

# Cell Phone Access Guidelines

At Camp Harlow, it is our desire to offer an environment that is free from distractions. With that in mind, we request that campers do not bring cell phones to camp. Having cell phones at camp may cause challenging circumstances with repeated phone calls, texting, pictures, as well as potential connection to the internet, social media and different forms of music, etc. Cell phones can also create distractions when a phone is misplaced, damaged, or stolen.

We understand that many campers have cell phones for the purpose of staying connected to parents/guardians in case of emergency situations and to make sure both parties can communicate quickly when necessary.

At camp, however, this need is not a significant issue, as campers are with counselors who are always on camp property and our camp has access to multiple landline telephones that can be used at anytime with permission. In addition, many of our Program and Leadership staff have cell phones that can be utilized in case of an emergency.

Therefore, we would ask that campers leave their phones at home for the week of camp. If, as the parent or guardian, you would still prefer for the camper to have their cell phone with them in the cabin, we have arranged for cell phones to be turned in to their cabin counselors to be locked up in a secured lock-box in the cabin for safe-keeping and a need-to-use basis. We also ask that you communicate this to the counselor and set some clearly understood guidelines with your camper about usage, as it relates to when, where, and why they would need to use their phone.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have questions or concerns, please talk with Hunter "Bama" Gray or Dave "The Wave" Mertz, Program Directors.

Respectfully,

The Harlow Staff