

## Frequently Asked Questions for CYSC Northwoods 2022

# General

### Why CYSC Northwoods?

CYSC Northwoods is the second national location of Damascus' Catholic Youth Summer Camp. CYSC has been changing lives and growing rapidly in response to a demand for world-class retreat programming. CYSC Northwoods is not just a week for a great experience in the summer; it is designed to be life-changing and to facilitate an encounter with Jesus for each camper. At camp, youth encounter Christ and are able to bring their zeal and enthusiasm for evangelization back into their school, parish and community.

### Where is CYSC Northwoods located?

CYSC // Northwoods: This location in Trego, WI will be a regional camp for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis as well as other dioceses in Minnesota and surrounding states. Learn more about dates, cost, and other information for CYSC // Northwoods [here!](#)

### When does registration for CYSC Northwoods open?

Registration is open now! Register today! Camp registration will remain open until it has been filled. We have two options to register:

1. With your parish.
2. As an individual.

Many parishes are registering as a group! If that's your and your parish, please check with your youth minister for your group registration code and for more

information! If you are registering as an individual, sign up today at [cysc.com/northwoods](http://cysc.com/northwoods).

## **CYSC Northwoods 2022 Session Dates**

Session 1 (Middle School): June 12-17

Session 2 (Middle School): June 19-24

Session 3 (Middle School): June 26- July 1

Session 4 (High School): July 3-8

Session 5 (Middle School): July 10-15

Session 6 (Middle School): July 17-22

Session 7 (Middle School): July 24-29

Session 8 (Middle School): July 31-August 5

## **How Do I Know My Child Will Be Safe?**

There is no more pressing question that parents could ask than for the assurance of their child's safety at camp. We hold every child's physical, emotional, and spiritual safety as our highest priority. As a result, we are committed to partnering with families in providing the same degree of care that you show at home in your children's time away. In order to do this effectively, we have adopted policies around providing a safe environment to which we hold every staff member personally responsible.

Organizational policies and procedures have been crafted through careful consultation with four key organizations:

1. The policies and procedures, particularly safe environment policies of our local diocese.
2. The best practices advised by the American Camping Association.

3. The policies and procedures of the Association of Challenge Course Technology (ACCT).
4. The Redwoods Group, our insurer and partner in risk assessment and safety implementation and training.

Implementation of all policies and procedures is made possible by thorough individual staff oversight and management, a strict adherence to proper training, certification and licensing, and the intentional establishment of an organizational culture of safety and accountability. Damascus maintains a two-deep strategy with all interactions with minors and maintains head counselor positions who specifically monitor camper/counselor interactions. In addition to enforcing safe environment policies based on those of the Catholic Diocese of Columbus Ohio, all missionaries and staff receive additional training beyond what would be offered in any typical parish or school environment. They are trained in the observance and implementation of Damascus policies from the day of their application through their interview weekend, 10 days of dedicated staff training prior to camp, and through ongoing pastoral and activity leadership supervision.

As a campus with emphasis on high adventure activities, we have a policy of zero tolerance when it comes to risk in our facilities, equipment, and operation. Every one of our adventure activities undergoes annual third party inspection or recertification and all of our staff are trained by a certification body approved by the ACCT, or American Red Cross in the case of lifeguards. Their training and certification is kept current and tested regularly.

Additionally, Damascus holds an organizational liability policy to specially address not only accidents and injuries, but also sexual abuse by both staff members and other campers.

We are in good standing with the Archdiocese's Insurance Catholic Mutual and the Safe Environment Office. All of our summer missionaries have completed VIRTUS certifications and have been through a two-week training program which is focused on pastoral skills and appropriate boundaries.

A full copy of our [policy manual, notably, policy 100.63, on risk management is available here](#). All of our safe environment training is recorded and available upon request.

Thank you for the trust that you place in us.

# Finances

## How much does CYSC cost?

A session of CYSC costs \$495 per camper. The cost includes all activities, meals, lodging, and a camp t-shirt.

## Do I need to pay in full at registration?

No! Payment information and a \$150 initial deposit are required when you reserve your spot, and you may select a payment plan that divides the remaining cost across 4 installments of \$100 paid every other month (December 1, February 1, April 1, June 1). Please note that once a payment date has passed, that amount will be added to the amount due at registration. There is a \$5 processing fee for the payment plan.

## Is financial assistance available?

First, your parish may have a sponsorship code in order to help subsidize the cost of camp for families. To find out, email your youth minister or parish contact to see if there is a promotional code available to you!

