

SUMMER
CAMPS 2019
PROGRAM GUIDE

Camp Wonder

EXPLORE. ENGAGE. EXPERIENCE.

howellnaturecenter.org



Howell Nature Center

Heal. Grow. Be Wild!

55 Years of Nature Center Excellence

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-round 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 accredited 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.





Camp Wonder

at the Howell Nature Center

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center offers unique summer day, overnight and excursion camps to help children enjoy and connect with nature, while teaching many classic camp traditions, new skills and life lessons.

Our goal at Camp Wonder is to provide a fun and enriching summer camp experience, while teaching children to be faithful caretakers of one another and the world around us.



Our Core Values

NATURE

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

GROWTH

Campers learn new skills, grow personally and achieve their fullest potential – becoming the best possible version of themselves.

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 found in friendship – caring, trust, loyalty and respect – while building a deep sense of “Camp Family.”

LEADERSHIP

Equipping our youth with core values teaches valuable life skills, leaving campers with the leadership tools and strength of character to make a difference in their schools, communities and in the world!

Day Camps

Day Camps offer progressive and age-appropriate activities such as archery, arts & crafts, canoeing or kayaking, and so much more. Campers will also have a chance to pick “Camper’s Choice” activities several times throughout the week. This allows them to create and drive their own camp experience!

The Pups

Entering Kindergarten

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

The Cubs

Entering Grades 1 – 2

Cubs answers a child’s yearning for discovery and making new friends. Designed for small group participation in an outdoor setting, campers are geared up for new experiences and skill development all while developing a love of nature!

The Pack

Entering Grades 3 – 4

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



2019 Dates

- 📍 **Week 1:** June 12 – 14 (Mini Camp)*
- 📍 **Week 2:** June 17 – 21
- 📍 **Week 3:** June 24 – 28
- 📍 **Week 4:** July 1 – 3 (Mini Camp)*
- 📍 **Week 5:** July 8 – 12
- 📍 **Week 6:** July 15 – 19
- 📍 **Week 7:** July 22 – 26
- 📍 **Week 8:** July 29 – August 2
- 📍 **Week 9:** August 5 – 9
- 📍 **Week 10:** August 12 – 16
- 📍 **Week 11:** August 19 – 23

The Crew

Entering Grades 5 – 6

Days filled with classic camp favorites and “Camper’s Choice” activities put the Crew behind the wheel of their own camp experience. The Crew will build friendships, gain confidence and learn new skills through an array of fun challenges.

The Rangers

Entering Grades 7 – 8

The Rangers program is aimed at older campers to expand horizons and skills while experiencing adventures with new and old friends. Rangers will help design their camp experience for the week, choosing activities that ignite their passions.

**Mini-Camps are traditional day camps experienced in a successive 3-day period.*

Weekly Themes

- 📍 **Week 1:** Safari Adventure
- 📍 **Week 2:** Champions of Olympus
- 📍 **Week 3:** Vikings vs. Pirates
- 📍 **Week 4:** Superheroes of Summer
- 📍 **Week 5:** Mission Campossible
- 📍 **Week 6:** Amazing Race
- 📍 **Week 7:** Wacky Olympics
- 📍 **Week 8:** Medieval Adventure
- 📍 **Week 9:** Journey to Atlantis
- 📍 **Week 10:** Hats off to Dr. Seuss
- 📍 **Week 11:** Under the Big Top





Specialty Day Camps

Alexandria's Nature Day Camp

Entering Grades 1 – 2

June 17 – 21

In partnership with the Spirit of Alexandria (SOA) Foundation, 'Nature Nuts' have experiences with a variety of animals, reptiles, amphibians, bugs, birds and plants. Kids enjoy being inquisitive as they explore the wonders of nature. (Full and partial SOA scholarships are available.)

Junior Zookeepers

Entering Grades 3 – 5

July 15 – 19, August 12 – 16

Junior Zookeepers are introduced to the needs of wildlife and the interesting aspects of animal care. Campers explore all types of animals and learn about their health, behavior, nutrition and welfare. The week concludes with a Wild Wonders Wildlife Park Showcase for parents and families.

Adventures in Imagination

Entering Grades 3 – 5

July 29 – August 2

HNC and Livingston area libraries are partnering to offer our first book-inspired camp. Immersed in the Harry Potter book series through creative programming, the story comes alive daily through imaginative activities into the world of Hogwarts, Quidditch and magic.

