

4-H Summer Camp Info.



We hope you will join us at 4-H Summer Camp this year!

WHEN: July 12-17, 2025 **WHERE:** Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp

COST: \$250

WHO CAN CAMP? Currently enrolled 4-H club members ages 8-14 (as of October 1 of the current year) who have not yet started the 9th grade can join us to camp.

REGISTRATION: You must be a current 4-H member to register. Registration is limited to the first campers to register and pay. Your online registration will be approved and you will receive a confirmation email once payment is received. All registrations must be completed online in your approved 4-H member profile found at <https://v2.4honline.com>

PAYMENT: Camp registration fees must be in the form of check or cash. Card payments are not accepted. Checks payable to "4-H Camp" will be accepted by mail or in person at the WSU Extension office in Grays Harbor (PO Box 3018, 34 Elma McCleary Rd, Elma WA 98541) or in person at the Mason County office (303 North 4th Street, Shelton WA 98584) . Please use the Elma address to mail checks.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Campers may apply for a limited number of partial scholarships available to offset some of the camp registration fees. The scholarship request form is available online at:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/mason/4-h-youth-families/4-h-camping/>

CAMP ACTIVITIES: After your registration is approved, campers will be able to choose activities to participate in each day of camp. A link will be sent to you to complete your selections. Some of the fun options include: Games, Fishing, Arts & Crafts, Boating, Swimming, Hiking, AND MORE!

Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension Office. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and special needs who contact Tracie Hanson at least two weeks prior to program start at PO Box 3018, Elma, WA 98541, tracie.hanson@wsu.edu, or 360-482-2934.

4-H Summer Camp Parent Information:

Please keep this information for future reference & review camp expectations with your camper!

<p>4-H Camp Contacts</p>	<p>4-H Camp Manager, Taylor Sample panhandlecamp@gmail.com (360) 426-9523</p> <p>4-H Program Coordinator, Grays Harbor County: Tracie Hanson tracie.hanson@wsu.edu (360) 482-2934</p> <p>4-H Youth Development Regional Specialist: Dan Teuteberg dan.teuteberg@wsu.edu (920) 379-1808</p> <p>4-H Program Coordinator, Mason County:</p>
<p>Camp Counselors</p>	<p>Each camper is assigned a cabin group with 2 same gender camp counselors and same gender cabin mates. Camp counselors will sleep in the cabins. During meals campers will be in table groups with 2 counselors and youth of the same age range. Request for counselor or cabin mates can be done during the enrollment process online. Counselors are 4-H youth members who apply and receive 32 hours of mandatory training.</p>
<p>Overnight Adult Volunteers</p>	<p>4-H Camp will have at least 1 adult volunteer per every 10 youth at camp. 4-H camp relies on families to be overnight volunteers. All adults must have background screening through Sterling Volunteers and complete 8 hours of mandatory training.</p>
<p>Daytime Volunteers & Guests at Camp</p>	<p>If you would like to volunteer or visit at camp, please contact us to make arrangements in advance. It is important that we know who is at camp at all times. Everyone arriving at camp needs to sign in and out of camp. Please check in with the camp office (located in the lodge) upon arrival as well as departure. All visitors will wear a badge. This policy is strictly enforced for safety of our campers.</p>

Camp Check-In:

Camp check-in is ***Saturday July 12th***. Camper age group determines the check in times. Please check in during your specified times, as you will check in with your cabin mates and start the fun together!

Age 14 (noon - 1 pm)

Age 12-13 (1-2pm)

Age 10-11 (2-3pm)

Age: 8-9 (3-4pm)

When arriving at camp, you will check in at the lodge (large building facing the lake). Campers will be signed in by a parent or guardian and receive a wristband. Next, all campers will stop in for a quick visit with the medical staff and review any health concerns. All medications will be left with the medical staff. From there, you will get directions to your cabin and start settling in before the Opening Flag Ceremonies start (promptly at 4 pm) at the flagpole down by the lake!

During check-in, campers will also take a swimming test in order to swim, fish, or go boating at camp. Campers bringing a bike will check their bikes at registration. If for some reason your child will be coming after or will arrive on another day please let the camp coordinator know.

