

SUMMER
Camps 2018

Camp Wonder®

EXPLORE. ENGAGE. EXPERIENCE.

howellnaturecenter.org



Heal. Grow. Be Wild!

Camp Wonder

AT THE
HOWELL
NATURE
CENTER

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center offers unique summer camps and programs to help children enjoy and connect with nature, while teaching many classic camp traditions, activities and life lessons. Our Day Camps, Overnight Camps and Excursion Camps aspire to provide personal growth, as well as life-changing experiences that campers of all ages will never forget.

Our goal with Camp Wonder is to provide a fun and enriching summer camp experience, and teach kids to be faithful caretakers of one another and the world around us.

Our Core Values



NATURE

Kids will explore the joys of the natural world, the wonders of wildlife and the importance of caring for our environment.

GROWTH

All kids will have opportunities to learn new skills and grow personally. Those who select our Christian Youth Overnight Camp will also have a chance to develop spiritually.

KINDNESS

We believe that teaching simple acts of kindness will result in a ripple effect, creating a wave of good in our community and beyond.

FRIENDSHIP

Kids learn to foster the values of friendship – caring, trust, loyalty and respect – while building a deep sense of “Camp Family!”

LEADERSHIP

By equipping youth with our core values and teaching valuable leadership skills, campers leave Camp Wonder with the tools and strength of character to make a difference in their schools, communities and in the world!



2018 Dates

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 📍 Week 1: June 18 – 22 | 📍 Week 6: July 23 – 27 |
| 📍 Week 2: June 25 – 29 | 📍 Week 7: July 30 – August 3 |
| 📍 Week 3: July 2 – 3,
July 5 – 6 | 📍 Week 8: August 6 – 10 |
| 📍 Week 4: July 9 – 13 | 📍 Week 9: August 13 – 17 |
| 📍 Week 5: July 16 – 20 | 📍 Week 10: August 20 – 24 |

Day Camps

The Pups

Entering Kindergarten

Becoming a Pup is the perfect opportunity for that first-time camp experience. Pups explore and learn about nature in a nurturing environment. Our positive role models create a safe and fun experience that will transform your child's summer.

The Cubs

Entering 1st – 2nd Grades

Cubs answers a child's yearning for discovery and making new friends. Our program is designed for small group participation in an outdoor setting. Campers are geared up for first-time experiences and learning new skills, all while developing a love for nature!

The Pack

Entering 3rd – 4th Grades

Designed for an age group that loves to learn new things by exploring nature and getting messy, the Pack will gain an appreciation for the outdoors while jumping into new adventures, learning new skills and celebrating camp traditions.

The Crew

Entering 5th – 6th Grades

With days filled with experiential activities, classic camp favorites and personal discovery, the Crew will build friendships, confidence and new skills through an array of fun challenges.

The Rangers

Entering 7th – 8th Grades

The Rangers program is aimed at older campers to provide opportunities for expanding horizons and skills while experiencing adventures with new and old friends.





Leadership Day Camps

Leader In Training

(LIT) Program August 6 – 10

Calling all veteran day campers! Ready for more adventures? Join us for our Leader In Training (LIT) camp. We'll blend old camp favorites like gaga ball and zip tours with group challenges designed to help you learn the basics of leadership. Stay overnight on Friday for a goldrush and campfire stories.

During our time together, we'll plan a project to give back to the Howell Nature Center and put our plans in motion on the last day of camp. Open to all high schoolers in 9th – 12th grades.

Counselor In Training

(CIT) Program June 25 – 29

Our Counselor In Training (CIT) program is designed to teach the skills necessary to become a summer camp counselor. Training begins with a week at both the Howell Nature Center and off-site at locations including Saugatuck Dunes State Park and exploring the Kal-Haven Trail. During this trip, CITs will learn counseling techniques and best practices, develop communication skills and find their own leadership style.

After the trip, CITs are able to serve up to two full weeks with the Pups, Cubs and Pack campers. These volunteer weeks will allow them to apply the skills learned during training. CITs will have opportunities twice a week to shadow camp leaders and gain a full understanding of the summer camp industry. Successful participants in the CIT program will come away from the program with valuable leadership skills that will aid them at home, school and in their futures.

To become a CIT, applicants must have completed the Leader in Training (LIT) program or be a rising 11th or 12th grader.



