



GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Thank you for choosing Glen Helen!

History

Our center began in 1956, with two buildings constructed by Antioch College students. It has grown to include a central lodge, three student dorms, indoor classroom space, a raptor center, and staff living space. We are located in the beautiful 1,000-acre Glen Helen Nature Preserve, which has been declared a National Natural Landmark and a National Environmental Study Area by the National Park Service.

What is Outdoor Education?

Outdoor education means using the environment as an integrating context for learning. Educators are increasingly seeing the value of authentic learning that occurs through real-world experience. It is our hope that by developing a relationship with nature, students will gain an appreciation and a desire to be good stewards of our natural resources. Each day your child will have two major field trips in the Glen, which include activities centered on themes such as ecology, geology, or cultural history. They will also do crafts, music, sports, drama, and of course relax a little and enjoy hot meals with their peers!

What is positive youth development?

Your child's personal development is just as important to us as is their awareness and connection to the world around them. At Glen Helen, students have the opportunity to grow in understanding, kindness, independence, and perseverance. We believe in providing a safe space for your child to overcome challenges and learn valuable life lessons. Most students, after a week of working together outdoors, bring home a deeper respect for each other, their teachers, and their parents or guardians.

Photos

Occasionally, our staff may take photos and/or videos of trail groups doing activities for use in marketing. By sending your child to camp you authorize Glen Helen to take and use photos and/or videos for the purposes of marketing in print, electronic, or on the Internet. Students will not be identified by name without further authorization from a parent/guardian. If you do not want your student photographed, contact us directly.

For most students, their time at Glen Helen is an unforgettable experience. Many adults believe that their week at Glen Helen as a child was one of the most meaningful events of their school years! Thank you for sharing your child with us, we promise to take good care of them, and teach lots of important lessons.

Sincerely,

Sarah Cline
Director, Outdoor Education Center

Kelsey Mazur
Assistant Director, Outdoor Education Center



OUTDOOR SCHOOL - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Where is the Outdoor Education Center?

The Outdoor Education Center is located off of State Route 343 on the north side of Yellow Springs. Mail for students should be addressed to them at 1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, Ohio, 45387. The emergency telephone number is 937-767-7648.

Can I call my child while they're at Outdoor School?

Students are not able to receive phone calls, except in emergencies. Students are not permitted to call home. However, parents and guardians will be notified immediately of severe behavior problems, accidents, or illnesses.

Who will be supervising my child at Outdoor School?

Your child will be supervised closely by teachers and chaperones from your child's school and by Outdoor Education Center staff at all times. Our qualified staff includes college graduates who come to Glen Helen from all over the country to learn, teach, and serve. They all are trained to work with children, have current First Aid and CPR certification, and have undergone federal background checks.

Where do the students sleep at Glen Helen?

The students are housed in secure, comfortable dorms with electricity, central heat, clean restrooms and showers. Supervision in the dorms is provided by teachers and chaperones coming from your school.

What is the food like at Outdoor School?

Three complete meals are served each day, plus afternoon snacks - your child will not go hungry. Parents may send supplemental food only if their child has medical dietary restrictions (please make note on the Health Form). Food should be sent with teachers and distribution is to be coordinated by teachers throughout the week.

What will happen if my child gets sick or injured at Outdoor School?

In the case of accident or illness, a parent or guardian will be contacted immediately. Each staff member is certified in First Aid and CPR. We have basic first-aid supplies on site and are located just minutes away from Greene Memorial Hospital and Miami Township Fire and Rescue.

Can my child buy Glen Helen merchandise while they're at Outdoor School?

We sell a variety of items at our Camp Store. If your child's school chooses this option, you can find a list of sample items and prices at the end of the Forms Packet. Or you can ask their teacher at school. Students must bring the exact amount of money in cash in a sealed envelope labeled with their name. Please do not send additional cash with your child.

What paperwork does my child need to attend Glen Helen Outdoor School?

There are a handful of forms that need to be completed and returned to your child's school before the start of Outdoor School. These forms are necessary and helpful for us to provide a safe and unforgettable experience for your child.

- Student Health Form
- Medical Waiver
- Release & Liability Waiver
- Photo Release
- Medical Administration Form (if medication is being brought to Outdoor School)