

CAMP AWARENESS

Izaak Walton League

Summer Day Camp

2022

Parent Handbook



WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Welcome to City of South Bend's Venues, Parks & Arts Camp Awareness. Camp Awareness Day camp offers camping activities without the overnight "sleeping out" experience. The program is FUN and can develop an appreciation for the outdoors under qualified leadership. Camp Awareness is held at the Izaak Walton League located at 20400 Darden Road. We're glad you're here!

Welcome,

Bridget Fields Special Events Manager South Bend Venues Parks & Arts

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CAMP AWARENESS PARENT HANDBOOK PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

1. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- Camp Awareness offers:
 - o 7 one week-long sessions for children who will be <u>entering</u> grades 3rd through 7th in the fall.
 - o 1 week offered only for those *entering* the 2nd grade in the fall.

2. DAYS OF OPERATION

- o Monday Friday
- 8:30 am 4:30 pm
- o 8:30-9am drop off/4-4:30pm pick up times
- 7 one week-long sessions (campers entering 3rd-7th gr)
 - o June 6-10, June 13-17, June 20-24, June 27-July 1, July 11-15, July 18-22, July 25-29
- 1 week available for children entering the 2nd grade:
 - O July 5 July 8 (4-day week) No camp July 4th

3. DAY CAMP FEES

All Fees must be paid at registration.

- 5 days: \$175.00
- 4 days: \$140.00 2nd grade week
- \$1.00 per minute/per child late pick up fee.
- A limited number of scholarship rates are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Refund Policy

• A 50% refund will be given if camp is cancelled by the participant 7 working days prior to the first day of participation. No refund will be allowed after this time. A full refund will be given if the Venue, Parks & Arts Recreation Division cancels camp for any reason.

4. REGISTRATION

Registration

- Registration begins online on Monday, March 14 at 5:30 pm.
- Online Registration: 40 spots per week
- Walk-In Registration: We will **not** be holding a Walk-In Registration Night, like we have done in previous years. However, there will be **10** spots per week held, for those who do not have access to a computer. **Tuesday, March 15 Friday, March 18 from 8:30 am 4:30 pm**, Bridget Fields will be available to register your child over the phone. You can reach Bridget at 574-235-5904. If she does not answer, leave a voicemail with your name and contact information and she will call you back.
- On March 19th at 4:30 pm, all remaining spots will become universally available.
- Each child may only initially register for one week of camp. After May 1st, may register for a 2nd week.

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

• Visit the Camp Awareness webpage at http://sbvpa.org/things-to-do/camp-awareness/ click on the on the week you'd like to register for. Note: the browser Google Chrome works best with our system and some devices might hinder your registration process.

• After you click on the week you'd like to register for, a pop out screen will appear like the one below.



• If you are registering more than 1 child, use the drop-down arrow to adjust "number of guests" located on the right side of the page. It is important you do this before moving forward.



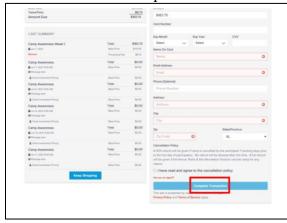
• Once you have the correct number of guests, click on the bold number that is located on the calendar, also located on the right side of the page. This number should be the date of the first day of camp for the week that you are registering for.



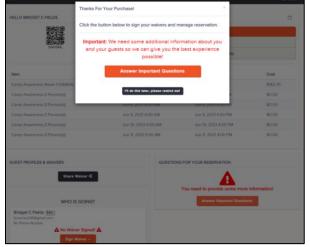
• After you click the number, the entire week of camp will appear. Click add to cart.



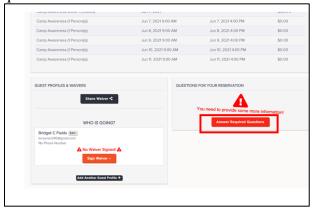
• You will then be taken to a payment screen. Fill out the necessary information and click "complete transaction". Your completed transaction confirms your registration for camp.



