

WELCOME TO YMCA CAMP DU NORD

Please read through this information – we hope it will answer most of your questions before you arrive at camp. Please do not hesitate to contact our office for more details.

ARRIVAL TIME

Campers may arrive any time **after 4:00 p.m.** the first day of their reservation. Please head to Gateway House (at the entrance to Pine Pointe Village) to check yourself in before proceeding to your cabin. Campers who arrive before 4:00 p.m. may not be able to check in to their cabin upon arrival.

WHAT TO BRING

Please refer to our [Fall Winter Spring Packing List](#) for a full list of suggestions on what to bring to camp.

Bedding and Towels: Bedding, pillows, and towels are not provided at Camp du Nord. For bedding, sleeping bags are convenient, or you can bring sheets and blankets. Please check [here](#) for information on bed sizes in your cabin. Bring hand, bath, dish, and beach towels.

Food: If you are preparing meals in your cabin, pack all food. Perishable food items are not for sale in the camp store this time of year. There are cooking utensils, pots, pans, a microwave, a toaster, a coffee pot, and dishes in all cabins. Pots, pans, and dishes are NOT provided for our tent sites, platform tents, and platform cabins in the fall or spring.

Clothing: The weather can change quickly at du Nord and it is best to be prepared for anything. Be sure to pack multiple warm layers, extra socks, warm jackets, hats, and mittens. In the spring and fall, it is always a good idea to pack raincoats, rain pants, and shoes or boots that can get wet. In the winter, winter coats, snow pants, and snow boots are a necessity. Be sure to pack enough clothes for your entire stay, as there are no public laundry facilities at camp.

Miscellaneous: Water bottle and backpack for hiking or skiing adventures, flashlight, alarm clock, swimsuit, personal toiletries, and a camera. Please email info@dunord.org if you wish to request a highchair, booster seat, or pack-n-play for your cabin.

DIRECTIONS TO CAMP du NORD

If you have never been to camp, please take a look at these directions! Navigation apps do not always give the best route to camp.

To Ely from the Twin Cities:

- I-35 north to the Cloquet exit
- Highway 33 north through Cloquet to Highway 53
- Highway 53 north past Virginia to Highway 169
- Highway 169 north to Ely

To Camp from Ely:

- Drive through town and turn left on 88 (or Grant McMahan Blvd.) which is just past the International Wolf Center.
- Go 2.3 miles and turn right onto 116 (or Echo Trail).
- Go 9.1 miles and turn left on North Arm Road, which is less than 1 mile past Fenske Lake Campground.

- Drive 3.0 miles (you will pass YMCA Camp Widjiwagan) to the entrance to Pine Pointe Village (check in here at Gateway House), the entrance the du Nord village is an additional .5 miles and the entrance to the Northland Village is an additional .8 miles. All entrances are on the left.

Please fill up your gas tank in Ely and drive carefully! The road between Ely and Camp du Nord is curvy and can be icy in the winter. If it is going to be a particularly cold weekend, park your vehicle so that the hood is easily accessible in case you need a jump start.

PHONES

The camp phone is for emergency use only. Should an emergency arise at home, the caller should call directly at 218-365-0365. If there is an emergency in the evening, you could try calling 218-365-7686 or send a text 218-409-6677. Cell phones have a limited service at camp, and we ask that participants only use cell phones inside their cabins. We encourage you to unplug while at camp!

WI-FI

While we always encourage unplugging at du Nord, Wi-Fi is available for use in or around Morning Glory and/or the Dining Hall. Cabins in Pine Pointe Village, Jacks II, and Thor's Lodge have Wi-Fi available in the fall, winter, and spring only.

SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN

Parent or adult chaperones assume responsibility for the care, supervision, and safety of children. See the policy page for suggested chaperone-to-child ratios.

PETS

Pets are not permitted at Camp du Nord or in any of the cabins or sites. Please send a message to info@dunord.org if you need to bring a working service animal to perform a specific task. Emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals are not considered service animals under the ADA. Misrepresenting an animal as a service animal jeopardizes the independence and safety of people with disabilities.

