



# Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

## *Women In Nature*

### 17<sup>th</sup> Annual



## Outdoor Skills Workshop

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Camillus Sportsmen's Club

5801 Devoe Road

Camillus, NY 13031

# REGISTRATION PACKET

Women In Nature (WIN) is a program of the *Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs* (OCFSC). OCFSC's membership includes various hunting and fishing clubs, shooting sports groups, and local chapters of non-profit conservation organizations in Onondaga County and surrounding areas. OCFSC provides legislative representation, conservation education, public relations, and recreational information of particular interest to the sportsmen and sportswomen of Onondaga County. For more information visit our website: [www.federationofsportsmen.com](http://www.federationofsportsmen.com).

WIN's Mission is to:

- 1) Encourage women to enjoy the great outdoors through our annual Outdoor Skills Workshop as well as shooting, hunting, and fishing seminars and recreational outings.
- 2) Promote membership in the local conservation organizations that are members of the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs

The WIN Outdoor Skills Workshop is an annual all-day workshop designed to give women a taste of many outdoor activities through its introductory classes in a comfortable and enjoyable atmosphere. We provide resources and "satellite" workshops during the year to encourage continuation of these activities. To receive notices of WIN events and & related activities visit our web site at <http://www.federationofsportsmen.com> or Facebook page Women In Nature OCFSC.

## **Registration Instructions – Please read carefully**

To apply to register for the *OCFSC Women in Nature 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Outdoor Skills Workshop*:

1. Read all **Instructions (page 1-2)** and **Class Descriptions (page 3-4)**.
2. Completely fill out one *Registration Application* form per person (page 5). Be sure to include **area code** with your telephone number. Minors and their accompanying, participating adult need to fill in separate registration applications with the exact same class preferences listed, and the accompanying adult's name should be listed on the child's *Registration Application*. Indicate t-shirt size on each application.
3. Please choose 8 different classes that you are interested in on the Registration Application form. Out of your eight preferences, four will be assigned to you. We will do our best to put you in your top choice classes. Applicants who do not send complete forms will be asked for the missing information. The delay will result in their application being put further down on the acceptance list.
4. Review class descriptions carefully, and make note whether your chosen classes have specific requirements, such as binoculars, camera, etc. to participate.
5. **Firearms will be present on-site, therefore we require that ALL Outdoor Skills Workshop participants read and sign the *Firearms Policy Waiver and Liability Agreement (page 6 & 6A)*. For minors, parents/legal guardians must sign the *Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot Firearms form (page 7)*.**
6. Return completed forms (pages 5, 6 and 7) either attached to an email or by mail. (Email is preferred) **We are NOT accepting on-site registrations.**
  - Email address: [womeninnature2025@gmail.com](mailto:womeninnature2025@gmail.com)
  - Mailing address: **Women in Nature, P.O. Box 163, Manlius NY 13104-9998.**
  - *Registration Applications* **MUST be postmarked or emailed by March 15, 2025.**

**Space is limited** - *Registration Application* forms received after we reach full capacity will be placed on our *Waiting List*. Apply early to improve your chances of getting in. **Priority will be given to first-time participants.** Repeat participants will likely NOT be accepted unless they bring a first-time participant and indicate the name of new participant on their application form.

**Groups.** If you are coming with a group, please apply early, **AND INDICATE THE NAMES OF YOUR GROUP'S MEMBERS ON THE FRONT OF EACH OF YOUR APPLICATIONS.** We suggest you mail or email your forms together. We cannot guarantee same class placement for all members of your group. Minors will be assigned to the same classes as their accompanying adult.

**Notification.** If your application is accepted, you will receive a confirmation email (or phone call if you don't have email) with additional details about the day. If you cannot make it, please cancel ASAP by emailing [womeninnature2025@gmail.com](mailto:womeninnature2025@gmail.com) so that a woman on the waiting list can take your spot.

### **Information and FAQ**

**COST:** All instruction, services, equipment, food and supplies are donated, which allows us to offer this workshop FREE of charge. (See SPONSORS below and in the printed program.)

