



Gorman Heritage Farm  
**FARM CAMP**  
2023 Registration Guide



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## About Gorman Heritage Farm

The Farm was founded in 1835 by the Brown-Gorman family. Over the years, the Farm was passed down through the generations, growing and evolving with each new inherited owner. When it fell into the hands of Jim and Dorothy Gorman, the last siblings to grow up on the farm, they decided to donate it as an educational site.

Today, Gorman Heritage Farm is a not-for-profit working farm with a mission to educate about agriculture, nutrition, sustainability and the environment.

Camp is an integral part of this mission, as it allows children longer-term exposure to the outdoors and agriculture. The opportunities for authentic, hands-on activities at Farm Camp are endless!



# A Letter

## From Our Camp Manager

Dear Camp Families,

**H**ello and welcome to the Farm! I am thrilled to be preparing for another exciting summer at our Farm Day Camp. Whether you are brand new to the Farm or a long-time member, thank you for including us in your kiddo's summer! We are assembling a talented group of counselors this year who are excited to join our team.

I began working at the Farm in May of 2022, just a few short weeks before camps began for the season. Prior to my time at Gorman, I have spent nearly 10 years working at 7 different environmental organizations across 5 states. My time at the Farm as the Camps Manager has already been the most wonderful experience of my career! It is an absolute joy to welcome campers onto the Farm each week to learn, grow, experience, and play here on our beautiful 122 acres.

We can't wait to welcome you and your camper to the Farm and our camp community. I'm already counting down the days! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please reach out to me! I will see you at camp!"



*Stefanie Paeg*

**Stefanie Paeg**  
Camp Manager  
spaeg@gormanfarm.org  
513-410-9418

To hear more from Stefanie about our camp philosophy, watch our [video here!](#)

# Our Farm Camp Philosophy

## Grow!

One of our central philosophies is “challenge by choice.” By giving campers the safe space to opt into new experiences and challenges, we are presenting opportunities for growth and building their self-confidence.

## Experience!

Camp provides a unique opportunity for children to become immersed in nature, farm life, and exploration. We focus on making every activity hands-on and highly sensory, creating memories that campers will hold onto for the rest of their lives.

## Play!

Summer camp is fun! We know that kids learn and grow best when they are enjoying themselves. Camp is full of games, goofiness, and laughter.



## What does it mean to be ACA accredited?

ACA accreditation covers all aspects of camp operation from site safety and health care to management and staff screening. We submit annual accreditation reports, and we are visited every three years to renew our accreditation. We choose to be accredited by the ACA because accreditation is a guardian’s best evidence of a camp’s commitment to health and safety.

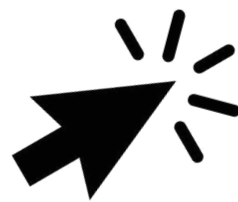
# Camp T-Shirt

The theme of 2023 camp is Buzzing Bees! Honeybees embody what camp is all about:

- Teamwork
- Community
- Meaningful work
- And finding the sweet stuff each day!



Each camper gets one T-shirt on their group's picture day. Campers may wear their T-shirt any other day that week!



## Visit us on YouTube

Want to see camp in action and hear from our Camp Manager, Camp Counselors, and even the campers themselves? Hop on over to our YouTube channel!



[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR YOUTUBE](#)

# Our Camp Staff



Our camp counselors are young adults who have experience with and are passionate about working with children and animals. All staff complete an FBI/BCI background check and our weeklong training session that includes trainings in child safety, first aid, and inclusion.

Campers are supervised at all times by camp staff and are escorted on restroom breaks. Two staff members will be with children at all times. Staff to camper ratios are no more than 2:12.

# Registration Timeline



## January

Purchase or renew your Family or Grandparents and Grandkids level membership. *Members will receive their discount code on January 25th..*

## February

Read through this guide with your kids to choose which camp themes and weeks they are interested in.

## February 7th ★

Registration opens for members only at 10am.