SAUNA

For campers participating in a programmed weekend, sign-up sheets for sauna times will be available when you arrive at camp.

For Book Your Own Getaway campers, we will schedule **one** visit to one of our wood-burning saunas for your cabin, family, or group during your stay. You will receive an email 2-7 days before your visit to request a sauna time via this online [Sauna Request Form](#). Camp staff will assign your group to a sauna time and day based on your request and the requests of other campers during your stay. Paperwork including your sauna time will be waiting in your cabin when you arrive.

Don't forget to pack your swimsuit, as we run saunas in both the afternoon and evenings. Wool socks will be required in the winter for traction and foot protection on the ice.

CAMP STORE

The Camp Store is located in the lower level of the Dining Hall and is generally staffed daily from 9-11 a.m. (hours may vary – check your cabin paperwork when you arrive). Items available for purchase include postcards, stamps, and assorted Camp du Nord souvenirs like T-shirts, sweatshirts, and stuffed animals. Please note that we do not offer ice cream or other perishable food items in the fall, winter, and spring.

WATERFRONT AND BOATING EQUIPMENT

During the fall and spring seasons, Camp du Nord has canoes, kayaks and rowboats for use at no extra charge. Please do not use watercraft if the water temperature is below 40 degrees Fahrenheit or if staff inform you it is too cold to be on the water. Campers are required to wear a lifejacket at all times while using du Nord watercraft.

Swimming is allowed at the beaches in du Nord and Pine Pointe Villages when the water is warm enough. Please swim within the swim lines if they are present in early September. If you'd like to swim after the swim lines have been removed, please be aware that the water will be very cold and stick to where you can touch the ground. The du Nord beach has a sandy gradual slope. The Pine Pointe beach has a steeper drop-off. There are no lifeguards on duty in the fall or spring at Camp du Nord. All swimming is at your own risk.

WINTER EQUIPMENT

In the winter, skis and snowshoes are available for rent for \$10 per day when there is enough snow for adequate trail coverage.

Snow tubes will be available for sledding when there is enough snow for adequate hill coverage on the sledding hills in Pine Pointe and du Nord Village.

EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Read over any safety rules and regulations posted near the equipment or in your Cabin Information binder before using. Campers are responsible for the safe and proper use of our equipment and will be asked to replace anything that is broken due to misuse. Please inspect all equipment before use and inform staff if anything requires repair.

MEAL SERVICE

Campers may sign up for meal service during our programmed weekends only. Campers must sign up for meals at least 10 days in advance. If you have a group of 25 or more that is interested in meal service, please send an inquiry to info@dunord.org. With advance notice, efforts will be made to meet special dietary needs. Please see our website for more information.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

First aid kits and AEDs are located in the office below the Dining Hall, the basement of Thor's Lodge in the Den, and in the Morning Glory kitchen. Detailed emergency procedures are posted in each cabin. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with du Nord's emergency procedures upon arrival.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

All campers are expected to take out their own garbage and recycling throughout and at the end of their stay. It may be disposed of in the recycling/trash areas in each village. Camp du Nord can recycle glass, metal, paper, cardboard, and certain plastics. Please rinse out all recycled containers and separate with care. We are unable to compost during the winter season.

CABIN CLEAN UP AND CHECK OUT

Care of the cabins and grounds is the responsibility of all campers. All campers are expected to wipe down surfaces, do their dishes, clean out appliances, sweep and/or vacuum the floors, clean ashes out of the fireplace, and take out any garbage and recycling. Please remember to

plan your cleanup schedule so that you are out of your cabin by 11:00 a.m. on your last day. Due to our busy schedule, we are usually unable to accommodate late checkouts.

FIREWOOD

Camp du Nord programs are based on the natural values of the north woods environment and aim to create a greater appreciation for and understanding of the outdoors. Although surrounded by woodland, our supply of wood is not unlimited. Our wood supply, for your use at no charge, is dependent upon hundreds of hours of volunteer efforts and donated woodcutting equipment. We ask that you use firewood conservatively for campfires and in the fireplaces.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, CANNABIS, AND VAPING

The use of alcoholic beverages at camp is limited to the campers' immediate living area. The legal drinking age is 21. Responsible behavior around alcohol is expected at all times. Smoking or vaping is not allowed anywhere on camp property. Smoking inside any building will result in a fine. The use of illegal drugs is prohibited.

