

AGFEST SUMMER CAMP

at
SKY MOUNTAIN
2026

CAMPER & PARENT HANDBOOK



Welcome!



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING THE
AGFEST SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM. WE ARE CONFID
ENT THAT THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE A
MEMORABLE CAMP EXPERIENCE .

CHECK IN:
MONDAY, JUNE 29TH FROM 11:00 AM — 1:00 PM
LUNCH IS NOT PROVIDED ON TUESDAY, SO PLEASE
EAT ON THE WAY UP OR BRING A SACK LUNCH.

CHECK OUT:
FRIDAY, JULY 3RD
10:00 AM — 12:00 PM

About AgFest Camp

The 2026 San Joaquin Agfest Camp is located at Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center in Emigrant Gap, CA at an elevation of 5,800 feet. The San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) owns and operates the 62-acre site which sits on Lake Valley Reservoir. Camp facilities include a large dining hall with floor to ceiling views of the lake, a gym, three meeting rooms, six staff cabins, an infirmary, and 22 guest cabins. All cabins have their own heater, shower, and bathroom. Sky Mountain is a closed campus with locked gates to help ensure the safety of participants. Campers can fish, participate in waterfront activities like canoeing and swimming, enjoy archery, make crafts, play basketball and volleyball. Our Challenge & Adventure activities, making lanyards, and hiking are particularly popular with campers. Each evening members look forward to the campfire program which includes singing, skits, and other camp traditions. Everyone is also encouraged to participate in the Talent Show on the final night!

About Sky Mountain

On a quest to create an amazing outdoor experience in Northern California, the Saunders Family founded the Sky Mountain Camp in 1974, leasing the land from Pacific Gas and Electric for over 40 years and built over 20 buildings including cabins, meeting rooms, a gymnasium, and beach area.

In 2016, the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) applied to become a grantee of the 62-acre property through the Stewardship Council, which oversaw more than 140,000 acres of watershed lands owned by PG&E to ensure they are used to benefit the residents of California. On December 22, 2020, the SJCOE became the proud owners of Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center (Sky Mountain). As part of the transaction the SJCOE works closely with the Wildlife Heritage Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat and connecting Californians to the outdoors.

Sky Mountain serves as the outdoor education site for the 5th-6th grade students in San Joaquin County to experience Science Camp. By owning Sky Mountain, the SJCOE also has the flexibility to offer year-round programs to students of all ages and provide other opportunities for educators and community partners. In 2022, San Joaquin County 4-H was able to join the experience at Sky Mountain for summer camp with 4-H members.

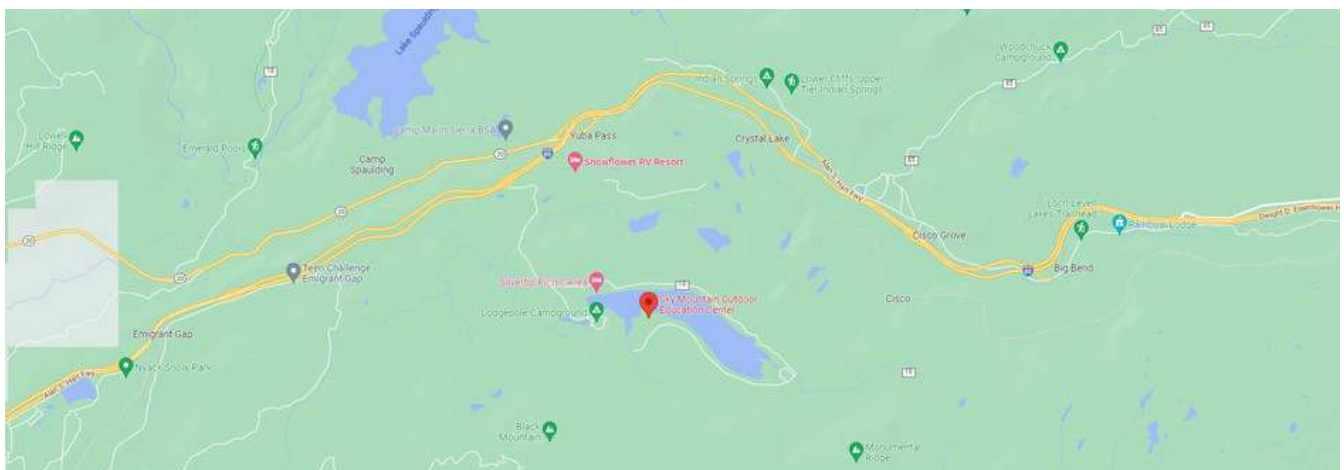
Directions



Sky Mountain is located in Emigrant Gap, CA at an elevation of 5,800 feet. To get to Sky Mountain from the Central Valley, travel east on Interstate 80 towards Truckee/Reno. Take the Yuba Gap Exit 160, from I-80 and travel south on Lake Valley Road, pass Lodgepole Campground on the right, and continue to camp.