## February 21st ★

Registration opens to non-members at 10am.

## April 3rd

This is the deadline for camp scholarship applications.

## May

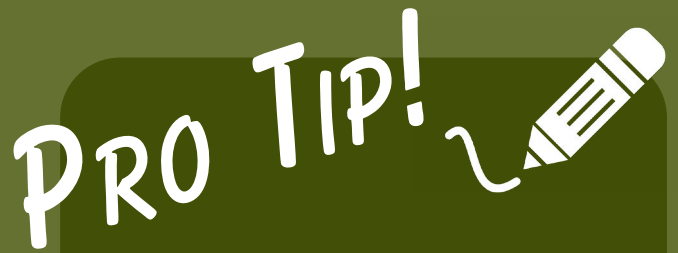
We're training our Camp Staff and communicating with you about preparing for Camp!

## May 15th

This is the final day that we accept refund requests for camp. We will not be able to give refunds after this date.

## June-August

Camp has begun! Please use the [camp@gormanfarm.org](mailto:camp@gormanfarm.org) email for questions.



Once you finish registering your child for Camp, put the dates and theme on your calendar to better remember which camps they're attending and when!

## MEMBERSHIPS

Members are part of our Farm Family. Not only do you get a discount on camps and exclusive access to our early registration period, members also receive the following benefits:

- Free access to the Farm and Trails during publicly open hours
- Free admission to the Sunflower Festival
- Discounts on public programs and Preschool Story Hour
- Farm e-newsletter to stay up-to-date on Farm activities and upcoming events
- All-You-Can-Cut-Sunflowers for only \$10 after the Festival



# The Details

## HOW TO REGISTER

All camp registration is done through our online registration system, which is a Jotform. Please visit the link provided on at the bottom of this page to register your child for camp. You must complete all health forms and all payments must be received prior to the first day of your week of camp.



## CAMP HOURS

Most camps run from 9:30am to 2:30pm Monday through Friday. Campers are expected to arrive at 9 AM to begin the day. Young Chef Camp only Wednesday-Friday during Week 5, and Monday-Wednesday during Week 10 from 9:30am-2:30pm with no aftercare option.

## WAITLIST

Many of our camps sell out quickly. To get on a waitlist for a camp slot, please fill out the camp registration form and select “waitlist”. We will notify you if a spot opens up, so keep an eye on your email. No deposit is necessary to add your camper to a waitlist

## AFTERCARE

For all camps except Young Farm Chef Camp, we can offer after care for an additional \$155 fee per child per week. Aftercare runs from 2:30-6:00 pm and children must be registered in advance to take part in aftercare.

## COVID SAFETY

We will be masking while indoors this summer when COVID-19 risk in Hamilton county is at the Medium or High level. This additional layered prevention strategy keeps campers safe, while also ensuring our camp program can continue to run all summer long in the event a positive case does occur at camp - which allows us to keep with CDC recommendations for exposure. To read more, [visit our COVID-19 policy here](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER YOUR CAMPER](#)

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***Will my child get to touch and interact with farm animals?***

Yes! Part of camp on the Farm is interacting with farm animals. For this reason, please make a special note of any animal or environmental allergies on your camper's registration form. Some camps spend more time with the animals than others. Most farm campers will feed, groom, and pet the farm animals. Campers in Wilderness Camp or Explorers Camp may not interact with the animals as much, but at least one day includes animal time.

## ***Can my child be in a group with their friend(s) if they are registered for the same week of camp?***

You may submit the names of friends, siblings, etc, with whom you would like your child to be grouped at camp on the online camp registration form. We will try our best to accommodate them if possible, but cannot guarantee grouping requests due to group size limitations. All grouping requests must be submitted at the time of registration.

## ***Can I use my Childcare Flexible Spending account to pay for Summer Camp?***

If you have a Childcare Flexible Spending account you will need to pay for Summer Camp upfront out of pocket. You may then complete paperwork provided by your

account in order for you to get reimbursed for what you paid for Summer Camp. Email [camp@gormanfarm.org](mailto:camp@gormanfarm.org) for a specific receipt.

