



Summer Camping Program:

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches will be conducting five and eight day sessions of summer camp at each of its three locations. The goal is to provide a wholesome atmosphere and positive camping experience for deserving boys and girls of Florida between the ages of 10 and 15.

The camp also provides an opportunity for Deputy Sheriffs and other Law Enforcement Volunteers to get personally involved with the campers and build positive, healthy relationships. Campers live in cabins while learning how to share and get along within a group setting. Every day contains a healthy balance between work and play, providing a valuable lesson for maturing youth.

Strong and devoted leadership is the key to a successful camping experience. The staff may include college students, graduates, teachers and other individuals committed to helping boys and girls become productive, law abiding citizens.

Summer Camp Goals:

- ★ Provide campers with opportunities to try new activities, learn new skills and make new friends.
- ★ Allow campers to interact with law enforcement officers in a positive manner and learn that "Law Officers are Your Friends".
- ★ Teach campers valuable teamwork skills through group living, group decision making and group building activities.

Camp Activities:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| ★ Arts & Crafts | ★ Games |
| ★ Team Sports | ★ Swimming |
| ★ Canoeing | ★ Awards Night |
| ★ Skits/Songs | ★ Campfire Activities |
| ★ Archery | ★ High Ropes Course |
| ★ Challenge Course | ★ Water Safety |
| ★ Nature Hikes | |
| ★ Environmental Education | |

Special Demonstrations may include:

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|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| ★ K-9 Units | ★ SWAT Teams |
| ★ Conservation and Wildlife Education | ★ Helicopters |

Application Process:

How do I apply for my child to attend summer camp?
To apply for summer camp, please follow these instructions:

1. Visit our website at www.youthranches.org.
2. From the "OUR SERVICES" menu, navigate to Summer Camps and click on the "Apply for Overnight Summer Camp" menu item.
3. Click on the "Apply for Overnight Summer Camp" graphic.
4. First time applicants please complete the enrollment form, returning applicants can click on the link for "Returning families". Upload a current photo of your camper.
5. Click on the Enrollment tab and "Enroll in Overnight Summer Camp". Select the enrollment option for your county and answer questions about your camper. Click "Save and Continue" to move through these steps.
6. On the Forms screen, download and print the Program and Transportation Release form. This form must be notarized.
7. Fill out the Health History form online.
8. Download and print the Camper Health Care Form (Medical Report). Have your child's physician fill out, sign and date the Medical Report.
9. Upload the notarized Release and completed Medical Report under the Forms tab, or you may email, fax, or mail them in to the contacts at the top of the Forms screen.
10. After you submit all the forms, return to the Enrollment tab and move through the steps by clicking "Save and continue" and "Continue to checkout". After agreeing to our terms and conditions, type in your name and click "Submit enrollment request". You will receive a confirmation email when you complete this last step.

If you are not able to access the internet please call Youth Camp at (386) 749-9999, Caruth Camp at (352) 447-2259, or Camp Sorensen at (904) 675-3535 to request a paper application.



Our Vision

To develop young men and women who, because of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, are able to face the future with a sense of direction, ability and hope.

Our Mission

The mission of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches is to prevent delinquency and develop lawful, resilient and productive citizens.

Our Values

- Children First!
- Integrity...Doing the right thing for the right reasons at the right time
- Quality...Doing nothing less than our best, every day in every way
- Stewardship...Taking responsibility for the assets that have been provided for the benefit of children through the gifts and sacrifices of others
- Character...Building successful youth and staff through development of positive character traits



Register online at
www.youthranches.org



Is this a boot camp?

No, this is not a boot camp. The goal of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches camping services is to bring a traditional and fun summer camp experience to youth who may otherwise never get the chance. We serve underprivileged and at-risk youth from all over the state.

What should/shouldn't I tell the Youth Ranches about my child?

In the online application, where it asks questions about the child, please be honest. We want to know as much as we can about the child to determine if they would be successful at camp.

What if I can't get another physical?

Please try to get the physical filled out on our form. Talk to your doctor's office/health department and see if they can transfer the information to our form from the child's most recent physical. As long as the physical was completed within a year from the start of the camp session, it will be accepted.

Where do I turn in the completed forms?

Once your forms are completed, scan them into your online account. If you are unable to scan them, please mail them to the camp registrar.

Caruth Camp
P.O. Box 10
Inglis, Florida 34449

Youth Camp
1170 Youth Camp Lane
Pierson, Florida 32180

Camp Sorensen
P.O. Box 70
Hilliard, FL 32046

When will I find out if my child/children are accepted?