Second, the leadership, staff, and benefactors of Damascus want to see families, schools, and parishes experience true and lasting revival through encounter with Jesus. Through the generosity of our benefactors and ministry partners, income-based scholarships are available and the application may be found during the registration process. Our team will hold your reservation while they review the request and respond within the week. Please reach out to [financialaid@damascus.net](mailto:financialaid@damascus.net) with any questions.

## How do I update my credit card or payment information?

Please log in to your account by clicking [here](#). From the menu in the top left corner, choose “Finances” and from that page select “Payment Accounts” > “Manage Payment Accounts” to add or update a payment method. Make sure to select for the rest of your scheduled payments to be withdrawn on the new payment method.

To speak to a member of our Guest Experience staff, email [registrationmn@damascus.net](mailto:registrationmn@damascus.net)

## What do I do if I need to cancel my CYSC registration? What is the refund policy?

Every registration includes a \$150 non-refundable deposit. Any additional payments are eligible for a refund up to 1 month before your session, after which point our costs are committed and we are no longer able to provide refunds.

We are sorry, but this policy also applies to cancellations that may arise as a result of illness, injury or other unforeseen circumstances as our contracted expenses are also binding.

If possible, transfers to another session can be made without charge. If cancellation is motivated by financial hardship, please inquire about campership aid before seeking cancellation. All cancellations must be submitted in writing via email.

# Registration

## How do I update my camper's cabin buddy request?

Log in to your [account](#). Click on “My Reservations” and select the reservation you would like to edit; click “additional information” to see the current buddy request and select “edit information” to make changes.

## How do I edit my camper's t-shirt size, medications, or personal information?

Log in to your [account](#) and select the name of the camper from the home page. To edit personal information, choose “Edit My Bio Information”. Click “Manage Medications” to add or update medications. To update camp t-shirt size select “My Forms” and then “Camper Personal Information.”

## How do I get off the waiting list?

You will receive an email letting you know when space has become available. You will have 72 hours to complete your reservation before the spot is automatically offered to the next person.

If you already have a reservation, you may reach out to our office to transfer your reservation to the new week; otherwise you can make a new reservation and cancel the first.

## Do I need additional physicals or medical forms?

All forms can be found on your account if you click on your camper's name and go to the “My Forms” and “Medications” tabs. No additional physicals or forms are needed.

# Camp Experience

## What high adventure activities will my camper experience?

Our activities include paintball, archery tag, a climbing wall, extreme capture the flag, swimming, water inflatables, a canoe trip, and low ropes.

Every camper gets the opportunity to participate in every activity. We encourage campers to conquer fears and step out of their comfort zone but will not force campers to participate in any activity.

For a complete list and more information, stay tuned for an email

### **What is the usual day-in-the-life of camp?**

In the morning, campers start the day with breakfast at 7:45am. After breakfast, they have a time of “Prayer Lab”, where they learn to pray! For the next few hours, campers enjoy the high-adventure activities before Mass, Parish Time, and Lunch. After lunch, campers go to more activity rounds and lake time. Dinner is around 5pm each day, and Club follows dinner. Club is a time of skits, dramas, competitions, talks, sacraments, Eucharistic processions, and lots of fun! Bedtime is around 10:15 each night. Thursday night has a later bedtime and a later wakeup time!

### **What are your cabins like?**

Heartwood’s beautiful duplex cabins sleep 4 small groups (32 campers) per cabin. The duplexes are divided in half, and each half has 4 bedrooms, a full bathroom, and a furnished common space. Each cabin has at least two overnight counselors with the campers 24/7, and all cabins include HVAC. Click [here](#) to see the facilities. Campers do need to bring their own bedding to camp!

### **What should my camper pack?**

Check out the [packing list](#)!

### **Does Damascus accommodate vegetarian or special dietary needs?**

Damascus is able accommodate most dietary needs (dairy free, gluten-free, celiac, or vegetarian), and all of our food is nut-free! Please make sure to include this information in the camper’s medical form. To email our Director of Food Services with additional questions or to request a menu – [whitney@damascus.net](mailto:whitney@damascus.net) .

### **Who is invited to the closing mass?**

Everyone! Friday's Closing Mass is open to family, friends, grandparents, etc. to join the celebration. Come at 12:15 to hear camper testimonies prior to the 1pm Mass.

## Where is Catholic Youth Summer Camp located?

CYSC Northwood's summer home is Heartwood Resorts in Trego, Wisconsin.

CYSC Main Campus is [Damascus Catholic Mission Campus](#). Damascus is located in Centerburg, Ohio, about 40 minutes northeast of Columbus and is less than 2 hours away from every major city in the state. Our address is 7550 Ramey Rd. Centerburg, OH 43011. The closest major airport is John Glenn International Airport.