

Summer Family Camp

Program Guide



August 23 - 27, 2023

Summer Sunrise Photo Credit:
Aaron Shrock, Kayitz 2023

Welcome

From Your Host!

Shalom Families, Welcome to Ramah New England!

We are so excited to welcome you to Summer Family Camp 2023! Whether you've joined us at a previous Family Camp, or this is your first year, we have been eagerly awaiting your arrival. We are happy you have taken this opportunity to experience a Ramah-style *Shabbaton*.

The time has come for the FUN to begin! This week is Camp Ramah... For the WHOLE FAMILY!! We've planned numerous camp activities such as sports, arts, nature workshops, Gaga, singing and dancing. Through innovative Jewish learning, Family Camp provides special family activities, as well as separate programs for adults and children. And take advantage of our excellent childcare! We are offering daytime childcare for younger children, supervised day camp activities for older children, and nighttime supervision for all children.

This Program Guide has everything you need to know to make the most of your experience. Please take time to read through it and bring it with you wherever you go. We are always here to answer any additional questions you may have. Thank you for being a part of our Ramah New England family, and welcome home!

Kol Tuv!



Riki Wiederhorn
Director of Year Round
Programming

Table of Contents

Ramah NE: A to Z.....	3
Daily Schedule.....	7
Meet Our Team.....	16
Summer Programs.....	18
Safety & Security.....	19
Campus Map.....	21

P.S. If you ever need to contact me, I will be in the Chadar Ochel during meal times!

Ramah Family Camp ~ A to Z

This is by no means an exhaustive list of things to know about Family Camp! If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to let us know.

Accommodations: We understand that accommodations at camp can sometimes be rustic. If there is anything we can do to make your stay more comfortable, please do not hesitate to ask. We ask that you refrain from moving beds around inside the cabins.

Blankets: If you're feeling a little chilly in your bunk, you can request a blanket from Riki Wiederhorn.

Camp Map: Located on page 21 of the Program Guide, please refer to the Campus Map, along with the Daily Schedule (starting on page 7) for the locations of programming. Let us know if you feel lost!

Candle Lighting: Tealight candles will be provided for Shabbat candle lighting in the *Chorsah* (grove) starting at 5:45pm on Shabbat afternoon.

Cell Phone Use: While there is cell phone service throughout camp, we encourage you to use this week as an opportunity to unplug. Additionally, we ask that you refrain from carrying your cell phone throughout camp on Shabbat.

Check-In: Check-in is open between 3pm and 5pm. Upon arrival, all guests must check in at the O"CH – the pavilion outside of the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room). During check-in, guests will receive the Family Camp Program Guide and any additional welcome materials. Our Welcome Staff can answer any questions you have and are happy to help you and your family settle into your bunks.

Clothing: The weather can be unpredictable here in Western Massachusetts and temperatures can drop quickly in the evenings and early morning. It is helpful to have layers of clothing and a raincoat with you. And no matter the weather conditions, comfortable walking shoes are a must!

Drinking Water: All water on our property is underground spring water – great for drinking! We encourage you to fill your reusable bottles at any of our water stations across camp.

Emergencies: In case of emergency, please call 911. Be prepared to state the nature of the problem and your location: 39 Bennett Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Please also notify a Ramah New England staff person of the situation.

Eruv (Shabbat Boundary): Ramah New England maintains an *Eruv*, checked by our *Mashgiach*, which allows one to carry items around camp on Shabbat. Please note: the hiking trails going out to the treehouse are outside the boundary of the *Eruv*.

Food Allergies/Dietary Restrictions: If you have any dietary concerns, please let us know. Chef Sean is happy to accommodate dietary restrictions and will be available to answer any questions throughout the weekend. Look for a list of major food allergens on the menu board.

Food/Meals: We are a kosher, nut-free campus. Please help us maintain our kashrut. All your meals, snacks, and beverages are provided. Outside food is not allowed in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room). All meals are served buffets. Beverages and snacks will always be available between meals in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room).

Ramah Family Camp ~ A to Z

Gan (daycare): For families with children 5 and under, we are excited to offer a full menu of programming designed for little ones to play and explore. Feel free to drop your children off at the *Gan*, located at *Moadon Amitzim*, throughout the week or stay and join in with their crafts and games! Check the Daily Schedule to see when the *Gan* is open.

Lost & Found: There is a Lost & Found table in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Hall) located near the main entrance. Please be sure to leave found items or check for lost items at this location throughout the weekend.

Maintenance Requests: If you encounter any facility or maintenance issues while at camp, please inform Riki Wiederhorn.

Masks: Masking is optional at Family Camp. Those who elect to wear masks are welcome to do so.