Once the completed application is submitted and reviewed for eligibility, a letter of acceptance/denial/waiting list will be sent as soon as possible.

Camp Information:

Where is camp?

Caruth Camp is located at 14770 SE Highway 19 in Inglis, Florida, which is about 20 minutes north of Crystal River, in Levy County.

Youth Camp is located at 1170 Youth Camp Lane in Pierson, Florida, which is about 30 minutes west of Ormond Beach, in Volusia County.

Camp Sorensen is located at 1023 Retreat Acres Rd in Hilliard, Florida, which is about 40 minutes northwest of Jacksonville in Nassau County.

How do we get there?

When your child is accepted to attend camp you will receive information about transportation options. If you live locally, you may need to provide your own transportation to and from camp.

Where do the kids sleep?

Campers sleep in cabins with other children of the same gender and similar age. There are also two or three staff members (group leaders) who stay in the cabin with the campers. Campers are responsible for the cleaning and upkeep of their cabins and other camp common areas throughout the camp experience.

What if my child doesn't like the food?

Each meal has kid-friendly options and is approved by a dietician. There are many options including: cereal bar, salad bar and always peanut butter and jelly.

What if my child gets homesick?

Homesickness is our camp nurse's specialty. We will try convincing the camper to stay, but if they are truly homesick, then we will call the parents to have them pick up the camper. **Please make sure that your camper is ready to commit to coming to camp for a whole session.**



Cleaning and Hygiene Policy

Our staff is given training on how to properly sanitize high-contact surfaces and camp equipment in order to better protect campers. Campers are also given an introductory demonstration upon arrival for how to properly wash hands, coughing etiquette, how to practice social distancing, and other camp-specific policies or guidelines.

How much does it cost?

IT'S FREE! The only cost is your time in completing the application, getting it notarized, filling out the physical, and postage to mail it back to us.

Campers May Bring:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5/7 pair of shorts* | Pajamas |
| 1 pair of jeans | Laundry bag |
| 5/7 T-shirts* | Raincoat/poncho |
| 7/9 pair of underwear* | Hat |
| 7/9 pair of socks* | Insect repellent (non-aerosol) |
| 2 pair tennis shoes | Toiletry articles |
| One-piece bathing suit | Reusable water bottle |
| Sunscreen (SPF 30+) | 3 large towels |
| 2 washcloths | Pillow |
| Blankets/sleeping bag | |

*Larger quantities included for eight day sessions

****Modest Attire Required**

- **Clothing should cover and conceal body parts e.g. midriff, back, shoulders (2" wide shoulder straps minimum), chest, legs to mid-thigh or longer.**
- **Clothing should cover all undergarments.**
- **Shorts, skirts, or pants should be worn at natural waistline.**
- **Attire should not be sexually suggestive.**

If you do not own some of these items, please come to camp anyway!

Please DO NOT Bring:

- Smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems (vape pens), alcohol, or illegal drugs of any kind
- Aerosol products
- Pets
- Knives, hatchets, guns or weapons
- Cell phones, food, money, jewelry, expensive recreational equipment or any electronic devices. Such items will be held by the Camp Director in a secure location and returned at the end of the session.

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches will not be responsible for lost or misplaced items.

Staff and other Campers:

What is the staff like?

The staff is recruited from all over the United States, and thoroughly background screened. They are typically college age and are working toward a degree in a field working with youth. They are energetic, compassionate about working with youth, and lots of fun!

What if my child doesn't know anyone?

Living in a cabin with other campers, your child is likely to make new friends. There are other campers with similar interests who are just as nervous as your child about meeting new friends.

Are there both boys and girls there?

Yes! Each week boys and girls, ages 10-15, come to camp. There are both female and male staff members and of course, our Deputy Sheriffs.

Why are there Deputies at camp?

We have Deputies and School Resource Officers from around the state who volunteer to come to camp each summer. They are excited about joining your child at camp. **Our motto at camp is "Law Officers Are Your Friends."**

Important Information:

The only registration expense to the child's family is the cost for a physical examination and transportation to the designated drop-off/pick-up point. The physical form, which must be completed within a year of the camp start date, must also be signed by a physician. **If your child has physical, emotional, or other concerns, please note it on the application.**

Each camper must have a Program Release Registration/Transportation form, signed by the legal guardian and a notary public. In case of an emergency, please provide an accurate phone number.



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