## ***Will the weather ever cancel Summer Camp at Gorman Heritage Farm?***

Camps will continue rain or shine. Campers will be outside, even in the rain, so please prepare your child for the weather. In the case of thunder and/or lightning, camp activities will take place indoors until it is safe to return outside.

## ***What if I have to cancel my child's registration?***

Cancellations with refunds can be processed until May 15th, 2023. After that date, we cannot offer refunds for cancellations of any week. Cancellations with refunds will be charged a \$15 processing fee per camper per session. Gorman Heritage Farm memberships are not refundable.

## ***Do you offer After-Care?***

After-Care is offered from 2:30 – 6:00 pm for all camps EXCEPT Young Farm Chef Camp. No aftercare is available for Young Farm Chef Camp (a special 3-day camp). After-care is staff supervised, and children will be engaged in activities such as group games, coloring, playing in the Children's Garden, or having extra time with animals. The cost for After-Care is \$155 per week and is limited to 15 children per week. Pick-up for After-Care is no later than 6:00 pm and the procedure is the same as regular pick-up.

## ***What are the general physical, mental and emotional requirements of this camp?***

Campers may walk as much as one mile or more in a day. Please communicate to camp leadership ([camp@gormanfarm.org](mailto:camp@gormanfarm.org)) during



the registration process about any mobility differences your camper experiences. Walking is done on paved paths, grass, hills, and hiking trails. For everyone's safety, campers are expected to follow directions given by counselors and to treat farm animals large and small in a gentle manner. Campers are expected to use tools and knives in the way that is demonstrated. Campers are expected to treat others with respect, kindness, and empathy.

### ***May I enroll my child in a camp for an older age group?***

Age requirements must be enforced to ensure a quality camp experience for all. Campers must fall within the specified age category on the first day of the camp session they are attending.

### ***How many weeks can my child attend?***

There is no limit as to how many weeks of summer camp your child may attend at Gorman Heritage Farm. However, please understand that camps may repeat activities and lessons, particularly Veterinary Science and Wilderness Camps. While we try to make each week unique, some crafts, games, recipes, and other activities may be used multiple times throughout the summer.

### ***What if I want my child to only come for two or three days instead of all five or if my child is sick for part of the week?***

Your registration is for all five days of camp. In the event your child does not attend all five days, we do not offer pro-rating or daily rates. We are not able to pro-rate fees due to illness.

### ***Will I receive anything in the mail?***

All correspondence is done via email so

please make sure to enter a valid email address on your registration. You will receive communications from Jotform (noreply@jotform.com), PayPal (service@paypal.com), and the Camps Manager (spaeg@gormanfarm.org and camp@gormanfarm.org).

### ***Do you offer scholarships for camp?***

We are excited to offer camp scholarships and financial assistance. Your total family income must be within 200% of the Poverty Level for the previous year to qualify for financial assistance. The scholarship application is **posted on our website**.

Please **click here** if you would like to contribute to our camp scholarship fund!

### ***What steps do you take to promote diversity and inclusion in your camp culture?***

We believe in an all-inclusive approach to all aspects of the organization. Campers, families, staff, and volunteers should feel valued and included in their experience regardless of gender, marital status, family status, religious or political beliefs, neurotype, race, age, sexual orientation, disability or other physical, emotional, cultural, or medical factors. We believe in using a person-centered approach in our programming at all times. Gorman Heritage Farm works to realize the dignity and worth of each individual and to eliminate human barriers based on all assumptions that prejudge individuals. Our programs are designed and implemented to reduce stereotypes and to foster positive intercultural relationships. At the Farm, everyone is welcome.