Camp Check-Out:

Camp check-out is ***Thursday July 17th***, and campers can depart promptly by 4 P.M. The last meal served at camp will be a lunch on Thursday. Cabins will be inspected and parents need to help clean cabins and grounds before departure. All campers must go through the check-out procedures before they leave camp. Parts of these procedures include picking up medications and signing your child out of camp. Parents are not allowed to take campers off site until they have signed the release form. *If your camper needs to be checked out of camp at an earlier time or day please make arrangements at check-in with the camp coordinator.*

Camper Concerns:

Leaving/Returning to camp during camp session, medical concerns, homesick worries: If your child has to leave camp for any reason please make prior arrangements during check-in with the camp coordinator. If your child becomes homesick, we will make every attempt to encourage the child to stay. Helping campers overcome homesickness is a part of their camp experience. Speaking to your child in advance can alleviate many feelings once they have arrived at camp. If the child continues to struggle parents will be called and we will work together to help the camper feel supported and cared for.

We want your child to be successful at camp! If you have a specific concern about your child's experience at camp please contact the 4-H Program Coordinator in advance to discuss how we can help your camper have a great time. We are happy to discuss any recent life events, fears or other concerns you may have. You will also have the option to write any concerns on your registration.

Camp Mail:

Parents are welcome to send mail to their child at camp. Address: 370 West Panhandle Lake Road, Shelton, WA 98584. Due to the short amount of time we are at camp we suggest that you send a card/letter before camp begins. *Since food attracts wildlife, please include other items in care packages and do not send any food.

Optional Camp Activities:

TALENT SHOW: One of the evening programs will include a talent show. Group skits and individual performances and an array of incredible talent fill the evening (participation is optional). If your camper plays a musical instrument, loves to sing, dance or be a comedian and/or any other talent they would like to showcase, here is their chance! If items are needed for their performance, they may bring them to camp and they will be checked in at registration. A piano is on site for those who play.

BIKING: This optional activity sign up requires the camper to bring their own bike & helmet. Upon check in your bike will be inspected for safety and storage. We are not responsible for damage to any personal belongings while at camp, including biking equipment. Helmets are required. Please inspect your child's bike BEFORE bringing it to camp, and ensure they are able to steer and stop quickly. A visual inspection of the fit of your child's bike, as well as the bike's condition, tires/brakes are important for biking safety. Bikes deemed 'not safe' will be sent home and your child will not be able to participate in the biking class. Let us know if you have biking questions prior to camp.

Directions to Camp:

From Grays Harbor Co. Fairgrounds in Elma:

Proceed eastbound on the Elma-McCleary Road and take the first left past the fairgrounds, crossing the railroad tracks onto Cloquallum Road. Stay on this road for approximately 12 miles, continuing past Star Lake. Just past the Bucks Prairie store, turn left onto Highland Road. After 4 miles on Highland Road, you will see a large sign on the right for Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp. Turn onto the driveway and proceed ¼ mile to the parking lot.

Heading North on HWY 101:

Take the 2nd Shelton exit (City Center/Matlock), turning left onto the Shelton-Matlock Road. Go approximately 6 miles (you will see a convenience store on your right) turn left on Highland Road there will be a Panhandle Camp sign on the right shoulder. The camp is approximately 4 miles on this road. There is a big sign on the left with a dirt road. Please go slowly.

Additional directions are available at www.panhandlecamp.com

Packing List

Things to bring to camp:

Your child will be sleeping in an open-air cabin, which has no electricity, please have your child prepare for any type of weather.