Weekly Themes

In addition to the array of nature-based activities throughout the week, Camp Wonder features theme-based programming interwoven within the schedule, tapping into the creative imaginations and the spirit of adventure in each camper. Themes add a sense of excitement to each week and are facilitated in both our Day and Overnight Camps. **Note the field trips, special events and Friday overnights listed at the end of descriptions are for Day Camp only.**

NEW THIS YEAR!
Themes will be woven
into both day and
overnight camps.

Summer Kick-Off

Extravaganza June 18 – 22

School is out and it's time for summer! Celebrate the start of summer camp with new friends, classic day camp traditions and an 'All Camp Carnival' guaranteed to kick off summer with a bang! **Summer Kick Off Carnival for Pups – Rangers on Friday.**

Junior Zookeeper Camp June 25 – 29

Meet the residents of Wild Wonders Wildlife Park and those who watch over the animals. Learn what it takes to be a caretaker of our wild friends and show your love of nature all week long. **Optional Friday Overnight for Cubs – Rangers.**

Mission Campossible July 2 – 3, July 5 – 6

Calling all Secret Agents! Report to HNC headquarters immediately for details of your next mission. Mr. X will assign a top-secret mission that will take agents to destinations throughout the wilderness and develop your skills so that you can become a Super Spy. **Super Spy Challenge for Pups – Rangers on Friday.**

Hollywood Week July 9 – 13

You are the movie star with this new week of camp! Campers experience cinematic twists on their favorite camp activities and will end the week hitting the red carpet premier of Camp Wonder's first film feature. **Optional Friday Overnight for Cubs – Rangers. Field Trip Friday: Planet Rock for Rangers.**

Shark Week July 16 – 20

Fishing, canoeing, kayaking, water wars and more! You'll get hooked by our wacky water adventures this week of camp – but don't forget your shark repellent! **Field Trip Friday: Huron River Canoe Trip for Rangers. Wacky Water Carnival for Pups – Crew on Friday.**

Wacky Olympic Week July 23 – 27

Bring the heat this week! Our staff will teach you traditional sports skills and some new wacky takes on the classics. End the week with a camp Olympics. **Optional Friday Overnight for Cubs – Rangers.**

Wild West Week July 30 – August 3

Yee-haw! Saddle up for a wild week of adventure, including goldrush, pioneer cooking and a camp Counselor Hunt.

Field Trip Friday: Northfork Farms & Outback for Pups – Pack, Brighton Recreation Riding Stables (Thursday OR Friday for Crew; Friday for Rangers).

Survivor Quest August 6 – 10

Discover new adventures and test yourself at our obstacle courses this week of camp. Can you master our survival challenge? **Optional Friday Overnight for Cubs – Rangers.**

Wet, Wild and

Yucky Week August 13 – 17

If messy is your middle name, this week is for you! Participate in tried and true water activities, plus some special surprises.

Field Trip Friday: Hartland Aquatic Center for Cubs – Rangers.

Wild About

Animals Week August 20 – 24

Animal lover? Friend to our furry fellows? You're in the right place! Explore native Michigan species in our Wild Wonders Wildlife Park and meet our animal ambassadors up close and personal. **With this being our last week of camp, please join us on Friday for an end of the summer celebration (parents welcome)!**

Sample Camp Activities

- 📍 Live Wildlife Presentations
- 📍 Canoeing
- 📍 Nature Study
- 📍 60-ft. Climbing Tower
- 📍 Wild Wonders Wildlife Park
- 📍 Swimming
- 📍 GaGa Ball & Nine Square
- 📍 High Ropes Challenge Course
- 📍 Archery
- 📍 Fishing for 'Big Charlie'
- 📍 500-ft. Zip Line
- 📍 Capture the Flag
- 📍 Campfires & S'mores
- 📍 Kayaking
- 📍 Arts & Crafts
- 📍 Low Ropes Challenge Course
- 📍 Survival Skills
- 📍 Outdoor Cooking
- 📍 Hanging Out in Hammockville
- 📍 All-Camp Theme Events
- 📍 Dances
- 📍 Sunrise Kayaking
- 📍 Drama & Theatre
- 📍 Fort Building

Overnight Nature Camps

Alexandria's Nature Camp

Entering 3rd – 5th Grades

Alexandria's Nature Camp allows campers to gain a greater understanding and appreciation for the natural world with plenty of opportunities to try new adventures. Campers enjoy the many special nature and wildlife focused activities designed exclusively for this camp, as well as many classic camp activities that build confidence and life skills.

