

# CAMP MARSTON FACILITIES

- **10 modern sleeping Lodges** each with 24 beds per lodge. All Lodges have four separate bedrooms with three bunk beds (six beds) per room, two modern restrooms off the hallway which can be either single gender or shared genders, and a **common** room with fireplace and couches  
**Total capacity 240 beds** (*Lodge Numbers: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11*)
- **Dining Hall:** newly remodeled as of January 2019, complete with single stall restrooms. Indoor seating for 240 people and additional outdoor seating for 60 people
- **Upper Holmes Lodge:** large indoor meeting space with fireplace, stage, and seated capacity of 50 people, additional capacity if children utilize floor space. (Available only by request when booking for large groups of 40 or more)
- **Lower Holmes Lodge:** indoor recreation area with ping-pong and foosball tables. Lower Holmes also houses our Camp Store which is open on Saturdays from 1:30-4:00pm
- **Old Oaks Outdoor Amphitheatre:** with stage, seating, electricity, fire pit and lights
- **Lake Jessop Fire Pit/Amphitheater:** Lake Jessop provides a chance to experience a beautiful scenic campfire with amphitheater style seating
- **Lake Jessop:** small lake for fishing/canoeing (seasonally available dependent on rainfall)
- **Athletic Fields:** two large spaces, one turf and one grass which are excellent for sports, games or martial arts activities
- **Outdoor Programs led by Camp Staff** and multiple self-led activities available all over Camp Marston property
- **Forested Hiking Trails:** various trails around our property can be used for hiking, biking, and exploring. Guided nature hike can be offered upon request
- **Tent Village:** our platform tent village with 40 bed spaces. Non-heated, but available during warmer months of May, June August and September. Large covered porch area between tents provides a great space for lounging.

**Firewood** is provided free of charge for appropriately sized indoor fireplaces and small outdoor campfires. Due to the constant threat of wildfires in our area, outdoor campfires are only permitted in established outdoor fire pits. Portable fire pits not permitted at YMCA Camp Marston or Raintree Ranch. All indoor fireplaces and outdoor fire pits must be supervised by an adult at all times.



Upper Holmes Meeting Space



Camp Marston Lodge



Living Room of each Lodge

# PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES

YMCA Camps offer everything from a full weekend of staff-assisted programs to simply providing facility support. Our program staff and directors are here to provide a fun, challenging, adventurous, quiet or reflective weekend... Let us know your needs so we can best work with you. Activities available to your group are determined by several factors including: group size, weather conditions, and program commitments to other groups.

## DAY TIME STAFF LED ACTIVITIES

- **Climbing Tower:** a multi-sided and multi-route climbing tower to challenge climbers both young and old
- **Canoeing on Lake Jessop:** we provide the lifeguard, lifejackets, paddles and canoes. You provide the muscle to paddle your boat. (Seasonally available dependent on water level and weather)
- **Archery Range:** with 14 stations allows multiple archers at a time to participate. The targets range anywhere from 25-100 feet from the target depending on ability
- **Marksmanship Range:** allows both children and adults to use our air BB guns in a fun and safe environment. Personal firearms not allowed on Marksmanship Range
- **Candle Making:** at our Arts & Crafts Pavilion
- **Paintball Slingshots:** take a beautiful walk to the far side of the lake, aim for the tin cans, water jugs and various other targets and watch the paint fly

## SELF-LED ACTIVITIES OPEN ANY TIME

- **Nature Hike:** if a guided hike is an activity your group would appreciate, please request this activity during the planning stage
- **Ga Ga:** our most popular activity! This game involves a playground ball in an octagon pit, somewhat like dodge ball, but much more fun and safe! Easy to play, and can be addictive
- **Bouldering Wall:** this is a free climbing structure that is available at all times. Try your traversing skills here!
- **Fishing at Lake Jessop:** bring your own pole and bait but no permit needed seasonally available (catch and release)
- In addition we have a **basketball court, horseshoes, and indoor recreation room** which are stocked with equipment to enjoy at your leisure

