

May 2024



The **WALDEN** Way

ARE YOU READY?!?



A Summer of Fun, A Lifetime of Memories!



WE CAN'T WAIT!!

Walden Family,

It's hard to believe that camp is less than 60 days away. I would say "who's counting", but we absolutely are!! At the Walden office, the phones are ringing, forms are coming in daily, and we are busy working through every detail to ensure Summer 2024 is the best one yet. While the big picture is important, we know it's the little things we do that truly make the biggest difference. We are always committed to going above and beyond to ensure our campers and staff are well taken care of in their summer home.

As we get closer to camp, whether you are returning or coming to Walden for the first time, it's natural to feel a mix of nerves and excitement. Rest assured, whatever you're feeling, it's completely normal! The most important thing for you to remember is that **WE'VE GOT YOU!!!** From our experienced Leadership Team, to our dedicated Group Leaders, Bunk Leaders, Bunk Counselors, Activity Staff, and Support Team, Walden has so many people who can't wait to love and take care of you. We are excited to welcome back so many returning staff and LITs, and to add some amazing new people to our Walden Staff - our team this summer is off the charts!!

So, as the countdown continues, remember we are here for you. If you have any questions or need anything at all, please reach out to us anytime. We are eagerly awaiting your arrival, and ready to make Summer 2024 an unforgettable experience for our entire Walden family.

With so much love and excitement from Mark and me,

xo Lauren

Fun Things to Pack...

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> String & Beads |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Playing cards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fun hats |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tutus | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silly socks |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bunk Games | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Costumes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fun Spirit wear | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colored clothing |





Don't Forget...

ON WEDNESDAYS WE WEAR BLUE & GREY!!

Every Wednesday, we celebrate #WaldenWednesday!! Bring your favorite Walden clothing or pack some BLUE & GREY to join in the spirited fun.



Get ready for...



Foam Party



Casino Night



Silent Disco



Brad Henderson



Deal or No Deal



Lip Sync

What will the song of the summer be?

We asked our Walden community what song they think will have everyone singing and dancing this summer...

Beyonce - Texas Hold 'Em

Morgan Wallen - Last Night

Chappell Roan - Hot To Go

Lost Frequencies - The Feeling

Black Eyed Peas - I Gotta Feeling

ANY of Taylor Swift's new songs

We love our LITS

We feel so lucky to have an AMAZING group of LITs returning to camp this summer. Their love of camp and incredible spirit will provide unbelievable energy and warmth to our bunks.

We asked them what they "BRING" to Summer 2024...

Annie Roberts



Love & excitement to be on staff for the first time

Ben Woolf



So much excitement for Summer 2024

Talia Alton



My spirit and lots of FUN to Team Building

Coco Traister



I can't wait to make new memories and have the best summer ever!

Ayla Gewirtz



Cheering & fun

Dylan Hansen



Friendship & fun

Ella Marder



Laughter and kindness

Sophie Ostrega



Huge smiles and so much spirit to Summer 2024

Matthew Fussteig



Walden Spirit

Francesca Eisenstadt



I can't wait to participate in all the activities and have the best summer!

We love our LITS

We asked them what they "BRING" to Summer 2024...

Mia Freeman



Fun and Spirit!

Jake Siegel



A TON of spirit, passion, and excitement, with the goal of sharing it with everyone

Lolo Abrams



Kindness and laughter - I can't wait to meet my campers!

Annie Levine



My amazing energy and smile

Ryan Rothenberg



An eagerness for Color War and especially the Break

Abby Morris



I can't wait to try new things in Summer 2024

Gabe Woolf



A love for camp and all the activities

Matthew Zeitz



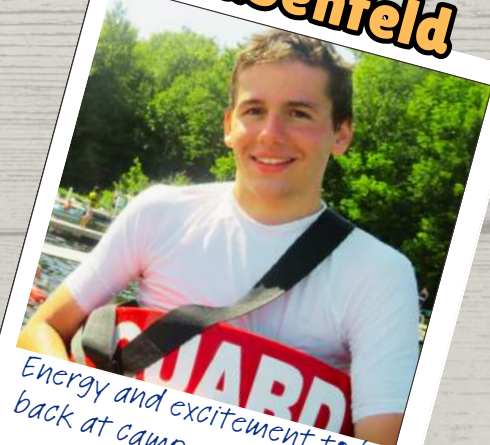
Energy and enthusiasm - I can't wait for the summer!

Juliet Eisenstadt



Excitement for another unforgettable summer with the best memories

Jack Rubenfeld



Energy and excitement to be back at camp, especially the waterfront!

AN ARTICLE BY ONE OF OUR AMAZING LITS – SOPHIE OSTREGA

Why it is necessary to take a two month break from your friends?