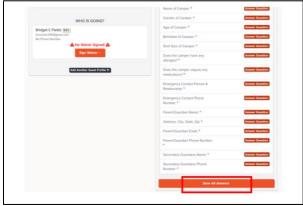
• You will then be directed to your "client terminal" to provide your registration information. Click the orange box labeled "Answer Important Questions".



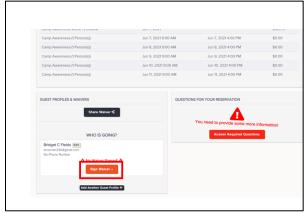
• Under the gray box labeled "QUESTIONS FOR YOUR RESERVATION" click the red box labeled "Answer Required Questions". If you are registering more than 1 child, you will need to answer the questions for each child.



• After you have answered the questions, click "Save All Answers".



• Under the gray box labeled "GUEST PROFILE & WAIVERS", click the orange box labeled "Sign Waiver". Please sign all 3 waivers.



• After the waivers have been signed, your reservation is now complete ©

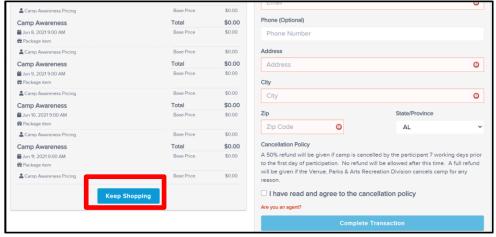
You should receive a "Confirmation Email" from South Bend Venues Parks & Arts. That email will contain a button labeled "CLICK HERE to manage your reservation", which will direct you to your client terminal. Please refer to that email if you need to change any of your registration information.



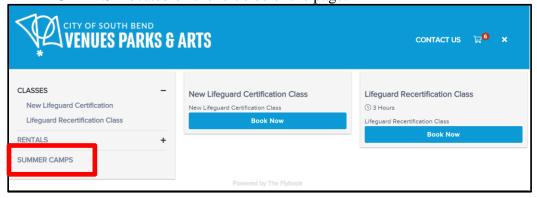
- Parents should notify Bridget Fields of any changes to information contained in the registration prior to camp attendance.
- If changes occur during attendance, notify the Camp Director and/or Camp Asst. Director immediately.

REGISTERING MULTIPLE CHILDREN FOR DIFFERENT WEEKS

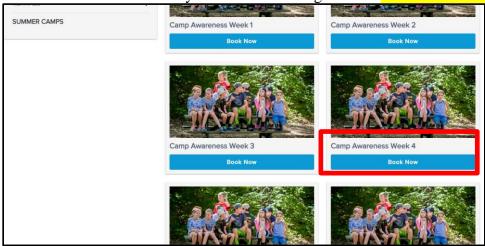
• Do not fill out payment information right away, instead click the "Keep Shopping" button.



• After you click the "Keep Shopping" button, you will be directed to this page. Click "SUMMER CAMPS" located on the left side of the page.



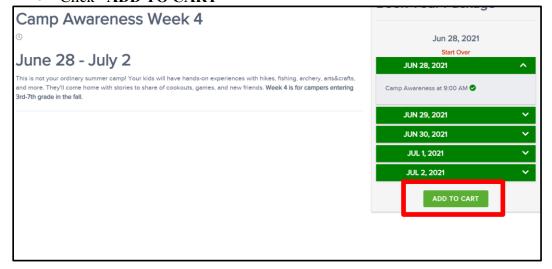
Your screen will then look like this, and all 8 weeks of camp will appear. Click the "Book Now" button located under the next week you would like to register for. EX: I will select week 4.



