



Camp Tuhsmehta Waterfront Rules

Revised 1.31.24

Camp Tuhsmehta (Camp T) is not liable for any injury sustained by permittees or visitors. Use of the lake is done so at your own risk.

If you are boating or swimming in the lakes connected to Lake Flannigan, please be aware that the lakes are used by other people with watercraft (e.g., Jet Skis, boats).

If a swimmer is missing, the lifeguard or visiting group leader must notify the Camp T site director, who will initiate a waterfront search.

All Visitors

All visitors must follow the following waterfront rules while staying at Camp T. Failure to follow these rules may result in the termination of your use agreement.

- Hours are sunrise to sunset.
- A certified lifeguard must be present at the waterfront area for all swimming/watercraft activities.
- Life jackets must always be worn for all watercraft activities.
- No watercraft in swimming areas.
- No diving in the enclosed swimming area.
- No running or horseplay.
- No food or glass.
- All waterfront equipment and watercraft must be returned and secured to their original location.

Licensed Camps

The following waterfront rules are for all visiting groups that are licensed camps. Failure to follow these rules, as well as the rules listed above for all visitors, may result in the termination of your use agreement.

- All campers are given a waterfront orientation the first time they come down to the waterfront. The orientation includes general rules, swim areas, buddy board operation, lifeguard introduction, swim test, and safety procedures.
- Swim test/levels are determined via a swim test administered by the aquatic supervisor prior to the first swimming event. Campers are separated into groups:
 1. Those who want to test.
 2. Those who do not want to test.
- Swim testing will be administered at the beginning of the swim session only. No other swimming activities shall take place during testing of swimmers.
- The swim test includes two phases. The first phase consists of a swimmer, using any stroke of choice, swimming 4 lengths of the enclosed swimming area. One adult with a camper roster will record test results. The swimmer will be assessed for signs of fatigue, as well as the ability to move efficiently through the water. If the swimmer passes the first phase, they have a choice to attempt Phase 2, which consists of treading water for 2 minutes in the deep swim area. Results will be shared with the adult recording on the camper roster. Depending on the swimmer's performance during the test, they will be classified as follows on a washer for the buddy board:

Red Level: Beginner Swimmer

Must wear a Coast-Guard-approved life jacket; is allowed in the enclosed swim area only.

Yellow Level: Intermediate Swimmer

Optional to wear a life jacket in the enclosed area; must wear a life jacket in the deep swimming area.

Green Level: Skilled Swimmer

Allowed in the enclosed and deep swimming area without a life jacket.

- Waterfront drills (Buddy Checks, Lost Swimmer Procedure, Severe Weather Waterfront Procedure) will be discussed and modeled at each camp session.
- The aquatic supervisor will not allow a swimmer to participate in an aquatic activity that requires a higher skill than the camper's swimming ability, except during formal instruction.
- The buddy system is used to check in and out of the waterfront. Buddy checks will be signaled and conducted every 10 minutes as follows:
 1. Campers will check in at the Buddy Board before entering the same water area with their buddy.
 2. Campers will stay in close proximity with their buddy while checked into the area.
 3. If a camper is leaving a specific area, he/she needs to take his/her buddy with them to the buddy board and check out. (The aquatic supervisor may indicate that "buddy changes" can only occur at buddy checks based on number of swimmers.)
 4. Buddy checks are conducted every 10 minutes. When the whistle blows twice, campers must stop all activity (including watercraft), find a safe place, and raise their buddy's hand.
 5. The buddy board watcher counts the tags in each area (including watercraft) and relays the information to the aquatic supervisor.
 6. The aquatic supervisor counts the number of pairs.
 7. The aquatic supervisor repeats the number of pairs to the buddy board watcher and says, "I have X pairs," "We are all clear," "I have pairs," or "We need a recount." If a recount is necessary, the buddy board watcher recounts pairs and relays the information to the aquatic supervisor.

8. The aquatic supervisor counts the number of pairs.
9. The aquatic supervisor repeats the number of pairs to the buddy board watcher and says, "I have X pairs," "We are all clear," or "I have pairs." If pairs do not match, the aquatic supervisor activates the Waterfront Emergency Action Plan with a loud signal blast. If pairs do match, campers who wish to leave the area, change buddies, or change their activity location, may do so after the OK is given.
10. After all changes are made, a short whistle blast indicates activity may resume.

If numbers do not match between the buddy board and aquatic supervisor pair count, the aquatic supervisor will initiate the Waterfront Emergency Action Plan.

1. Individual Pairs/Name Call (if necessary): The buddy board checker will start with each pair of washers and call out swimmer names. Upon hearing their names, swimmers will yell "here," lower their hands, and exit the swimming area quickly and quietly.
2. The buddy board checker will put washers in the storage area and will continue through all pairs on the buddy board until all swimmers are out of the water.
3. Swimmers/boaters exiting the area should be escorted by available staff. Exception: Swimmers who may have firsthand "last seen location" information.
4. The aquatic supervisor will direct an adult to activate 9-1-1 (indicating a water rescue emergency), inform the site director, program director, and camp nurse; and initiate a search of the cabins, White Pine, and Jack Pine areas as appropriate. Post an adult to direct EMS to the waterfront.
5. The aquatic supervisor will direct adults remaining on the waterfront to assist with a waterfront search. The waterfront search will consist of a walk-around visual search and an in-water search of swimming areas.
6. If the swimmer is located, initiate emergency first aid as appropriate.
7. If the swimmer is not located, continue the search with local authorities.