YWCA ST. THOMAS - ELGIN

Aylmer Ontario, Canada
Proud Heritage. Bright Future.

Summer 2026 Aquatic Program Guide

Registration Opens May 15th, 2026! Please register early to avoid disappointment.
Programs take place at the outdoor pool in Aylmer, 7 Myrtle Street.

Learn to swim with the Lifesaving Society's Swim for Life program!

SWIM FOR LIFE® LIFESAVING SOCIETY

Swim for Life® stresses lots of in-water practice to develop solid swimming strokes and skills. We incorporate valuable Water Smart® education that will last a lifetime.

Daytime Swimming Lessons: Tuesday-Friday for 2 weeks, 8 classes
Activity Fee: $96/Participant/Level/Session.
*10% Family Discount for 3 or more participants. *Participants must be from same household. Registration must be processed in one transaction for discount to be applied. **If financial assistance is required to join in, please contact us.**

Level	**SESSION 1:** July 7-17. Register by June 19.	**SESSION 2:** July 21-31. Register by July 10.	**SESSION 3:** August 4-14. Register by July 17.	**Session 4:** August 18-28. Register by August 7.
Parent & Tot 2/3 (Guardian Participation)	10:00-10:30; 11:45-12:15	10:00-10:30; 11:45-12:15	11:45-12:15	11:45-12:15
Preschool 1/2	10:35-11:05	10:35-11:05	10:35-11:05	10:35-11:05
Preschool 3/4/5	11:10-11:40:	11:10-11:40:	11:10-11:40	11:10-11:40
Swimmer 1	10:00-10:30: 11:10-11:40	10:00-10:30: 11:10-11:40	10:35-11:05	10:35-11:05
Swimmer 2	10:35-11:05; 11:45-12:15	10:35-11:05; 11:45-12:15	11:10-11:40	11:10-11:40
Swimmer 1/2			11:45-12:15	11:45-12:15
Swimmer 3	10:00-10:30; 11:10-11:40	10:00-10:30; 11:10-11:40	10:35-11:05	10:35-11:05
Swimmer 4	10:35-11:05; 11:45-12:15	10:35-11:05; 11:45-12:15	11:10-11:40	11:10-11:40
Swimmer 3/4			11:45-12:15	11:45-12:15
Swimmer 5/6	10:15-11:00	10:15-11:00	10:35-11:20	10:35-11:20
Swimmer 7/8/9	11:10-11:55	11:10-11:55	11:30-12:15	11:30-12:15

Evening Swimming Lessons: Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays for 8 weeks, 8 Classes

Activity Fee: $96/Participant/Level/Session
*10% Family Discount for 3 or more participants. *Participants must be from same household. Registration must be processed in one transaction for discount to be applied. **If financial assistance is required to join in, please contact us to learn more**. We are happy to help determine available options for support.

Level	SESSION 5: Tuesdays for 8 weeks from July 7-August 25. Register by June 19.	SESSION 6: Wednesdays for 8 weeks from July 8-August 26. Register by June 19.	SESSION 7: Thursdays for 8 weeks from July 9-August 27. Register by June 19.
Parent & Tot 2/3 (Guardian Participation)	4:30-5:00	5:05-5:35	
Preschool 1/2/3/4/5	5:05-5:35	4:30-5:00; 5:20-5:50	4:30-5:00
Swimmer 1	4:30-5:00	5:05-5:35	4:30-5:00
Swimmer 2	5:05-5:35	4:30-5:00	5:05-5:35
Swimmer 3		5:05-5:35	4:30-5:00
Swimmer 4		4:30-5:00	5:05-5:35
Swimmer 3/4	4:30-5:00		
Swimmer 5/6	5:05-5:50	4:30-5:15	5:05-5:50
Swimmer 7/8/9	4:30-5:15		

Private/Semi-Private Swimming Lessons: *Private/Semi-Private lessons do not qualify for family discount. Level may not be accomplished. Spaces are limited. Please join the wait list. If space exists, participants on the wait list will be contacted after registration closes to confirm registration and payment prior to program start.

Daytime Private/Semi-Private: 4 classes, 30 minutes each; Tuesday-Friday, weekly during daytime lesson times beginning July 14.
Activity Fee/Participant/Session: Private: $124; Semi-Private: $96

Evening Private/Semi-Private: 4 classes, 30 minutes each; Wednesdays, weekly during evening lesson times in July or August.
Activity Fee/Participant/Session: Private: $124; Semi-Private: $96

Start the pathway to become a certified Lifeguard with Lifesaving Training!