During camp, roads are accessible to all vehicles and parking is available on site for Agfest Camp adult volunteers and camp staff.

Address:
Sky Mountain Outdoor Education Center 45700 Six
Mile Valley Rd, Emigrant Gap, CA 95715
Placer County Tahoe National Forest



Camp Map



Phone Calls

Phones and devices are not allowed while at camp. Campers are kept very busy at camp and are not allowed to use camp phones to call home. **In case of emergency, please call Sky Mountain directly at (530) 389-2001.** Phone messages are checked frequently.

AGFEST CAMP . . . EMERGENCY ONLY . . . (530) 389-2001

Do not attempt to reassure anxious campers by telling them to call home if they become lonesome, as this generally makes it more difficult for the camper to adjust to being away from home. Should it become necessary for a camper to call home, the Camp Director will first contact the parent. If you have questions during camp or need to leave a non-urgent message for your camper, You may contact Katie Huipe at (209) 608-9822 or Marco Marchini at (209) 483-4099.

Letters

Camper's love receiving mail from home while they're at camp! A letter from home can be especially comforting and help ease any separation anxiety. Because mail delivery can be slow—and the U.S. Post Office does not deliver to Sky Mountain—parents should prepare letters ahead of time and give them to Agfest staff **before** campers leave for camp.

Please hand your camper's mail to any Adult Chaperone or Junior Counselor you know prior to departure and ask them to pass it along to the Junior Camp Director. They will ensure your letters are delivered to your camper during mail call at our campfires.

Camp Overview



Supervision

Junior Counselors supervise campers in their cabins and participate in and lead general or specialized camp activities. They are expected to assume responsibility for the campers in their cabin and work along with other JC's and adult leaders on camp assignments.

We will be following the American Camp Association guidelines of a 1:8 adult/camper ratio for all camp activities. An adult leader must be 21 years of age or older by 12/31/2025.

Our Camp Committee and JC Team has jointly decided not to allow youth (including JC's) to have cell phones while at camp for a variety of reasons, the most important of which is wanting to provide a distraction-free camping experience for our participants.

We understand many parents will want their children to have phones on the way to and from camp, which is fine. However, once the child arrives at camp they will need to hand their phone over to the 4-H camp staff at check-in. All phones will be locked in a secure box and stored in a safe place. All of the phones will be handed back out on the final day of camp.

We also understand that many youths use their phones as cameras and time pieces. JC's will all have watches and alarm clocks to help keep everyone on time, and campers are encouraged to bring a digital camera or disposable camera instead of depending on their cell phones.

Cabins

Agfest Camp has 22 cabins that can accommodate up to 10 people, and each cabin has private restroom and shower. Two accessible, ADA cabins are available as well. Campers are assigned to their cabins and are expected to maintain their own belongings.

Campers and JC's are responsible for keeping their cabins clean, orderly, free of safety hazards, and damages. Cabins are checked daily by adult leaders.

Camp Overview



Camp Theme Nights

Campers are encouraged to participate in each evening's theme! There will be a costume parade at each campfire and possible prizes for participants.

1st Night - Country vs Country Club

2nd Night - Disney Princess vs Super Heros

3rd Night - Camo / USA

4th Night - Hawaiian

Camp Schedule

- 7:00 Rise and Shine
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 8:45 Flag Ceremony
- 9:00 Canteen
- 9:30 Activity - Free Choice
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Quite time in Cabin
- 1:30 Activity - Free Choice
- 4:00 Camp Wide Activity
- 5:00 Free Time/JC Meeting
- 5:30 Dinner & Flag Ceremony
- 7:00 Campfire Program
- 8:30 Dance/Bingo
- 10:00 Prep for bed
- 10:15 Lights out



Aloha Song

Each Night around the campfire this song will be sung. Please take a few moments and learn the words, you will learn the rhythm at camp.



Aloha means we welcome you, it means more than words can say. Aloha means good luck to you, good night at the close of day.

It's just like a love song with a haunting sweet refrain, brining you joy, brining you pain. Aloha means farewell to you until we meet again.



Health and Wellness

Please do not send your child to camp if they have a health problem or have been ill or had a temperature within the last 48 hours, unless you get approval from Agfest staff. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms, or have had close contact with someone who has COVID within 10 days prior to camp, you will not be allowed to attend camp.

