

UBarU Youth Camp Information for parents/guardians and campers: 2021 (published Feb 2021)

There is a lot of information here. Please read it carefully and thoroughly. We look forward to meeting you and your camper(s)!

As we determine best practices and state guidelines regarding managing the corona virus, this information may be updated here and/or at the UBarU website. Thank you for your support.

Anticipated changes for 2021 camps

We will have fewer campers on-site for each week of camp. Campers and staff will be expected to comply with COVID-precautions while at camp including mask wearing, physical distancing, extra hand washing, meal modifications and pre-camp testing & quarantining as well as possible mid-week testing. Outdoor activities will be used as much as possible based on weather as well as eating outdoors as much as possible. We will not have any field trips this year to minimize exposure during van rides. Additional cleaning will occur during camp week particularly of high-touch surfaces. In the event of a camper or staff showing symptoms of COVID, they will be quarantined and parents/guardians will be notified immediately.

Arrival and Departure

Check-in will occur from 4 – 5:30 p.m. at the UBarU Meeting House on the opening day of each session. We will take the temperature of the camper and adult while in the vehicle. We will review your COVID questionnaire and test results before beginning additional check-in.

Campers are expected to quarantine at home for 14 days prior to camp and have a COVID test done 3-5 days prior to camp.

Please arrive during check-in hours only. Pick-up time is 10:30 a.m. Please pick up your camper no later than 11:00 a.m. UBarU is located at **277 U-Bar-U Dr. Mountain Home, TX 78058**. Many GPS programs find Thrill Hill Dr. and UBarU is at the end of Thrill Hill Dr. Once on campus, follow the road to the Meeting House and park in the parking lot adjacent.

Departure Procedure

In order to insure the safety and security of our summer campers, the following procedure will be used for picking up campers. At registration, the name of the person authorized to pick up the camper at 10:30 a.m. on their departure day will be written on the registration master list. If unknown, the designated pick-up person **MAY BE ASKED TO**

PRESENT PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION. If the person picking up your camper needs to change, please call UBarU at 830-460-6002. If there is any reason to suspect a person may attempt an unauthorized pick-up of a camper, please notify UBarU.

Health and Safety

Each camper's health and safety is important to us. Campers and staff will be expected to properly wear a mask over mouth and nose. Campers will be asked to physically distance from one another as much as possible. Campers must provide a negative COVID test within 3-5 days of arriving at camp. Hand hygiene will be encouraged strongly and often. Temperature checks daily and a mid-week COVID test (based on availability) for campers may also be employed to reduce risk. We will have a designated Camp Health Officer on staff at each event to care for ill or injured campers and to supervise the taking of medicines. For the health and safety of every camper, please make sure to let us know of your camper's health issues, including severe allergies and have sick/infectious campers remain at home. Bring any prescription medications your camper needs in clearly labeled bottles or appropriate container including camper name and medication name, dosage, frequency. Please include the correct # of pills for the number of doses the camper will need for the week. If you send "As Needed medications", please indicate on the bottle/package how many are contained within. Additionally, please complete the Medication Spreadsheet document found at <https://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>. It includes camper name, medication name, amount/dosage of scheduled medications along with space at the top for "As Needed medications". Please print the completed spreadsheet and bring to camp with the camper's labeled medications.

If a camper or staff shows signs of illness, the individual who has the fever, loss of taste/smell or other symptom will be quarantined. They may be tested with a point-of-care test at camp (if available) and parents/guardians will be notified to arrange pick up of the camper. If the individual is a staff member, they will be sent home. The symptomatic camper's pod will be isolated from other campers in a cottage. All campers and staff will continue to be temperature checked daily. If a (+) test result is reported, all parents will be emailed.

Please upload your camper's immunization record into their Active account. If you have trouble doing so, please email a copy to

director@ubaru.org prior to camp. Active will remind you via email to submit this as well.

