

MAIL

Kids Love Mail. Write often.

OUR SUMMERTIME ADDRESS

CAMP TAMAKWA
P O BOX 10008
HUNTSVILLE, ONTARIO P1H 2H3
CANADA



This address as it reads here works for regular postal service only. If you are using UPS, Federal Express, or ANY OTHER courier service, **DO NOT** use the **PO BOX NUMBER**. Courier services will NOT deliver to a post office box. Simply **omit** the PO Box; they will deliver to our boat landing.

Regular mail by Postal Service: **INCLUDE "PO BOX 10008"**
Any OTHER delivery service: **OMIT "PO BOX 10008" from the address**

MAIL TO CAMPERS

All letters to campers and camp are mailed directly to our Huntsville address above. From the U.S. it can take anywhere from 3 to 7 days to arrive. Keep this in mind when you are sending letters. If you would like, you may send a few letters at a time all addressed and **individually dated**, and we will give them out sequentially during mail call each day. Just be sure to address the package to our office staff so we know to open the package and disperse accordingly. (Mail is only given out on weekdays; there is no weekend mail delivery in Canada).

We strongly suggest you start sending letters even before your children depart for camp.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR CAMPER'S FIRST AND LAST NAMES ON ALL INCOMING MAIL.

MAIL FROM CAMP

Kids typically like RECEIVING letters more than they like WRITING them. Therefore, we insist they write at least twice a week by making their ticket to dinner a letter home on those two nights. Keep in mind that what you are reading at any given moment was usually written 5 to 7 days ago. Whenever possible, we will collect the outgoing mail and send it down to Toronto or Detroit to be posted from there, instead of mailing it from Huntsville. That can take several days off delivery time.

Parents have been known to treasure their children's letters from camp for a long time. You will no doubt receive some gems. But you may also read things that cause concern or alarm. Later on, we discuss what you can do to interpret their letters home, but the short of it is... let us know if you read things that become patterns that worry you. Sometimes letters home are valuable sources that help us do our job better in spotting problems.

REMINDER TO AMERICANS:

U.S. postage may be used to send mail from the U.S. to Camp, but **NOT** from camp to the U.S. Please **DO NOT SEND** U.S. postage for your camper to use. We will supply them with as much Canadian postage as they want.

PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES

We're reminded of the letter we once found in the outgoing mail addressed to: **Mom and Dad
Michigan
USA**

Counselors generally check for properly addressed envelopes, but please send pre-addressed envelopes. In fact, for Junior Tamakwans (grades 1-3), we **strongly** urge you to do so. Pre-addressed postcards are GREAT!

ALSO, please do not send your campers with dark coloured envelopes (especially red or pink) as our postage meter ink will not show up and mail will likely not get to you.

PACKAGES FROM HOME

To be very honest, we discourage sending packages to camp, unless of course the contents are essentials that are **urgently** needed, in which case you must call the office in advance of sending a package of essentials to make sure it doesn't get sent back to you.

No, Tamakwa has not become the "Grinch" that wants to spoil kids' fun. We understand the good intention behind sending packages to children. But our experience tells us what kids love and look forward to is **mail**. The actual content is really insignificant and the competitiveness and commotion on getting a package is a distraction from camp, not to mention the unnecessary pressure on parents. Packages also create an environmental waste.

So... please understand that we are compelled to reduce "package mania" by setting the following limits:

TAMAKWA'S PACKAGE POLICY

• PACKAGES ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT ANY OF THE BUSESSES

- **ABSOLUTELY NO BOXES** **USE ENVELOPES ONLY.**
(Cardboard and all packaging materials are ecological nuisances.)
- **ENVELOPES MUST BE FLAT.** (1" max) **SEND ONLY BOOKS, MAGAZINES, OR COMIC BOOKS.**
("IF IT CAN'T BE BENT, IT SHOULDN'T BE SENT".)
- **ALL BOXES AND NON-FLAT ENVELOPES WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDER AT THE SENDER'S EXPENSE.** *(For any exceptions, please call our office to pre-arrange delivery of any essentials your camper will need. Packages will still be opened and ONLY those essentials will be given to your camper.)*
- **SIZE LIMIT: ENVELOPES NO LARGER THAN 9 X 12 INCHES AND 1 INCH THICK**
- **NO FOOD, NO CANDY, NO TOYS, NOTHING OTHER THAN FLAT "BENDABLE" ITEMS.**

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR SENDING ESSENTIALS:

- United Parcel Service (UPS) and Federal Express deliver directly to our landing in Algonquin Park and are usually faster than the postal service.
- We are unable to accept any package that is sent COD or that requires any payment from camp. Packages sent COD or with any money due will not be accepted and will be returned by the courier.

CUSTOMS NOTE FOR NON-CANADIANS:

BE SURE TO PROVIDE THE SHIPPER WITH THOROUGH INFORMATION about the contents of the package so the package can clear Canadian Customs without delay. **YOU MUST PAY ALL SHIPPING CHARGES AND DUTIES.** Packages valued at \$15 and over are subject to duty. On the shipping manifest form attached to your parcel, be sure to indicate that you (shipper) will pay all shipping, duties, and taxes.

To avoid customs delays and charges, please consider:

Parcelled with Love is a Toronto-based company that makes camp packages and handles all shipping directly to camp. They will work with parents to provide great options of flat, bendable, food-free Tamakwa-approved packages. Also, a portion of each sale will support **Amici Camping**, a charity that helps send children to camps that might not otherwise be able to afford the opportunity.

www.parcelledwithlove.com