Lifesaving Society Bronze Star (10 hours): August 18-28, Tuesday to Friday from 11am-12:15pm. Register by August 7, 2026.
Prerequisites: None. Swim Patrol experience recommended (Swimmer 7/8/9);
Cost: $120, includes exam fee.
This course develops swimming proficiency, lifesaving skill & personal fitness. Candidates refine their stroke mechanics, acquire self-rescue skills, & apply fitness principles in training workouts. Bronze Star is excellent preparation for success in Bronze Medallion.

Lifesaving Society Bronze Medallion (15 hours):
August 4-14, Tuesday to Friday from 10am-12pm and Exam on Saturday Aug 15 from 9:30am-12:30pm. Register by July 17th, 2026.
Prerequisites: Minimum 13 years of age (proof of age required) and/or Bronze Star certification (need not be current).
Cost: $160 (including exam fee) PLUS Required Materials.
Required Materials Canadian Lifesaving Manual and Bronze Medallion Workbook
(Can be purchased during registration for $64).
Bronze Medallion challenges the candidate both mentally and physically. Judgment, knowledge, skill, and fitness – the four components of water rescue – form the basis of Bronze Medallion training. Candidates acquire the assessment and problem-solving skills needed to make good decisions in, on, and around the water. Bronze Medallion is a prerequisite for assistant lifeguard training in Bronze Cross. Note: Candidates must be able to swim 400 metres within 12 minutes.

Lifesaving Society Bronze Cross (20 hours):
August 4-14, Tuesday to Friday from 9:30am-12pm and Exam on Saturday Aug 15 from 9:30-12:30pm. Register by July 17, 2026.
Prerequisites: Bronze Medallion & Basic or Intermediate First Aid (Emergency First Aid or Standard First Aid). Verification of identity is required. Candidates must present current (valid) identification issued by federal or provincial government authority or equivalent that includes name and date of birth prior to beginning the course.
Cost: $160, includes exam fee + Bronze Cross Workbook.
This course begins the transition from lifesaving to lifeguarding and prepares candidates for responsibilities as assistant lifeguards. Candidates strengthen and expand their lifesaving skills and begin to apply the principles and techniques of active surveillance in aquatic facilities.
Note: Candidates must be able to swim 400 metres (9.5 lengths or 26 widths of the Aylmer Pool) within 11 minutes. Bronze Cross is a prerequisite for advanced Training for National Lifeguard and Lifesaving Society Instructor certifications.

Summer 2026 Aquatic Program Guide

Recreational Swimming

Make a splash at the Outdoor Pool in Aylmer beginning June 14th!

Cool off, be active and join the fun of recreational swimming! Outdoor pool facilities in Aylmer include a main pool (the largest in Elgin County!), a wading pool, and a diving well with a 1-meter diving board. It is near to the splash pad and local parks!

Recreational swimming is provided based on pool supervision and capacity requirements. Space may be limited. Wading pool and diving well availability during recreational swim times is dependent on staffing.

Swimming Schedule	Daytime	Evening
Sunday	1:30-4:00pm	
Monday	1:30-4:00pm	
Tuesday	1:30-3:30pm	6:00-7:30pm
Wednesday	1:30-3:30pm	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday	1:30-3:30pm	6:00-7:30pm
Friday	1:30-4:00pm	
Saturday	1:30-4:00pm	

*Recreational swimming on weekends and evenings begins June 14th. Regular swim schedule begins June 26th. Note: Daytime swimming only on July 1, Canada Day.

Recreational Swim Fees	Daily (Daytime or Evening)	12-Swim Pass
	Pay as you go at the pool for each daily swim program! (**Cash Only**).	Purchase in advance to swim more for less! *
Child (17 & under)	$4	$40
Adult	$5	$50
Family (up to 6 people of same household, up to 2 adults)	$15	$150

***To purchase 12 swim pass in advance,** please register online by June 12, or by phone or in person at Aylmer Community Services (20 Talbot Street) thereafter until August 14.
All family members must be listed on Family Swim pass at the time of registration. The Family Swim Pass is not transferable to family members other than those listed. One Family Swim Pass out of twelve will be used per visit regardless of how many family members attend. Guest(s) may opt not to use Family Swim Pass by advising pool staff prior to entry and making cash payment. Refunds will not be issued for recreational swimming, for schedule or program changes, delays, cancellations, or unused swim passes.