We encourage staff and campers to get vaccinated for COVID, but it will not be mandatory. Those who are vaccinated will still be expected to wear a mask, physically distance and comply with COVID precautions. Campers are asked to quarantine for 2 weeks prior to starting camp and have a negative test within 3-5 days of camp starting. Similarly, staff will be asked to quarantine for 2 weeks prior to their arriving at camp and have a negative test within 3-5 days of arriving at camp.

Camper Profile

The camper profile in Active is used to ensure that counselors and staff are prepared to care for and minister to your child's specific needs. Knowledge of each camper's individual physical and emotional needs is paramount in equipping our staff to provide excellent quality of care. All information will be seen only by the appropriate counselors and staff and will be kept confidential. Please take great care and consideration when filling this form out. Non-disclosure of this information prior to your child attending camp may result in a camper being sent home from camp in which case, no refund will be given. If you need to edit your camper's profile, log in to Active and make the needed changes as well as upload the immunization information. If you have trouble uploading and editing information in Active, please email director@ubaru.org for assistance or to send the pertinent information.

Camper Mail

Mail is very important to your camper, especially those who are away from home for the first time. We encourage you to mail letters before the actual session begins (or not later than Wednesday), to assure the camper receives them. We can make no guarantee on postal delivery. If sending a package, please send with care understanding that "goodies" can sometimes negatively affect morale. All letter and packages must include:

Camper's first and last name
UBarU Camp and Retreat Center
277 U-Bar-U Drive
Mountain Home, TX 78058

Phoning or Visiting

We are fully conscious of our great responsibility in the care of your child. In the case of any emergency, either physical or otherwise, you will be notified promptly. We do not allow personal phone calls, either incoming or outgoing, or personal visitation during the camp session due to the interruption to the schedule and the effect on camper morale. Please do not send cell phones with your Primary and Intermediate campers as they are prohibited and will be secured and returned upon departure on Saturday. If a serious concern arises, you may contact the Camp Director to discuss the situation.

Emergency Telephone Number: UBarU 830-460-6002
Executive Director, Robyn Stout 919-450-7212 (mobile)

Camp Property

Responsible care of buildings, beds, doors, windows, trees, etc. is expected of all campers. Articles willfully destroyed will be charged to campers or their parents.

Everyone is Welcome!

Rules for acceptance and participation are the same for everyone without regard to gender, ability, political belief, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or religion.

The **Senior** camp has some policies designed to make camp comfortable and welcoming for all youth regardless of where they identify along the gender spectrum. Please contact Director@ubaru.org to discuss the particular needs of your Senior camper.

What to Bring

Please pack enough clothes for the entire week. Laundry facilities are not available. Campers will be provided with a UBarU t-shirt, bandana and water bottle at check-in.

- Twin sheet set (with blanket) OR light sleeping bag
- Pillow and pillow case
- Masks or other facial coverings
- COVID test result taken 3-5 days prior to start of camp
- Hat
- Swim suit(s)
- Life jacket if that is important for your camper to enjoy the pool
- Laundry bag

- Pajamas
- Close-toed Shoes (no open-toed, backless or sandals)
- Water shoes for walking to/from pool and while in pool (if preferred) The pool bottom is rough and can scrape toes.
- Flashlight (with new batteries)
- Rain poncho or jacket in the event of rain
- Toilet articles (soap, shampoo, tooth care, etc.)
- Towels and washcloths
- Underwear and socks
- Simple sports clothes (shorts, short-sleeved shirts, light colors)
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Jeans and light long-sleeved shirt for service project (Senior campers only)
- Insect repellent
- Crummy clothes for messy events
- Small backpack or fanny pack for having necessary items with camper during the day and across various locations
- Books, items for indoor free time that camper might enjoy
- If your child will need to take prescription or more unusual non-prescription medications while at camp, they will need to bring them with them in the bottle from the pharmacy or in the OTC packaging. Printed instructions from the parent included with the medications is very helpful as well as the spreadsheet (see <https://ubaru.org/home/SummerCamp>) . The medications will be kept in a safe location and distributed by the Camp Health Officer as you instruct. Any unused medication will be returned to you at the end of camp.
- If your child has particular dietary limitations which we may not be able to accomodate fully, you are welcome to bring food (labeled with camper's name) to supplement their diet during the week.

