

Please have your child bring the following items each day:

- Lunch in an insulated lunch bag (when not provided) – no coolers, please
- Refillable water bottle
- Swimsuit and towel
- Change of clothes
- Sunscreen
- Insect/tick repellent
- Backpack for belongings

\*\*\*All items should be labeled with your child's name\*\*\*

#### DO NOT BRING:

- Money or valuables
- Cell phones
- Toys, games, or electronics from home

ICRC is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

**Campers must wear athletic shoes and socks every day.** No sandals or open-toed shoes. Do NOT wear new or expensive shoes or clothing. Having fun can be messy!

All personal belongings (including glasses, hearing aids, retainers, etc.) are the responsibility of the child. ICRC will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or broken items.

Lost and found items will be kept on site. At the conclusion of the Summer Safari program, any unclaimed items will be held for two weeks. After that time, all remaining items will be donated.

## SAFETY/MEDICATIONS/ EMERGENCIES

Your child's safety is our highest priority. CPR and First Aid Certified staff are on site to assist in emergencies.

Staff will assess injuries and administer basic first aid. Parents will be notified of head or neck injuries, and incident reports will be completed.

If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, emergency services will be contacted. Medical expenses are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Medication cannot be administered without a completed ICRC medication form. Staff are not trained to administer injectable medication.

ICRC does not provide accident insurance. Supplemental insurance is available during registration for \$6 per child.

## DISCIPLINE

Campers are expected to respect staff, rules, and fellow campers. The Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission (ICRC) reserves the right to address all behavior concerns at its discretion and determine appropriate disciplinary action based on each situation.

#### Discipline procedures may include:

- Redirection or time-out
- Loss of privileges
- Parent notification
- Discipline forms – multiple discipline forms may result in suspension or removal from the program

Physical contact is avoided; however, staff may use reasonable restraint when necessary to prevent a child from harming themselves or others.

For serious or repeated behavior concerns, ICRC reserves the right to suspend or remove a camper at any time without a refund.

\*\*\*No refunds will be issued if a child is suspended or removed due to disciplinary reasons.\*\*\*

## FIELD TRIPS

One of the most exciting parts of Summer Safari is the field trips! Each week Summer Safari plans to embark on at least two field trips – a water-based trip and "feature" field trip. Field trip details will be released by the week prior.

Water-based field trips will be offered for several weeks during the summer and include local pools, splash pads, and water parks. Water shoes, Crocs, and other similar footwear should be worn for these trips. If your child cannot apply his/her sunscreen, please apply it at home prior to arriving at camp. Campers must wear swimsuits. Shorts and shirts are not allowed at water parks.

Feature field trips will be a one-time trip for the summer to the destination. The Chapin Elementary School and Leaphart Elementary School sites will primarily participate in on-site field trips but may occasionally go off site for their feature field trip.

Summer Safari often takes field trips to local destinations as well – libraries, parks, playgrounds, etc. Details on these trips will be communicated the week prior.

Please note that field trips and special activities are subject to change without notice. Please discuss with your child the importance of good behavior for their safety and the safety of others. Behavioral issues may result in a loss of field trip privileges.

**If your child cannot attend a field trip (i.e., missed departure time, scheduled doctor's appointment during the field trip), they cannot attend Safari until their group returns on site.**

Special programs and activities may be scheduled throughout the summer. If there should be a special offering outside of the regular schedule, information will be shared through signboards, the BAND app, and email.

# DISCOVERY



IRMO CHAPIN  
RECREATION  
COMMISSION

Summer Safari  
Camps  
MAY 26-AUGUST 7, 2026  
CROOKED CREEK PARK | SEVEN OAKS PARK

## SUMMER SAFARI 2026

We are excited that your child will be joining us for our Summer Safari Camps 2026! This year's theme, *Summer of Discovery*, will provide an adventure-filled experience as campers explore new activities, build friendships, and develop new skills.

Whether your child is returning or new to the Safari program, we are happy to welcome you and look forward to a fun and engaging summer together. The information below will help you prepare for our summer day camp programs.

## OUR PROGRAM

Summer Safari Camps are recreation-based for **rising kindergarten through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders** built on a philosophy of play. Through play, we empower children while supporting their emotional, social, and physical development. Our goal is to provide fun, engaging, and educational experiences that foster confidence, creativity, and a positive sense of self.

Campers participate in themed weekly activities, including:

- Outdoor adventures
- Physical activities and sports
- Arts and crafts
- Nature exploration
- Team-building activities
- Weekly field trips (one water-based trip and one feature field trip)

Our weekly themes for the summer are a discovery of each of the following topics: mystery and problem solving, animals, farms, water, states, space, sports, invention, science, physics, and community helpers.

\*\*\*Activities and field trips are subject to change based on weather and availability.\*\*\*

## OUR STAFF

Our camp counselors include local adults, K–12 teachers, and high school and college students who are committed to creating a safe and fun environment. Many staff members work in our Afternoon Safari program and have experience in child development through recreational activities.

All staff complete:

- Interviews and reference checks
- Background screenings
- Pre-camp training
- Training in safety procedures and active supervision

**Summer Safari utilizes a camper-to-staff ratio of 13:1.** Campers are always supervised and staff communicate using two-way radios and cell phones. Campers are grouped by age/grade and participate in age-appropriate activities. Requests for specific group placement cannot be guaranteed.