**MINORS:** Minimum age to participate in this workshop is **12 years old**. Participants ages 12 to 17 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult at all times. Certain courses may have specific requirements for participation by minors, so **please read course descriptions carefully**, as well as the Participation Release statement on the registration form. The ***WIN Firearms Policy (page 6)*** and ***Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot Firearms (page 7)*** form should also be signed ahead of time by parents/legal guardians and mailed in with the ***Registration Applications***. (See "INSTRUCTIONS" section above). Please submit ***Registration Applications*** from adults and minors together.

**CHOOSING CLASSES:** Class descriptions are listed on **pages 3-4** of this registration packet. Keep in mind that all classes are geared toward **beginners**. There will be four class sessions during the day, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Not all classes will be offered at all sessions, and some classes are offered only as a double session. **Please read Class Descriptions carefully**, and understand the requirements. **Class content, instructors and schedule are subject to change prior to the day of the event.** Scheduling is done after we reach full capacity. We will have your schedule at check-in but not before.

**CHECK- IN:** Please arrive at Camillus Sportmen's Club in time to check-in between **8:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.** on Saturday, April 26, 2025. (*Driving Directions* on page 8). At check-in, each participant will be given a program including a schedule of their classes and other events, a site map, and a complimentary t-shirt. *Because we have firearms on-site, **for safety reasons, all participants must sign acknowledgement of our firearms policy (see page 6-7) regardless of participation in shooting activities. This form must be submitted with registration forms.***

**FOOD:** Food and beverages are provided free of charge. A small, continental breakfast will be available in the morning before classes begin, and lunch will be provided at midday. **WE ARE NOT ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE SPECIAL DIETS, I.E. VEGETARIAN, GLUTEN-FREE, ETC. You may bring your own prepared lunch, snacks and non-alcoholic beverages.** Water, coffee, tea, and cocoa will be available throughout the day. We highly recommend that you bring water in a refillable bottle.

**THIS IS A NON-SMOKING EVENT.**

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** This event will take place in rain, snow or shine. This is an outdoor experience; participants should come prepared for the elements. Wear comfortable, sturdy weatherproof footwear (not sandals), dress in layers, bring sunscreen, insect repellent and rain or cold-weather outerwear. Bare feet or sandals are not allowed. The facility does have a heated building for meals and break times.

**PHOTOGRAPHS AND LIABILITY:** We ask that you **read thoroughly and sign the release section** of the *Registration Application* (page 5). Participating **minors must have their parent/legal guardian sign the form**. If minors are to be accompanied by an adult that is not their legal guardian, **please download and print the forms and have them signed by the parent or legal guardian ahead of time.**

**GETTING THERE:** Directions and a map to can be found on **page 8** of this *Registration Packet*. The location is Camillus Sportsmen's Club, 5801 Devoe Road, Camillus, NY 13031. We encourage you to carpool if attending with others. If you require Disability Parking access, please notify the parking attendant upon arrival.

**RAFFLES:** We will be holding a raffle to benefit the sponsorship of youths, ages 11 - 17, to the Department of Environmental Conservation Summer Youth Camp. Raffle prizes may include hunting and fishing trips, club memberships, various outdoor recreation equipment and related items. For scholarship information, visit our Facebook page, *Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs*. We encourage you to bring some cash to support this worthy cause.

**SPONSORS:** This **Women in Nature** event is made possible by the support of the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and its members, various non-profit groups, local retail businesses, and individuals. **If you (or your place of business or organization) wish to donate to our event or place an advertisement in our event day program, please contact Ed Pugliese at [pka7@aol.com](mailto:pka7@aol.com) or call 315-263-6699.** Donations and advertising support the WIN program and the raffle. A complete list of sponsors will be printed in our event day program. Major sponsors are listed on the t-shirt as well. We ask that you consider patronizing our sponsor businesses and consider membership in any of the Federation clubs.