Rods & Reels

Entering Grades 4 – 5

July 8 – 12, August 19 – 23

Anglers learn fundamental fishing skills, such as baiting, casting, habitat, and catch and release. Boats, fully rigged with trolling motors and fish finders, and fishing kayaks will be introduced allowing campers to learn advanced skills.

New this year! Specialty Day Camps offer a perfect mix of specialized programming for half of each day and classic camp fun for the other half.

Adventure Challenge

Entering Grades 6 – 8

June 24 – 28, July 22 – 26

Designed specifically with our older campers in mind, Adventure Challenge is the perfect opportunity for young teens to challenge themselves by choosing their own path through our adventure-based programs like climbing tower, higher ropes, zip lines, kayaking and mountain biking, to name a few.



Leaders in Training (LIT)

Entering Grades 9 – 10

August 5 – 9

Leaders in Training blends camp favorites with group challenges designed to help learn the basics of leadership. LITs plan a Day Camp theme event as well as a special project to give back to the Howell Nature Center. A perfect first step towards becoming a CIT.

Day Camp Counselors in Training (CIT)

Entering Grades 11 – 12

July 8 – 12

This program is a great way to introduce you to everything that goes into being a camp counselor. CITs will participate in classic camp activities and traditions, while spending time learning leadership skills needed to become an amazing counselor. They will also be paired with a counselor and assigned a travel group to learn how to be a role model in a day camp setting.

SOA Overnight Camps

In partnership with the Spirit of Alexandria (SOA) Foundation, the Howell Nature Center's Camp Wonder offers the opportunity for children to unplug from technology and connect with nature!

Alexandria's Nature Camp

Entering Grades 3 – 4

Campers will examine the wonders of nature through a combination of exciting ecology-based activities, along with fun and traditional summer camp favorites. Kids will investigate and discover native flora and fauna while exploring and playing outdoors. They'll develop new friendships, a sense of belonging, a connection to nature and wildlife, and a greater stewardship toward the environment.

Alexandria's Exploration Camp

Entering Grades 5 – 6

Kids explore a variety of outdoor pursuits traversing amongst the rolling hills, oak and hickory forest, and pristine waterways that make up the vast beauty of HNC. Campers choose much of their camp experience, developing skills along the way as they challenge themselves to grow in a supportive atmosphere. Through experiential-based programming and exciting activities, campers gain the confidence to be advocates for themselves, for their friends and for nature.

2019 Dates

- 📍 Session A: June 30 – July 3 (Mini Camp)*
- 📍 Session B: July 7 – 12
- 📍 Session C: July 14 – 19
- 📍 Session D: July 21 – 26
- 📍 Session E: August 4 – 9
- 📍 Session F: August 11 – 16
- 📍 Session G: August 18 – 23

Alexandria's Outdoor Adventure Camp

Entering Grades 7 – 8

Young teens will love the adventure that is uniquely "The OAC" – Alexandria's Outdoor Adventure Camp! Designed for older campers, The OAC offers a week-long journey of independence, friendship and non-stop fun in the out-of-doors! Campers learn the joy of exploring new activities in nature while growing as individuals. Unique to The OAC, campers choose their own adventures daily while broadening their horizons, expanding their comfort zones and facing exciting new challenges.



**Mini-Camps are traditional overnight camps experienced in a shortened timeframe. Perfect for introducing campers to overnight camp!*





Specialty Overnight Camps

Alexandria's Naturalist-In-Training Camp Entering Grades 7 – 9

August 4 – 9

"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. In addition to NIT training, campers will experience traditional favorites like archery, swimming, kayaking, high adventure and more!



Alexandria's Overnight Counselor in Training Camp Entering Grades 9 – 12

August 11 – 23

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 spending time learning leadership skills needed to become an amazing counselor. 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 an overnight camp setting.



SOA Excursion Camps

Excursion A Dune Discovery

Entering Grades 7 – 8

June 16 – 21

The Sleeping Bear Dunes provide the perfect backdrop for exploration and discovery in this weeklong adventure. Campers will paddle, bike and hike in this one-of-a-kind landscape, while climbing up (or rolling down) the tallest sand dunes in the Great Lakes.

Excursion B Mini Grand Adventure

Entering Grade 6

June 30 – July 3

Campers will head west to Hoffmaster State Park and start their adventure kayaking the Muskegon River, followed by a night in town to watch the Grand Haven Musical Fountain. Next, they'll bike over to Grand Haven State Park to explore and swim. As the excursion comes to an end, campers will hike at the Rosy Mound Natural Area – exploring their many trails and dunes.