LOST AND FOUND

Please keep track of all personal items brought to camp. Recent lost and found items will be brought to the Camp Store. All unclaimed lost and found items will be donated periodically throughout the year. Camp du Nord is not responsible for personal items that are lost, left behind, or misused by other campers.

ACCESSIBILITY

If a family member has a disability requiring accommodation or a special need you would like us to be aware of, please let us know as soon as possible. This information enables us to better meet the needs of your family within available resources.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Camp du Nord is to strengthen families by providing opportunities for individual and family growth, supporting spiritual development, and enhancing environmental awareness in a wilderness setting.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We at YMCA Camp du Nord respectfully acknowledge that we are on the homelands of the Lake Superior Bands of Ojibwe people, and within the ceded lands of the Treaty of 1854, where they retained rights to hunt, fish, and gather.

We also recognize other indigenous peoples that lived here, before the Ojibwe people. These include Dakota, Cree, and other tribes that have occupied and utilized this land.

We recognize the perseverance and survival of our indigenous neighbors, who continue to live throughout this region. As part of our outreach and inclusion, we are creating relationships with our Ojibwe neighbors, the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, and will seek to act appropriately on their homelands.

We at YMCA Camp du Nord are committed to care for and preserve the land, wildlife, air and waters here.

This Land Acknowledgement Statement comes from a collaboration with members of our Family Camp Outreach and Inclusion Committee, the Bois Forte Executive Director and elders,

and Native American Studies educators. We recognize that this is a living document and will evolve as we continue to learn and grow.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Administrative Office

YMCA Camp du Nord
651 Nicollet Mall Ste.500
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Phone: 612-822-2267
Fax: 612-223-6322

Wilderness Address

YMCA Camp du Nord
3606 North Arm Rd
Ely, MN 55731
Phone: 218-365-0365
Fax: 218-365-5677

info@dunord.org

2024-25 YEAR-ROUND STAFF

Andy Sinykin — Executive Director
Emily Weise — FWS Program Director
Kelsey Wood – Food Service Manager
Jen Fogel — Administrative Coordinator

Cole Davis-Roberts – Summer Program Director
Scott Olson — Resident Property Manager
Andy Gibbons – Maintenance Assistant

The YMCA welcomes those who wish to participate and annually raises funds to help make that possible. Financial assistance is supported in part by contributions through our Annual Campaign and other donors, and provides scholarships and subsidies for qualifying applicants within our available resources. Please let us know if we may serve you or your family in this way. If financial assistance could help a family visit Camp du Nord, please have them request a campership application by calling 612-822-2267.

CAMP DU NORD FALL WINTER SPRING POLICIES

PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS

1. The Payment in Full date for non-summer reservations is one month before the reservation start date.
2. Non-Summer reservations will be assessed a \$50 cancellation fee when canceled before payment-in-full date.
3. **No refunds are available after the Payment in Full date.**
4. Requests for ANY change(s) must be made in writing to info@dunord.org at least 1 month before the session start date. Changes are subject to a \$50 fee per change.
5. Campers who are no-shows will not receive a refund.
6. No adjustment will be made for late arrival, early departure, or dismissal from camp. No adjustment to registration cost will be made for campers who are tardy, absent from camper days, or are restricted due to disciplinary reasons, or inability to manage pre-existing conditions, current illness/injury, or dismissal.
7. If a camper is experiencing a physical/mental illness or injury before the session that prevents them from participating, a medical provider will need to provide proof of illness or injury to consider a partial refund.
8. Y Adventure Programs cannot refund payments when sessions are cut short or canceled due to circumstances beyond our control. These may include, but are not limited to, wilderness area closures, forest fires, flooding, or other climate and environmental hazards that would prevent us from providing a safe and meaningful experience for all participants.
9. Cabins not in use because of registration cancellations may be used by the camp staff for other functions.
10. Exceeding cabin or site capacity by one person of any age is permissible for a fee of \$30 per night.
11. Campers may not exceed the capacity of any cabin or tent site by two or more people of any age.

