

SUMMER PROGRAMS IN AND AROUND ATHENS COUNTY

OUTDOOR SUMMER CAMPS

[Camp Oty'Okwa](#)-- fees waived for kids with trauma histories

Ages 6-14

South Bloomingville, OH

This is an overnight summer camp where students stay from Sunday to Friday. Students will stay in cabins with 5 to 8 other kids as well as a counselor. They will have the opportunity to hike, explore caves, swim, fish, and do arts and crafts. They will also spend a night camping under the stars. Their camp for grieving children is already filled up, but they do have special accommodations for kids with disabilities or behavioral issues.

[Camp Wyandot](#)

Grades 1-12

Rockbridge, OH

This is another overnight summer camp in the Hocking Hills. Kids will swim, hike, canoe, fish and build campfires. Campers attend for one 6 ½ day session.

[Rising Appalachia Warriors Camps](#)-- full scholarships for kids who can't pay the \$200

Ages 6-18

Millfield, OH

This is an outdoor adventure focused day camp in Millfield. There are different weeks of the camp with different themes. The Women of RAW camp (for girls up to age 12) will include music and self defense classes. The RAW Survivors Day Camp will teach skills like fire starting and plant identification. All camps will involve hiking, playing in streams, doing crafts etc.

[Rural Action Sunday Creek Watershed Day Camp](#)-- waive fees for kids that can't pay

Ages 7-14

Glouster, OH

From the website: "Rural Action's Sunday Creek Watershed and Environmental Education program offer two weeks of summer day camps each year where campers explore streams, engage in service projects, play team-building and leadership games, collaborate with area professionals, and eat freshly prepared local food!

Highlights of this year's camp for 9-13 year olds include trips to the Hocking Hills, Wildcat Hollow, and helping to clean up a small stretch of Sunday Creek. Based on the campers'

feedback, we will also include favorite activities like catching macroinvertebrates (craw-dads and the like), wilderness survival skills, hiking, swimming, and canoeing at Burr Oak.”

[The Wilds](#)

Ages 8-18

Muskingum County, OH

Kids at this sleepaway camp do outdoor activities including canoeing, hiking, archery and ziplining. There are also camps that give children hands on experience learning about being wildlife veterinarians and conservationists.

[Osage Corral](#)- summer program is free for 50 participants

Albany, OH

Osage Corral is an equine based counseling program, and they offer a special therapeutic summer camp.

[Hocking College Summer Experience Camp: The Great Outdoors](#)

Grades 6-12

Nelsonville, OH

This program encourages middle and high school age students to explore careers in the outdoors. From the website: “When we say ‘in the field’, we mean it! Experience our hands on approach to ‘learning by doing’ in the beautiful forests, fields and lakes of Southeastern Ohio. Enjoy horseback riding, canoeing, animal handling, wildlife identification and tracking, investigating a natural resources crime scene, and much much more!”

ARTS CAMPS AND CLASSES

[Girls Rock](#)- offer scholarships, don’t turn anyone away if they can’t pay

Ages 12-18

Athens, OH

Athens Rock Camp For Girls is a week-long, day camp. Campers will learn an instrument, form a band, write songs, and perform a show at the end of the week. Self-defense, stage presence, flyer making, booking shows, and other elective classes are also offered.

From Sarah Ficke: “Each day of camp starts out with morning circle at 10, followed by music instruction where a teacher shows you how to play your instrument. Then there's lunch.

Campers are encouraged to pack a lunch, but we always have extra food on hand in case anyone forgets. We have a lunch time concert where local and regional women in music perform a short show and answer questions from the campers. After the concert, everyone heads to band practice, where campers make new friends and write songs together. These are the songs they perform at the final concert. Then there's closing circle before heading home at 5.”

[Ohio University Summer Arts Programs for Youth](#)

Ages 6-13

Athens, OH

Kids can attend a theater camp, a music camp (with classes like Intro to Ukelele) or one of two visual arts camps (Painting and Drawing or Videos and Podcasting).