If a camper becomes ill or injured, the policy is for the Health Supervisor to call parents to make arrangements to take the camper home if there is a prolonged fever or signs of illness. The Camp Health Supervisor abides by the California Health and Safety Codes and Regulations.

In addition to rendering care, the Camp Health supervisor is a resource for promoting optimum health and prevention of illness and accidents. The Health Supervisor cabin has been established for the primary care of the sick and injured. It provides living quarters for our Camp Supervisor with room for ill campers.

COVID-19

Pre-Arrival

- Vaccination is not a requirement to attend camp.
- During the week prior to camp, campers (and their parents), teen staff, and adult volunteers are advised to daily screen themselves for symptoms that are new or not caused by a known or existing condition.
 - Symptoms include: Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea. For more information about symptoms, see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
- Campers (and their parents), teen staff, and adult volunteers are not to come to camp if they test positive, have symptoms, or have had close contact with someone who has COVID within 10 days prior to camp.

Daily Symptom monitoring

- All people at camp will be reminded of COVID symptoms. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>
- Campers will be reminded to report symptoms to their teen leaders or camp health supervisor • Teen leaders/staff should verbally check in with campers to screen for symptoms.

Masks

- Masks are not required for general activities indoors or outdoors, based on current state health orders. However, local health conditions or site-specific rules may require masks at a camp facility in put into effect.
- No one should be discouraged from wearing a mask if they choose as long as a mask would not create a hazard (such as during swimming).
- Masks could be required in some situations. For example, in the camp infirmary, or if there is a positive COVID case, persons who were close contacts may be required to wear a mask to prevent further exposure.
- A supply of masks will be maintained at camp.

Health and Wellness

Medication

All participants are required to check in all prescribed and over the counter medications to the Camp Health Supervisor.

Please make sure to include all medication in Ziploc baggie with your child's First and Last Name labeled on the outside of the bag. Make sure all your child's medications are labeled with their name in case the medication is removed from the bag.

Health Forms

All participants are required to turn in health forms to Agfest Staff/Camp Health Supervisor.

Please make sure all forms are filled out. Make sure all detailed information such as medication, dosage, allergies, and any other health related information is written down on the health form. Health forms will need to be completed and turned in on the day the camper arrives to camp.



Preparing and Packing

It is helpful for parents and guardians to pack bag or suitcase together with campers. Use the guidelines below as a checklist. Temperatures in the mountains can quickly change. To be prepared, we recommend checking the Emigrant Gap weather report the weekend before your camper's trip.

What to Bring

- Sleeping bag or 2 sheets and 2 blankets
- Pillow and pillowcase
- 2 Bath towels, washcloth
- Soap or body wash
- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Comb or brush
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste Deodorant
- Kleenex/handkerchief
- Lip balm
- Waterproof Sunscreen
- Insect repellent
- 5 pairs of pants/jeans, shorts
- 5 shirts
- 5 sets of underwear or undergarments
- 5 pairs of socks
- Pajamas
- 2-3 sweaters, sweatshirts or hoodies
- 1 jacket or coat
- Swimsuit and swim towel
- Baseball Cap, beanie
- Sunglasses
- 2 pairs of shoes (tennis shoes)
- Large plastic bag for dirty clothes
- Reusable water bottle
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Book to read
- Deck of cards/ Games for quiet times
- Camera (digital ok)
- Items for Theme Nights
- Binoculars

What NOT to Bring

- NO candy, gum, snacks, soda or similar items
 - NO inappropriate clothing
 - NO money
 - NO weapons
 - NO curling irons or hair straighteners •
- NO valuable items
- NO perfume

Camp Dress Code

Proper dress and grooming for an occasion is a matter of exercising good judgment. Dressing well for all Agfest occasions is a skill that individuals should gain knowledge of and value its significance. Parents, adult campers & Junior Counselors should encourage this important lesson.

General Guidelines

Agfest encourages youth and adults to express their individuality within the parameters of the below general guidelines.

- All clothing shall be neat, clean, acceptable in repair and appearance, and should be worn as appropriate for Agfest events and activities.
- Articles of clothing that display profanity, products or slogans that promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs and sex are prohibited.
- Items of clothing that expose bare midriffs, cleavage (front or back), undergarments or that are transparent (see-through) are prohibited.
- Clothing and footwear should be worn that is appropriate for the activity performed and the terrain the activity is performed in.

Additional clothing considerations/restrictions may apply for safety reasons. These general guidelines apply to Agfest campers, adult volunteers, parents/guardians and program participants.