Mealtimes: Mealtimes are one of the few things at Family Camp that cannot be changed, so please make sure to attend meals on time. There are always people around to answer your questions, but here are a few guidelines:

- Before each meal, all guests must wash their hands when entering the Chadar Ochel (Dining Room).
- Guests can choose where to sit and with whom they are comfortable dining.
- Each table is asked to clear their dishes into the bus buckets at the end of the tables. When dishes are cleared, please roll up the trash and table paper, and dispose of it in the barrels provided.
- Please wait until we have said the *Bracha* (blessing) before entering the buffet line. The meal will conclude with *Birkat Hamazon* (grace after meals) and announcements.
- Please use a new plate for each visit to the buffet line or salad bar.
- All major food allergens are listed at each meal, and special dietary food needs will be served from the Allergy Station, located under the menu board TV screen.
- Lost & Found is located on a table by the main entrance of the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room).

Moadon Amitzim: The *Moadon Amitzim* is the location of the *Gan* (daycare). For families with children 5 and under, we are excited to offer a full menu of programming designed for little ones to play and explore.

Moadon Tzevet: The *Moadon Tzevet*, or staff lounge, is designed to be adult space throughout the week. Stop by each night for late night snacks, adult programming, or to hang out with other parents.

Nametags: Please wear your nametags throughout the week and ask your children to do the same. Nametags help us learn each other's names, identify children when they're not with you, and help keep camp secure.

Participation: There are many ways to enjoy Family Camp, depending on what you think is most appropriate for your family. We have packed days of fun, camp-style activities! While there is some programming designed specifically for adults or children, many activities can be enjoyed by either or both! During all our Shabbat *Chugim* (elective activities), families are encouraged to participate together. We know you want to play ultimate frisbee and Gaga just as much as your kids! Or, if you'd rather have some time apart from your kids, you can feel free to hang out with other parents, take a walk around camp, take a nap in your bunk, or take advantage of our sports facilities.

Ramah Family Camp ~ A to Z

Ohel Kef: Located outside the O"CH, the *Ohel Kef* (fun tent) is a gathering space designed for children throughout the weekend. Sometimes there will be staff present to run games, read books, and do puzzles with children. Other times, the Ohel Kef is a great place for you to take your child if they need some time away from organized activities or loud spaces. Feel free to use the Ohel Kef as much or as little as you would like.

Running & Walking: If you intend to run or walk outside of our property, please be aware that there are dogs in the area that might not be as friendly as we are at Ramah New England! If you'd like to stay on our property, you are invited to run or walk our hiking trails behind the K'far - just be aware of the rugged terrain and keep an eye out for wildlife!

Security: We have security guards on site throughout the week. If you see them around, wave hello! If you have any concerns regarding security, please bring them to Riki Wiederhorn's attention.

Shabbat: Shabbat is a very special time of the week for our *Shomer Shabbat* community, and we offer meaningful *Tefillah* experiences for all ages. Everyone is encouraged to wear *kippah* and *tallit* if it is their practice. Out of respect for this value and our community, we ask that guests refrain from using electronics, technology, writing, and turning lights on or off in public spaces.

Shmirah (nighttime babysitting): We are excited to offer *Shmirah* (nighttime babysitting/supervision) throughout the week! Enjoy your kid-free evenings and check out our menu of adult programming. Ramah staff will be strategically placed around camp between the hours of 9:00 pm and 11:15pm. If you leave your bunk, take one of the provided cards and hand it to the *shomer* or *shomeret* (guard or babysitter) who is sitting near your porch or in your building. This will indicate that they should periodically check in on your children and ensure they are still sleeping. When you return, take the card back to indicate that you are in for the rest of the night, and they should no longer look after the kids.

Smoking, Illegal Substances & Firearms: As a childcare facility in the State of Massachusetts, smoking is not permitted anywhere within the boundaries of Ramah New England. Firearms, illegal substances, and related paraphernalia are not permitted on campus.

Snacks & Beverages: Snacks and beverages are always available between meals in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room).

T'fillot: All participants are invited to join in daily prayer services. Times for services can be found in the Daily Schedule section of this guide. Please bring your own *tallit*, *tefillin*, and *kippah* to wear if it is your custom.

Valuables: Ramah New England is not responsible for any missing or lost items. There is a Lost & Found table in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room) near the main entrance.

Vehicles: The speed limit on campus is 5 mph. Please only park in the approved parking locations after you settle into your bunk. We ask that you leave your vehicle parked for the retreat duration. Guests are not permitted to drive through campus at any time.

Waterfront: Waterfront activities, such as swimming and boating, are allowed only during designated hours, while lifeguards are on duty. At other times, please enjoy the view of our *Agam* (lake) from a distance.