Bather & Pool Admission Guidelines:

All children 12 years of age and younger must be accompanied at the facility and directly supervised in the water at all times by a responsible person 13 years or older.

Guests with serious medical conditions are at greater risk while swimming and should be accompanied at all times by a person knowledgeable of their condition and responsible for their direct supervision.

"Direct supervision" is defined as being in the water & able to render immediate assistance.

Swim Testing: Facility Swim Test requires a swimmer to swim a minimum 50m, demonstrate a roll in entry, and tread water for 1 minute. Safety is our priority. Aquatic staff may test or re-test anyone to confirm ability to maintain the swim admission standard.

Children Less than 6 Years of Age 1 Responsible Guardian: 2 Children	Receive a **RED** wrist band prior to entry, are required to stay in the designated shallow end and must be directly supervised in the water at all times by a responsible guardian aged 13+. The responsible guardian must be able to provide immediate assistance if needed.
Children ages 6-12 **Non-Swimmers** 1 Responsible Guardian: 4 Children **Non-Swimmers with Lifejackets** 1 Responsible Guardian:8 Children	Receive a **YELLOW** wrist band, are required to stay in the designated shallow end and must be directly supervised in the water at all times by a responsible guardian 13+. The responsible guardian must be able to provide immediate assistance if needed.
Children ages 6-12 **Swimmers**	Receive a **GREEN** wrist band upon **successful swim test** and may swim unaccompanied in the pool. Children aged 12 and under must be accompanied at the facility by a responsible guardian who is at least 13 years of age.
Responsible Person 13+	Must identify themselves as a swimmer or non swimmer prior to entry.

Bather & Pool Admission Guidelines

Responsible Person 13+

Self Identify as a Swimmer or Non Swimmer. Can be guardian for children 0-12

Guardians of Non-Swimmers

Within Arms Reach: In the water, able to provide immediate assistance.

Stay in Shallow Water: Swim together in the wading pool and shallow end only.

Children Ages 0-5
Non Swimmer

1 Responsible Guardian (13+): 2 Children
Within Arms Reach!

Children Ages 6-12
Non Swimmer

1 Responsible Guardian (13+): 4 Children.
Within Arms Reach!

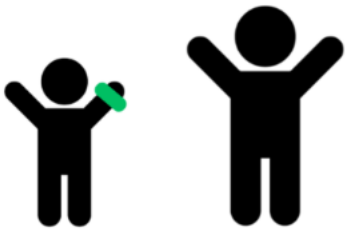
Children Ages 6-12
Non Swimmer with *Lifejackets*

1 Responsible Guardian (13+): 8 Children
Within Arms Reach!

Children Ages 6-12
Swimmer

Must be accompanied in the facility by a Guardian (13+)

Facility Swim Test
Swim 50m
Roll in entry
Tread 1 minute
Aquatic staff may test or re-test anyone within the facility maintain the swim admission standard.



We look forward to welcoming you at aquatic programs!

Registration

- Please review the Aquatic Program Guide & Schedule for important information in advance of registration and prior to attending classes.
- Registration in advance is required for all swimming lessons, lifesaving and lifeguarding training courses. **Please reach out if financial assistance is required to join in. We are happy to help determine available options for support.**
- Registration may be completed online, by phone, or in person at office location(s) during business hours on a first come, first served basis. Payment is required at the time of registration to secure a space. Registrations will not be processed at the pool. For recreational programs, only cash is accepted on-site.
- Spaces are limited. **Please register early** to avoid disappointment as classes may not be available for last-minute registration.
- Please note that the registration close date is followed by a registration review period to allow for consideration of where class changes or cancellations are required and/or where class additions may be possible.
- For late registrations, please call or visit Aylmer Community Services, 20 Talbot Street East Aylmer at 226-210-6800 or the YWCA, 16 Mary Street West St. Thomas at 519-631-9800 during business hours. Please note that response to requests for late registrations may be delayed during registration review periods.
- Wait lists may be maintained for some programs, where possible. Anyone on a wait list will only be contacted if a space becomes available and if not already registered in another class/time. If a space becomes available, it will be offered to the first person on the wait list in order of sequence. If response is not received within one business day, the space will be offered to the next person on the wait list.
- Please ensure profile information is accurate and up to date so that we may contact you regarding any class changes, delays, cancellations or additions prior to the program start.
- Classes may be added to the lesson schedule where possible.
- If you are unsure of what level to register your swimmer for, connect with aquatic programming staff and consult the Programs At A Glance for key skills.
    - Instructors will support participants in learning skills according to level, previous experience, ability, & readiness.
    - If placement changes are needed to better accommodate participant skill development, we will advise upon completion of the first class.