## OPTIONAL EVENING ACTIVITIES

- **Campfires and Skit /Talent Shows** have always been an integral part of the camp experience. Songs, skits, and stories can be run by our Camp Staff exclusively, or we can supplement your evening program
- **Night Hikes** are a unique Friday night activity where Camp Staff provide an educational and mystical experience that may include star gazing, story telling, and experiments with light and vision



## MEALS AND DINING EXPERIENCE

**Delicious and nutritious** meals are the focus of the YMCA Camp Marston and Raintree Ranch kitchens! Weekend groups generally eat **buffet style** to support positive smaller group and parent/child interactions. But if your group is large enough to book the entire camp then you can request a family style meal to promote conversation and community with camp or youth groups. **Healthy choices** are available for all appetites, from little campers to adults!

A salad bar with fresh vegetables is available at both lunch and dinner in addition to the main meal. At breakfast this turns into a breakfast bar with fruit, yogurt and hot oatmeal. At breakfast a cold cereal bar is also available.

We pride ourselves on our family style home cooked meals and in meeting your dietary needs. There are very few requests our experienced staff cannot accommodate. Please do your best to inform us at least two weeks in advance of your visit.

Due to varied arrival times on Friday evenings, **we do not serve dinner on Fridays**. Many guests choose to have dinner at various locations in the town of Julian or stop in Ramona on the way up.

A final count of your group attendees for food preparation is due one week prior to your visit, along with a listing of the number of vegetarians, and any basic food allergies/restrictions.

Please have adult group members contact us at least two weeks prior to your visit to discuss:

- Dietary concerns
- Food allergies
- Menus during your visit or your child's visit
- Specific questions regarding our food products



# SAMPLE WEEKEND SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY

4:00 – 8:00pm Check-In at Camp Office  
 7:45 Cookies at the Dining Hall  
 8:00-8:30 Night Hikes led by Camp Staff  
 10:00 Quiet Hours begin



## SATURDAY

7:00am Quiet Hours end  
 8:00 Breakfast  
 9:15-11:45 Camp Activities Open (See page 7)  
 Noon Lunch  
 1:30-5:00 Camp Activities Open (See page 7)  
 5:30 Dinner  
 7:00 Campfire  
 10:00 Quiet Hours begin



## SUNDAY

7:00am Quiet Hours end  
 8:00 Breakfast  
 8:30-9:30 Pack up, clean and vacate lodges  
 10:00-11:45 Camp Activities open  
 Noon Departure from Camp



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Will we have exclusive use?

Unless your group is large enough to take all of the lodges (240 beds), then there will most likely be another group on site. Each group will have their own set of sleeping lodges but should expect to share the Dining Hall and activity areas. If your group is reserving Raintree Ranch then your group will have exclusive use of the Raintree facilities since this is a much smaller camp; Raintree guests coming to Marston for free time activities should expect to participate alongside Marston guests.

## What is the weather like?

Generally we have very warm weather during the months of June through September. From October to May we have cooler weather during the night time, or if a storm passes through. From October through May you will need long pants, sweatshirt, and warm hat for evening night hikes or campfires, but day times can still be warm so short sleeves and shorts are also great to have. (See packing list on page 17)

Generally we get snow storms a few times a year between December and March. And rain storms happen occasionally between October and April.

## What happens if it rains?

Many of the activities can still continue in the rain. Archery and Marksmanship have covered shooting areas, and Climbing can still happen in the rain as long as it's not down-pouring. We also have a large indoor recreation room in Lower Holmes with ping pong, board games and couches.

## What happens if it snows?

Most guests absolutely love the snow, and bring sleds just in case. Most activities can continue in the snow, but we may plan some indoor activities to warm up.

