



STAFF: Supervisor: Heidi Gutekenst
Program Director: Jordyn Vandergrift
Leaders: Mia Skowron, Grace Zuchowski
Jr. Leaders: Lila Guzowski, Wes Parent, Riley Shea, Trey Rios

SESSION A DATES: July 5th - July 15th (No program July 4th)

TIME: 8:30 am– 12:00 pm, Monday - Friday

LOCATION: Arcanum Field, Bridge Road, Florence, MA

PARENTS AND PARTICIPANTS!

Welcome to the Northampton Parks & Recreation Department's 31st year of our Safety Village Program! As your session is about to begin, please read through the following information for details regarding your child's participation. Each day is filled with presenters, arts and crafts projects, singing, and we will ride and walk through the village most days! Your child has already been assigned to one of three groups, each one designated by leader name and color (red, blue or yellow) which they will stay in for the two weeks. Participants will receive a "Safety Village" shirt they will be asked to wear at graduation and a name tag they will be asked to wear daily. If you have any questions, please call the Parks & Recreation Department at 587-1040 or email recreation@northamptonma.gov. We are looking forward to having a fantastic, fun, and safe summer!

RAINSITE:

In the event of rain starting during the day, our group uses the pavilion at Arcanum Field. If it is raining steadily in the morning, please bring your child to our rain site, Leeds Elementary School, where they can stay for the remainder of the morning. A staff person will direct you to the exact location. If you are unsure of the site that morning, call the department's hotline at (413)587-1044 or visit our website at www.northamptonma.gov/recreation and click on cancellations /changes.

IMMUNIZATION & PHYSICAL RECORDS The Parks and Recreation department works with CampDoc. CampDoc is an electronic health record system used by camps. Each camper will have their own profile and this is where you will upload your child's immunization and physical records. CampDoc's is where you will also provide any relevant and necessary medical information (allergies, inhalers, medication, EpiPen, etc.). Once you have registered for a session of camp you will receive an email to complete your CampDoc profile.

MEETING AREA:

For your child's safety, we ask that parents abide by the following drop-off/pick-up procedures.

- A. Park cars in the lot next to the big green building at Arcanum field. Walk the children over to the staff at the pavilion when you arrive. Make sure to check in with staff during this time.
- B. When you arrive to pick up your child, please do not approach the groups until they are at their pick-up area which will be designated on the first day. Please be aware that it is mandatory to sign your child out each day with their counselor.
- C. If someone other than the parent/guardian is picking up, please provide a note to the counselor.
- D. If it is a rain day, parents will meet staff at the top loop of Leeds Elementary School. Staff will be posted at both entrances in case of confusion or questions.

FIRST DAY JITTERS:

We understand that this is some children's first experience with an organized program. We anticipate that some children may be nervous and hesitant but please be assured that we will help with the transition.

STORAGE AND ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION:



EPI-PEN

All program Supervisors are certified in administering an epi-pen. If your child has a severe allergy and requires carrying an epi-pen, then please contact the Parks & Recreation Office before the program begins so that we have all the proper information before the program starts. **The Northampton Parks & Recreation Department requires that any camper who requires any type of medication to be given at camp MUST provide medication authorization orders AND emergency action plans for allergies and diabetes.** Please also address your child's allergy to your child's counselor on the first day of camp.

Medical Conditions

Northampton Parks & Recreation Department encourages all medications to be given at home. If your child must have medicine during camp hours, parents must fill out and submit the Authorization to Administer Medicine to a Camper Form at LEAST two weeks prior to the start of your child's camp. This has to be approved by the Camp's Health Care Consultant. Medication will only be administered by the Health Care Supervisor(s) designated by the HCC and authorized to administer prescription medications. All medication prescribed for participants shall be kept in original containers bearing the pharmacy label which shows the prescription number, date filled, name of medication, and directions for use. All other over the counter medications for the participant shall be kept in the original containers containing the original label. The program director, Jordyn Vandergrift, should carry your child's medications. It is imperative that if your child suffers from asthma or is allergic to bees or anything else, that we be informed.

SNACKS:

Snacks are to be provided by parents at the start of each camp day. Safety Village is a nut free camp, so please be sure to be packing snacks that do not contain nuts. Water will always be available at the site, however it is recommended that your child bring a water bottle each day. On the second Thursday of camp, an ice cream sundae snack will be provided!

LATE/EARLY FEE:

A late fee will be imposed for any child who is picked up late or dropped off too early. A ten minute grace period will be extended. **Following this time a fee will be assessed.** First time offenders will be warned and the fee will be assessed only for repeated incidents. The fee will be **\$5.00** for every **ten minutes** of waiting time. The fee must be paid within 48 hours of the incident. Failure to do so will result in the suspension of the participant until paid. We understand sometimes incidents such as traffic, etc. occur. Please try to call the office to let them know if you are late. Chronic lateness may result in suspension from programs. The Police Department will be notified if your child is not picked up within an hour of the scheduled time and no call has been received.

TOBACCO USE:

Our policy is that tobacco use is absolutely prohibited in all areas where children are present.

