

SHORTER WEEK, HAPPIER CAMP

In 2025, we changed our Camper Pick-Up day from Sunday to Saturday. We found that it created a calmer, more intentional last day in camp. Campers had PJ Breakfast and a pool party, packed up their camps throughout the day, said their goodbyes, and boarded the buses mid-afternoon. The change also gave staff a little more time off between sessions, which helped them rest and get ready to be their best selves each week. For Summer 2026, we are going to keep Camper Pick-Up on <u>Saturdays</u>. Please check out the FAQs below if you have any questions about this decision.

We appreciate your support and understanding!



Why change something that has been the same for 80+ years?

In short - times have changed. A more technologically dependent world has changed camp. What used to be a week of relaxing in nature has become a detox from sensory input, screens, and being "always on." Over the last ten years, we have expanded from 4 to 6 sessions of camp, and to be blunt, 24 hours is not enough off-time for staff to be their best selves. We can do better. So we are.

Does the change impact staff pay?

Staff pay will remain the same or increase following current California payroll policies and minimum wages. Cool deal, huh? Talk about work-life balance.

Are the campers missing out on a whole day of camp?

Nope! Our goal was to only cut out the parts of camp that didn't feel utilized well - aka Sunday morning. Our previous early pickup time on Sunday made for a hectic last day! Campers had two hours to pack, eat, say goodbyes, and load the bus. In 2025, the new schedule allowed for slower packing and gave campers the transition time needed to say goodbye and head out of camp. So we're going to keep it that way.

Is the CIT Program still four weeks?

Yep! The CIT Program hasn't changed. Last summer showed that we can still fit the same amount of leadership training into a slightly shorter week.

Have there been changes to the rates?

In 2025, we reduced the rates to account for the adjusted schedule. We have raised the adjusted rates for the 2026 season to keep up with inflation and the cost of running camp.

Questions? Contact us: 805.316.0163 registration@campnatoma.org