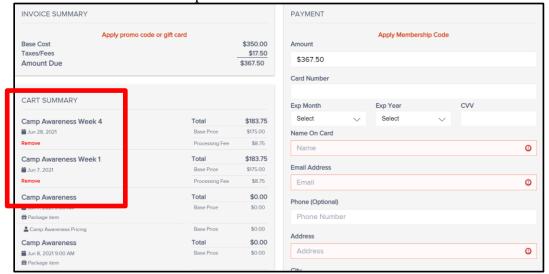
• Just like before, use the drop-down arrow to select the correct "Number of Guests" then click the bold number. The number should be the date of the first day of camp for the week you are registering for.



• Click "ADD TO CART"



Your cart will then show both weeks you have selected. Repeat this process until you have each week
you'd like to register for in your cart. When you have all the weeks you need in your cart, fill in your
information and complete the transaction.



5. CHILD ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Arrival

- All children must be signed into camp by an adult.
- A counselor will be available with a clipboard and the sign-in sheet. It is the parent's responsibility to approach the staff person.
- Parents need to allow extra time to sign in their child(ren) daily.
- The child(ren) is not accepted into camp prior to 8:30 am.
- <u>All medications must be signed in and out daily</u>. This includes but is not limited to inhalers and EpiPens.

Departure

- Child(ren) are to be picked up no later than 4:30 pm, no exceptions.
- A late charge of \$1.00 per minute will be assessed for any pickups after 4:30 pm payable the day of the incident.
- Parents need to sign out their child(ren) and make contact with a counselor, so the staff person is aware that the child is leaving.
- If someone other than the parent listed on the child's forms is picking up the child, write the name of person on the sign in sheet in the morning and bring it to the counselors' attention at that time.
- Please remember, Camp Awareness closes at 4:30 pm. There are no exceptions to the late pick-up policy. However, please call 299-3482 if an emergency arises, and inform them you need to get a message to Camp Awareness.
- There will be a late charge of \$1.00 per minute per child after 5:00 pm payable the day of incident.

6. DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline is viewed as guidance, not punishment. Positive reinforcement, active listening, problem solving, redirection, and discussion with the child(ren) involved about what is acceptable and unacceptable is the practice. The staff member who witnessed or was approached by a child will be responsible for his/her discipline. Discipline is NOT delegated to any other child. A Behavior Report will be completed on any

instance requiring more than a verbal reprimand.

Techniques used for discipline shall not humiliate shame or frighten the child. There will be no cruel, harsh or unusual punishment, such as, but not restricted to punching, pinching, shaking, or biting. No child shall be placed in a locked room or confined in an enclosed area such as a closet, box or similar cubicle. Counselors will speak in a gentle but firm voice and will not use profanity, threats, derogatory remarks about the child or his/her family, other verbal abuse, or physical abuse. The counselor may remove the child from the group, if necessary, or seat the child on a chair to think about his/her actions for a short period of time. This rule applies to all children signed in for the day and participating in the Camp Awareness Program.

Discipline is guided toward self-discipline so that your child can function independently and in a socially acceptable manner, respecting the rights and privileges during group functions.

7. DISCHARGE POLICY

Chronically Disruptive Behavior

- Is defined as verbal or physical activity which may include, but is not limited to, behavior that requires constant attention from the staff, inflicts physical or emotional harm on other children or the staff, or ongoing disregard for Day Camp rules.
- If a child cannot abide by Day Camp rules, he or she will be discharged from the program.

We follow a three-strike policy.

- Samples of automatic strikes consist of cursing, disrespecting a counselor, intent to or intentionally injuring or physically controlling another person. This is not an all-inclusive list.
- Other behaviors may be given a strike after redirection and/or if time-outs prove ineffective. Including but not limited to not following directions and being rude to others.
- Stealing, running off from the group or camp, destruction of property, and/or threatening to harm or kill others will result in an immediate dismissal!
- Bullying will not be tolerated on any level. After an action of bullying is addressed and the action continues, immediate dismissal could result.
- There are to be absolutely no weapons or weapon-like materials brought to camp, this may include but is not limited to pocketknives, hatchets, hammers, screwdrivers, etc. Upon discovery of any of these items, immediate dismissal will result.
- Being in the ponds or streams without permission will result in immediate dismissal.

