.com

Bay Haven Lobster Pound – Famous and delicious Maine lobster and seafood in casual dining experience.

Cornish Inn – Great for dinner. Nice atmosphere and outside porch dining.

Driving Directions from Points South (via Interstate 95 North/Maine Turnpike)

Driving Time is about 2.5 hours.

From Boston, take **Route 1 North** to **I-95 North**. After passing through Hampton, NH tolls, follow 95 North to exit 4, turn **LEFT** onto Ramp towards US-4/RT-16/N.H. Lakes/White Mts./Spaulding Tpke

Follow RT 16/Spaulding Turnpike north approximately 50 miles (note – only first 15 miles is toll road). Approximately 3 miles after passing through the town of Ossipee, NH, take exit ramp **right** for **Route 25 EAST**, towards Portland, Maine.

After crossing into Maine, **RT 160 North** joins RT 25 East. Follow into the town of Kezar Falls. **Turn left**, before bridge, staying on RT 160 North.

Follow RT 160 North (South Hiram Road) through Kezar Falls. After crossing a small bridge, follow RT 160 North as it turns **left onto Brownfield Road**. There is an ice cream store on this corner.

Follow Brownfield road for 2.3 miles. You will see Stanley Lake on the right. Look for our sign. The **camp entrance is on the right!**

Please drive slowly (5 mph) on the camp road. Parking is available as you come up the hill into camp.

Information for International Families

Travel: MTC meets all international flights and provides transportation to and from Logan Airport in Boston, or nearby Portland Jetport in Portland, Maine. Boston is approximately 2.5 hours from camp and Portland is 1 hour from camp. The cost of Boston pick-up/drop-off is \$150.00. Flight dates **must** be MTC arrival/departure dates. Be advised that there will be a sur-charge imposed otherwise. Please contact our office with any concerns or difficulties. Often airlines do require the name of the person responsible for picking up campers arriving under '**unaccompanied minor**' status. **We can give you the name of the exact MTC staff person approximately one week prior to arrival day, but not before.**

Language: MTC has International counselors on staff. Many of our International staff are helpful in your camper's adjustment to camp life. You may wish to register your camper for English as a Second Language lessons while at camp (\$). These are mostly conversational lessons, but do practice some writing skills as well. We also attempt to place campers who speak the same foreign language in separate cabins, so that they may be immersed in American English as much as possible. However, if a family wants their child to be put in a cabin with a friend, this may be arranged. Also, the physical

structure of camp allows limited flexibility with numbers of cabin mates. Please understand that due to the physical limitations of camp, we may not be able to meet all requests.

SIGHTS: During the summer, our campers have the chance to travel outside of camp on hikes, canoe trips, shopping trips, to amusement parks, and beach trips. There are optional trips that require an additional fee - White water rafting, ocean fishing, and whale watching are a few. All campers go to Freeport, Maine – a local outdoor shopping outlet area with discounted prices on famous brand names. Internationals often bring extra money to take to Freeport.

PHONE/FAX/EMAIL: Our International campers have special phone time privileges in the mornings, due to time zone limitations. We have telephone pre-paid phone cards available for purchase in our camp store that can call Internationally. It is recommended however, that international families purchase a US calling card number for their camper to use while at camp. Emailing is most convenient for Internationals. This information will be provided to you prior to your camper's arrival. You may fax your camper at any time (207-625-8738).

LINENS: All bedding is included in your tuition fee. You do need to send your child with a 'beach towel' and bath towel or two.

EQUIPMENT: MTC has all equipment that your camper may need – sporting, music, arts, waterfront, etc. We do ask that if your camper brings their own **tennis racquet** if they are an advanced player. **Please be advised that any MTC racquet that is intentionally damaged or lost, is subject to a replacement charge of 50.00 that will be invoiced to you.** Some camper musicians do bring their own guitars to camp. These can be kept locked in our music studio.

VALUABLES: Important personal items such as plane tickets, credit cards, passports, cell phones, expensive cameras, etc. are kept locked in the office. These items should NOT be kept in the cabins.

PAYMENT: Payments can be made to MTC in three ways –

1. A check in US Dollars drawn on an American bank. **(We offer a tuition discount of 50.00 for full payments made by check/wire.)**
2. Wire the money to MTC's account (Contact our office for bank details).
3. Fax or call with a VISA or MasterCard number, expiration date, and authorizing signature to charge the amount.