**QUESTIONS?** Email [womeninnature2025@gmail.com](mailto:womeninnature2025@gmail.com)

### Class Descriptions

- 1) **Air Gun Shooting** - A New Course! This session will teach you about rifle and pistol air guns. Air guns have no perceived "kickback" .The course will cover gun safety, trigger control, correct stance and how to shoot pistol and rifle air guns. The air rifles and air pistols, targets and ammunition will be provided.
- 2) **Axe Throwing** – This ancient woodsman’s skill is fun! Learn proper techniques for throwing an axe at a wooden butt. Hand-eye coordination, strength and upper body coordination are developed in this unique skill. Axes will be provided.
- 3) **Beginning Archery** - Learn about the different types of archery equipment, bow and arrow terminology, safety, and proper shooting form. Participants will have the opportunity to shoot with equipment provided.
- 4) **Birding Basics** - Open your eyes to the world of birds. This course will take you through basic bird-watching skills such as bird silhouette and field mark identification, identifying the “usual suspects” through sight and sound, and how to use binoculars and a spotting scope. **If you have binoculars, please bring them with you.**
- 5) **Campfire Cooking** - Campfires aren't just for roasting marshmallows! Learn to bake, boil, sauté, grill and stew a variety of tasty treats over a campfire. This course will include tips on types of fire lays that are best for cooking as well as some tips on cookware and tools.
- 6) **Cooking Fish** - This will give you the handling and different methods of cooking fish with a variety of recipes that will enhance your catch of the day.
- 7) **Canoeing and Kayak Skills** - Learn basic paddling strokes, how to maneuver a canoe, and important boating safety rules. You may get wet! Wear an old pair of sneakers or thick-soled neoprene water booties and bring a complete change of clothes & footwear. You must be able to swim.
- 8) **Crossbow Basics** – Planning for hunting or just target shooting? Join us for the opportunity to learn how to fit a crossbow, care for your bow, and safely see how easy it is to shoot and hit your target!
- 9) **Fishing 101 (DOUBLE SESSION)** - Participants will learn about basic freshwater fishing techniques and gear that will help them become skilled anglers. Topics will include tackle basics, knot tying, spin-casting, bait-casting, NY State fishing regulations, safety on the water, and much more. You will have time to try your new skills on the water. **Fishing license is not required for this course.**
- 10) **Fly-Fishing – (DOUBLE SESSION)** Learn how to fly cast, how to choose the necessary gear to be able to safely and comfortably fly-fish the rivers and streams of Central New York. Each participant will be given artificial flies to try out their new fly-rod casting skills on the water. **Fishing license is not required for this course.**

**List of Classes continued on next page!**

- 11) **Intro to Competitive Shooting/Taking the Fear out of Shooting Sports** One of the fastest rising sports in the US today is recreational and competitive shooting. New shooters are excited to get out and test their skills against the clock and others. If you are looking to do the same, or just learn how to handle your firearm in a non-judgmental environment that's all about firearm safety, then this is for you. In this class you learn first gun safety, what to expect at your first match, safety rules at matches, and range commands. You will then have a live fire portion of the class where you will have the opportunity to actually shoot some assorted targets including: a plate rack, steel gongs, a bullseye target, and a dueling tree. in which you will be shooting a .22 rifle. **Firearms Policy waiver and agreement and, if applicable, a Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot form, are included (pages 6-7 in this registration packet for signatures before the event date. Mail-in signed forms with your registration.**
- 12) **Map and Compass** – Don't get lost! Learn the basic skills for navigating in the wilderness without a GPS. Maps and compasses will be provided.
- 13) **Nature Journaling** – "Most people are on the world, not in it and have no conscious sympathy or relationship to anything about them" (John Muir). Nature journaling is a combination of capturing images found in nature and writing about one's thoughts and observations in the field. Take up nature journaling and you can learn more about nature and yourself while adding a fun dimension to your outdoor experience. In this class you will learn the fundamentals of Journaling, practice basic drawing skills, and make your own first nature journal.
- 14) **Rifle Shooting** - Learn the art of stationary firing and the thrill of that first bulls-eye! Our course instructor brings years of experience and knowledge to this program. Firearms safety, range rules, holding, aiming and firing positions will be covered in this course. **A Firearms Policy waiver and agreement and, if applicable, a Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot form, are included (pages 6-7) in this registration packet for signatures before the event date. Be sure to mail-in signed forms with your registration.**
- 15) **Shotgun Shooting** – This is a great opportunity for first-timers to get instruction from an experienced team of shooters. Firearms safety, shooting fundamentals, and a great experience await! **A Firearms Policy waiver and agreement and, if applicable, a Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot form, are included (pages 6-7) in this registration packet for signatures before the event date. Mail-in signed forms with your registration.**
- 16) **Wilderness Survival and Outdoor First Aid: (DOUBLE SESSION)** Planning on going hiking or camping in the wilderness? How would you handle emergency situations when help is not close by? This course will provide hands-on first aid awareness training and experience building a shelter, a fire and much more.
- 17) **Wild Game Cooking** - Cooking wild game should not be different than cooking any other meal. With the correct handling and preparation, wild game can make an exceptional and easy meal. This hands-on session will cover some of the basics of what to do with your harvest from the field to the dinner plate. Participants will help prepare and sample the food.
- 18) **Wildlife Photography** – Learn basic techniques for capturing strong photographs in the outdoors. Composition, natural light, and equipment will be discussed. Bring your camera, and a tripod if you have one.

REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Email completed Registration Application (pg. 5), Firearms Policy (ALL participants; pg. 6), Release of Liability (ALL participants; pg 6A) and Youth Permission to Shoot Form (minors only; pg. 7) to: WOMENINNATURE2025@GMAIL.COM or mail pg 5, pg. 6, pg 6A and if applicable, pg 7 to: Women In Nature, PO Box 163, Manlius NY 13104-9998. All forms MUST be postmarked/emailed by March 15, 2025. On-site registration will NOT be accepted. Incomplete forms will delay registration. Please read All Instructions on pages 1-2 before filling out this form. Thank you!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (include area code): DAY (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EVE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS or PO BOX \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE and ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL [grid of boxes] PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY!

We do not sell our mailing lists. All group email correspondence from us is done under the "blind copy" window.

UNDER AGE 18 [checkbox] 18 or OLDER [checkbox] (All participants must be at least 12 years of age)

If under 18 yrs. old, name of accompanying adult: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS CHOICES: Please read "Choosing Classes" on Pages 1-2 of this packet. After carefully reading the Class Descriptions on pages 3-4, please fill-in your class choices. Only list each class choice once. Some classes will not be offered in all sessions and class sizes are limited. Course content, class topics, instructors & schedule are subject to change, so it is imperative that you give us 8 different choices for fair scheduling. Minors and accompanying adults must have the same list of classes and preferences.

Table with 4 columns: Preference, Full Class Title, Preference, Full Class Title. Rows 1-4 for preferences 1st through 4th.

Free T-shirt Size: \_\_\_Small \_\_\_Medium \_\_\_Large \_\_\_X-Large \_\_\_2X \_\_\_3X (If attending with a new participant or a group, indicate name(s): \_\_\_\_\_)

I hereby acknowledge that there are inherent risks in participating in the Women In Nature (WIN) Outdoor Skills Workshop and that I take full responsibility for all action or injury that may result to myself or my child participating in this program. I agree that I will not bring claims against the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and its members, the Women In Nature program or its committee members, or the following clubs and organizations and their members: Camillus Sportmen's Club, Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Onondaga County Parks, or the instructors, operators, planners, volunteers, or sponsors of this workshop whether such claims are known or unknown in the future.

I also give permission for images of myself and my child (if participating) to be used for the sole purpose of promoting Women in Nature and the Onondaga County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs through publications, displays, its website and other media, and waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto. If signing for a minor, I also attest that I am the parent or legal guardian of said child, listed on the top of this page, and said child is at least 12 years of age.