# 2023 Camp Schedule

DATES	AGES 5-7		AGES 8-13	
<b>WEEK 1</b> June 5 – June 9	Seedlings		Farm Adventures	
<b>WEEK 2</b> June 12 – June 16	Seedlings		Farm Adventures	
<b>WEEK 3</b> June 19 – June 23	Seedlings		Farm Adventures	Farm Chef
<b>WEEK 4</b> June 26 – June 30	Pony Care	Seedlings	Vet Science	
<b>WEEK 5</b> July 5 – July 7 <i>3-Day Week</i>		<b>Young Farm Chef*</b> <i>*This camp is a 3-day camp for ages 6-8</i>		
<b>WEEK 6</b> July 10 – July 14	Explorers		Vet Science	Farm Chef
<b>WEEK 7</b> July 17 – July 21	Seedlings		Wilderness	Farm Chef
<b>WEEK 8</b> July 24 – July 28	Pony Care	Explorers	Farm Chef	
<b>WEEK 9</b> July 31 – Aug 4	Seedlings		Wilderness	Farm Chef
<b>WEEK 10</b> Aug 7 – Aug 9 <i>3-Day Week</i>		<b>Young Farm Chef*</b> <i>*This camp is a 3-day camp for ages 6-8</i>		

# Camps for Ages 5-7

## Seedlings Camp

**\$250/week; \$215 for members**

Week 1: June 5-9, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 2: June 12-16, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 3: June 19-23, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 4: July 26-30, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 7: July 17-21, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 9: July 31- Aug 4, 9:30am-2:30pm

Younger campers new to day camp can explore our farm in a camp designed especially for them. Campers participate in daily farm chores such as feeding and grooming and have hands-on experiences with our friendly farm animals. Guided by camp staff in groups of about 10, campers harvest and prepare camp snacks themselves, play active games, and create fond farmyard memories!

## Pony Horse Care Camp

**\$280/week; \$245 for members**

Week 4: June 26-30, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 8: July 24-28, 9:30am-2:30pm

Younger campers who love horses will love this equine-inspired camp planned just for them! Each day begins with farm chores to care for all our farm animals, before enjoying activities specific to equines. Campers will spend time with each of our equines, learning how to groom and walk our gentle friends. Camp favorites such as active group games, daily snacks and horse-themed art will round out a week of camp for your horse-loving camper.

*There is **no horseback riding** at any point during Gorman Heritage Farm Summer Day Camp.*



## Explorers Camp

**\$250/week; \$215 for members**

Week 6: July 10-14, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 8: July 24-28, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 9: July 31- Aug 4, 9:30am-2:30pm

Let's explore the outdoors! This is an active camp for younger campers who love to move. Daily activities develop age-appropriate outdoor skills, whether it's playing outdoor games, practicing safety skills, preparing a daily snack outside, or building with natural materials while playing with friends. Campers are provided supervision and space to safely explore with friends and forge fun summer memories.



# Camps for Ages 6-8

## Young Farm Chef Camp

**\$200/week; \$185 for members**

**Week 5 (Wed-Fri): July 5-7, 9:30am-2:30pm**

**Week 10 (Mon-Wed): August 7-9, 9:30am-2:30pm**

Young Chef campers will participate in growing and preparing food on the Farm with hands-on activities and outdoor exploration such as tending gardens, visiting farm animals, and harvesting vegetables. Guided by counselors, campers will turn fresh ingredients into tasty dishes with simple recipes they can take home. Our campers build connections between farms, food, and their lunchbox!



## New Camp!

This NEW camp is designed to get younger children engaged with the food they eat. It will focus on harvesting food from the garden, and using basic skills to craft these into snacks.

Unlike the rest of our camps, Young Farm Chef Camp is a 3-day camp (see dates above).

## Exception to Aftercare

Please note that we are not offering aftercare for this new camp. We're sorry for the inconvenience.