It's getting towards the end of the year and stress levels are high. Like any normal human being, by this time I get very bored of my day to day routine. I wake up, get ready, go to school, see friends, come home, do some homework, repeat. It's a constant cycle that I'm sick of by now and in need of something new.

There are various little breaks from these tedious routines such as march break, winter break and a few long weekends as well, but the true light at the end of the tunnel is the two months I get to spend at summer camp. Now I know by now I have made it seem like my life during the year is awful, and don't get me wrong it is far from it, but if you knew how refreshing and relieving a two month getaway from civilization is you would completely understand. I think everyone should be blessed with this escape, and for that reason I want to explain why it's absolutely necessary for everyone.

The root of a lot of my stress is my phone, and I know that's pretty common for most people. I mean how can you not be stressed by it? It's a tiny device that holds practically all your information and modes of communication. Along with that, some of the most common ways to communicate is through social media which is probably the main culprit of this stress. Constantly checking what your friends posted or overthinking that one text exchange that had a bit of a different tone than usual can be super stress inducing.

No teenager wants to feel left out, like being the only one not invited to those spontaneous late-night drives that fill your feed the next day. For someone like me, who tends to overthink, trying to decode every message and social cue becomes exhausting. Constantly wondering if I've done something wrong or if a friend is upset with me just adds to the stress. These are all things that are the main causes of my frustration and anxiety yet the compulsion to check my phone at every ding is irresistible. These stressors are all too accessible, yet turning a blind eye isn't an option—who willingly signs up for FOMO? At camp you have no way to analyze what your friends are doing without you even if you tried. The most amazing feeling is when you realize that, and you just accept the no phone life. Yes, it's hard at first but the longer you do it, the less you want to go back.

Have you ever heard the saying absence makes the heart grow fonder? This saying hits very different when you live it firsthand. I've realized over the years that being away from your friends for this short period of time doesn't weaken your friendships but rather does the opposite. Getting the opportunity to be with my camp friends for two months and create memories makes going back to my home friends so much more exciting. It's like a fresh start where we all grew in our own ways over the summer and get to share all our stories and experiences with each other that we have waited so long to tell.

This break isn't just good for everyone; it's necessary. It gives you the space to breathe, to be yourself without worrying about fitting into whatever box social media or even your school life expects which can be so mentally draining. It's about finding out who you are when you're not comparing yourself to anyone else. Honestly, it's a relief. I don't know how I would be able to move forward every year without my little break from the world, and to everyone reading this, you need one too.



WALDEN PRESENTS

YC
FIRST
SESSION:



OC
FIRST
SESSION:



YC
SECOND
SESSION:



OC
SECOND
SESSION:

MEAN GIRLS

Kings & Queens & Bishops too, Want to wish the best to you!

May Birthdays



1st	Alexa Gross	11th	Hudson Fitzpatrick	19th	Lyla Shanon
	Remi Noonan		Hanna Moskowitz	20th	Beth Phibbs
	Carlos Sanchez		Noa Reinglass		Lila Smolkin
	Elsie Stotland	12th	Charles Bacanovic	21st	Arden Alter
2nd	Colby Grant		Stephen Burdsall		Harper Choi
3rd	Jordan Sallada		Mariah Lanoire		Esmeralda Rivas
	Makenna Jillson	13th	Dhilan Sharma	22nd	Zakai DeBarros
	Will P-B		Benny Silberstein	23rd	Alex Clyne
4th	Jacob Slutzky		Judit Varga		Gina Tremaglio
	Elan Tombs	14th	Joshua Hodes		Fiona Freeman
	Ava Bromberg	15th	Katherine Pesta	24th	Dalia Gewirtz
5th	Jamie Vowles		Harper Smith		Rowan Rahmani
	Matthew Flek	16th	Bernadett Vigh	25th	Emma Goldfarb
6th	Shane Gowie		Heather Glassman	26th	Abbey Lisbona
	Sophia Larson	17th	Hazel McNary	27th	Cara Weissberg
7th	Abigail Marriner		Rafe Norman		Scott Cruden
	Marley Winston		Harley Turner	28th	Lily Gerstein
	Alex Koehler		Max Gottfried		Audrey Israel
8th	Nathan Toder	18th	Jamie O' Connor		Brody Geiger
	Reid Bachkosky		Judd Perlis	29th	Max Geiger
9th	Jaxon Ouimette		Ella Wyll		Chloe Gordon
	Jacob Perruzzi		Emily Bruno		Benjamin Bayliss
	Molly Gillespie	19th	Alex Goldsworthy	30th	Milly Beltis
10th	Addison Sturman		Aiden Moran		Arthur Cohn
11th	Brigitte Brojde		Maeve Nye		Mia Freeman

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Order your Walden Clothes TODAY!
www.everythingcamper.com

(At this point, it might be best to ship items to camp. We will label and distribute all clothing when your camper arrives.)