FOOD SERVICE PAYMENT

12. The Payment in Full date for food service offered for groups or programmed weekends is 7 days before the start date of your reservation.
13. No refunds are available for food service after the Payment in Full date.
14. Space in the Dining Hall is limited, and meals can fill up. Registration for meals will close once the maximum capacity of the Dining Hall is reached or the payment in full date, whichever comes first.

USER GROUPS

15. Camp du Nord requires all groups with youth 18 years and younger to have chaperone ratios as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u># Adults</u>	<u># campers</u>
5 and under	1	5

6-8 years	1	6
9-14 years	1	8
15-18 years	1	10

That adult should be 21 years of age or older and at least five years older than the oldest participant in the group. Young adult groups, ages 19 and 20 years old, shall have one responsible adult chaperone to 15 campers. That adult should be 22 years of age or older and at least three years older than the oldest participant in the group. The responsible adult chaperone is the person signing the reservation agreement and is legally responsible for the group. Adult chaperones should have the health history, emergency contact information, and transportation permission for each participant. Chaperones must be aware of standard child abuse prevention policies.

16. For rental groups using the waterfront areas, we recommend at least two adults be present, one with lifeguard certification from a nationally recognized certifying body and an adult with experience and skill in paddling instruction. Group leaders must use a buddy or other system to supervise and account for all participants on or in the water.
17. Camp du Nord advises group leaders to carry participant health information including name and address, emergency contact information, allergies or health conditions, and signed permission to treat or religious waiver for any minors. All medication must be stored under lock except when in the controlled possession of the person responsible for administering medication.

GENERAL POLICIES

18. All online registrations include a YMCA waiver. By submitting your registration you grant permission to use photographs of individuals, families, or other members of your party in YMCA promotional materials.
19. Every attempt is made to encourage the preservation of this unique wilderness setting. All campers are expected to respect the trees, land, buildings, equipment, and each other. Campers be held responsible for any damage to the grounds, property, buildings, and/or equipment.
20. Domestic animals belonging to campers and/or volunteers are not permitted at Camp du Nord at any time.
21. Use of alcoholic beverages at camp is limited to campers' immediate living area. The legal drinking age of 21 years and must be followed. Responsible behavior around alcohol is expected at all times.
22. Campers who bring alcohol to camp are responsible for keeping it out of the hands of those under 21.
23. Vaping, as well as use of tobacco and cannabis is prohibited on camp property.
24. Possession and use of illegal drugs is prohibited on camp property.
25. The YMCA of the North bans guns and weapons of any kind on the premises of Camp du Nord. All firearms are prohibited on camp property.
26. In the early fall and late spring canoes, kayaks, and rowboats are available for use as a part of the camp fee. A 10 hp motor may be used ONLY by people with physical disabilities and the motor must be removed from the boat after each use. If you wish to bring a fishing boat it is limited to 10 hp. A nearby boat landing must be used for launching the boat. Larger fishing boats and/or motors may not be brought to Camp du Nord.
27. If you choose to bring any personal recreation equipment, please keep it in your cabin or site when not in use. Camp du Nord will not be responsible for any damages or misuse of personal equipment by other campers.
28. There are no lifeguards on duty at any time in the fall and spring. Campers swim at their own risk. Children under 12 must be always supervised by an adult in waterfront areas.
29. Camper families are responsible for their own emergency care and emergency transportation.
30. All campers should hike, ski, swim and paddle with a partner and communicate their route and estimated time of return to other members of their group. Any expenses incurred for search and rescue efforts will be charged to the camper.
31. Day permits are required to enter the BWCAW for day hiking, skiing, or paddling. Permits may be obtained at the trailhead at the North Arm Parking lot or at portages that enter the BWCAW.
32. Any recreational activity carries with it normal levels of physical risk. Any injuries to campers while participating in activities at Camp du Nord are the responsibility of that camper or responsible adult. Camp du Nord does not carry accident insurance for campers.