Session A: July 9 – 13

Session B: July 16 – 20

Session C: July 23 – 27



Alexandria's Alumni Nature Camp

Entering 4th – 6th Grades

Calling all Alexandria's Nature Camp Alumni! Nature campers are invited to return for many of their favorite traditional camp activities, while continuing to deepen their knowledge and passion for the natural world. Children will reconnect with old friends and make new ones, all while experiencing an array of new adventures and enjoying our progressive nature-based programming at the Howell Nature Center.

Session G: August 20 – 24

Spirit of Alexandria Naturalist in 'Training'

Entering 7th – 8th Grades

"Nature Nuts" will love this camp! Get hands-on experiences alongside Howell Nature Center's most experienced naturalists. The Naturalist In Training program combines the wonders of wildlife education and zoology with the fascinating aspects of ecology, all while learning the concepts of conservation. Upon completion, campers are awarded with a Spirit of Alexandria Junior Naturalist Certificate. They will also be invited to serve as Junior Naturalists at the Howell Nature Center's annual community nature events.

Session G: August 20 – 24



Spirit of Alexandria Foundation SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation was created in honor of the legacy of Alexandria Bennett, a little girl whose passion for nature and generosity were evident to everyone around her. Alexandria loved exploring and uncovering the mysteries of the natural world, selflessly sharing those wonders with others. Through her inspiration, the Spirit of Alexandria Foundation and the Nature Camp were developed with the mission of spreading the joys of nature to thousands of children. Go to www.howellnaturecenter.org to learn more about this special scholarship program. First come basis.

Christian Youth Overnight Camps

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center offers three special weeks of Christian Youth Overnight Camp based on our Presbyterian and ecumenical heritage. Our program aspires to help kids take their next steps toward spiritual growth set within the expanse of nature's wonders and beauty. Beginning with Session D – Outpost Survivor Camp, our older campers



experience a unique journey of discovery as they take on daily 'survivor' challenges as a team. While traversing through obstacles and challenges, campers will learn valuable outdoor leadership skills and make lifelong friendships. They will experience tent camping, outpost cabins and a night in the Midwest's only Heifer Global Village.

Sessions E and F feature two amazing and memorable weeks in our General Camp programs. Campers will engage in exciting camp activities and classic camp traditions, while surrounded by a Christian community that will make camp not just another week in the summer, but a life-changing experience.

Session D:
July 29 – August 3
Outpost Survivor
Camp for Pathfinders
and Voyagers Only

Session E:
August 5 – 10
General Camp for
Explorers, Pathfinders
and Voyagers

Session F:
August 12 – 17
General Camp for
Explorers, Pathfinders
and Voyagers

The Explorers

Entering 3rd – 5th Grades

Our programming is for children who can't wait to explore the woods, learn about God's fascinating creatures, build forts, fish for 'Big Charlie' and just be a kid at camp! Under the guidance of our amazing staff, Explorers learn about wildlife and nature's wonders through hands-on experiences. Campers love trying new adventures and spending time outdoors with friends, enjoying an amazing faith-building experience.

Session E: August 5 – 10

Session F: August 12 – 17

The Pathfinders

Entering 6th – 8th Grades

Campers find their path of fun and adventure while experiencing thrilling activities that build character and life skills. Groups bond together through specially designed programs. Pathfinders can shape part of their own adventure through "Camper's Choice" activities such as high ropes, zip lining and many classic camp activities. Campers build lifelong friendships as they enjoy their faith journey of discovery as a cabin family.

Session D: July 29 – August 3

Session E: August 5 – 10

Session F: August 12 – 17

The Voyagers

Entering 9th – 12th Grades

Voyagers venture out on a journey of personal discovery, independence, adventure, fellowship and faith. Teens develop lasting friendships while expanding their comfort zones. Voyagers continue their exploration by participating in "Camper's Choice" activities such as high ropes, zip tour and an off-site canoe trip down the Huron River. They will broaden their horizons and spend an adventurous night at the Heifer Global Village program. Campers will grow not only in their view of the world but also as a close-knit Christian family.

Session D: July 29 – August 3

Session E: August 5 – 10

Session F: August 12 – 17

Overnight Counselor in Training (CIT)

Entering 11th – 12th Grades

Do you want to be an overnight camp counselor one day? This program is a great way to introduce you to everything that goes into being a camp counselor. For the first week, CITs will participate in classic camp activities and traditions, while having time apart to learn what it takes to be an amazing staff member. During the second week of camp, CITs will be paired with a counselor and assigned a cabin to learn how to be a role model in this overnight camp setting.