[Dairy Barn Arts Center](#)-- some “sponsorships” available

Entering 1st-7th grades, entering 8th-12th grades (teen camp)

Athens, OH

There are different themes for each week of the camp, but they all center around visual art projects. From the website: “At Summer Art Camp, campers learn drawing, painting, ceramics, fabric arts, sculpture, and much more. Plus we employ lots of other disciplines like science, math and history into the curriculum over the summer for a comprehensive and extensive learning experience.” There is a one week teen camp for children who are really motivated and interested in art. The teen camp also involves hiking.

[Youth Photo Project](#)

Athens, OH

This is a workshop for teenagers that runs from June through August. It’s at Athens Photo Project, so it’s a Hopewell program, and kids generally need to be referred to the program by a mental health professional.

[Factory Street Studio](#)

Ages 5-8, 10-12

Athens, OH

This dance studio has classes for kids throughout the year. This summer they have a ballet class for 10-12 year olds and a movement class for 5-8 year olds.

ACADEMIC/CAREER EXPLORATION CAMPS

[Ohio University Summer Coding Camp](#)

Ages 11-14, girls only

Athens, OH

This is a camp for middle school girls to encourage them to pursue careers in computer science. It is a residential camp where students stay in OU dorms. From the website: “Examples of the types of activities that the girls will do may include programming games, webpages, small robots and experiencing virtual and augmented reality technology. There will also be entertainment activities like swimming, playing games and going to a movie.”

Camp Invention at West Elementary

Athens, OH

This summer camp gives kids hands on experience with different science concepts. One example of an activity is: “Children manage their own farm as they learn the basics of running a business. With the assistance of Bot-ANN-E, a programmable robot, campers learn fundamental coding techniques to maximize their time and profits and perform mock DNA experiments to check the health of their cattle”

Hocking College Summer Experience Camp- 911

Grades 6-12

Nelsonville, OH

This program for middle and high school students introduces students to careers they may be interested in. From the website: “gain hands-on experience in areas of law enforcement, corrections, fire and emergency medical services. Tour the Southeastern Ohio Regional jail and leave with certifications in Pediatric CPR and First Aid, training in the proper use of fire extinguishers, unarmed self-defense, and much more.”

SPORTS CAMPS

Athens Community Center Sportitude

Ages 5-14

Athens, OH

The sports week of Athens Community Center Summer Camps is July 29-Aug 2. Athletes and coaches from OU will come to teach campers sports.

OU CAMPus Rec Summer Camp

Ages 6-12

Athens OH

The website says “We strive to provide developmentally appropriate activities which promote life-long learning of recreational and sport skills. The skills are experienced in a recreation

setting to encourage each child to explore fun and diverse activities while building new friendships.” This program is at Ohio University.

OTHER SUMMER PROGRAMS

Kids On Campus Summer-- free

Kindergarten-11th grade (depends on school system)

Athens, OH

The KOC summer program takes place at Ohio University. Students receive free breakfast and lunch and KOC provides transportation. Students do a variety of activities, including swimming and art as well as more traditional educational activities. The website hasn't been updated with 2019 dates, but the program will be during the day Monday-Friday for 2 or 3 weeks.

Athens County Public Library--- free

Chauncey, Glouster, Nelsonville, Coolville, Athens, The Plains

All of the Athens County branches have free lunch Monday-Friday as well as other daily activities for school aged kids. This summer's theme is Space.

Athens County Community Center

Ages 5-14

Athens, OH

This is a day camp, and every week is a different theme. Themes include water activities, animals, and science, and many weeks include field trips.

Summer Camp At Beacon School--free

Athens, OH

This camp is for students who are eligible for services from the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Students are given breakfast, lunch and snack, and transportation is available.

Summer Kids' Discovery Camp-- free

The Plains, OH

This summer program is run through Good Works at the Plains United Methodist Church. Kids receive lunch and go on walking field trips. Presenters come and talk to them about different subjects, and there are a variety of activities every morning.