** Optional items: journal, camera, stationery, envelopes and stamps.
Senior Youth Camp only: iPods (for use only for community music), money and contributions for auction.

What not to bring

All camps: Knives, firearms, fireworks, aerosols, alcohol, drugs, non-prescription drugs, tobacco products, e-cigarettes or vaping devices/ paraphenalia, personal CD/DVD players, DVDs, radios, curling irons, hot rollers, straighteners.

Non-high-school camps: cell phones, iPods, money, gaming systems, CDs and tapes.

Please do not send valuable items with your camper. UBarU is not responsible for jewelry and other valuables or articles left or lost at camp. Visitors are welcome on opening and closing days only. No visitors are allowed during camp sessions. Please refer to “Phoning or Visiting” above.

LOCATION 277 U-Bar-U Dr Mountain Home, TX

UBarU Camp and Retreat Center is a wildlife preserve in the rugged ranch land of the Texas Hill Country, near Kerrville. It is 142 acres of prairie grasses, live oaks, and wild animals. There is a limestone rock swimming tank, a tree house, two labyrinths, a campfire ring, and lots of room for Frisbee, bocce ball, and other outdoor games. Some GPS apps do not recognize our street address. However, you can tell it “Thrill Hill Dr.” UBarU is at the end of Thrill Hill Dr. off Road 479 which runs between I-10 and US 290. Thrill Hill Dr is just off I-10 at exit #492.

STAFF

Executive Staff: UBarU Executive Director - Robyn Stout.

Children’s Camp Staff Co-Managers: Aija Duelm

Senior (Reeb) Camp Staff: Jairy Graffe and Tavis McGeachin will serve as managers, the leadership team directing the senior camp.

At all camps, we have adult counselors as well as the Camp Health officer, chaplain and kitchen staff to support the needs of the campers.

Faith Development

Summer camp is loads of fun! And this is church camp, so we do spend some time learning about and going deeper into our faith. Most days includes a “U3” (“U-cubed = UU & You) time exploring Our UU themes and values and a spiritual gathering. Campers lead some worship services while the designated chaplain leads others. Our nightly camp meeting involves creating and discussing how we are living into our camp covenant.

A Day in the Life of a Beginner and Intermediate Summer Camper

After breakfast, the campers spend a brief period of time on light cleanup of their cabins and the campsite. Each day begins with a short worship service, led by either the chaplain or the campers themselves, with time in small groups afterward. The rest of the morning is spent participating in outdoor activities, spiritual development, arts and crafts, and/or nature discovery programs.

Lunch is followed by “turtle time”, a period for rest, reading, and reflection. The heat of the afternoon is spent playing games, doing arts and crafts, and having “COVID-safe” fun. Later, we go to the tank for a swim, then spend time learning about Unitarian Universalism. We will remain on campus this summer for all activities.

Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. Each night after supper, an all-camp meeting is held to reflect on how well we have all been living up to our camp covenant. The evening program includes such activities as on-site service projects, evening worship, small group time, challenge games, talent show, skit night, astronomy, night hikes, or campfire.

A Day in the Life of a Senior/Reeb Summer Camper

Each day at the senior camp is a unique and enriching experience. Every day will include meals and various community building and spiritual activities throughout the day. The activities to look forward to include: powerful worship services led by campers and the chaplain, workshops (ranging from crafts and discussion groups to meditation and drum circles), exploration of religious and social issues, camp-wide special events and community building activities, dances, camp-wide social action, social times with cabin groups, an auction where proceeds go to charity (feel free to bring something to contribute!), ultimate Frisbee, campfires, and much, much more.

What makes this camp unique is that the programming is planned and executed by a staff of youth and adults who work together to make the week as inspiring and meaningful as possible.

Thank you for supporting UBarU and our youth!

Robyn Stout
Executive Director director@ubaru.org
UBarU Camp & Retreat Center
277 U-Bar-U Dr.
Mountain Home, TX 78058
830.460.6002
www.ubaru.org