

Hudson Recreation Department's

SUMMER PROGRAM BOOKLET 2026

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WELCOME TO THE HUDSON RECREATION'S SUMMER PROGRAM

WHO AND WHAT WE ARE

The Summer Program is offered by the Hudson, NH Recreation Department and is classified as a **Supervised Play Program**. As such, the program provides an unstructured summer environment with structured activity opportunities offered throughout the day. Our staff are present to supervise group activities, provide guidance, and ensure a safe and positive atmosphere for all participants.

However, staff are not able to provide one-on-one assistance for individual needs. Participants must be able to participate independently and follow program rules in order to be eligible for registration.

Please note: this program is **not** an accredited summer camp and does not provide one-on-one individual staff support or special accommodations.

WHAT IS AN UNSTRUCTURED PROGRAM?



Unstructured play (also known as free play) allows children the freedom to choose their activities without set guidelines or constant adult direction. Children are encouraged to explore their environment, make independent choices, and engage in activities they find enjoyable. This open-ended experience supports creativity, imagination, and social development.

IS THIS PROGRAM THE RIGHT FIT FOR MY CHILD?



If your child requires full structure throughout the day, one-on-one assistance, or special accommodations, this program may not be the right fit.



If your child enjoys having choices, exploring activities independently, plays without guidance, and enjoys participating in group play with peers, we strongly encourage you to consider our program.

WHERE DOES THE PROGRAM TAKE PLACE?



The Summer Program is held at the Hudson Community Center, located at:
12 Lions Ave, Hudson, NH 03051 – Phone- 603-880-1600

WHO CAN ATTEND?



- Open to residents and non-residents
- Ages 6 years through 14.
- Participants must be 6 years old to begin the program
- Children who are 14 years old may attend only if entering 8th grade

Required Documentation:

- Birth certificates are required for all 6-year-olds
- A valid license is required for residency verification due to different resident/non-resident rates

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS

All participants must:

- Be fully toilet trained and accident-free
- Demonstrate emotional and behavioral self-control
- Be able to consistently play well with others and respectful to other participants and staff.



If a child fails to do so and is repeatedly in our Zone 1 area, the guardian will be called to pick up the child.

Please note: one-on-one staff support and special accommodations are not provided.

WHO WORKS AT THE SUMMER PROGRAM?

The Summer Program is one of Hudson Recreation's most treasured community offerings.

Staff includes:



- Recreation Director – **Chrissy Peterson**
- Administrative Aide – **Naomi Busnach**
- Seasonally hired **Counselors and Counselors in Training**

All staff members are background checked and **CPR/First Aid certified**.

DATES AND HOURS



The 2026 Summer Program start date will be announced after Hudson's last day of school date in final. Last day of the program is August 12th. Please refer to Summer Calendar for scheduled closed dates.

Program Hours are Monday–Friday: 9:00am–4:00pm. Before and After Care is available for an additional fee (see details in the Before & After Care section).

REFUND POLICY

Please consider your options carefully prior to registration .

- All registrations are **non-refundable once the program begins**.
- Full payment is due at the time of registration.
- Refunds will **not** be issued for children who do not meet age requirements or who falsify residency



No refunds or transfers permitted to optional add-ons as costs are prepaid due to staffing and vendor requirements. :

- *Field trips*
 - *Lunch options*
 - *Roller skating*
 - *Before and After Care*
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SEPARATION ANXIETY & CALLING HOME POLICY

We are committed to providing a positive and enjoyable experience for all participants. While we understand that separation anxiety can occur, please note the following:



- Staff will contact parents if a child is injured or unwell
- Staff will attempt to support children experiencing sadness or anxiety within reasonable limits

If a child:

- Refuses to return to free play after **20 minutes**, parents will be contacted for pickup
 - Requires multiple calls home in a day or week, or must be picked up, the child may not return the following day
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CELL PHONE USE

All participants must check in their cell phones upon arrival. Phones may only be used in designated areas under staff supervision.