Ramah Family Camp ~ A to Z

Wildlife: Ramah New England is fortunate to be located on almost 100 acres of nature and we share our beautiful property with a variety of local wildlife. Please keep your eyes open, particularly when walking at night, and let a member of our staff know if you spot any wildlife that could pose a threat to our guests.

Wireless Access: There is limited access to Wifi throughout camp. If you need internet connection, please let a staff member know and we will be happy to help you.

Workout Room: For safety reasons, only guests 16 and older are welcome to use our workout room, however, guests 15 and younger are welcome under supervision of their parent/guardian. It is located along the far end of the *Beit Am Gadol*. The workout room is equipped with stationary bikes, treadmills, elliptical, bench press, cross fit equipment, a multipurpose weight machine, medicine balls, gym bands, and yoga mats. Please keep all gym equipment inside the workout room.

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

*In the upcoming pages you will find the Daily Schedule!
Here are some tips as you navigate through it.*



Children are Divided by Age!

Over the week, children are divided into four groups by age. *Gan* (0 - 5 years old), *Shemesh* (6 - 9), and *Nozitzim* (10 - 13).

Refer to the Camp Map!

Check out the Camp Map on page 21 of your Program Guide to find the locations of events.

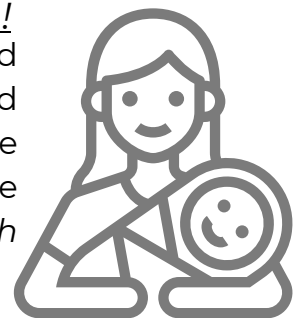


Questions? Ask us!

If you are unsure what a program is, or where or when it will be, ask a staff member. We are thrilled to help you!

A Message from Our Gan!

Our goal is to make this week a wonderful experience for both kids and adults! *Gan* activities are designed to give kids a great place to play, and are intended to allow everyone to have messy fun!! Parents are welcome to join children in these activities or leave them with our staff and take some well-deserved "me" time. And don't forget to come meet our *Rosh Gan*, Dani Carrus, on Wednesday afternoon!



Feeling Hungry?

Whether it's that mid-afternoon snack, or those middle of the night munchies! Snacks and beverages are always available between meals in the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room).

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Wednesday, August 23rd		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
3pm - 5pm	Check-In Welcome to Family Camp! At check in, join us for some camp crafts, table top games, and eat some snacks!	O"CH (outside of the Chadar Ochel)
3:45pm - 4:45pm	Come meet our Rosh Gan, Dani Carrus	Moadon Amitzim
5pm - 5:30pm	Family Camp Community All participants welcome! Meet our Family Camp community, and hear about important safety information for the weekend.	Bitan (New Pavilion)
5:30pm - 6pm	Tour the Camp Guided tour of our beautiful campus to learn the lay of the land.	Bitan
5:30pm - 6pm	Edah Meetings Kids come meet your Rosh Edah and madrichim (counselors) - Shemesh (6-9 years old) - Notzetzim (10-12 years old)	Meet in the Bitan
6pm - 7pm	Dinner	Chadar Ochel
7pm	Peulat Erev (Evening Activity) for - Shemesh (6-9 years old) meet in O"CH - Notzetzim (10-12 years old) meet in Bitan	Various Locations
8pm	Zman Chofshi (Free time) and Shower time	Various Locations
9pm - 11:15pm	Shmirah Nighttime supervision/babysitting for children, see pg. 5 for details.	Tzad Bet
9:15pm - 11pm	Adult Paint and Sip Come for some well deserved adult time and get to know each other as you are guided to create a painted masterpiece and enjoy a snack and some adult beverages.	Moadon Tzevet

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Thursday, August 24th		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7am	Early Morning Adult Run	Meet at Bet Am Gadol
7:30am - 9:30am	Coffee Hut Open!	Chadar Ochel
7:30am	Shacharit Experience a Ramah-Style <i>Shacharit</i>	Beit Knesset
8am - 8:45am	Breakfast - Please wear your Family Camp T-shirt!	Chadar Ochel
9am	Group Photo! Join us for the Group Photo to capture the memories of the week!	Meet outside the O"CH
9:15am - 8pm	Ohel Kef is Open Your kids need a break? Come see what the Ohel Kef has to offer!	Tent near the Chet
9:15am - 12:40pm	Gan is open for Gesher (0-2) and Shorashim (3-5) Ice breakers, art projects, snack and more!	
	Moadon Amitzim	
	Kids camp in open for Shemesh (6-9) and Notzetzim (10-12)	
9:15am - 12:45pm	<p>Meet your Rosh Edah after the group photo! Children will be dropped off and picked up outside the O"CH.</p> <p>Plan on boating and a visit to the alpine tower - wear a bathing suit and bring a bag with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change of clothes - Beach towel - Sunscreen - Athletic shoes - Water bottle 	Various locations
	Adult Chugim	
9:30am - 10:30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Boating at Tzad Aleph Agam (Limited participants - sign up sheet in the Chadar Ochel) - Catch & Release Fishing - Meet outside the Chadar Ochel - Fitness room is open at the Bet Am Gadol 	Various locations
	Adult Chugim	
9:30am - 11:00am	Omanut (Art) Clinic on Jewlery Making in the Bet Am Bet	Bet Am Bet
	Adult Chugim	
10:30am - 11:30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alpine swing (Limited space - sign up sheet in the Chadar Ochel) - Come experience the thrill for yourself at the Alpine Tower - Fitness room is open at the Bet Am Gadol - Explore the trails of Ramah - Turkish coffee included (Bug spray and comfortable shoes are strongly recommended) Meet outside the Bet Am Gadol 	Various locations