Participant's signature (or Parent/Legal Guardian's signature if participant is under 18 years of age) \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed \_\_\_\_\_

In Case of Emergency, Contact (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #1 (include area code) (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #2 (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Any allergies/health concerns we should know about: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name of Participant Here: \_\_\_\_\_

**Women In Nature (WIN) Firearms Policy**

- 1.) You are **NOT** allowed to bring your own gun to the WIN Outdoor Skills Workshop. The appropriate firearm will be provided by WIN instructors for your use during shooting classes or demonstrations.
- 2.) You are **NOT** to bring your own ammunition to the WIN Outdoor Skills Workshop. Ammunition will be provided at the WIN shooting classes or demonstrations.
- 3.) Always follow the basic rules of gun safety and laws including, but not limited to:
  - Treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
  - The muzzle of the gun (the part that the **bullets** come out of) should always be pointed in a safe direction.
  - The action of the firearm (where the shell or bullet goes into) should always be open until you are ready to use it.
  - Eye and ear protection are required at all times on the shooting ranges. There are no exceptions.
  - Prescription glasses are acceptable; ear plugs and shooting glasses will be provided at the workshop.
- 4.) The WIN instructors have the right to refuse any participant if they are suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or are not following other safety rules.
- 5.) Youth shooting class or demonstration participants (under 18 years old) must be accompanied on the shooting range and all workshop grounds by a parent or legal guardian or an adult over 21 years of age designated by the minor child's parent/legal guardian.
- 6.) For Youth shooting class and demonstration participants, the accompanying adults must sign their own Firearms Policy form as well as go over the content of this Firearms Policy with the minor child they are accompanying.
- 7.) Parents or legal guardians, whether or not attending, must read the content of this Firearms Policy with their attending minor child, and sign the Firearms Policy AND Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot Firearms (page 7) forms.
- 8.) For any Firearms class participants between ages 12 and 17 years, please use the Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot Firearms form (page 7).

**WAIVER and AGREEMENT:** I fully understand and agree to adhere to the above stated **Women in Nature** firearms policy at the *Women in Nature Outdoor Skills Workshop* taking place on April 26, 2025 at the Camillus Sportsmen's Club, 5801 Devoe Road, Camillus, NY 13031

Signature of Adult \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_



**RELEASE OF LIABILITY – READ BEFORE SIGNING**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Woman In Nature program, its related events and activities, I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, acknowledge and appreciate and agree that:

1. The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular skills, equipment and personal discipline may reduce this risk of serious injury does exist: and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for participation; and
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the Company immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, **HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS THE ONONDAGA COUNTY FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, Women In Nature & the CAMILLUS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB,** their officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used for the activity (“Releases”), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property associated with my presence or participation, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Age, \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my child and our heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child’s involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

### Youth Permission to Handle and Shoot Firearms

Any person between the age of 12 and 17 must have a parent’s or guardian’s permission and be accompanied onto the shooting range by same person or adult over the age of 21 designated by said parent or legal guardian to participate.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
*Print full name of parent or guardian* *Print full name of minor child participating*

whose date of birth is \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ .  
*Day Month Year*

I hereby give permission for him/her to possess a rifle, shotgun, or air-gun for the purpose of handling, loading, and firing under the immediate supervision, guidance and instruction of the event firearms instructors at the Onondaga Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs **Women in Nature Outdoor Skills Workshop**, on April 26, 2025 located at the Camillus Sportsmen's Club, 5801 Devoe Road, Camillus, NY 13031

I have also brought this to the attention of said minor child and reviewed with the child the content of the **Women in Nature Firearms Policy** on page 6 of this Registration Packet.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