Definitions of Bullying are, but not limited to, calling someone names, making things up to get others in trouble, hitting, pushing, kicking, etc., someone taking things away from someone, damaging someone else's belongings, stealing money from someone, spreading rumors about someone, and threatening someone.

What you as parents need to know: Encourage your child to report incidents of bullying to a counselor. Encourage your child to also tell a counselor if he or she sees another child being bullied. Reassure your child that it's okay to be a "tattle tale", especially if it means keeping another child from being bullied. Go over the definitions of bullying with your child so he or she understands what makes someone a bully.

• All strikes will be discussed with the pickup person the day of the incident. The Disciplinary Action Form must be signed by the parent or pick up person. **Upon notification of a third strike, the child will be dismissed from camp immediately without a refund.**

8. SAFETY POLICY

All activities have changed in how they will be run. Activities will adhere to the CDC 6' social distancing guidelines where possible. A face covering must be worn for activities of closer than 6'.

Children at Camp Awareness will be supervised at all times. The staff members are responsible for the entire

group except when they are divided into tribes (counselor teams). At that time there will be one staff member responsible for the small group they are assigned to.

When the child(ren) arrives and depart, the parent must sign the attendance form. No child is to be released to anyone except his/her parent or guardian unless a signed, written permission form is given to the director or assistant director by said parent or guardian. The person designated to pick up the child will be required to produce a picture ID and sign a pickup permission form before leaving with the child.

If child abuse or neglect is suspected, a staff member is required by law to notify the local child protection agency. There is a person trained in child abuse recognition with the children at all times.

9. CAMP AND BUILDING RULES

- All campers will address the staff as either Ms. or Mr.
- All campers will respect other campers and staff property.
- No pushing, hitting, pinching, kicking, scratching, biting, spitting, name calling, and/or throwing things.
- When you hear the whistle, IMMEDIATELY STOP what you're doing and come back to camp, even if you are in the middle of a game.
- They are expected to follow directions immediately, unless given an exception by the staff.
- Mandatory bathroom breaks are scheduled throughout the day and older campers are expected to set the example for the younger campers. No child will be denied a bathroom break; however, it will be at the discretion of the staff depending on availability and taking activities into consideration. Campers must be escorted to and from the bathroom at all times.
- Campers must ask permission before leaving an activity or activity area. The staff is required to know where the children are at all times. No child will be allowed to wander alone. If your child is caught leaving the group or wandering off alone at camp, they will immediately be dismissed from camp and all camp fees will be forfeited.
- BUDDY SYSTEM: Each camper is paired with a friend. When you get back to camp, check to see if your buddy is here.
- All campers must wear appropriate clothing. Sagging pants or offensive clothing will NOT be allowed.
- There are to be no weapons or weapon-like materials brought to camp. Discovery of these materials will lead to immediate dismissal from camp.
- All campers will respect camp property, whether it is supplies, equipment or facilities.
- All campers will help watch over, pick up, and clean the areas that we use during camp.
- No climbing in the trees, or breaking off limbs, branches, or leaves.
- NEVER get in the pond for any reason!!! Never get in the stream without staff supervision.
- Stay off the steep slopes by the lodge and the meadow where the blue cabin used to be due to erosion.
- Stay off the Boy Scout project by the lakes.
- No one is allowed to play in or around the fire pits at camp at any time. Trash can only go into the trash receptacles.

