

Camp Smog and Smoke Policy

The health and safety of our campers is our priority. In the event of air quality warnings during camp, the following practices will be adopted by all camp programs (Camp Otonabee and Neighborhood Day Camps):

- Programs will be adapted to focus on low energy activities
- Counsellors will encourage and ensure that all campers are regularly drinking water (staying hydrated), limiting their outside exposure as much as possible and participating in low energy programs.
- All staff will monitor camper health – watching for signs of shortness of breath, eye irritation, wheezing, coughing and aggravation of existing asthma. First Aid will be given for any signs of the above and parents/guardians will be notified.
- Staff will work with our third-party providers (i.e. bus company, field trip partners) to ensure our Smog and Smoke Practices are consistent.
- When Health Canada issues an alert for poor air quality for 8 or above, the YMCA will forward this information to all camp locations.
- Camper families will be encouraged to keep their camper's home should they feel that spending extended periods of time outside would be harmful for their campers
- Evacuations from out trips due to smoke will be managed on a case-by-case basis

In the event that a camper becomes sick from smog or smoke exposure while at camp, they will be brought to a cool space to recover and will be monitored by staff. Parents/guardians will be phoned. Should a camper become sick from smog or smoke exposure when they return home from camp, we request that parents inform the camp of their child's absence and illness.

We respect the decision of parents to keep their children at home or withdraw their children from programs due to smog or smoke. Please note that the existing Y refund policies will remain in effect.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the camp office or your regional day camp site, directly. We look forward to sharing the summer with your children.

Thank you for choosing the Y as your camp provider.

Y Camp Staff

day.camps@ymcaottawa.ca

613-832-1234

ymcaottawa.ca