



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

MERLEFEST 2026

WELCOME YMCA CAMPERS!

Address to use is 1801 YMCA Boulevard Wilkesboro NC, 28297.

Check in at the YMCA will start at 9am on Thursday.

Sites available at the YMCA:

125 tent sites (located in the field behind the Y)

20 pop up/van sites (nothing larger than 20 feet; no hook ups)

26 campfire tent sites (located beyond the pavilion at the Y, with ability to have a campfire)

- Anyone paying for Wednesday night camping will check in inside the YMCA at the front desk.
- Thursday campers, weather permitting, will be checked in around the back of the Y in the parking lot.
- It is first come, first serve, but we have ample space for all campers.
- We do not allow anyone to bring their camper earlier than noon on Wednesday as we are still operating Y programs and can't handle the additional traffic. We reserve the right to have campers towed who come in early.
- In order to have space for all pop up/van campers, we will have clearly marked painted lines that we ask that you respect as you come in. We will also have a staff member to direct and assist with parking in areas specific to the size of your camper.
- Wood will be available for sale, but you can also bring wood in.
- This is a family campground with security at the pavilion out back from 7pm – 7am daily.
- We do not allow non campers to come into the campground to preserve the safety and quality experience for all campers.
- There will be port a jons behind the Y facility for when we are closed and there is also the pavilion with picnic tables and bathrooms at the back of our lot.

Business As Usual

- The Y is open 5am – 8pm Thursday and Friday. We are open 8am – 6pm on Saturday and 1pm – 6pm Sunday. Campers have full access during those hours.
- We open early on Saturday (7am) for campers to get showers, and also from 7am – 1pm on Sunday for showers only. (AND COFFEE!)
- There is no parking on the field at the Y. You can drive on the track to unload, but cars must be parked in the parking lot or the side lot to the right of the pavilion.

WILKES FAMILY YMCA

1801 YMCA Boulevard, Wilkesboro NC 28697

P 336 838 3991 F 336 838 0979 www.wilkesymca.org A United Way Agency

Our Mission: "Helping all people reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind and body." Financial Assistance available.



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- Shuttle service is provided throughout the day starting one hour before the festival each day, and until all are cleared from campus.
- Generators permitted for campers who have medical needs but cannot affect the experience of those camping around you. All generators must be agreed upon by the camping crowd.
- Please make sure you leave the names of additional people in your party when you check in if they are coming in after you. Only one car per site is allowed in the Y parking lot with the provided visible parking pass. Others can park along Industrial Drive, not the front lot to allow ample parking for our members.
- Respect your fellow campers and control noise after 11pm.
- The Y campground closes at 8pm on Sunday.
- Those who pay extra for Sunday night camping should be gone from campground by 9am on Monday.
- We have recycling and trash receptacles. Please remove your trash from your site as you exit and throughout the festival to keep the grounds clean.

NEWS from Wilkes Community College

Gates open at 2:30pm with music starting at 3pm on Thursday.

Friday – Sunday gates open at 10:30am with music starting at 11am.

Shuttles will start at 2pm on Thursday and by 9:30am Friday – Sunday.

Rules for Safety and Visibility

- Personal tents or canopies are not permitted on festival grounds.
- Large umbrellas (beach or patio) are not allowed. Golf umbrellas and personal umbrellas are allowed.
- Tall canopy chairs are not allowed.
- No personal grills on festival grounds.

FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE VOLUNTEERS

Lot D is located within easy walking distance of the Rivers Edge and Y Campground and is where you can get a shuttle to the campus for your volunteer shift. These shuttles begin running earlier than the shuttles for festival goers so check the schedule sent in your volunteer packet.

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