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Thursday, August 24th		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
11:00 - 12:30pm	Adult Chugim	Various locations
	- Omanut (Arts) Clinic on Mosaics at the Bet Am Bet - Cooking Demonstration on Grilling at the O"CH	
11:30am - 12:30pm	Adult Chugim	Various locations
	- 3 on 3 Basketball at the Bet Am Gadol - Fitness room open at the Bet Am Gadol	
12:00pm - 2:00pm	Coffee Hut Open	Chadar Ochel
12:45pm - 1:30pm	Lunch	Chadar Ochel
1:30pm	Adult swim test for those who would like to do a lake swim Must be able to swim 3 laps and tread water for 2 minutes	Tzad Aleph Agam
1:30pm - 2:30pm	Menucha (rest and regroup)	Various locations
2:30pm - 5:30pm	Babysitting is available for Gesher (0-2) campers See Dani in the Chadar Ochel at lunch for Family Chugim coverage	Moadon Amitzim
2:30pm - Rotation 1 3:30pm - Rotation 2 4:30pm - Rotation 3	Family Chugim Each activity is offered three times - Water Toys at the Agam - Limited space, maximum 24 people per rotation. Sign up in the Chadar Ochel at Lunch - Omanut (Art) Clinic on owls, pom pom people, canvas bags, bead lizards and more- stay as long as you want at the Bet Am Bet - Gaga at the Tzad Bet Gagarena - Knock out in Bet Am Gadol - Outdoor cooking at the nature corner, Pinat Teva - Visit the animals at the animal corner, Pinat Chayot	Various Locations
5:30pm - 6pm	Get Ready for Dinner and Medurah Bug spray and long sleeves/pants strongly recommended	Various Locations
6pm - 6:45pm	Dinner	Chadar Ochel
7pm - 8pm	Medurah Campfire with smores!!! All are welcome with a parent.	Tzad Bet Agam
8pm - 8:30pm	Peulat Erev For Notztizim (10-12) An evening activity	Bitan
9pm - 11:15pm	Shmirah Nighttime supervision/babysitting for children.	Tzad Bet
9:15pm - 11pm	Israeli Pub and Trivia Night Enjoy some Israeli snacks and beer while you test your knowledge of Israeli history and culture.	Moadon Tzevet

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Friday, August 25th - YOM YISRAEL

Dress in Blue and White!!

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30am - 9:30am	Coffee Hut Open!	Chadar Ochel
7:30am	Shacharit Experience a Ramah-Style <i>Shacharit</i>	Beit Knesset
8am - 8:45am	Breakfast	Chadar Ochel
8am - 8pm	Ohel Kef is Open Your kids need a break? Come see what the Ohel Kef has to offer	Tent near the Chet
9:00am - 10:00am	The Amazing Israel Race Come with your family and complete the missions to explore Israel's cities and communities.	Tzad Bet Migrash
10:15am - 11:50pm	Gan is open for Gesher (0-2) and Shorashim (3-5) Come for Israeli games, art projects, snack and more!	Moadon Amitzim
10:15am - 12pm	Kids camp in open for Shemesh (6-9) and Notzetzim (10-12) <i>Children will be dropped off at the O"CH and picked up at the Bet Am Bet</i> Plan on visiting our agam (lake) - wear your bathing suit and bring a bag with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change of clothes - Beach towel - Sunscreen - Athletic shoes - Water bottle 	Various locations
10:15am - 12pm	Adult Brunch in the Shuk Come make your own burekas, drink some Turkish coffee and orange juice or mimosas while listening to the latest Israeli music and view Israel through the eyes of our Israeli emissaries.	Café Ramah
12pm - 1pm	Family Art Workshop Hanoch Piven is an Israeli artist who uses everyday objects to create portraits. Join us to create your own masterpiece in his style.	Bet Am Bet
12pm - 2pm	Coffee Hut Open!	Chadar Ochel
1pm - 1:45pm	Lunch	Chadar Ochel
2pm - 3pm	Challah Braiding and Decorating Stop by with your family between 2pm - 3pm to braid and decorate your own challot for Shabbat dinner tonight.	O"CH