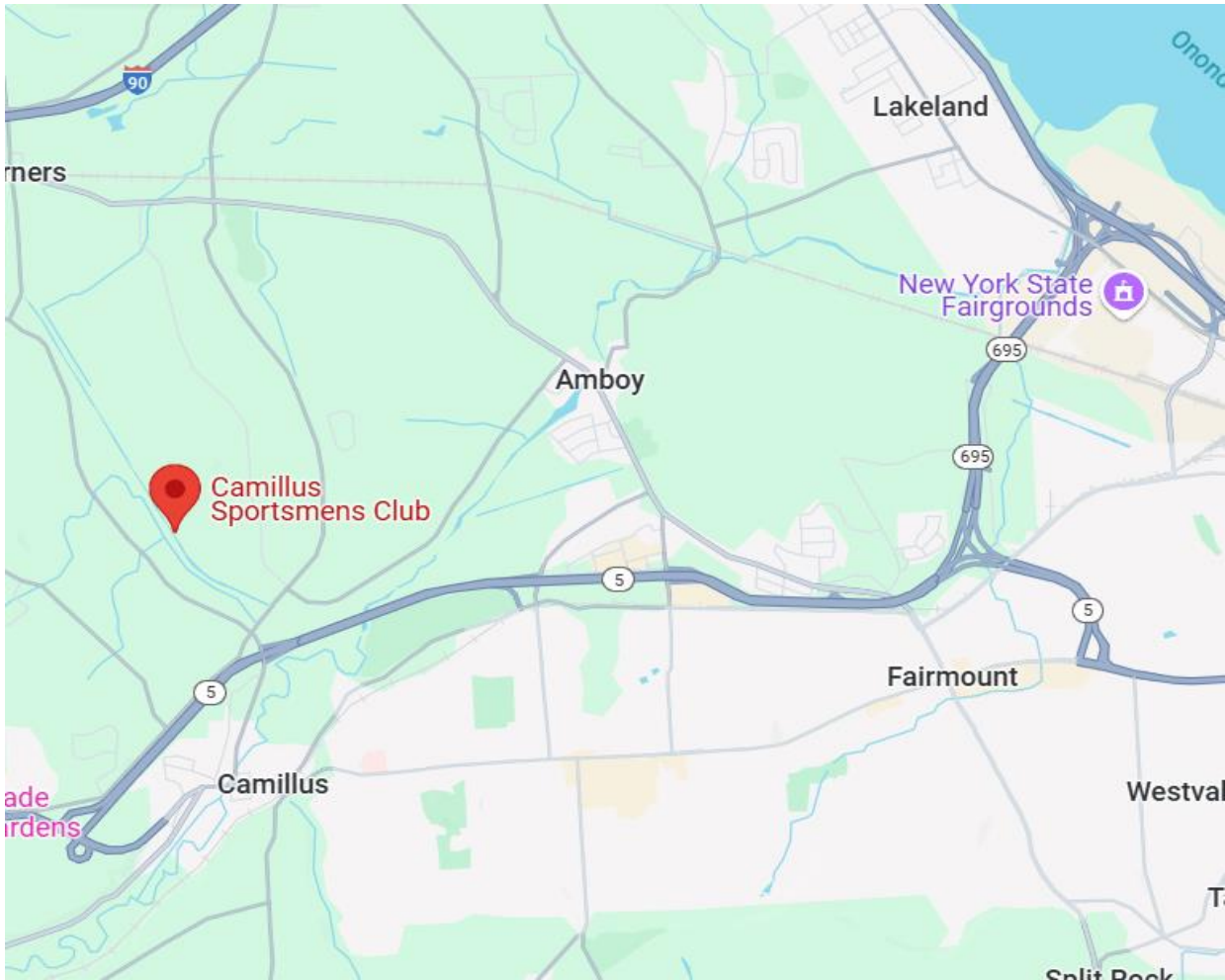
Date \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ Telephone number (\_\_\_\_)-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ (include area code)

Please print name of the Adult that will be accompanying your child:

\_\_\_\_\_

*These release forms are for your safety as well as the rest of the participants.  
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.*

**Directions to  
Camillus Sportsmens Club  
5801 Devoe Road  
Camillus NY 13031**



**The Club has a long driveway and is not visible from the road  
The entrance is across from the Erie Canal Park Museum.**

**From North of Syracuse:** From I-690 W, take NY-5 W to the exit toward Camillus/Warners, Turn right onto Newport Rd, then turn right onto Devoe Road.

**From South of Syracuse:** From 81 N, exit toward Camillus/Warners, Turn right onto Newport Rd, then turn right onto Devoe Road.

**From the East:** From I-690 W, take NY-5 W to the exit toward Camillus/Warners, Turn right onto Newport Rd, then turn right onto Devoe Road.

□ **From the West:** Take Rt 5 east, turn left onto Ike Dixon Rd,