Camp Code of Conduct

Please take a moment and review the following behavior guidelines and expectations with your camper. They are designed to make everyone's experience at AgFest camp satisfying to all attending. This means that all participants, campers, adult volunteers, and Junior Counselors, shall adhere to the core values and respect the individual rights, safety, and property of others. Youth are expected to demonstrate the character traits of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

While attending AgFest Camp, members will:

- Be courteous and respect others.
- Respect the authority of Adult Leaders, Junior Counselors, Sky Mountain staff, and others in leadership roles.
- Use appropriate language and wear acceptable clothing. (See "Camp Dress Code Section")
- Show kindness to others and give assistance when needed.
- Be honest and honor commitments.
- Not use tobacco products, alcohol or drugs (except those prescribed by a doctor).
- Not carry a weapon (knives, guns, etc.) or threaten another person with a weapon, bodily force or language.
- Acknowledge that searches of personal property may take place when there is reasonable suspicion of violations of law or policies.
- Not display overly affectionate or sexual behavior. •

Accept responsibility for personal choices.

- Be in my cabin during the established hours.
- Not be in the sleeping areas of members of the opposite gender. •

Will be responsible for any damage caused by my actions.

- Will not bring valuable or electronic/battery operated items: Jewelry, iPod, Cell Phone, Radio, Gameboy, etc.
 - Not leave the grounds unless accompanied by adults and/or Junior Counselors and properly signed-out.
 - Keep food, candy, or gum away from your cabins
 - Always remain with your group, staying with your cabin leader, naturalist, or teacher •
- Will comply with other rules.

CONSEQUENCES

I understand that failure to uphold the code of conduct will result in one or more of the following consequences as appropriate:

- Notification of parent/guardian
- Notification of 4-H, FFA, Grange club
- Assessment of cost of repairs for any destruction of property
- Release to the nearest law enforcement agency

All conduct is subject to review by the AgFest Board and may result in removal or a ban from future Agfest participation.

ZERO TOLERANCE OFFENSES

At camp we have a zero-tolerance policy regarding drugs, alcohol, tobacco, overt sexual behavior, weapons, and fire. Campers WILL be sent home immediately in these cases.

3-TIER DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

For incidents that do not involve the above zero-tolerance items, the following procedure will be used:

- 1st Offense: Cleaning of camp (latrine, dining hall, etc.)
- 2nd Offense: Loss of all privileges for one day (i.e.—cannot participate in activities)
- 3rd Offense: Camper will be sent home.

In the event that a camper is sent home, their family must pick them up at Sky Mountain.

Camp Questions

1. *Are snacks or drinks allowed in cabins?*

Due to animal and pest control concerns, food and drink are not allowed in cabins. The only exception is water.

2. *Will there be snacks and drinks in between meals?*

Yes, snacks and drinks will be provided.

3. *Do I need to bring money to camp?*

Campers **do not need money** while at camp. All snacks and drinks and activities are included with the camp registration.

4. *I have concerns about the meals at camp, such as are they healthy, what if I am allergic to certain foods, I am a vegetarian, are they going to taste good?*

The Agfest Staff and Camp Committee work closely with the kitchen staff at Sky Mountain to make sure all dietary needs are met. If you have special dietary needs, please make sure to include the information in your registration.

5. *Do I have to stay with my cabin mates during camp activities?*

You will be able to choose the activities you want to participate in, regardless if your cabin mates choose other activities.

6. *Can I use my cell phone to call home, send messages, play games, take pictures?*

Cell phones are **not allowed** during camp. Upon arrival to camp, you will need to turn in your phone.

7. *If I forget to pack something, will there be extra items available?*

Make sure to follow our packing guide and pack all items listed. We will have limited supplies from our packing list available.

8. *If I don't feel well during camp, get hurt, need a band aide, need medication, or need any other medical help where do I go?*

Agfest camp has an infirmary cabin which is staffed by a licensed nurse/EMT.

9. *What if I get homesick or am scared while at camp?*

If you are homesick or scared at camp, find a JC or an adult leader and talk to them about what you are feeling. They are there to make sure campers have a fun and safe camp experience.

10. *Can I write and mail a letter home?*

At Agfest Camp we do not have mail service. If you want to document your time at camp, please bring a journal to do so.

11. *If I don't like any of the camp activities listed for the day, can I make up my own or sit in the cabin by myself?*

All campers are required to participate in daily activities. Make an effort to try something new.

12. *I didn't realize I would get tired throughout the day, will I get time to rest and have quite time?*

As part of the camp schedule, campers are given a specific time to relax and recharge before more activities begin.

13. *Will someone clean the cabin I am staying in?*

All campers are responsible for maintaining their own belongings throughout camp. All cabins will be maintained and cleaned by campers during the week.

14. *If I have a problem with another camper or JC, who can I talk to?*

Make sure to talk to an adult leader and let them know what is going on and they will help find a solution.