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Friday, August 25th - YOM YISRAEL		
<i>Dress in Blue and White!!</i>		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
2pm - 3pm	Ramah Family Camp Loves Israel Photo Booth Snap a pic at our booth. We will print your pictures for you!	Bitan
2:30pm - 3:30pm	Adult Lake Swim You will need to complete a quick swim test if you haven't already	Tzad Bet Agam
3pm - 4:30pm	Babysitting is available for Gesher (0-2) campers See Dani in the Chadar Ochel at lunch for Tarbut Yisrael coverage	Moadon Amitzim
3pm - 4:30pm	Tarbut Yisrael (Israeli Culture) Experience For the Whole Family - Mesimah (task) Alef - Rikkud (Dance) - Mesimah Bet - Innovation - Mesimah Gimel - Tzofim	Begin in the Chorsha (Grove), then various locations in the Sifriya (Library)
4:30pm-6:00pm	Hachanah L'Shabbat (Shabbat Prep)	Various Locations
5:30pm - 6pm	Pre-Shabbat Family Dinner - Sign Up Sheet at Lunch Families with young children are invited to a small pre-shabbat dinner before <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> . Sign-up so we can let Chef know!	Chadar Ochel
5:45pm	Mincha (optional) Candle lighting available	Chorsha
6pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Ramah Style Shabbat Service with lively tunes and Hebrew song!	Chorsha
6:15pm - 6:45pm	Tot Shabbat For Gesher and Shorashim aged children and their parents	Beit K'nesset
6:45pm	Shabbat Dinner Enjoy a Ramah style Shabbat dinner followed by shirah (singing).	Chadar Ochel
7:45pm - 8:15pm	Peulat Erev An evening activity for Shemesh (6-9) and Nozitzim (10-12)	Bet Am Gadol
9pm - 11:15pm	Shmirah Nighttime supervision/babysitting for children	Tzad Bet
9pm - 11pm	Adult Oneg Join us for joy, happiness, snacks and beverages!	Moadon Tzevet
9:15pm - 10:00pm	Community Learning with Rabbi Elliot Goldberg <i>"Like Bird Tracks in the Sand, A Poet's Search for God"</i> Together, we'll explore selections from Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai's <u>Open, Closed, Open</u> and how they might open up new possibilities for our own thinking about God.	Beit K'nesset

Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Saturday, August 27th		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
3pm - 4pm	Edah Time - Gesher and Shorashim in Moadon Amitzim - Shemesh in Tzad Bet Migrash - Nozitzim at Tzad Bet Tennis courts	Various locations
	Adult Learning with Rabbi Elliot Goldberg Ki Tavo and Passover: How this week's parasha became the core of our Pesach seder	Beit K'nesset
	Adult Programming- Lake Swim (must have taken swim test before Shabbat)	Agam
	Adult Programming - Pick up Basketball	Bet Am Gadol
4pm - 5pm	Family Championship Extravaganza - Havdallah Edition Grab your family and friends for this campwide Havdallah themed challenge course!	Meet at the Beit Am Gadol
5pm	Mincha or Rest/Shower Time	Beit K'nesset
6pm - 7pm	Seudah Shlishit (Shabbat Dinner and Singing)	Chadar Ochel
8:10pm	Ma'ariv and Havdallah	Bitan
8:30-9:00pm	Peulat Erev Notzitzim (10-12) An evening activity	Meet in the Bitan
9:00pm - 11:30pm	Shmirah	Tzad Bet
9:15pm - 11pm	Adult Mixology Class Feeling a bit muddled? Take it out on some mint and add a little rum!	Moadon Tzevet