# Camps for Ages 8-13

## Farm Adventures Camp

**\$250/week; \$215 for members**

Week 1: June 5-9, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 2: June 12-16, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 3: June 19-23, 9:30am-2:30pm

Every day on the Farm is an adventure! Our classic farm camp focuses on daily farm animal care such as feeding, cleaning, grooming and animal handling. The camp day continues with nature-based exploration, farm-themed arts and crafts and creative group games. Each camp day also includes preparing a snack with ingredients from the farm. From start to finish, our camp day is packed with a wide variety of activities all around the farmyard, the gardens and in our woods and fields.



## Vet Science

**\$280/week; \$245 for members**

Week 4: June 26-30, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 6: July 10-14, 9:30am-2:30pm

For campers ready to take the next step in animal care, this camp is all about the health of our friendly farm animals! Campers complete daily farm chores and are provided the tools and guidance to perform health assessments on a different farm animal each day. Camp activities are a great introduction to veterinary science and include taking animal vital signs, practicing sutures on a banana skin, and the scientific dissection of animal organs (led by a volunteer retired veterinarian). A daily themed snack is served (eat salad like a rabbit!). Camp concludes on Friday with campers demonstrating their new knowledge and skills to families during a camper-led farm tour.

# Camps for Ages 8-13



## Farm Chef Camp

**\$310/week; \$275 for members**

Week 3: June 19-23, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 6: July 10-14, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 7: July 17-21, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 8: July 24-28, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 9: July 31-Aug 4, 9:30am-2:30pm

Our cooking camp is a local favorite - just like our food! Campers begin each day with an introduction to food production by harvesting ingredients right from the farm. They practice new cooking skills, such as assembling ingredients, weighing and measuring, and using knives safely, before being guided through tasty recipes. On Friday, families are invited for an end of camp party with snacks prepared by the campers and each camper leaves with a personalized recipe journal from the week. At Farm Chef Camp, campers experience the joys of preparing fresh food from scratch!



## Wilderness Camp

**\$280/week; \$245 for members**

Week 7: July 17-21, 9:30am-2:30pm

Week 9: July 31-Aug 4, 9:30am-2:30pm

Practice skills for a lifetime spent outdoors! Campers spend each camp day exploring our forest with friends, building with natural materials and learning basic wilderness skills, like using a compass to find hidden treasure and building and cooking on a fire. There's plenty of time and space for imagination and free play and lots of hands-on skills in this camp designed to build comfort and excitement for spending time outside.



# A DAY AS A CAMPER

## MORNING

**9:00-9:30am** – Camper drop off

**9:30-10am** – Icebreaker activities and wake-up games

**10:00-10:45am** – Morning chores

**LUNCH** (10:50-11:20AM)

## AFTERNOON

**11:20-11:50am** – Post lunch game

**11:50am-12:20pm** – Activity 1

**12:20-12:50pm** – Activity 2

**12:50-1:20pm** – Activity 3

**1:30-2:00pm** – Daily themed snack (provided by GHF summer day camp)

**2:00-2:15pm** – End of day clean up

**2:15-2:30pm** – End of day reflection and wrap-up with camp group

## AFTERCARE

**2:30-6pm** – Aftercare

Each day of camp is unique! While we intentionally plan out our activities and games in advance, we're also very flexible with the weather and the interests of the group.

Campers work together as a team to feed, water, and clean the stalls of our friendly farm animals. Chef Camp focuses their attention on harvesting from the garden, while Wilderness Camp and Explorers skip chores to head out on the trail.



*Campers bring hay to the equines*



*Campers check for eggs*

Our afternoon activity blocks are carefully scheduled to provide hands-on learning and fun experiences. We mix things up each day with a variety of learning activities, animal interactions, crafts, and dedicated times for exploration and discovery. Campers may plant seeds, groom our miniature donkey, explore the pond with dip nets, build shelters in the forest, or learn about pollinators in our children's garden!

We end each day thoughtfully, and always take time to connect and reflect on our day as a group. You'll receive a list of questions in your welcome email that you can use after camp each day to get your camper thinking and sharing about their experiences.

Aftercare may be selected during camp registration. This extended camp day is full of active fun while allowing families a more convenient pick-up time.



*Campers reflect with their group*



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