



## Camp Programs Frequently Asked Questions

### How much is one week of camp?

Our camp rates are as follow:

#### **March Critter Camp:**

- \$200/5 day week (Monday-Friday)
- \$40/day (2 day minimum)

#### **Summer Critter Camp:**

- \$200/5 day week (Monday-Friday)
- \$120/3 day week (Tuesday-Thursday only)
- \$160/4 day week (Weeks where there is a Statutory Holiday)

All cancellations are subject to a \$10 administration fee.

Any cancellations after the two-week timeframe will be subject to a \$25 charge per transaction. ***No exceptions can be made.***

### How old does my camper need to be to attend?

- We offer full day camps for campers aged 6 – 11.
  - ***Exceptions can be made for campers who are turning 6 or turned 12 in the very near future, but this must be discussed with the Manager of Humane Education before registering.***
- March Camp is open to campers aged 6 – 11 for the full week.
  - During March Break Camp, campers are divided by age group and the curriculum differs depending on your camper's age. The only times that all age groups will be together is during presentations, some games, field trips and breaks.
- Summer Camp is divided by age group; one week for 6-8 year olds **ONLY** and one week for 9-11 year olds **ONLY**.
  - ***Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis, but this must be discussed with the Manager of Humane Education before registering.***
- If you would like two campers to be in the same group, but they are not the same age, it **MUST** be requested upon registration.



## Camp Programs Frequently Asked Questions

### Where is the camp located?

- Camp is located at our shelter – 245 Dartnall Road.
- Camp begins at 9:00am and ends at 4:30pm.
- We offer extended supervisor from 8:00-8:30am and 4:30-5:00pm. ***This is an additional cost of \$6/half hour.***
- All campers **MUST** be picked up by 5:00pm, without exception. There is a charge of \$5 cash, per half hour of extended care. This fee is due at the time of service and should be given directly to the Camp Supervisor.

### What will my camper do all day?

A typical camp day begins with sign in at 9am, and the campers break into their groups for a day.

Morning normally involves a tour (groups are rotated throughout the week) at least one physical activity, at least one animal visit, time for playing games and an educational activity as well as a mid-morning snack break. Afternoons are similar in structure with a craft, educational activities, at least one animal visitor, a second snack break, and time for games.

Throughout the week, other organizations are invited as special guests and campers have the opportunity to engage in special activities with shelter animals such as feeding or socialization.

Due to the nature of the Hamilton/Burlington SPCA operations and the animals we receive, availability of appropriate animals for campers to visit varies from day to day. We strive to provide every camper with a positive experience around a variety of animals. However, stress on our shelter animals is also closely monitored by our staff and volunteers.

### What is an animal interaction? Does my camper get to pet, hold or feed the animals?

Unfortunately, not all animals have a temperament that makes them a good candidate for camp. Most of the animals that visit camp are part of our Pet Visiting Program.



## Camp Programs Frequently Asked Questions

These animals have been assessed for their temperament and volunteer as visitors at various facilities in the Hamilton/Burlington communities.

Occasionally, we have animals in our care that are appropriate for campers to meet. However, please keep in mind when considering animal interactions that we must carefully balance the experience of our campers with the best interests of our animals. We select animal interactions that will provide a quality experience for our campers while keeping our animal's well-being in mind.

### **How many animals will my camper meet?**

We aim to have all campers at camp meet a minimum of 2 animals each day and on some days of camp. These figures may change from day to day or week to week due to fluctuations in shelter population, animal stress levels or presentations.

### **Can my camper attend more than one week?**

There is no restriction on how many weeks a camper can attend. While we attempt to change curriculum from week to week, campers returning for several weeks during the summer should be prepared to repeat some activities, crafts and presentations throughout the summer.

### **Is it peanut-free camp?**

Campers are asked not to bring peanut products to camp. However, we are not a nut-free facility and we also cannot guarantee that the food used at the HBSPCA for our animals is 100% nut free.

If you have concerns regarding campers with allergies are encouraged to contact the Manager of Humane Education before registering to discuss possible options.

### **What is the cancellation policy?**

- Please note that registrations are taken on a first come, first serve basis.
- Camp spots cannot be held without the completed registration form and full payment.



## Camp Programs Frequently Asked Questions

- All withdrawals are subject to a \$10 administration fee. Any withdrawal after the 14 day time frame will be subject to a \$25 charge per transaction. **No exceptions can be made.**
- **Should camp need to be cancelled due to extreme weather you will be offered a refund for that day only.**

### What happens if there is a weather emergency?

#### **Closure**

When inclement weather and other emergencies affect camp programming or the ability for campers, staff and volunteers to safely arrive at the shelter.

#### **Notification**

- Staff will notify employees and volunteers by phone of the closure through departmental call trees.
- The camp closure will also be announced:
  - On our website: [www.hbspca.com](http://www.hbspca.com)
  - On our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HBSPCA>
  - AM900 CHML News
  - On the Humane Education Department telephone line: 905-574-7722 Ext. 326
- Should camp need to be cancelled due to extreme weather you will be offered a refund for that day only.

Coordinator of Humane Education and Pet Visiting  
Tania Celik-Sonne  
905-574-7722 Ext. 326  
[humaneed@hbspca.com](mailto:humaneed@hbspca.com)