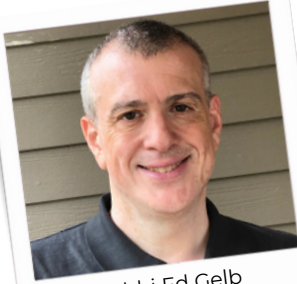
Ramah Family Camp ~ Daily Schedule

Sunday, August 28th		
TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7am	Early morning adult run	Meet Bet Am Gadol
7:30am - 9:30am	Coffee Hut Open!	Chadar Ochel
7:30am	Shacharit Experience a Ramah-Style <i>Shacharit</i>	Beit Knesset
8am - 9am	Breakfast	Chadar Ochel
9am - 10am	Edah Meetings Meet your <i>Rosh</i> after Breakfast!	Meet in the O"CH
9am - 10am	Open Play at the Gan Art projects, snack, and more!	Moadon Amitzim
9am - 10am	Adult Clean Up and Pack Up	Various Locations
10am - 12:00pm	Ohel Kef - Fun Tent is Open!	Outside the Chet
10am - Rotation 1 11am - Rotation 2	Family Chugim	
	Each activity is offered two times. - Nukum at the Tzad Bet Volleyball Court - Omanut (Arts) Clinic in the Bet Am Bet - <i>Mini accordian books, shrinky dinks & more!</i> - Outdoor Cooking in the Pinat Teva - Spend time with our animals in the Pinat Chayot - Science: Fun with Slime and Pickling in the Classrooms	Various Locations
12:00 - 12:45pm	Lunch	Chadar Ochel
12:00 - 1pm	Coffee Hut Open + L'hitraot!	Chadar Ochel



Ramah Family Camp

Meet Our Team



Rabbi Ed Gelb
CEO

Rabbi Ed Gelb (he/him) has served as director of Camp Ramah in New England since September of 2005, and C.E.O. since October of 2018. Ed joined CRNE after a successful five-year tenure as director of Camp Alonim, which is affiliated with the Brandeis Bardin Institute in California. Raised in Wyoming, Ed is a longtime Ramahnik, having served on the staffs of Ramah California and Ramah Canada for many years. Prior to becoming director of Camp Alonim, Ed was a teacher, administrator, and basketball coach at Yeshiva University High School in Los Angeles. Ed received his ordination from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism and graduated from UCLA with a BA in History. He lives in Sharon, Massachusetts with his wife, Tami, and their children, Yoni, Emma, Tova, and Zachary.

Riki Wiederhorn (she/her) has been a part of the Camp Ramah Camper Care Team since 2011 and is now also the Director of Year-Round Programming, but her connection to Ramah began as a camper in Camp Ramah Ojai in the 80's. Prior to joining the year-round staff, she worked in various formal and informal Jewish educational settings including Bi-Cultural Hebrew Academy in Stamford, CT for almost a decade. Riki holds an undergraduate degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara (political science) and an MA in Jewish Education from the University of Judaism in Los Angeles. She lives in Westport, CT with her husband Jeremy and youngest son Avi. All three of her children Meital, Ayelet and Avi were CRNE campers and past or future staff members.



Riki Wiederhorn
Director of Year Round
Programming



Michelle Sugarman
Director

Michelle Sugarman (she/her) is thrilled to be joining the Camp Ramah New England team. Originally from Scranton, PA, she was a long-time camper and staff member at Camp Ramah in the Poconos, spending 26 summers there, including 12 as the Assistant and then Associate Director. Prior to starting at Camp Ramah New England, Michelle was the Director of the North American Office of Academic Affairs of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She completed her BA in Jewish Studies and MSW at Temple University. Michelle brings with her a love of camp, a wealth of experience, and a plethora of innovative and creative ideas that will continue to make Ramah New England a leader in Jewish camping. When not watching the Eagles, Michelle is reading books, hanging out with family & friends, or watching The Office.

Josh Edelglass (he/him) has been spending his summers at Camp Ramah New England since 1987, and he began working on staff in the summer of 1995. Josh graduated magna cum laude from Brown University in 1999 and received his Masters in Jewish Studies from Gratz in 2022. He joined the year-round team in 2000, and was the Assistant Director from 2011-2022. Josh has worked on the faculty of Prozdor Hebrew High School, Temple Aliyah in Needham, Temple Israel in Natick, Tifereth Israel in Andover, Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill, and Congregation Kehillath Israel in Brookline. Somehow, on top of living and breathing Camp Ramah, Josh continues to work as a freelance illustrator, and to write about movies, TV shows, and lots more at his web-site: www.MotionPicturesComics.com. He lives in Medfield, Massachusetts with his wife, Stephanie, and their children Tahlia and Reya.



Josh Edelglass
Director

Ramah Family Camp

Meet Our Team



Ed Pletman
COO

Ed Pletman (he/him) joined Camp Ramah New England as the Director of Finance and Operations in July, 2012. Prior to that, Ed worked professionally as the Director of Informal Education at the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, the Director of Camp Tevya (Cohen Camps), and for many years at the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston. Ed completed his BS in Psychology at Union College and his MSW at Boston University. For many years, Ed has also volunteered as a Standards Accreditation Visitor with the American Camp Association. During the offseason, Ed lives in Stoughton Massachusetts.

Pamela (she/her) joined Ramah New England in 2019 after growing up at several Ramah camps and working as a Rosh Edah at Ramah Day Camp in Nyack, NY. Pamela earned her BA in Psychology from the University of Maryland, where she also minored in Jewish Studies. Pamela is currently working towards her MSW at Columbia School of Social Work as well as an MA in Jewish Professional Leadership from the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is a Nachshon Project Graduate Fellow through which she has grown her love for Jewish community. Pamela loves to read, craft, and explore NYC.