WHAT TO BRING EACH DAY:

T-shirts, shorts, socks and sneakers will prepare your children for any activity. Sandals or flip-flops ARE NOT RECOMMENDED!!! Please bring the following each day:

- a) Water Bottle and Snack (nut free)
- b) Bike Helmet with a name on it - We provide bikes with training wheels. Bikes from home are NOT allowed.
- c) Comfortable, weather appropriate clothing

If you have any further questions, please call us at the Parks & Recreation Department at (413)587-1040 or email us at recreation@northamptonma.gov.

SCHEDULE -SESSION A

Please remember to bring a bike helmet (labeled with the child's name) each day that we are outside. Bikes with training wheels will be provided. A water bottle is also recommended.

Monday, July 4 - No program. Happy Fourth of July!

Tuesday, July 5 - Opening day and Mass Bike- Participants will be introduced to the program with a special talk about bike safety. Elaine from Mass Bike will visit to speak about how to stay safe while on a bicycle, including how to correctly wear a helmet.

Wednesday, July 6 - Animal Control - Northampton's Animal Control Officer will come to discuss safety tips about animals including how to act around dogs and cats, typical behaviors for these animals, and what to do if you see an injured animal that is not your own. The Officer will also touch on wild animals that the child might encounter.

Thursday, July 7 - Baystate Children's Hospital - Liz Farrell, a child life specialist from Baystate Children's Hospital will discuss her role at the hospital, and what to expect during visits to the hospital. Children will get the opportunity to see different equipment/materials that may be used at the hospital. General safety guidelines will be discussed as well.

Friday, July 8 - State Police - A representative from the Massachusetts State Police Dispatch will come to speak with the children about what happens when you dial 911, along with when you should and should not call 911. The children may even get to help make a practice phone call to 911 to see how fast an officer will come when a call is made!

Monday, July 11 - National Grid - A representative from National Grid will talk about the importance of electrical safety through "Hazard Hamlet", an electrical hazard stimulator. They will also be bringing their bucket truck to show to the children. Children may get to sit in the trucks bucket!

Tuesday, July 12 - Northampton Police Department - A representative from the Northampton Police Department will come to speak with the children about how to recognize a police officer and police officer duties. They will get to learn about some of the police officers' tools, and may even get to sit inside of a real police car!

Wednesday, July 13 –Personal Safety - The Northwestern District Attorney's Office representative will speak to the children about good touch/bad touch, strangers, feelings, and physical and sexual abuse. This presentation is taught in a way that is age appropriate and very professional.

Thursday, July 14 - Fire Safety/Ambulance - The Northampton Fire Department “EMT” crew will come to teach the children about fire safety and what to do in case of a fire. The children will get to learn about the equipment that a firefighter uses, and see what a firefighter would look like dressed up in their uniform. All children will be able to sit in the fire truck and get their pictures taken. An ambulance will also be brought to Safety Village for the children to see. The children will talk about what it would be like to ride in an ambulance if they are ever involved in an accident, and get to see equipment that paramedics might use in case of an emergency!

Friday, July 15 - Graduation Day! - This is the last day of camp and also Graduation Day! The children and our wonderful staff will provide a ceremony for parents and friends to showcase what they have learned over their two weeks at camp.



Parents and friends are invited to Safety Village Graduation at
11:30a.m. on Friday, July 15th.

Bring your camera and make sure your child wears their program shirt today!

Thank you! I hope you and your child are looking forward to Safety Village as much as we are!

Sincerely,

Jordyn Vandergrift
Program Director

ABOUT OUR CAMP DIRECTOR

Safety Village Director: Jordyn Vandergrift



Director Bio:

My name is Jordyn Vandergrift, and I will be the director of Safety Village this summer! I am currently studying Psychology with a minor in Education at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA, with hopes of becoming a school guidance counselor. This is my fifth summer with Northampton Parks & Rec, and I am super excited to have the opportunity to take on a new role! I have spent many summers with Safety Village, from being a Counselor in Training to a Recreation Leader. I am very passionate about this program, it keeps me coming back summer after summer.

When I am not at camp, you will most likely find me hanging out with friends downtown, studying for my summer class or diving at Springfield College. I am a diver on the Holy Cross Swimming and Diving team and am so excited to continue training for my senior year!

Questions for the Director:

What are you looking forward to as the new Safety Village Director?

I am excited to continue fostering the magic of Safety Village! Our community leaders truly make the camp fun and memorable. I am also so excited to continue working with such an amazing staff! I have formed some great friendships through Safety Village and am eager to welcome new and returning counselors.

What do you enjoy most about working with children?

I enjoy seeing all of their personalities shine! I love being able to get to know their unique likes and dislikes and trying to make sure they can have the best camp day, especially when it is most kids first camp!

What is your favorite Safety Village activity?

My favorite camp activity is parachute! There are lots of games we play with the parachute, but one of my favorites would have to be fruit salad. We have each camper grab a side of the parachute and tell them to shake as hard as they can. One by one, our recreation leaders will throw fake fruits and veggies into the middle. The goal is to shake the parachute until all of the food has gotten into the hole in the middle, with a big fruit salad underneath!