THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Guidelines for Making Reservations

Recreation Camps 2025

The following information explains guidelines for placing reservations at Church-owned camps. By following these guidelines, leaders and members will contribute to being wise stewards over these Church-provided resources.

PRIORITY RESERVATION SCHEDULE

The Church owns camp properties to host annual youth summer camps. The priority reservation schedule is set by the Priesthood and Family department to ensure the camps are used for that primary purpose. The schedule indicates when Church leaders can start making reservations for each specific type of activity (i.e., stake Young Men camp, ward Young Women camp, youth conference).

Recreation camps can be used for youth conferences, but doing so is not expected or required. After youth groups have a chance to schedule, other Church organizations' use is encouraged. Use of the properties for family reunions or other personal activities is not the purpose of recreational properties; members can reserve the camps for personal use only if there is remaining availability after all needs of official Church programs are met.

Non-members cannot place reservations, but they may attend Church activities or personal activities with members. Other organizations, including other churches and home-schooling groups run by members, cannot hold their own activities at Church-owned properties.

Reserving for your group type

Priority access is only given so presidency members and other leaders can make reservations for the group they serve. It is inappropriate to make a reservation on behalf of one Church group intending to have another use it.

For example, a Young Women leader should not make a Young Women reservation with the intention of Young Men camping there instead. Nor should a Young Women leader make a Young Women reservation with the intention of holding a Youth Combined activity. This practice circumvents the priority schedule set by the youth General Presidencies and can cause challenges among youth groups sharing the property. If any reservations are made by one Church group on behalf of another, the reservation may be cancelled.

sharing facilities with other Youth Groups

In 2023, the Young Women and Young Men General Presidencies realized a need to make room for more youth groups to use Church-owned properties. They have asked that stakes and wards share recreation camps between youth groups rather than having one youth group reserve the entire property at a time (where possible). However, youth groups are not being asked to share the property with personal reservations, including family reunions.

Each unit should have enough space to comfortably run their program. This requires an appropriate amount of surplus capacity in order to accommodate different tent sizes, give wards their own campsites, arrange youth by age groups, separate genders for combined activities, or whatever campsite configurations are desired. Stakes and wards are not being asked to only reserve the exact number of sleeping spaces as attendees, but they are being asked to only reserve the space they could reasonably use rather than leaving some campsites sitting completely unused. Please be considerate of other youth groups trying to find places to camp by leaving other campsites

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available. It is not appropriate to overinflate attendance numbers or reserve unneeded campsites to prevent other groups from reserving the camp. Reservations where this occurs may be canceled without advance notice.

Estimating Attendance Numbers

When making reservations for the following year, it may be challenging to know the exact number of patrons that will attend camp. Please be as accurate as you can. It is highly unlikely that you will need to bring more youth attendees than 110% of the number of youth on the unit's membership records or more adult attendees than 20% of the youth attendees. If either percentage is exceeded, the system will require you to explain to the camp managers why you need to bring so many extra people. These percentages were set to account for youth moving into the ward, less actives attending, youth bringing non-member friends, etc. so you may be asked to work with the camp managers to adjust your reservation.

You can amend the attendee numbers on your reservation up to two weeks before your arrival date; however, the maximum capacity for each campsite must be followed due to the limits of sewage systems and capacity permits regardless of whether or not more people can physically fit in the space.

Including Amenities in Your Reservation

Amenities are any activities or facilities that are used for events during camp but are not needed during the full duration of the stay. These include activities like frisbee golf, volleyball courts, and challenge courses. Amenities are also facilities like amphitheaters and large pavilions that can be shared among different groups throughout the day by scheduling event times. An amenity is not a place where people sleep.

It is very important to select all the amenities your group plans on using when the reservation for campsites is placed due to insurance and the availability of the amenities. Because more than one youth group may be sharing the camp, groups should schedule session times to use the amenities. Please be considerate of other groups when making amenity reservations. Amenity reservations can be amended up to the start of the session time.

If an amenity is not included in the group's reservation, they will not be permitted to use that amenity even if it is not being used by others. Unit reservations are considered Church-sponsored events and all amenities should be specifically included in the unit's reservation.

The Sabbath Day

According to the Church's General Handbook, "No Church camps, sports events, or recreational events are to be scheduled on Sunday. Nor should youth groups and others travel to or from camps or youth conferences on Sunday (Sabbath-Day Observance, 20.5.8)." Reservations cannot be made for overnight camping on Saturday or Sunday nights, but camps can be reserved for day use on Saturdays. Day use on Sunday is not permitted.

Reservation System Steps

When you make a campsite reservation, the system will take you through five steps:

1. **Campgrounds** where you will select which campsites you need, based on your group size.
2. **Amenities** where you will select all the amenities or activities your group wants to participate in.
3. **Details** where you will enter specifics about your group, including the anticipated number of attendees.
4. **Review** where you will see a summary of your reservation.
5. **Finish Reservation** where you will accept the terms and conditions then proceed to final payment.

Unit reservations are paid for internally. The Church unit's funds will be automatically transferred to the camp once the reservation is complete. Personal reservations are paid by credit card. Patrons will receive a confirmation email.

Terms & Conditions

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When making a reservation, the process will require you to open the terms and conditions separately and accept each of them individually. You cannot complete the reservation process until the terms and conditions are accepted.

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