## PROGRAM LOCATIONS AND STAFF INFORMATION

As we've done in the past, Summer Safari will run on both the Irmo and Chapin sides of the district. **However, one new change is that both sides of the district will have two locations to better serve our community. Campers will attend a location on their side of the district based on their grade level.** Chapin Summer Safari will utilize Crooked Creek Park and Chapin Elementary School. Irmo Summer Safari will utilize Seven Oaks Park and Leaphart Elementary School.

### Crooked Creek Park

- 1098 Old Lexington Highway, Chapin, SC 29036
- Safari Cell Phone: 803.586.1606
- **Campers at this site will be rising 3<sup>rd</sup> through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders.**
- This site includes a gymnasium, theater, art studio, athletic fields, and walking trails. Campers at this site will primarily attend off campus field trips. They will also regularly visit St. Andrews Park and their pool.

### Chapin Elementary School

- 940 Old Bush River Road, Chapin, SC 29036
- Safari Cell Phone: 803.466.1271
- **Campers at this site will be rising kindergarteners through rising 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.**
- This site includes a gymnasium, theater, art room, athletic fields, and walking trails. Campers at this site will primarily attend on campus field trips. They will also regularly visit Melvin Park and their Splash pad.

### Seven Oaks Park

- 200 Leisure Lane, Columbia, SC 29210
- Safari Cell Phone: 803.586.1608
- **Campers at this site will be rising 3<sup>rd</sup> through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders.**
- This site includes gyms, activity areas, sports fields, playgrounds, and picnic shelters. Campers at this site will primarily attend off campus field trips. They will also regularly visit St. Andrews Park and their pool.

### Leaphart Elementary School

- 120 Piney Grove Road, Columbia, SC 29210
- Safari Cell Phone: 803.479.3029
- **Campers at this site will be rising kindergarteners through rising 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.**
- This site includes a gym, auditorium, cafeteria, two classrooms, and playgrounds. Campers at this site will primarily attend on campus field trips. They will also regularly visit Saluda Shoals Park and their splash pad.

**Announcements at all locations will be shared through signboards, the BAND app, and email.**



Crooked Creek  
Park/Chapin  
Safari BAND  
App



Seven Oaks  
Park/Leaphart  
Safari BAND  
App



### ADMINISTRATION:

#### Gwen Carmichael, Chapin

Phone: 803.345.8103

Email: gcarmichael@icrc.net

#### Josh Brewton, Irmo

Phone: 803.213.1187

Email: jbrewton@icrc.net

Parental support is essential to a successful program. We are always available to discuss your child's camp experience. We ask families to:

- Share important information about your child
- Communicate concerns promptly

## DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

**Operating hours: Monday–Friday from 7:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M.**

Parents will need to walk into the site to drop off their children at all Chapin locations. Curbside sign-in (7:30–8:30 A.M.) is available at the Seven Oaks Park and Leaphart Elementary School sites only. Sign in after 8:30 A.M. will require the parent to walk into the site.

Campers must be signed out daily. Parents will need to walk in to sign their child out at all locations. Curbside sign-out is available at the Leaphart Elementary School site only.

Only authorized individuals may pick up campers. Authorized pick-up persons must be at least 16 years old. Please do not be offended if staff request identification or your pick-up password – your child's safety is our number one priority!

**There is a late pick-up fee of \$1 per minute after Safari operating hours.**

## PAYMENT

**The weekly fee for each summer camp is \$151/child with a \$25 deposit due for each selected week due at the time of signup.** There are no part-time, hourly, or reduced rates. Weekly fees are prorated for weeks with less than five days. **Please deduct the \$25 deposit for each reserved week your child attends. Deposits are non-refundable.**

**Payment is due the Monday prior to each week of attendance.** Camp participation is not permitted without full payment. Payments may be made online, by phone, or in person at park locations.

If payment is not received by the due date, your child's spot for that week will be forfeited. For your convenience, an auto-draft payment option is also available.

**EXAMPLE:** Week three of Summer Safari is June 8-12. Payment is due by close of business on Monday, June 1. If payment is not received by the deadline, the child will be removed from the roster.

Any withdrawals or cancellation requests must be communicated in writing to our administrative staff at least one week prior to start date or you will be held responsible for full payment of that week.

Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission (ICRC) and must include your child's name. If your check is returned by the bank for insufficient funds, it will be submitted to the Lexington County Solicitor's Office for collections. All fines and penalties are the responsibility of the check writer.

- Camp services will be suspended until ICRC receives payment.
- Returned checks incur a \$35 fee. Future payments must be made by credit card, cash, or money order.

Refunds are not issued unless programs are canceled by ICRC. Payments cannot be transferred to other programs or weeks.

Receipts and tax statements are available at [www.icrc.net](http://www.icrc.net) using **Federal Tax ID: 57-0520972.**

## LUNCH, SNACKS, AND WHAT TO BRING

Lunch is provided at the Seven Oaks Park and Leaphart Elementary School sites. Campers at the Crooked Creek Park and Chapin Elementary School sites must bring a ready-to-eat lunch daily. We do not have access to a microwave or refrigerator. If your child does not have lunch, a parent/guardian will be contacted.

Pizza lunch (pizza, chips, and a cookie) is provided on the last day of each week.

A morning and afternoon snack will be provided each day at all sites.