Pamela Kekst
Assistant Director



Talya Kalender
Director of Camper Care

Talya Kalender (she/her) has served as a parent liaison and Director of Staff and Camper Care since 2010. Talya joined Camp Ramah New England after several years as an educator in a variety of settings, including nearly a decade at the Geshur Jewish Day School of Northern Virginia. Part of a three-generation Ramah family, she has spent time in Palmer, Canada and Ramah Seminar in Israel. Talya holds a BA in Education from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She lives in Fairfax Virginia with her husband David. Their three children, Aryeh, Yaira and Nadav were all CRNE campers and staff members.

Sean Carey (he/him) has been the Chef Manager at Camp Ramah New England since 2010, and Jackie Romito-Carey (she/her) joined him in the kitchen in 2021. Both have worked in food service since a very young age, but Sean prefers preparing the food and Jackie enjoys serving the guests. They are at camp year-round, focusing on campers in the summer months, and retreats the rest of the year. In their free time, Sean and Jackie enjoy traveling the country with their dog, Fin, and cat, Stella, looking for new and different sights to see and foods to try.



Sean Carey & Jackie RC
The Food People

Ramah Family Camp ~ Summer Programs



2024 Dates
to Come!

Ramah Day Camp Greater Boston will return next summer for the 2nd year with the very best Jewish camping experience. This well-rounded program will expose kids to sports, arts, outdoor education, and more! Your child is bound to come home happy, tired, and ready to share all about their day. Email rachels@campramahne.org to learn more about this exciting new program!



2024 Dates
to Come!

At the Ramah Day Camp of Greater Washington, DC, we provide children entering grades K-5 with the very best camping experience in a setting of love, friendship, wonder and discovery, and a place where Judaism is integral to daily activities. We will offer three two-week sessions and a final add-on week. Of course, we love when families take advantage of our full summer discount and enroll their child(ren) for all 7 weeks! Email dcdaycamp@campramahne.org to learn more about our 2 week sessions and full session.



June 25th -
August 18th!

For families who want their kids to love being Jewish, Camp Ramah is THE Jewish overnight camp! At Ramah New England, campers love being Jewish. We weave together fun and meaningful Jewish experiences with all the activities kids love – all in a welcoming, inclusive environment, where kids make life-long friends. We offer unparalleled camper care and inspiring role models. Campers have the option to come for the full summer or can take advantage of one of our 4-week sessions. We also offer a Mini-Kochavim session and a Mini-Amitzim session. Email info@campramahne.org to learn more about any of our sessions!

Ramah Family Camp ~ Safety & Security

SAFETY & SECURITY

Ramah New England has developed comprehensive safety and security protocols in consultation with the Palmer Police Department and Security Experts and Consultants. Highlighted below are key elements of our protocols. We ask all guests to review this document at the beginning of your stay.

Every building has an emergency exit plan posted and is equipped with fire extinguishers. PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF EMERGENCY EXITS WHENEVER YOU ENTER A BUILDING.

Note that there is always a security officer on-site throughout the weekend.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

A first aid kit and AED are available at the *Chadar Ochel* (Dining Room).

In the Event of a Medical Emergency:

- IMMEDIATELY DIAL 911.
- Give location, sex, and approximate age of victim and if possible, the type of emergency.
- Then alert a Ramah New England staff person of your emergency.

Stay with the injured person until help arrives. Try to calm, reassure, and stabilize the person. Never move an injured person with a suspected neck or back injury. When medical staff arrives at the scene, summarize the situation and answer questions.

FIRE

If you spot a fire:

- Leave the building and do not re-enter to remove personal property.
- IMMEDIATELY DIAL 911. Give location, and if possible, type of fire (grease, electrical, paper, etc.). Then alert a Ramah New England staff person of your emergency.
- If a phone is not accessible, sound the closest fire alarm.
- If a campus-wide fire alarm is sounded, all guests should proceed immediately to the *Machaneh Gimel* (field in between the *Bet Am Gadol* (Gym) and Alpine Tower) and remain there until the “all clear” signal has been given.
- If the fire occurs on or near *Machaneh Gimel*, all guests should proceed to the Tzad Bet field in between the B-Side Tennis Courts and Little House.

SEVERE WEATHER

Thunder and/or Lightning:

Gather your family/group and move to a safe area (large indoor facility, bunk porch or common room) until the weather has passed.

Tornado Warning:

Head immediately to one of the following designated emergency locations: Library Basement, Guest House Basement, or Bunk 80 Basement. When at location, stay away from windows. Stay at designated emergency location until the “all clear” has been given.