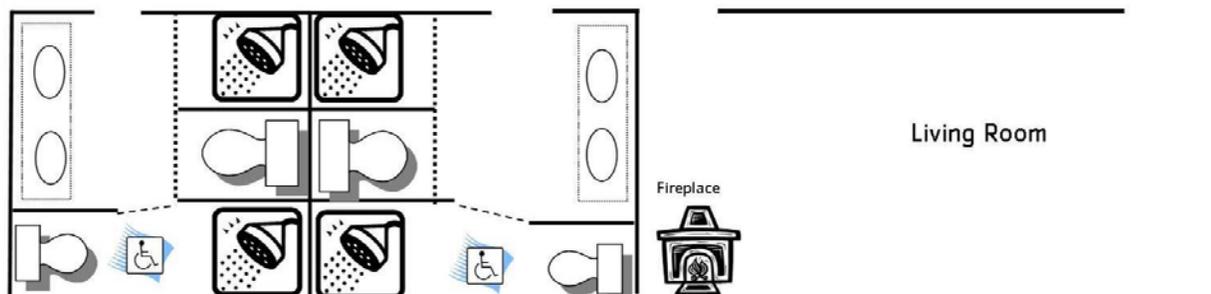
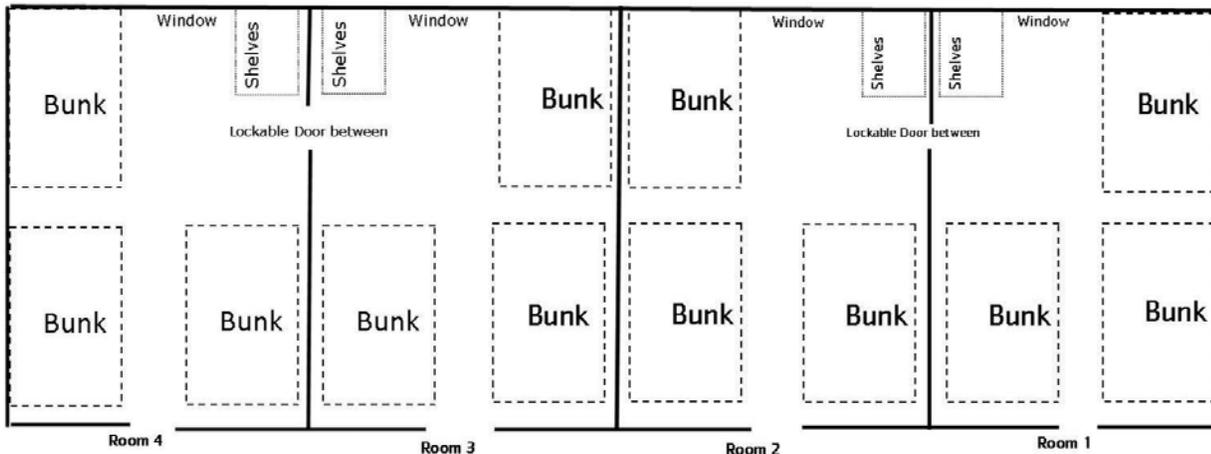
Roads to camp are plowed by the county and we plow our internal camp roads. If heavy snow is happening during arrival or departure you'll want to contact the camp office to ask about road conditions. We also advise bringing emergency equipment and chains in your car just in case.

## When is the Pool open?

The Camp Marston Swimming Pool is only open from Memorial Day to Labor Day under the direct supervision of Camp Marston Lifeguards. Groups that have reservations between those two holidays might have the ability to utilize the Swimming Pool, but only if prior arrangements have been made with the Camp Program Directors. Groups may NOT bring their own Lifeguards.

## Do the Lodges have central heating?

The Camp Marston Lodges are equipped with a central furnace that can be adjusted via the electric thermostat (located in the Lodge hallway or Common Room). Raintree Ranch Lodges are equipped with wall-mounted and portable furnaces for heat.



**YMCA Camp Marston Lodges**

- \* Each lodge has 24 beds, each room has 6 beds—3 bunks
- \* Bathrooms can be either Male or Female
- \* Rooms are numbered 21, 22, 23, 24 in each lodge respectively
- \* Lodge numbers are: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

**Raintree Ranch - Bunk House Layout**

