

**Q:** If my child can't swim or is not used to the ocean, will he/she be able to surf?

**A:** Yes, the skilled surfers will help them at whatever level he/she is able to participate. For example, a child may lie down on the board or may be held in a surfer's arms. He/she may be crying when they first go out and then smiling and laughing when he/she rides the wave back in. This part is up to you... The surfers will take out kids who do not seem to want to go in the hopes that they end up enjoying it. And, they usually do! Let the smiles begin. It's amazing what can happen if you try it!

**Q:** What measures do you take to protect the safety of your campers?

**A:** We consider the safety of our campers a top priority. Surfers Healing limits surf camps to a certain number of registered kids so that everyone can have a safe, fun experience. We also provide every participant with necessary safety items such as life jackets. Finally, SH has skilled surfers to assist the camps. The surfers teach proper positioning and surf skills first thing, which also helps ensure safety.

**Q:** I have both a child with autism and a typically-developing child; do you accept sibling registrations to surf camp?

**A:** In the last few years, we've had a surge of interest in sibling sign-ups. We welcome the entire family to enjoy a day at the beach together, but the surfing component of our camps is reserved exclusively for individuals with autism. (Our insurance does not cover typically-developing participants.) We'd love to accommodate everyone, but we already receive far more registration requests for individuals with autism than we can fulfill.\*\* *from Surfers Healing website*

**Q:** What time should I get there?

**A:** Please refer to your confirmation email from Surfers Healing. Plan to get to the beach AT LEAST ONE HOUR BEFORE your child's surf time. This includes parking and signing in. If you are coming any time around 7:30-9:30 or so in the morning on East I26, account for EXTREME DELAYS getting to and through downtown/the peninsula of Charleston. When you get to the beach there will be activities and resource fair companies with info that will be useful to families; but if your child is easily overstimulated, plan accordingly. Multiple hours on a hot beach before his/her surf time might not be advised, however, ONE HOUR BEFORE is highly recommended.

**Q:** Where do we park on Folly?

**A:** There will be people directing traffic toward parking lots (East Ashley) that are free for the day. These will be located when you turn left at the hotel. You may also park in the lot under the Ocean Villa condos to the right of the hotel when you are driving in. You can park on streets in areas that do not say "no parking on this side of the street". Please be careful of these signs and do not have ANY PART OF YOUR TIRES on the street! You could get a ticket. West Arctic Ave is a street that the attendants will direct you to. DO NOT PARK IN THE HOTEL (THE TIDES) PARKING LOT UNLESS YOU ARE STAYING THERE.

**Q:** What if I can't carry my stuff to the event from my car? Or if my child won't walk far?

**A:** You are welcome to drop off your things at the public access located to the right of the hotel. There will be signs in this area pointing you toward registration. There are golf carts taking families to/from the lots and there is a shuttle to pick up families from street parking. Call Susan Stafford 843-371-2328 for pickup from street parking.

**Q:** What if I did not get a confirmation email with time but I signed my child up?

**A:** ONLY if you got an original confirmation saying your child was registered, contact Nancy Morris mitchenn@gmail.com . If your child is not on the list that that Surfers Healing sent us, in spite of you thinking your child is registered, there is not much we can do locally. Please try contacting Surfers Healing directly. You are welcome to come out to the beach and enjoy the day. There are activities and companies to visit at the resource fair; and, there is always the chance that your child will get to surf if there is a lull in registered kids surfing. This has occurred every year but you have to be willing to hang out and wait. This could happen at any point in the day.

**Q:** What if my child is on the wait list?

**A:** You are welcome to come out to the beach and enjoy the day. There are activities and companies to visit at the resource fair; and, there is always the chance that your child will get to surf if there is a lull in registered kids surfing. This has occurred every year but you have to be willing to hang out and wait for this opportunity. This could happen at any point in the day.

**Q:** Can I switch times?

**A:** Due to the frequency of this question, the logistics behind trying to accommodate these requests, and the fact that we are not in charge of the list locally (it is made by Surfers Healing), we cannot switch your time. However, if you make friends with someone or know someone surfing at a time that will switch with you, please feel free and let registration know.

**Q:** Does anything cost money on the beach the day of camp?

**A:** No, thanks to generous donations from individuals and companies in the area!!

**Q:** Will there be food? What if my child is gluten/casein/anything else free?

**A:** There will be food for children and their families. You (your child and family members) will have wrist bands so the volunteers in the food tent know you are a part of the event. ***Please do not count on your child to have food to eat if he/she has an allergy/sensitivity.*** Please bring food for your child from home.

**Q:** How far is Charleston?

**A:** About 25 minutes.

**Q:** Is there anything to do Tuesday night before camp?

**A:** Meet and greet at the Folly pier on Folly Beach from 4-6 on Tuesday evening the night before camp. Double Good popcorn, Peachy Palette face painting, and Oconee Valley water will be at the meet and greet, along with the surfers.

**Q:** Is there anything else going on besides the surf camp on Wednesday?

**A:** There is a prayer circle for all volunteers, kids/surfers, families, and Surfers Healing on Wednesday morning around 8:30, but don't hold us to that time exactly! Wednesday night, the night of camp, there is a banquet at 6:00 for volunteers, surfers, families etc. at The Tides. Free dinner. Cash bar for drinks. There is a party after the banquet at Loggerhead's from 9-11 with music by The Dubplates. Come ready to dance!!

**Q:** Where do I get tshirts and how do I pay for them?

**A:** At the event and cash, Paypal, Venmo, and card.