- Flashlight (good batteries)
- Sleeping bag (if your sleeping bag doesn't have a carry bag please secure it in a plastic trash bag.)
- Sleep mat or egg crate (No Air Mattresses please) - FYI- there are no mattresses on the bunks!
- Pillow
- Blanket in addition to your sleeping bag (cabins are open air and can have cold nights)
- Toiletries - toothbrush, soap, shampoo, etc.
- TOWELS!!! (For shower and beach. We prefer you send them with old ones.)
- Clothing (All weather - it's a good idea to check the forecast, don't forget a sweatshirt for night)
- Swimming suit
- Sun protection (hat, UPF shirt, sunblock)
- Shoes (closed-toe shoes such as tennis shoes are required for some activities, plus water shoes)
- Water bottle clearly labeled with camper's full name

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- If necessary, medicine in prescribed container (turned into the medical professional at check-in)
- Appropriate themed clothing and/or decorations for your cabin
- Items for the talent show; if participating
- Bike and helmet/safety gear; if participating

Things to leave at home:

- Food Items (since this can attract wildlife, snacks or other food should be left at home)
- Valuables (money, jewelry etc.)
- Any item that could be interpreted as a weapon of any kind, including pocket knives.
- Electronic Devices (I-Pod, I-Pad, Kindle, Nintendo DS or similar device, etc.)
- Cell phones for any reason (campers have access to a phone if they need to call for any reason)

*At registration we will ask if your child has any electronics in their possession. If your child has any we ask that you take them home. The NO CELL PHONE policy is strictly enforced. Your child has access to the camp phone if needed.

4-H Summer Camp Rules & Expectations:

Please review these rules with your camper. Any violation of the 4-H Youth Code of Conduct, or camp rules may result in immediate dismissal from camp and prompt pick up. These rules are intended to ensure all campers have a fun and safe experience. If you have any questions about these camp rules please contact the 4-H Program Coordinator in your county prior to camp to review them.

General Camp Rules

- The 4-H Code of Conduct was signed upon enrolling as a 4-H member and will be enforced and followed at all times.
- Consequences for youth who break camp rules or the 4-H Code of Conduct will be up to the discretion of the camp director, based on severity.
- Cell phones and all other electronic devices are not permitted at 4-H Camp. We are an electronics-free environment. Please leave your device at home. All phones will be confiscated, and your child may be sent home. This is to ensure that youth connect with each other and nature.
- Throwing rocks is strictly prohibited.
- Do not cut or mutilate trees or property.
- No littering. Please help keep our camp clean.
- No use or possession of tobacco products by minors.
- No fires except for those built by, or approved by, the camp director.
- Everyone must attend fire drills.
- You may leave camp only with special permission from the camp director. A parent or guardian must give permission for you to leave camp, and written permission is needed for campers to leave with another adult.
- Sign in and out of camp at the office so we will know when you have left camp, and when you return.
- Tape, nails, or tacks cannot be used in any building except on bulletin boards.
- Destruction of camp property or equipment will be charged to you and your parents.
-

Waterfront Rules for 4-H Camp

- No one is allowed on any of the docks unless a qualified lifeguard is on duty.
- No swimming across the lake at any time.
- No running on any of the docks.
- No pushing anyone into the lake.

Swimming Rules

- You must take a swim test and wear a colored designated wristband.
- Red wristbands may only swim in the shallow area.
- Only green wristbands can swim to the edge of the swimming area.
- Swimmers must stay inside the swimming area designated by their swim test level.
- Do not swim under the docks.
- Never swim while fully clothed.
- Do not swim beyond the designated areas.
- If caught pushing anyone into the lake, you will lose your swimming privileges all week.
- One person on the water toys at a time. Take turns. Please be patient.
- All swimming will be at the swimming dock when a lifeguard is on duty unless otherwise approved through the lifeguard and Camp Director

Boating Rules

- Boating is allowed only when there is a qualified lifeguard on duty.
- Boating and fishing will only be permitted at the “L” dock.
- You must pass a swimming test and wear green or yellow wristbands. Red wristbands may ride with adults in the boat only.
- All boaters must wear a certified life vest.
- Do not pick any plants or flowers while boating.
- Keep the boats in the water and only dock at the boating dock.
- Help carry boats, canoes, and life vests to the dock, and help put them away.
- Always remain seated; standing in boats and canoes will ruin the bottoms.
- If caught standing in the boats or canoes, you will give up the right to go boating all week.
- Damaged waterfront equipment will be replaced at your own/parent’s expense.
- If you hear the fire alarm bell, come immediately to shore and line up with your cabin group.
- Do not tip the boats over. It is unsafe and will ruin the boats.