August 5 – 17



Excursion Camps

Excursion Camps offer campers in grades 7th through 12th an exciting opportunity to challenge themselves and learn new skills in a wilderness setting. Choose your adventure from our four exciting 2018 excursions.

Note: Spirit of Alexandria Camps are offered in partnership with the SOA Foundation, which offers subsidized and fully sponsored scholarships (details on page 4).



Amusement & Adventure

Entering 10th – 12th Grades

Calling all thrill seekers! Your quest begins with a discovery hike at Cuyahoga Valley National Park and continues onto Ohiopyle State Park – the region's most adventurous natural playground! Campers will challenge themselves rock climbing the park one day and then rafting down the churning whitewater rapids of the Lower Youghiogheny River the next. The journey culminates at Cedar Point, the roller coaster capital of the world!

Excursion A: June 24 – 29

Spirit of Alexandria Dune Discovery

Entering 7th – 9th Grades

Campers will love discovering Michigan's hidden gem! Sleeping Bear Sand Dunes, voted one of the most beautiful places in America, provides the perfect backdrop for exploration and discovery. The adventurer will love experiencing a one-of-a-kind landscape, while climbing up (or rolling down) approximately 450-feet of dunes. Campers will also paddle surrounding waterways and have the opportunity to experience wildlife firsthand. See the best Northern Michigan has to offer!

Excursion B: July 15 – 20

Spirit of Alexandria Pictured Rocks Kayaking and Backpacking

Entering 10th – 12th Grades

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore is revered around the country for its breathtaking waterfalls, scenic overlooks and colorful cliffs above the crystal-clear waters of Lake Superior. Campers will explore this tucked-away gem by a guided sea kayak trip along the Pictured Rocks shoreline. Next, they'll experience the area's beauty by backpacking along the breathtaking backcountry trail system, providing opportunities for campers to challenge themselves and grow together in one of the world's most awe-inspiring places.

Excursion C: July 29 – August 3

Mighty Mackinac Excursion

Entering 7th – 9th grade

Experience the Mackinac area like you never have before! Campers canoe the majestic Manistee River and then head for the Mackinac Straits, where they'll experience the zip tour at Mill Creek and hike the State Park's scenic trails. The excursion peaks mid-week at Mackinac Island, exploring by bicycle and learning about this historic Michigan Landmark by day and experiencing the International Dark Sky Park in Mackinac City by night! The journey culminates with an exciting kayaking trip down the Sturgeon River. With daily adventures and nights hanging out by the campfire with friends, this excursion will build lasting memories not to be forgotten.

Excursion D: August 12 – 17



**Excursion Camps
offer campers an
exciting opportunity
to challenge
themselves and
learn new skills in a
wilderness setting.**

Camp Pricing

Day Camps

Pups, Cubs, Pack, Crew and Rangers	Register by April 15	Register by May 31	Register on June 1 or After
Five-Day: Monday through Friday	\$190	\$200	\$210
Five-Day: Monday through Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$160	\$170	\$180
Three-Day: Monday, Wednesday, Friday	\$131	\$141	\$151
Three-Day: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$113	\$123	\$133
Two-Day: Tuesday and Thursday	\$89	\$99	\$109
Two-Day: Tuesday and Thursday (2nd Sibling)	\$77	\$87	\$97
Week 3: Four-Day Option <i>Closed July 4</i>	\$153	\$163	\$173
Week 3: Four-Day Option (2nd Sibling) <i>Closed July 4</i>	\$129	\$139	\$149
Week 3: Two-Day Option	\$89	\$99	\$109
Week 3: Two-Day Option	\$77	\$87	\$97
Leader In Training (LIT) Program	\$150	\$160	\$170
Counselor In Training (CIT) Program	\$400	\$410	\$420

For weeks with fieldtrips and overnights, additional costs will apply. Please refer to registration form for exact cost based on activity.

