



Camp Geshher

CAMP GESHER 2021

COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Dear Camp Geshher Families & Friends,

As we approach the summer months, our goal is to be as transparent as possible about building our path for a safe and successful summer. Though much of our planning will, in fact, feel "normal", we are constantly reviewing local and Provincial COVID safety guidelines as well as integrating recommendations from the Ontario Camps Association. Additionally, we are examining the valuable lessons learned from camps who operated successfully in summer 2020, camps who had to close mid-season, and from community members working in school settings that have operated at least partly in-person over the last year. All of these resources, in consultation with a dedicated group of Camp Geshher volunteers working in the fields of medicine and education, are informing our decision making as we go forward.

Another key component of our planning for the summer is continuing to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the mental and emotional health of our *chanichimot* (campers). For many, this summer will be their initial return to in-person experiences, and spending extended time outside of the home. We expect this transition to bring out a spectrum of emotional responses for new and returning *chanichimot* alike. Both before the summer, and while at *machaneh* (camp), our Camper Care Team is committed to meeting the individual needs of our *chanichimot*. To help support this endeavor, our *tzevet* (summer staff) have already begun training and planning for the summer at Geshher.

No one thing we do will protect our campers completely, but each adds a layer of security. We understand that none of these layers can be done perfectly, which is why having multiple layers is important. A relatively closed community will be an especially important layer, and it is something that will make camp better too. We thank you for your support and look forward to spending the summer together.

With ruach,

Shoshi Lipschultz
Director

Micah Maerov
Rosh Machaneh

Dana Brookman and Sheara Guttman
Camp Geshher Board of Directors



Camp Geshher

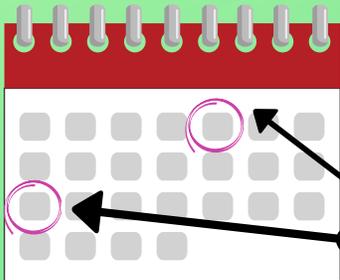
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INCREASED PRE-CAMP SAFETY & DISTANCING MEASURES

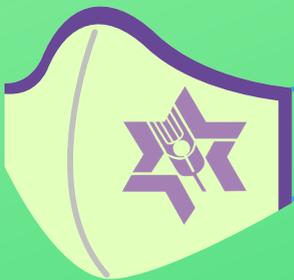
Prior to arrival at Camp Geshher all household members should avoid activities with high-transmission risk such as restaurant dining, public gatherings, unmasked gatherings, etc.



STAFF AND CAMPERS WILL BE TESTED FOR COVID

- before arrival
- seven days in to camp
- symptomatic testing available on site

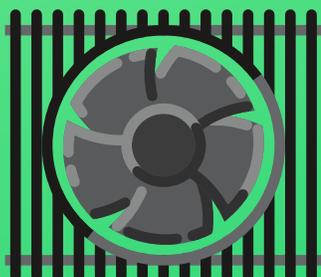
Our exact testing protocols will be more clear with the guidance of Public Health, the Ontario Camps Association, and the Camp Geshher Health and Safety Committee



MASK WEARING WILL BE REQUIRED

Masks will be required unless sleeping, swimming, eating, or bathing. After in-camp COVID tests return, masking policy may be re-evaluated with the guidance of public health authorities.

INCREASED AIR-CIRCULATION IN ALL CABINS



**MEALS HELD IN OPEN-AIR TENT or
STAGGERED DINING**

INSTALLATION OF NEW SANITATION STATIONS





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***HIRING ADDITIONAL
MEDICAL STAFF***

***CAMP-WIDE DAILY
HEALTH SCREENINGS***



***ACTIVITY COHORTING
MADE UP OF 2 CABINS***

Depending on age group size, cohorts will include either one or two age groups



VISITORS DAY & CAMP TRIPS

Out of an abundance of caution we will not be welcoming families into camp for our annual Visitors Day or holding out of camp trips



PLANNING FOR VACCINES

We do not anticipate that our campers will be vaccinated by the start of camp. We are hopeful, however, that our senior staff and summer staff will become eligible for the vaccine as childcare workers in the coming months. The Ontario Camps Association is advocating for this with Public Health Ontario. Our Directors, Shoshi and Matthew, AND our maintenance staff Masal and Real, are vaccinated.