



SoundWaters

DISCOVER THE SOUND. EMBRACE THE WORLD.

Hello Young Mariners Families!

Welcome to Young Mariners 2026! We look forward to sharing the new adventures and memories our instructors have prepared for our campers this year.

Young Mariners encourages leadership, character, and community through sailing, arts and science. Whether it's your child's first Young Mariners Academy or fifth summer with us, we want your child to enjoy a positive experience where they can discover new things about themselves, learn to sail, explore their environment, and create life-long memories.

To help prepare your student to become a Young Mariner, we have created a Parent Guide. This guide is designed to answer all your questions regarding what to bring, camp schedule, drop off/pick up, and other important information. If you have questions not addressed in the guide, especially if you are a first-time Young Mariners family, please feel free to reach out to me at any time!

We are looking forward to another amazing summer and can't wait to see you all soon!

Jade Thompson

YM Coordinator

jthompson@soundwaters.org



Christina Genz

Director of Education

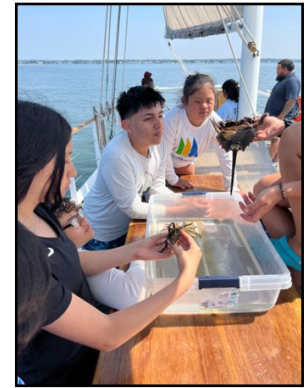
cgenz@soundwaters.org





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Hello Young Mariners Families!

We are so glad you have chosen Young Mariners (YM) this summer! This Parent Guide holds important information about SoundWaters operations, daily schedules, and how to get in touch with us when you need to. The second page includes a guide to getting ready for a day at camp. We are also including all relevant forms.

Daily Schedule

Everyday is a little different at Young Mariners, but the schedule below outlines how YM flows:

9:00 - 9:30 Morning Prompt

9:30 -12:00 Sailing Instruction or Land-based Learning Activities

12:00 -1:00 Lunch and Field Activities

1:00- 3:30 Land-based Learning Activities or Sailing Instruction

3:30-4:00 Reflection Activities/Packing-Up

4:00– Pick up

Keep up to date on your favorite
Instructors, students, and YM
activities on Instagram:
(@soundwaters)!

We strive to give every camper the best day, each day. Prompt and clear communication with parents is at the foundation of that goal. Please let us know any relevant information about your child's medical, emotional, and scheduling needs, as they occur. We especially want to hear from you when:

- Your child is experiencing any medical or emotional issues that may impact their day at camp
- Your child will be ABSENT from YM
- Your child will be arriving LATE or leaving EARLY from YM
- Your child's transportation at pick-up is running late
- Someone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child. For safety reasons we can not release your child to anyone you have not specifically identified to us.

How to contact us:

- At any time, email the YM Coordinator, Jade Thompson, with any concerns: jthompson@soundwaters.org.
- During camp hours, Mon-Fri, 9-4, call the front desk of the Harbor Center, our direct line is (203)-323-1978, ext. 1000

Sign in/ Sign Out Procedure

Sign-in/sign-out will take place at the **SoundWaters Harbor Center**, in Boccuzzi Park, Stamford. A parent or caregiver over the age of 18 must sign in your child with a YM staff member at the beginning of each day. Your child must be signed out in the same way at the end of the day. **Please have your ID** with you at sign out and be advised we can only release a student to someone **18 years of age or older**.

Late Pickup Policy

Young Mariners hours are 9:00am - 4:00pm. It is important that students are picked up on time at their allotted time as we schedule staff accordingly. Unfortunately, we must charge for students who are not picked up on time. The fee is \$1 per minute for each minute they remain at Camp past their scheduled sign out. SoundWaters will charge the credit card you have on file for any late fees.



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Paperwork and Medications

SoundWaters is licensed by the State of Connecticut to operate our camp. Licensed camps administering medications to children must comply with all requirements in the CT State Statutes and Regulations. Parents/guardians requesting that medication be administered to their child while at camp must provide SoundWaters with appropriate written authorization before any medications can be administered. **Medications must be in the original container and labeled with child's name, name of medication, directions for medication's administration, and date of the prescription.**

The required forms are available as part of this handbook. You can also find links to the forms on our website or by logging into your online account. Young Mariners accepts paperwork via email, mail, or fax.

Please be sure to provide the required forms to SoundWaters as soon as possible. Unfortunately, we can not allow your child to be at camp if there are missing or incomplete forms.

Weather

Young Mariners is open regardless of weather- RAIN, SHINE, WIND, or NO WIND! We will limit on the water activity if we deem the conditions unsafe. While in the buildings, students enjoy a variety of fun activities.

Water Safety

All children in any small boat sailing program are required to wear life jackets at all times. Young Mariners Academy will provide an appropriately sized, USCG approved life jacket for all students.

We want your child to enjoy his/her time on and near the water. We begin this summer with a required swim check to help us gauge your child's comfort level in the water.

Your child does NOT have to be a fast swimmer. However he/she must be comfortable in the water and be able to swim short distances.



Gear List

Part of having fun at YM is having the right gear. Your child will need to bring with them the items listed below every day. Please label everything with your child's name. SoundWaters is not responsible for any lost personal items.

- **Reusable Water Bottle (please, no plastic water bottles)**
- **Swim Suit (Your child can arrive in his/her swimsuit)**
- **Change of clothes**
- **Towel**
- **Hat**
- **Closed-toe-water shoes (no flip flops)**
- **Healthy lunch (will be refrigerated)**
- **Sunscreen (please apply before arriving)**
- **Rain gear (weather dependent)**
- **Sneakers (optional)**

Please do not send toys, electronic games or trading cards.

Young Mariners Miscellaneous

Food Allergies: We will be alert to your child's food allergy and will make every effort to help your child avoid exposure. However due to the public nature of our location **we cannot guarantee that any area is peanut/nut free.** If your child should have an allergic reaction while at YM, medication will be administered by a SoundWaters staff member who is certified and trained to do so.

Instructors and Staff: Young Mariners staff come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. Our staff includes teachers in Stamford Public Schools and SoundWaters professional educators. All of our counsellors and CITs are former campers that have been Young Mariners for years. They all share a passion for working with young people and providing a safe, fun, memorable summer experience. Our summer staff attends a multi-day intensive training before the beginning of YM that includes CPR, First Aid and Epi-pen training, SoundWaters marine education, teaching skills, swimming safety, canoe training, and mandated reporter certification.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact

For Registration: Christina Genz at (203) 406-3307 or e-mail camp@soundwaters.org.

For YM Day to Day Information: Jade Thompson, YM Coordinator, jthompson@soundwaters.org or (203)-323-1978