General Info

MEDICAL

- Counselors can provide basic First Aid
- Medications cannot be administered without a written doctor's note
- All medication must be in the original pharmacy container, clearly labeled
- We do not have medical personnel on staff
- Injections cannot be administered, except EpiPens
- All remaining medication will be disposed of after the final program day



Please notify staff of any medical conditions we should be aware of.

LUNCH & SNACKS

- Children must bring a lunch, snack, and drink daily
- Refrigeration and a microwave are not available—please include ice packs for cold items
- Children may not leave the Community Center for lunch unless picked up by an approved adult



Please note that we do not have backup lunch options available. If a lunch is forgotten, a parent or guardian will need to bring one to the Community Center by lunchtime.

MONEY & PERSONAL ITEMS

- Children are responsible for their own money
- Bring only what is needed for the day
- Waist change purses labeled with the child's name are recommended
- Do not store money in lunch bags or backpack front or side pockets



BACKPACKS, CLOTHING & LOST ITEMS

- All belongings must be labeled with the child's name
- Items are stored on age-grouped shelves near check-in
- Lost items (except money) go to Lost & Found
- Found money is kept in the staff office



HUDSON RECREATION T-SHIRTS

- Each child receives **one red Rec shirt** at registration
- Required for **all field trips** – no exceptions
- Replacement shirts: **\$10** – these are limited and often not available mid-season.





BEFORE & AFTER CARE

We offer Before and After Care for an additional fee:

- **Before Care:** 8:00am–9:00am, Monday–Friday, \$5 per child, per day
- **After Care:** 4:00pm–5:00pm, Monday–Thursday, \$5 per child, per day (NO FRIDAYS)

Program Details:

- Children will be supervised in a relaxed atmosphere with drawing, coloring, and chatting.
- Regular program activities will not be available during these sessions.
- Sign-Up: Complete a permission slip with payment (cash or check) in person and submit by 4:00pm the business day before care is needed.

Late Pick-Up Policy:

- If a child is picked up more than 15 minutes late during the week, a \$25 flat fee plus \$1 per minute late charge will be assessed, per child.
- If a child is picked up late on Friday, a \$50 flat fee plus \$1 per minute late charge will be assessed, per child.
- Participants cannot return to the program until any late fees have been paid



FIELD TRIPS

Trips are typically offered once a week, sometimes with two options for different age groups. Children age 11 may choose which trip to attend.

Registration (Online Only):

- All field trip sign-ups will be completed **online this year**. No in-person registration will be accepted to help streamline the process.
- Payment (credit card or approved online payment) and a signed waiver must be submitted at the time of registration online.
- When the field trip sign-up opens, parents will be notified via email. Please feel free to confirm with staff.
- Some field trip sign-ups for 2026 will open in June, PRIOR to the program beginning. This will include roller-skating.
- It is important to understand that your child will not be recognized as registered until you process payment, and a screen pops up saying that you were successful.
- Due to the online system, families with siblings need to individually register each participant.
- All trips will fill up.

Community Center.

- Refunds are **not given under any circumstances**, including illness, failure to wear a red shirt, or missing the bus. This includes transfer requests.



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- **General Store Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11:00am – 11:45am, in addition to other times.
 - Items for sale include soda, juice, water, chips, freeze pops, candy bars, and assorted snacks at reasonable prices. Cash payment accepted.
 - **Specialty Ice Cream:** Sold at 2:00pm on Mondays & Wednesdays. Days are subject to change. Please send cash with your child if they wish to purchase.

ROLLER SKATING DR.