Forms were due on APRIL 15TH!

Please help us prepare for the summer by sending in all forms ASAP!!



All International & US families need to register with packmyrx.com by May 15th for medication needs.



Please make sure you have coordinated your baggage transportation with Tote Camps (centralized) or Ship Camps (door to door).

IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Have you downloaded the Campanion App to access photos and send one-way emails to your camper?



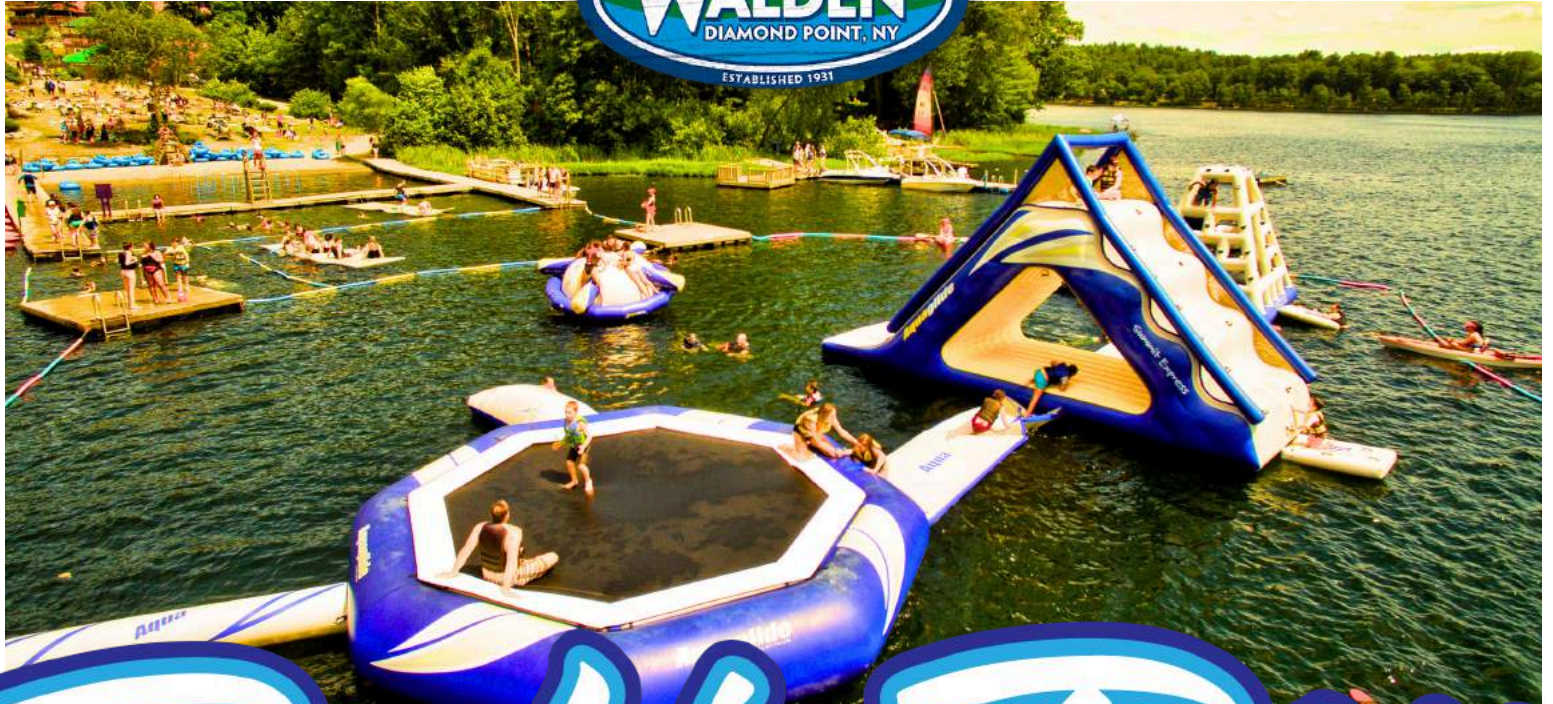
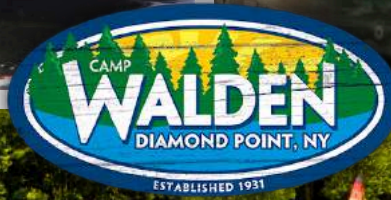
Have you booked a hotel for Visting Day (July 20th, 2024)?



First & Full Session phone call reservation opens on June 1st! (Second Session opens mid-July)



We will be hosting a "We Can't Wait" Zoom Party on Sunday June 2nd (Girls 5:30pm EST, Boys 7:00pm EST) for campers in 6th grade and down.



Rookie Day

Rookie Days this summer will be on
June 30th & July 28th.

Interested families can register on our website:
www.campwalden-ny.com



Countdown to Camp... 56 Days