



Ranch Rangers Program Participant Information Packet

Dear Families,

Thank you for your interest in our Ranch Rangers program. We are excited to bring this event to you and hope that you'll have as much fun participating in it as we have had in planning it ! Below you will find information about what you can expect from a Ranch Rangers day, a list of things to keep in mind, and items you may want to bring along with you.

Our Location

Please make sure and use the address "342 McGinnis Rd, Tallapoosa, GA 30176" in your navigation system. This is the Lutheranch Equestrian Program entrance. If you simply type in "Lutheranch" it will take you to the opposite side of the property where our retreat center is located.

What to Expect Upon Arrival

Once you pass through the entrance gate, take an immediate left and follow the signs to the Horse Barn. Park near the barn and check-in at the front table. Please arrive no later than 10:15 so we can begin our hike on time. While you are waiting for the other families to arrive, we will have a fun introductory activity for your family to complete. Once all the families have arrived, we will begin our hike.

We believe there is no such thing as bad weather, therefore, this is a Rain or Shine event. In the rare case of "unhikeable" weather, our Plan B is holding activities in our large, covered horse arena. Please check the weather before you come and dress accordingly.

We provide snacks and bottled water to participants. Typically we will have trail mix and a fruit option available. Occasionally we will break out the s'mores stuff or another fun themed snack!

COVID Information

This is a group activity and we will all hike and learn together but we will be outside. We have hand sanitizing stations available and ask that you be mindful of social distancing with other families. We are following current CDC guidelines as well as following the suggestions of the American Camp Association to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Items to Bring/Wear

- Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots
- Camera!
- Sunscreen
- Hat and Sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Backpack (to carry your supplies and snacks)
- Rain Jacket/Rubber Boots
- Baby Carrier (if you have smaller children since most trails are not suitable for strollers).

Note: Most hikes are around 20-30 minutes and most toddlers can handle them without much assistance. Last season's parents reported that their 2 and 3-year-olds were pleasantly tired by the end!

How the Program Works

You will arrive and check-in with a staff member at the barn. If you have not already done so online, you will sign our liability waivers and pay the registration fee. We also have t-shirts and other items from our camp store available for purchase. We will have an activity for you to do as a family while waiting for other families to arrive. Once all families have arrived, our staff will lead you on a hike. We will stop at various stations along the way to do a craft, notice nature in action, enjoy a snack, or simply have fun outside in God's creation. We encourage creative play and asking questions. Parents are welcome and invited to participate in the activities with their children. Each month our hike and activities will have a new theme, so we hope you can participate in all of them.

At the end of each program, we will provide parents some tips and ideas of open-ended questions designed to peak your child's interest and help them get the most out what they learned along the trail when you return back home.

Once the adventure is over, you are welcome to stay and enjoy your own picnic lunch, fish at the lake or go on a longer hike as a family.

Still have questions about the Ranch Rangers program or what to expect?

Please contact Gretchen Ahrens, Lutheranch Program Director, at gahrens@novusway.org or 404-583-4591.

We look forward to seeing you at Lutheranch!

Gretchen Ahrens

Sarah Carroll

Lutheranch Program Director

Range Rangers Program Coordinator