Overnight Camps

Christian Youth Camps & Excursions 6-days/SOA Camps 5-days	Register by April 15	Register by May 31	Register on June 1 or After
Christian Youth Overnight Camp: Explorers, Pathfinders, Voyagers	\$400	\$425	\$450
Christian Youth Overnight Camp: Explorers, Pathfinders, Voyagers (2nd Sibling)	\$370	\$395	\$420
Alexandria's Nature Camp: 3rd – 5th Grades	\$300	\$325	\$350
Alexandria's Nature Camp: 3rd – 5th Grades (2nd Sibling)	\$270	\$295	\$320
Alexandria's Alumni Nature Camp: 4th – 6th Grades	\$350	\$375	\$400
Alexandria's Alumni Nature Camp: 4th – 6th Grades (2nd Sibling)	\$320	\$345	\$370
Spirit of Alexandria Naturalist In Training: 7th – 8th Grades	\$350	\$375	\$400
Spirit of Alexandria Naturalist In Training: 7th – 8th Grades (2nd Sibling)	\$320	\$345	\$370
Overnight Counselor In Training (CIT) Program	\$500	\$525	\$575
Excursion Camps	\$625	\$650	\$675
Excursion Camps (2nd Sibling)	\$595	\$620	\$645

Day Camps

For Youth Kindergarten – 8th Grades

We offer three Day Camp options:

- 1) **Five-Day Camp:** Monday – Friday
- 2) **Three-Day Camp:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- 3) **Two-Day Camp** – Tuesday and Thursday
 - 📍 Arrival between 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
 - 📍 Departure between 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 - 📍 Optional before and after care
 - Before care: 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. (\$6 per day)
 - After care: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. (\$6 per day)
 - 📍 Camp provides an afternoon snack

Overnight Camps

For Youth Entering 3rd – 12th Grades

We offer two Overnight Camp options:

- 1) **Five-Day Spirit of Alexandria Nature Camps:** Monday – Friday
 - 📍 Arrival between 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 - A – M: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
 - N – Z: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 - 📍 Departure between 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.
- 2) **Six-Day Christian Youth Overnight Camps:** Sunday – Friday
 - 📍 Arrival between 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 - A – M: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 - N – Z: 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
 - 📍 Departure and special Camp Closing Ceremony between 2:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Excursion Camps

For Youth Entering 7th – 12th Grades

Six-Day Excursions: Sunday – Friday

- 📍 Arrival between 3:00 – 3:30 p.m.
- 📍 Departure between 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

For families in financial need, scholarships are available. Please visit howellnaturecenter.org

55 Years of Nature Center Excellence

Introducing Camp Wonder

Since 1963, the Howell Nature Center has been a staple of excellence. 2018 features the launch of our new summer camp brand – Camp Wonder – which now differentiates our program in the community and amongst the diverse programs at the Howell Nature Center itself. Our outstanding program was named to represent the wonders of nature, the wonders of youth and family, the wonders of wildlife and the wonders of creation!

The Howell Nature Center is nestled around beautiful Pleasant Lake and among 230 rolling acres in the heart of Livingston County, Michigan. In addition to our outstanding summer camps, we offer comprehensive outdoor education and recreation programs; a premier wildlife rehabilitation clinic; a Wild Wonders Wildlife Park and an adventure education center, available year-around to individuals and groups all over the Midwest.

Health & Safety First

Always thinking safety first, certified health officers are available 24 hours per day to campers. These health officers operate under the watchful consultation of a local doctor.

Through this partnership, there is an on-going review of safety policies and procedures.

Camp leaders are Red Cross First Aid and CPR Certified and all aquatic and adventure-based programs are operated by qualified and certified staff. In addition, our camp is licensed by the State of Michigan and certified by the American Camp Association.



Outstanding Staff

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center understands the importance of positive role models for today's youth. When people ask what differentiates the Howell Nature Center from other camps, we say with great pride that it's the people. Each summer over 60 enthusiastic and caring staff come to the Howell Nature Center to shape and impact campers' lives.

All staff members undergo background checks and a stringent training program. We stand dedicated to providing a safe and fun experience for your child.





Howell Nature Center

Heal. Grow. Be Wild!

1005 Triangle Lake Road
Howell, MI 48843
(517) 546-0249
www.howellnaturecenter.org



SUMMER CAMP PREVIEWS

Sunday, April 15 & Sunday, May 20

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center invites new and returning summer campers to preview our 2018 Summer Camp Programs. Bring your friends and family for an afternoon "camp sampler" of exciting summer programs and activities. Meet the staff and tour the facility.

Summer Camp Previews run from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Advanced registration required! Sign up online to hold your spot at www.howellnaturecenter.org