Roller Kingdom Trips (Tyngsboro, MA):

- Tuesdays are reserved for Hudson Rec participants only.
- The Cost includes transportation, admission, and skate rental). Roller blades are an additional fee that the child will pay onsite for.
- Departure: 10:00am; Return: 2:45pm.
- Children must be onsite by 9:30am to attend.
- Children may bring a bagged lunch or purchase food at the rink (label bag with child's name).
- Online registration will be announced via email to registered participants.
- No refunds or exceptions for drop-offs/pick-ups at Roller Kingdom.
- Most Roller-skating dates will fill up



Friday Theme Days: Fun events based on a weekly theme. Children and staff are encouraged to dress according to the theme.

Details will be provided in the calendar.

MOVIE DAY

Primarily every Tuesday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm there will be movies played on a big screen. The building will be open at this time for those who want to watch one of the movies from our great selection. Kids will vote on the movie.

DAILY **Options**

Although our program will provide structured activities throughout the day, we allow the participants the freedom to decide how they spend their time here. Below you will see some of the zones, sections and activities available to the participants on a daily basis.



ARTS & CRAFTS

The Arts & Craft coordinator has fun and exciting activities planned twice every day. Arts and crafts sessions are held at approximately 10:30am and 2:30pm. Different things are done each session and sometimes will coincide with other activities.



IMAGINATION CENTER

We have a large area setup indoors that gives children room to use their imagination! This area includes dollhouses, blocks, a children kitchenette, matchbox car and truck area, etc.

LEGO TABLE

We have a very large selection of Legos for the children to play with and show their creativity.



TABLE TENNIS, AIR HOCKEY, FOOSBALL, SHUFFLE BOARD & POOL

These are available inside the building. We ask that the equipment be used with care so that it is available for others to use after you.



POOL TABLE

Two pool tables are available for use inside the Community Center by those 10 years of age or older. A sign-up sheet by the table will be posted each day so that you can have a turn at the game. Please remember to play respectfully. No one is allowed to sit on the pool tables. No food or drinks are allowed near the tables.



FOUR SQUARE GAMES

One of the popular regular daily happenings. We have lots of them! If you don't know how to play, ask a Counselor. Get in line and enjoy the game. Counselors may choose to designate a square for certain periods of time for a specified age group to make play fair and fun!



TETHERBALL AND VOLLEYBALL

Challenge a friend or a group to a game and have some fun!



BASKETBALL HOOPS

Knock-Out is always a favorite activity. Join in the fun; get a game of one-on-one or two-on-two going. There will be one full outdoor court outside.



DODGEBALL, KICKBALL, BASEBALL, WIFFLEBALL, SOCCER AND CAPTURE THE FLAG

These games will be played on Mondays and Wednesdays at designated times at the H.O. Smith field. Check the calendar for times. If there is something you want to play and don't see it ask a counselor to play!



FUN TOYS

Looking for some mild exercise? We have hula-hoops, jump ropes, nerf balls, frisbees and more. Practice because we often run contests!



FREEZEPOPS AND TEENIES

We sell these twice daily at 10:00 and 2:00 for just 50 cents each.

Freezeps and teenies must be enjoyed outside and not brought into the building



BOARD GAMES

A great way to spend some quiet time with a friend. We have games that every age group will enjoy. These are all available to be signed out from counselors. Please respect the games, and put the pieces back so they can be used again.



Summer Program Rules & Policies



- **Pick-Up Policy:**

Children should be picked up promptly at 4:00pm. If your child is not picked up by 4:05pm, they will automatically be enrolled into After Care. A \$5 fee will be charged, plus a \$1 per minute late fee after 4:00pm. If a child is not picked up by 4:15pm that was not registered in After Care, a \$25 fee plus \$1 a minute is in effect Monday – Thursday. On Fridays, it is a \$50 fee plus \$1 a minute as we DO NOT offer After Care on Fridays. Children will not be allowed on any field trips or return to the program until the balance is paid.
- **Cell Phone / Electronics Policy:**