10. LUNCH

- Campers are required to bring their own sack lunch.
- Camp Awareness does not provide lunch for its participants, except for Wednesday which is Cook Out Day.
- Refrigeration is not available. Each camper should bring a sack lunch of sandwiches, raw vegetables, fruit and nutritious snacks.
- Drink is included in the fee and is provided at mealtime. Each Camper must bring his/her own non-breakable drinking bottle.
- Wednesday is Cook Out day. Campers do not need to bring a lunch; however, every camper should bring a Hershey's chocolate bar.
- If it is raining on Wednesday's Cook Out Day, campers should bring a sack lunch.

11. WHAT TO EXPECT AT CAMP

Camp Awareness is a popular summer camp that is held at the Izaak Walton League in South Bend. Kids have the opportunity to meet new friends while enjoying activities like organized games, hikes, fishing, tubing, arts & crafts, cookouts and more.

All of the activities have changed in how they will be run. Activities will adhere to the CDC 6' social distancing guidelines where possible.

- <u>Stream Stomp</u>- Campers will be wading through the creek and will get wet and muddy. For safety they will not be allowed to participate with bare feet. Campers should bring an old pair of shoes, shoes to change into and a change of clothing.
- <u>Archery</u>- Campers will be taught how to use a bow and arrow and aim for the target. Campers will be supervised by counselors during the entire activity.
- <u>Storytelling</u>- Camp Awareness keeps this strong tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation in order to make camp a fun and enjoyable experience. Each story has been specifically adapted for use at Camp Awareness. These stories are about fictional campers.
- <u>Wednesday's Cook Out Day</u>- Campers do not need to bring a lunch, however, <u>every camper should bring a Hershey's chocolate bar</u>. **If it is raining on cookout day, bring a sack lunch.**
 - o The cookout will now take place in two one-hour shifts to accommodate social distancing.
- Rock Climbing Wall- A travelling rock climbing wall is scheduled to be at camp each week. However, the schedule is subject to change due to weather and availability without a makeup date. In order to be able to participate, the permission contract included in the form's booklet must be signed and completed. The camper must also weigh a minimum of 50 lbs. as set by the safety and use parameters.
- <u>Inclement Weather</u> If it is just raining, we will be doing activities outside in the rain. Campers need to dress accordingly. If there is thunder, lightning, or more severe weather, we will seek shelter in the the lodge.
- Restroom Facilities There are no indoor toilets available to the camp. Portable toilets are available for use.

12. Physical Camp Property

- The property that the camp is located on is the City of South Bend's Wheelock Park. This park is leased by the Izaak Walton League of St. Joseph County South Bend Indiana. It is a member only organization, however anyone can become a member. It is not open for non-member campers and their families to visit outside of the camp session.
- No indoor facilities available.
- The lodge that sits on the property belongs to the Izaak Walton League and is not part of the Camp Awareness experience. No one is allowed in the lodge unless during severe weather and takes shelter.
- There are four cabanas for changing in. There are hooks outside of the cabanas for the campers' bags.

13. WHAT TO BRING Every Day

- 1. Its recommended campers wear daily long-sleeved shirts, old shoes, and long pants or jeans. Although this is highly recommended for the *health and safety of the campers, most do not wear long sleeve or pants. However, shoes are a must! *Please see the #15. Lyme Disease section of the handbook.
- 2. Campers' shoes must cover feet completely for safety. No sandals, crocks or flip flops are allowed.
- 3. Campers and staff are required to wear a face covering where 6' social distancing cannot be maintained.
- 4. Each camper should bring the following:
 - a. refillable plastic water bottle,
 - b. non-breakable drinking cup,

- c. extra pair of old shoes,
- d. long pants or jeans for wading in the creek,
- e. If it is raining in the morning, campers should bring rain gear,
- f. extra set of clothes for water events,
- g. old clean towel,
- h. sunscreen,
- i. insect repellent.
 - i. Please apply sunscreen and insect repellent prior to arriving each day. If you send sunscreen and insect repellent, we will remind your child to reapply it later in the day.
 - ii. We do NOT supply sunscreen and insect repellent.
 - iii. Staff can only apply aerosol type sunscreen or insect repellent.
- 5. Each camper should bring a sack lunch every day except for Wednesday's Cook Out Day (unless it is raining). Each camper should bring a Hershey's chocolate bar for the cookout. Drink is included in the fee and is provided at mealtime.

