



AQI & Extreme Heat Policy

2024

As we learn to live in a warming world, we must adapt the way we operate our outdoor Summer Camp to ensure that we keep our campers and counselors safe and healthy. Declining Air Quality is an evolving situation, thus the policy will be revisited regularly. Riverbend will use the AQI data on airnow.gov to make decisions. Every staffer, camper, and parent are welcome to wear a mask at any time.

If AQI reaches 150, Code Red, outdoor activity will be subdued (no sports or hikes, plus more frequent indoor breaks). Barn main doors will be locked and only the side door will be used for entry/exit. Air purifiers will run. Camp will stay outside.

- Staff who fall into sensitive groups can choose to take unpaid leave or use PTO
- Campers who fall into sensitive groups can elect to 1) skip camp, 2) wear a mask to camp, or 3) parents can decide that their child should have an indoor day in our office, overseen by a qualified educator.

If AQI reaches 200, Code Purple, camp moves into the Barn/Farmhouse for a max of ONE day.

- If the daily high that day is forecast for over 82 degrees, we cancel camp for groups in the Barn because it will be too hot to shelter in the Barn. Farmhouse groups can still hold camp indoors on hot days because the farmhouse has AC.

If AQI reaches 200 for more than ONE day, we cancel camp. This is because the Barn and Farmhouse are small. After one day, behavior deteriorates and campers suffer from lack of physical activity.

HEAT: On days where the heat index (the apparent temperature, or how the temperature feels to the human body) is 100 degrees or higher, Riverbend reserves the right to cancel camp.

Cancellation: When camp is canceled due to AQI or HEAT, there is no refund to families. If the number of camp days canceled in a week exceeds 3 days, Riverbend will provide a prorated refund to families.*