



Planning Packet



FORT BLUFF CAMP
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Dear Youth Leader,

We are so honored that you are choosing Fort Bluff Camp this summer! Our staff will have a program in place that will challenge your young people and provide hours of camp fun. Our camp pastors will deliver the Word each week. Lives will be changed for God's glory and spiritual needs will be met as we gather on our mountain. We count it a privilege to partner with you in ministry. We can't wait to see what the Lord will do this summer!

The following information is to make registration simple and to help you prepare for your week. If you have any questions, please contact us.

We're praying for you and your group!

Pursuing the Ultimate Prize,

Dave Sekura
Executive Director



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I. Important information

A. Before Arrival

1. **Registration & Agreement Form**– This form must be filled out and signed by either the pastor or youth leader. Group hold numbers must be given to reserve spots for your group on our online registration for your group to register.
2. **Camper Deposit** – must be received by Fort Bluff to reserve your groups registration and group hold numbers. Deposit is non-refundable and non – transferable. Deposit is due at registration. Deposit is applied to the balance.
3. **Balance** is due in full **one week** before arrival via our website, credit card, or church check.
Teen Camp: \$255 per camper/counselor in the dorms/bunkhouse cabins; \$295 for lodge.
Junior Camp: \$225 per camper/counselor the dorms/bunkhouse cabins; \$265 for lodge.
The church is required to pay in full for your group. Any money needed to be collected from parents for their camper attending, will be your responsibility.
4. **Scholarships** – for every 10 paid campers, 1 counselor and 1 unchurched camper may come free of charge. There is a max of 4 unchurched campers.
5. **Group Hold** - your group numbers must be given when you fill out the registration form to reserve a specific group hold number for your campers/counselors to register. Final head counts are to be given to Fort Bluff no later than 4 weeks prior to your arrival. Any available spots still open in your group within 4 weeks of your arrival will be opened back up to other groups on the waiting list to register.
6. **Housing** – *All housing is on a first pay-first accommodated basis*
Bunkhouse cabins –good for those requiring more privacy than dorms provide; 12-15 people per cabin; restroom facilities at gym or in the separate bath house immediately behind the cabins.
Dorms – good for those who like meeting new people and do not require their group to be alone; 12 to 27 people per room; restroom facilities located within the building.
Lodge –16-18 people per room; private restroom in each room.

B. Arrival

1. **Check-in** is on Monday from 1pm to 4pm. Orientation (required) is at 4:30pm EST. Various activities are available during this time. Supper is served at 5pm. If you will arrive late, please call the office.
2. **Sign-up Sheets** will be available at Registration and Orientation for campers to sign up for different activities, competitions, and sports.

C. Departure

1. **Check Out** – Friday morning from 10am-11am. We will have a staff assigned to each building. You will need to find them to check out and hand in your keys before leaving.
2. **Lost and Found** – unclaimed items are disposed of after thirty days. Claimed items are returned at the camper's expense.

II. Camp Operation

Our goal is to create a positive attitude among all campers to enhance the working of God's Word and the Holy Spirit in their hearts. The schedule is varied with times of choice, restful breaks, loud and quiet times, rugged and easy events. Our goal, however, is to make the highlight of camp the spiritual times.

Each leader will be supplied with a daily schedule/daily devotional at check-In and kept informed during the morning counselor meetings.

A. Procedures/Rules

Fort Bluff Camp is a Christian camp. The standards we maintain apply to every camper. Any camper who is not cooperative is subject to dismissal at his own expense.

It is the youth leader's responsibility to communicate our rules, dress code, and standards of conduct clearly before coming to Fort Bluff Camp.

Dress Code – The following paragraphs state the acceptable dress code for Fort Bluff Camp. We have many churches whose dress codes differ from each other; however, youth leaders handle the situation very well by explaining to their young people that sometimes it is necessary to practice flexibility. Since our camps are only a week, the change should not be a difficult one.

Guys – Please be modest at all times. No cut-off t-shirts or tight clothing. Evening Chapel Services: church or school attire.

Gals – Please be modest at all times. No see-through, low-cut, or tight clothing. Evening Chapel Services: church or school attire.

No clothing advertising questionable products or people.

B. Items to Bring

- Pillow and sleeping bag or bed sheets
- Towels and washcloths
- Soap and shampoo
- Alarm clock
- Bible, notebook & pen
- Several changes of clothing (no laundry services available)
- Shoes
- Swimming suits (guys – boxer style; gals – modest one-piece suits)
- Tennis shoes for playing on the gym floor
- Jacket, coat, or hoodie (temperatures can drop at the Bluff)
- Spending money for Canteen and the Nest (camp store)
- Fishing gear, softball glove, etc. (all optional)
- Basic First Aid Kit (Counselors)

C. Items to Leave at Home

No gaming devices, iPods, computers or other technology - if these items are brought by a camper the youth leader will be responsible to collect them and lock them in their vehicle. Camp is a great opportunity for God to have the undivided attention of our young people. Limit the usage of cell phones among your youth. Getting unplugged is healthy.