14. PARENTS' VISITATION DAY

Parents are invited to visit Camp Awareness Friday afternoon at 3pm for a tour of the camp, an introduction to the staff, a campers' presentation, and an opportunity to participate in activities with the campers. This activities day and time is subject to change.

15. LYME DISEASE

Transmission- Lyme Disease is spread through the bite of infected ticks, more specifically, blacklegged (deer) ticks. In most cases, the tick must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before Lyme disease bacterium can be transmitted. Lyme disease is most commonly transmitted during the months of May, June and July. Camp Awareness is a densely wooded area and insects are always in abundance. Therefore, it is imperative that your child takes the proper precautions.

Prevention- In order to prevent the contraction of Lyme disease, please send your child with insect repellent. Repellents containing 20%-30% DEET are the best and can be purchased at most drug or grocery stores. Permethrin is also said to help in avoiding contact with ticks and remains on clothes even after several washes. Always follow product instructions and avoid hands, eyes and mouth when applying.

Wearing long pants, long sleeves, and long socks can also help to keep ticks off your skin. Light colored clothing allows for ticks to be spotted more easily which may be tiny (less than 2mm). Also, tucking pant legs into socks or boots and tucking in shirts helps to keep ticks on the outside of your clothing.

Bathe or shower, as soon as possible, after coming indoors (preferably within 2 hours) to wash off and more easily detect ticks. Conduct a full-body check with attention to hard-to-see areas such as the scalp.

Examine camp supplies as ticks can ride into the home on clothing, and backpacks etc. (pets also) then attach to a person later. Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 1hour to kill any remaining ticks.

Signs and Symptoms- If you are bitten by a tick, watch for these symptoms as a sign of Lyme disease: fever, chills, headache, fatigue, muscle and joint aches, swollen lymph nodes and a characteristic bull's eye skin rash (some cases may not see a rash). These symptoms can appear as early as 3 days after a bite, but up to 30 days after the bite. Please keep in mind that by adhering to the precautions stated above, your chance of contracting Lyme disease is extremely small. Please make sure that your child is properly prepared for camp.

^{**}Parents should anticipate the wear-and-tear that comes with an active day in the woods.

The following (16-19) are copies of the paragraphs that are included in the client terminal.

16. ROCK CLIMBING WALL Acknowledgement of Risk, Waiver and Release (section 12) SAFETY POLICY CONTRACT for City of South Bends Venues, Parks & Arts PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK, WAIVER, AND RELEASE Notice: This is a legally binding contract.

I understand that the Climbing Wall is 24 feet high, ranging from beginning to advanced degrees of difficulty. I hereby acknowledge and agree that the activity of rock climbing and the use of City of South Bends Venues, Parks & Arts Recreation Division climbing wall has inherent risks. I have full knowledge of the nature and extent of all the risks associated with rock climbing and the use of the wall, including but not limited to:

- 1. Injuries resulting from falling off the climbing wall and hitting holds, faces and projections, whether permanently or temporarily in place, or the floor.
- 2. Abrasions, cuts, and other injuries resulting from activities on or near the climbing wall such as, but not limited to climbing, lowering on rope, and rescue systems.
- 3. Injuries resulting from falling climbers or dropped items, such as, but not limited to, ropes or climbing hardware.
- 4. Failure of equipment, issued by City of South Bends Venues, Parks & Arts Recreation Division including but not limited to ropes, slings, harnesses, climbing hardware, anchor points, or any part of the climbing wall structure.
- 5. Muscle strains and contusions caused by climbing.

I further understand that there are other risks from use of the climbing wall which are not specifically mentioned. I am voluntarily and willingly allowing the minor to participate in this activity despite these risks.