Children may bring cell phones or other electronics; however, devices must be checked in upon arrival. Phones can be checked out only to make calls and must be used in designated areas, then returned immediately. Children should keep phone use to a minimum. Any phone not checked in will be collected by staff. Participants unwilling to comply must leave their phone at home or a parent will be contacted for pickup.
- **Bikes, Skateboards, and Rollerblades:**

No bike riding, skateboarding, or rollerblading is allowed on Community Center grounds. Bikes and skateboards must be parked, locked in the bike rack, and left there while attending the program.
- **Behavior Expectations:**

Under no circumstances are foul language, poor sportsmanship, fighting, or unfriendly behavior allowed. All participants are expected to treat staff and peers with kindness and respect. Physical or verbal misconduct may result in removal from the program.
- **Clothing:**

T-shirts or other articles of clothing displaying inappropriate language or behavior are not allowed during program activities.
- **Red Rec T-Shirt Requirement:**

It is mandatory to wear the red Rec T-shirt on field trip days. Participants without their shirt will not be permitted on trips. T-shirts are not required for Roller Kingdom trips.
- **Personal Items / Toys:**

Bringing personal toys or items from home is not advised, as they may be lost, damaged, or cause disputes. We prefer personal items remain at home. **Pokeman items are not permitted.**
- **Musical Equipment:**

Personal musical equipment is not permitted, except for Talent Show participation.



Summer Program Code of Conduct

The Hudson Recreation Department is committed to providing a **safe, enjoyable, and respectful environment** for all participants. To maintain a positive environment, participants are expected to follow the code of conduct below at all times. **Parents/guardians and participants are responsible for reviewing and adhering to these expectations.**

Participant Expectations

1. **Follow Program Policies:** Abide by all Summer Program policies and procedures, and cooperate with staff at all times.
2. **Respect Others:** Demonstrate respect in speech and actions toward all people, facilities, and program rules. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
3. **No Bullying or Harassment:** Bullying, fighting, threatening behavior, and inappropriate language are prohibited. This includes teasing, exclusion, and harassment of any kind.
4. **Respect Property:** Be responsible for personal belongings and respect the property of others. Take care of all Recreation equipment and items used. Damage or misuse is prohibited.
5. **Maintain Boundaries:** Keep hands to yourself. Avoid physical violence, play fighting, or pranks. Any conduct that could harm yourself, fellow participants, or staff is prohibited.
6. **Sportsmanship & Program Participation:** Be a good sport and play fair. Stay within designated Recreation areas and follow directions during field trips and program activities. Represent yourself, the program, and the community positively.
7. **Be Prepared:** Come ready for the day with proper clothing, shoes, sunscreen, water bottle, snacks, and lunch. Label all personal items, including water bottles, lunchboxes, and red Rec t-shirts.
8. **Safety First:** Refrain from unsafe or harmful behaviors toward yourself or others, including self-harm.
9. **Field Trip Attire:** On field trip days, participants must wear their red Rec T-shirt. Limited extra T-shirts are available for purchase.

Consequences

Violation of these guidelines, or any other inappropriate or unsafe behavior, may result in **disciplinary action**, up to and including dismissal from the program. Disciplinary action will be determined on a **case-by-case basis**.



To maintain a safe and respectful environment, the Hudson Recreation Department follows a progressive disciplinary process:

1. **First Offense:** After a verbal warning, the child's name is placed on the warning list and parents/guardians will be notified.

2. **Second Offense:** If the child's name is placed on the warning list a second time, parents/guardians will be notified, and the child will **not attend the Summer Program the following day or the next outing.**
3. **Third Offense:** If the child's name is placed on the warning list a third time, the child will be **expelled from the Summer Program.**
4. **Refund Policy:** No refunds will be provided to participants who are expelled from the program under any circumstance.

The Summer Program Policies, Code of Conduct, Field Trip Procedures, and other program rules are subject to change at the discretion of the Hudson Recreation Department. Parents/guardians and participants will be notified of any updates as they occur.

Every
Summer
has a
story