No contraband (knives, firearms, fireworks, etc)

III. Competition

Some competitive events are planned each week for both teen and junior camps. Team and individual events are planned. Awards will be presented to the winners Thursday night or Friday morning.

Competition is not required of either individuals or groups. The following events listed provide enough information to help your campers prepare. Special times will be set aside each day for competitive events, entered by choice only.

Non-competitive events include inflatables at the pond, a 240-foot waterslide, pool, gymnasium, human foosball, gaga ball, corn hole, horse shoes, hikes, archery and the Hawk's Landing game room.

A. Athletic Events

"Grade" designates the school grade just completed. Younger ages/grades may compete in senior high categories, if needed, but not vice versa. If a church does not have enough players to make up one full team, they will be placed with another church to make a combined team.

1. Basketball

Entries: up to four teams allowed per division, per church.

- a. Boys Team - grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12
- b. Girls Team - grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

2. Ultimate Frisbee – this is a high school co-ed event.

3. Volleyball – this is a high school co-ed event.

4. Running events

- a. 40 Yard Dash – any and all may enter

Boys grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

Girls grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

- b. Ironman/Ironwoman Race (teens only) – a swim-run-bike race

- c. *THE BIG BAD BLUFF RUN* – a ½ mile race up and around the bluffs for the most adventurous.

- d. *5k Race/fun run* – this is a high school co-ed event.

5. Miniature Golf

Our 18-hole golf course is popular with young and old alike. The course has proven to be a favorite place to visit with other campers as they visit Hawk's Landing and camp store, The Nest.

6. Fishing Contest

Most inches of fish caught at specified times.

B. Fort Bluff's Got Talent

1. Music entries – two age divisions each week for both junior camps and teen camps. Entries can be solos, duets, trios, quartets; small ensemble (5-9) and large ensemble/choir (10 or more).

2. Unique talent entries – may include ventriloquism, interpretive movement, etc.

a) BOTH music and unique talent entries have a 90 second time limit.

b) All music used in the talent show needs to be Christian music.

C. Art Events

Include full name, church name, and grade just completed with each entrant.

1. Pictures/Artwork - three categories: photography (black/white and color), Pen or pencil, and painting.

2. Folk Art – includes needlework, clay/pottery, rugs, blankets, etc.

D. Bible Events

1. Entry Categories

 Clearest Presentation of the Gospel

 Storytelling

 My Testimony

 Preaching (guys only)

2. Divisions – grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12

3. Guidelines

 Clearest Presentation of the Gospel – any form may be used as if teaching a class, witnessing to someone, passing out tracts, etc. Maximum time limit is seven minutes.

 Storytelling – theme should teach a Christian principle. Maximum time limit is seven minutes. At least one visual aid must be used.

 My Testimony – should include your life before salvation, how you came to know the Lord, and your life now that you are saved. Maximum time limit is seven minutes.

 Preaching – topic should be on Christian living.

IV. Closing Notes

Our camp staff will partner with you to minister to and with your young people throughout the week.

Fort Bluff Camp prefers that as many leaders as possible come with your campers, at least one leader for every ten campers. Men leaders will stay with the boys each night, and the ladies will stay with the girls. Junior campers must be with you or our staff at a planned activity at all times.

We will have special sessions for just the youth leaders as well as breakout sessions for teen campers. These sessions will cover topics relevant to today's Christian young people.

Please be sure to check the health status of your campers before coming. Campers should not attend who have fevers or lice.

Thank you for coming! We believe this is going to be a great week at Fort Bluff Camp.

V. Directions

From Atlanta, Georgia

Drive I-75 N towards Chattanooga, TN. Take Exit #4 (Highway 153) for 12 miles to 27 N. Turn right onto 27 N and drive 28 miles into Dayton. At traffic light #7 turn left onto Highway 30 W. Drive for 4.8 miles to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 W (Ogden Road). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

From Nashville, Tennessee

From I-40 E, take the Highway 127 Exit in Crossville. Take 127 S into Pikeville. Follow signs to Highway 30 E. Take 30 E for 12 miles to State Road 443 W (Ogden Road). Turn right, drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left, and follow the signs to the office.

From Knoxville, Tennessee

From I-40, take I-75 S to Exit #49 (Athens/Decatur). Turn right onto Highway 30 W and drive 28.5 miles into Dayton to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 W (NOT 443 E). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

From I-40 take Hwy 27 S (Harriman/Rockwood exit). Turn south onto Hwy 27 S, and drive several miles (about a 45-60 minute drive) into Dayton. At traffic light #7, turn right onto Hwy 30 W, following the signs through town to stay on Hwy 30 W, and 4.8 miles to the top of the mountain. Turn left onto State Road 443 WEST (not 443 EAST). Drive one mile to the Fort Bluff Camp entrance on the left and follow the signs to the office.

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