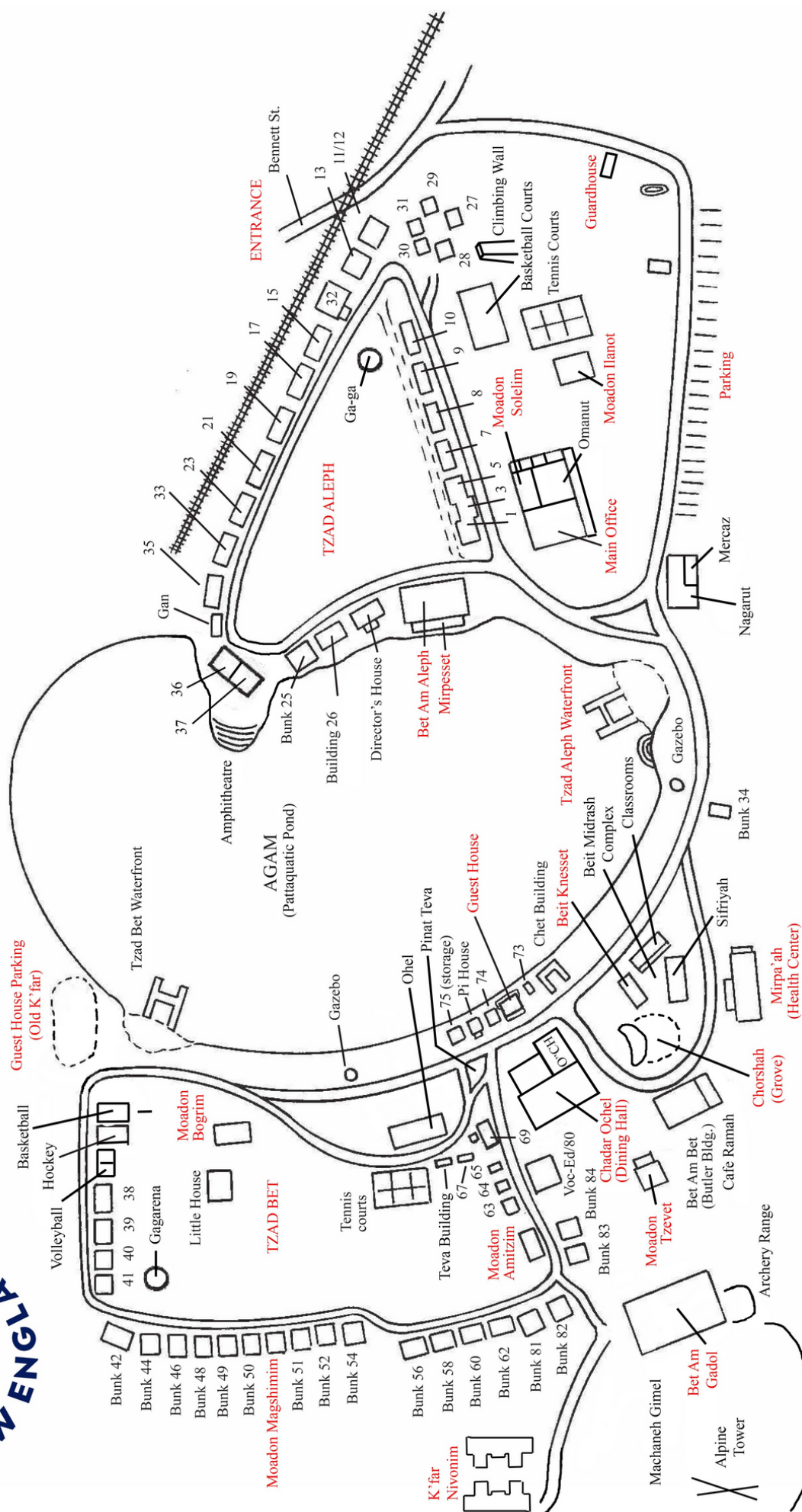
ACTIVE SHOOTER

- First and foremost: **EVACUATE** if at all possible, leaving the area by the quickest route available. If necessary, leave the campus grounds. Leave your belongings behind.
- Call 911 as soon as it is safe to do so.
- If you are not able to evacuate, HIDE OUT in an area out of the active shooter’s view. Block entry to your hiding place. If possible, lock the door. Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.
- TAKE ACTION only as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger. Attempt to incapacitate the shooter. Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter.
- When law enforcement arrives, remain calm and follow the officers’ instructions. Immediately raise hands and spread fingers. Keep your hands visible at all times. Avoid quick movements toward officers whenever possible.





מחנה רמה בניו אינגלנד





Thank You!

**See you at the next
Family Camp!**

campramahne.org

ramahdcdaycamp.org

ramahboston.org