Registration Continued:

- Requests for program registration withdrawals and refund received **prior to registration close** may be accommodated where possible, subject to a $15 administration fee.
- Please note that programs are planned based on registrations received and accordingly required spaces. Requests for program registration withdrawals and refund received after registration close date are not eligible for refund. Thank you for your understanding.
- Program withdrawals after session start due to illness or injury may be eligible for refund upon written request minus fees for any sessions attended, program material or supply related costs and a $15 administration fee.

Class schedules

- Programs will be available pending sufficient registration and capacity. Participants may be required to move to an alternative time.
- Schedules are subject to change, delays or cancellations may occur.
    - Notice may be minimal in unexpected situations including but not limited to inclement weather, pool fouling, mechanical issues or facility closure.
    - **For the safety of everyone, following any perceived thunder, the pool will be cleared for 30 minutes.**
    - Delayed, missed or cancelled programs or swim times are not rescheduled.
    - Refunds will not be issued after the session begins, for schedule or program changes, delays, or cancellations.
- We will do or best to communicate changes in a timely manner at the Pool, on our website and social media where possible.

Facility Access, Guidelines & Pool Rules

- Aquatic staff are available to further direct you to area(s) of activities.
    - If you/your child(ren are feeling unwell, please do not attend.
    - Please arrive no earlier than 10 minutes prior to your program start time and leave promptly at the end.
    - Please stay in designated areas, supervise children when not in the pool and walk at all times.
    - All children 12 years of age and younger must be accompanied at the facility by a responsible person 13 years or older.
    - Guardians of children 12 years of age and youngerare expected to accompany participant(s) to meet their instructor from the changeroom exit onto the pool deck and to meet their child there for pick up at the end of aquatic program.
    - Guests with serious medical conditions are at greater risk while swimming and should be accompanied at all times by a person knowledgeable of their condition and responsible for their direct supervision.

Facility Access, Guidelines & Pool Rules Continued

- Changerooms, washrooms, and showers are available onsite.
- Please do not leave valuables in change rooms. We are not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- Anyone not participating in aquatic programs must stay in designated areas. Seating on the pool deck is not permitted. Viewing areas are available, however seating and areas are limited.
- The use of cell phones is NOT permitted on the deck of any pool.
- The use of photographic devices, including cell phones, is prohibited. Thank you for respecting the privacy of other children and participants.
    - If you would like a photo opportunity, please speak with Aquatics Coordinator in advance.
- All participants in aquatic programs must be within the designated swim admission standards. Bather Admission Standards apply. Pool Rules are posted at the facility and communicated by Aquatic Staff.
- Each bather shall take a shower using warm water and soap and thoroughly rinse off all soap before entering or re-entering the deck.
- No person infected with a communicable disease or having open sores on their body shall enter the pool.
- No person shall bring a glass container into the pool enclosure.
- No person shall pollute the water in the pool in any manner and that spitting, spouting of water and blowing the nose in the pool or on the deck are prohibited.
- No person shall engage in boisterous play in or about the pool.
- Pets are not permitted in aquatic facilities.
- Street shoes are not permitted on the pool deck.
- Swimming designated clothing must be worn in the pool.
- Swim diapers are mandatory and must be worn by all children under 2 years of age and for those who are not toilet trained.
- Lifejackets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Use of personal swim equipment is permitted at the discretion of the aquatic staff.
- The YWCA is grateful for our partnership with the Town of Aylmer Outdoor pool to deliver aquatic programming. We expect and appreciate your cooperation in respecting facilities.
- Please monitor the YWCA website for updates throughout the season, follow posted signage and direction from staff.

Connect with us: Please speak with Aquatic Staff or contact the YWCA if you wish to discuss any aspect of programming. Program surveys are distributed regularly. We appreciate your time in providing your feedback!