I, the undersigned, am the natural or court appointed guardian of _________, a minor. In consideration

I, the undersigned, am the natural or court appointed guardian of _________, a minor. In consideration for the minor being permitted to utilize the climbing wall, I expressly agree as follows: I hereby assume on behalf of the minor all risks of personal injury, death, or property damage, arising from any cause whatsoever while the minor is participating in such activity. I hereby assume on behalf of the minor is in good health and physically able to participate in any and all climbing activities. I, on behalf of the minor_______, agree to unconditionally waive and release the City of South Bend and it's officers, employees, volunteers, agents, servants, and all representatives and sponsors from any and all injuries, claims, causes of action and liabilities of any nature and kinds that the minor may sustain, or any damage that may be caused to my property or the minor's property in connection with said activities or use of such facilities or services, including injuries sustained or property damaged by any use of equipment I may rent or borrow from the City of South Bend, their officers, employees, agents, servants or sponsors, to the extent allowed by law. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of South Bend and all individuals mentioned above from any lawsuit brought by any other guardian of the minor.

I realize participants may be photographed while utilizing the wall or participating in a City of South Bends Venues, Parks & Arts Recreation Division program and I authorize and consent to on behalf of the minor to the use of any photographs or likeness of the minor as the City deem appropriate to publicize its activities.

I, the guardian of the minor user of the Climbing Wall, accept full responsibility for the minor's safety and will respect the safety of other participants while on and around the climbing area. I agree that the minor will abide by the safety policies.

17. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MULTIMEDIA POLICY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS

WHEREAS, the City of South Bend is collecting pictures (motion and/or still) to use in brochures, television spots, and other means of promoting the joys and benefits of South Bend; and WHEREAS, the undersigned is willing to appear in pictures (motion and/or still) for the purposes of such promotions, the undersigned hereby consents to the use of pictures of the undersigned in such brochures, advertisements, and other promotional material by the City of South Bend and agrees to release and hold harmless the City of South Bend from any possible cause of action or claim the undersigned may have against the City of South Bend for the use of said pictures.

18. RELEASE AND WAIVER OF CLAIM

I expressly agree to release, acquit and forever discharge the City of South Bend, Venues Parks & Arts Recreation Division, the Izaak Walton League of Saint Joseph County Indiana, and their agents, employees, servants, successors, heirs, executors and all other persons, firms, corporations, associations, or partnerships from and agree not to sue any or all of them because of or in connection with any and all claims, causes of actions, injuries, damages, costs, expenses, loss of service, and compensation whatsoever, which I now have or which may hereafter arise out of my participation in such programs, including, but not limited to, administration of medications, bodily injury, whether or not caused by the negligence or other fault of the City of South Bend or its Venues Parks & Arts Recreation Division, employees, agents or representatives.

19. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND RECEIPT OF HANDBOOK Acknowledgment of Understanding

I hereby give my child permission to participate in all day camp activities and assume full responsibility for his/her physical fitness and for any injury that may befall him/her which is not the result of supervisor negligence. I certify that my child is in good health and can participate in all normal activities. I understand reasonable measures will be taken to safeguard the health and safety of my child and will be notified as soon as possible in case of an emergency. If a medical emergency arises, the staff will first attempt to contact me. If I cannot be reached, the staff will contact my emergency contact person. If the emergency is such that immediate hospital attention is necessary, an ambulance or emergency vehicle may take my child to the hospital. I certify that I have read and understand the Camp Awareness Parent Handbook and agree to abide by it while my child is enrolled in **Camp Awareness Day Camp.**

Acknowledgement of Receipt of Handbook

This is to certify that I have read and understand The Parent Handbook. Furthermore, I understand that by enrolling my child in Camp Awareness Day Camp, I agree to have information entered into Camp Doc and to abide by the policies and procedures as outlined in the handbook and/or as subsequently established during summer camp session.