



First-Time Camp Parent Online Chat & 10 Ways You Know Summer Camp Is Coming Soon By Maine Camp Experience

April 15, 2015 (Portland, ME) – Summer camp is almost here and parents everywhere are in full prep mode. To help families plan and get excited, here is information about a useful online camp Q&A discussion and the top 10 ways you know summer camp is coming from the [Maine Camp Experience](#) Campcierge™.

Maine Camp Experience is hosting a first-time camp parent Q&A Facebook discussion - open to everyone - on April 22 at 8pm EST. Topics may include everything from packing to homesickness to letter writing to Visiting Day, and more. It's also a great primer for soon-to-be camp parents. Families can register at bit.ly/campparentevent.

10 Ways You Know Summer Camp Is Coming Soon:

1. Time To Get Those Camper Forms Done!
2. Time to Schedule Camp Trunk Pick-up!
3. Time to Take Inventory!
4. Time to Go Shopping!
5. Time to Make Camper Transportation Arrangements!
6. Time to Pay the Bill!
7. Time to Pick Out Electives!
8. Time to Think About Visiting Day!
9. Time to Go Over the Basics!
10. Time to Get Choked Up!

1. **Time To Get Those Camper Forms Done!** Now's the time to fill out medical forms and camper profile forms, which are used to get to know campers better and to make cabin groups. Many camps have easy-to-use online tools from partners like [CampMinder](#) and [Bunk1](#) to complete forms now, and to email letters, read camp updates, and see camper photos during the summer.
2. **Time to Schedule Camp Trunk Pick-up!** If your camp uses a baggage carrier, now's the time to register so they can schedule a pick-up for your camper's trunks. Many camps use [Camp Trucking](#).
3. **Time to Take Inventory!** Parents everywhere are pulling out last year's camp trunks to see what they have from last year, and what they need to get fresh for this summer. In addition to clothing, parents should also check on items from last summer like the fan, flashlight, and stationery supply.

4. **Time to Go Shopping!** Getting the camp gear is a surefire way to get psyched up for summer! Campers have fun getting camp clothing from outfitters such as [Amerasport](#) and [Camp Spot](#), and heading to [Modell's](#) for sports gear.
5. **Time to Make Camper Transportation Arrangements!** Every camp has different ways to transport kids to camp (all-camp bus, chaperoned flight, drop off by car). Now is the time to make those arrangements.
6. **Time to Pay the Bill!** If parents haven't already, now's the time to make the final 2015 payment to camp.
7. **Time to Pick Out Electives!** Elective periods within the scheduled camp day give campers the chance to try new things or have more time to do the things they love most. Now's the time to review and choose.
8. **Time to Think About Visiting Day!** This is the fun one for parents and siblings! Now's the time to set up or reconfirm transit and accommodation plans. It's also useful to visit the local tourist bureau sites to get ideas of other activities in the area (i.e., in Maine: [Maine Office of Tourism](#) and [Portland's Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)).
9. **Time to Go Over the Basics!** It's helpful for parents to send their kids to camp with some basic skills (e.g., how to trim your nails, how to make a ponytail, how to make the bed) to make their independent life at summer camp a little easier. They are little things, but when your kid is at camp without you – they'll be glad you shared these tips! (and, of course, their counselors will be there to help)
10. **Time to Get Choked Up!** While going through all the administrative things, now is also the time that families are reminiscing about last year and getting excited for the summer ahead. Each year is a new adventure for campers and parents, and we're thrilled this year's is coming soon.

Now is the time to research and enroll kids in camp for summer 2015, as well as plan camp tours for this summer for 2016 enrollment.

Maine Camp Experience is a community of 30+ premier sleepaway camps and a camp planning resource. www.maineexperience.com features tools to help families such as [Select-A-Camp](#) and the [Campcierge™](#) who provides free, personalized guidance via email, phone and live chat. There are also [videos](#), [self-posted testimonials](#) by camp families, camp planning tips, and much more. Each summer approximately 20,000 kids and their families enjoy what Maine camps offer – the perfect combination of natural beauty, magnificent lakes, strong traditions and values, and top-notch instruction and activities.

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