Excursion C Adventure & Amusement

Entering Grades 9 – 12

July 14 – 19

Thrill seeking campers will enjoy every minute of this adventure, which begins at Cuyahoga Valley National Park and continues at Ohioople State Park. In this natural playground, campers will rock climb and raft down the rapids of the Lower Youghiogheny River. The trip culminates at Cedar Point, the roller coaster capital of the world!

SOA Excursion Camps offer campers in grades 6 through 12 an exciting opportunity to challenge themselves and learn new skills in a wilderness setting. Choose your adventure from our five exciting 2019 excursions.



Excursion D Cruisin' Pictured Rocks

Entering Grades 9 – 12

July 28 – August 2

Adventure seekers will explore the majesty of Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, with its colorful cliffs and waterfalls in a multi-day northern expedition. Teens will love cruisin' on the sunset tour of Lake Superior, taking in the jaw-dropping rock formations, then backpacking on the beautiful backcountry trails. They'll build lasting friendship and memories in one of the world's most awe-inspiring places.

Excursion E Mighty Mackinac

Entering Grades 7 – 8

August 11 – 16

Campers head to the Mackinac Straits to hike, swim, bike and explore the region's state parks and beaches. The adventure begins with a rafting trip down the Sturgeon River and stargazing at the International Dark Sky Park. Campers will bike around Mackinac Island, gather with friends around the campfire and create memories to last a lifetime.





Spring Break Day Camp

Entering Grades K – 8

March 25 – 29

Celebrate the changing of seasons at Howell Nature Center this spring! Kids will gear up for summer during this week of exciting outdoor adventure. After a long winter season, campers will be eager to join us outside for archery, sports and games, wildlife programs and so much more!



Camp Frosty

Entering Grades K – 8

December 23, 26, 27, 30, January 2, 3

Campers will enjoy the magic of summer camp over winter break! We will enjoy traditional camp activities and exciting winter activities such as skiing, sledding and ice skating (weather dependent).

Memberships

We strive to offer our community a unique setting where people, nature and wildlife flourish together in harmony. With 230 rich acres of rolling hills and trails, lush gardens and multiple high adventure courses all nestled alongside beautiful Pleasant Lake, Howell Nature Center attracts nature and adventure lovers from far and wide.

As a nonprofit organization, we rely on community generosity to not only provide support for Howell Nature Center as a whole, but to expand our education, wildlife and camp programs so that all children can experience the wonders of nature, and all wildlife that come to our doors have the best chance at being released back to the wild. We welcome you to become a member of the Howell Nature Center – a place to HEAL, GROW and BE WILD!

For more information on membership opportunities, visit us at www.howellnaturecenter.org or give our Welcome Center a call at (517) 546-0249.



Camp Pricing

Tuition assistance is available for families in need.

Visit howellnaturecenter.org/assist for more information.

Day Camps

5-Day, 3-Day and 2-Day Camps	Register by May 1	Register on or after May 2
5-Day: Monday through Friday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$210	\$225
5-Day: Monday through Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$185	\$200
3-Day: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$150	\$165
3-Day: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$135	\$150
2-Day: Tuesday and Thursday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$105	\$120
2-Day: Tuesday and Thursday (2nd Sibling)	\$95	\$110
Weeks 1 & 4: 3-Day Available Only (Closed June 9 & 10, July 4 & 5)	\$150	\$165
Weeks 1 & 4: 3-Day Available Only (2nd Sibling)	\$135	\$150
5-Day: Specialty Day Camps (Entering Grades 1 – 12)	\$225	\$240
5-Day: Specialty Day Camps (2nd Sibling)	\$200	\$215
Leader In Training (LIT) Program (1-Week) (Entering Grades 9 – 10)	\$225	\$240
Day Camp Counselor In Training (CIT) Program (1-Week) (Entering Grades 11 – 12)	\$225	\$240

SOA Overnight Camps

4-Day and 6-Day Overnight and Excursion Camps (Sunday through Wednesday/Friday)	Register by May 1	Register on or after May 2
6-Day: Alexandria's Nature Camp (Entering Grades 3 – 4)	\$440	\$480
6-Day: Alexandria's Nature Camp (2nd Sibling)	\$410	\$450
6-Day: Alexandria's Exploration Camp (Entering Grades 5 – 6)	\$440	\$480
6-Day: Alexandria's Exploration Camp (2nd Sibling)	\$410	\$450
6-Day: Alexandria's Outdoor Adventure Camp (Entering Grades 7 – 8)	\$440	\$480
6-Day: Alexandria's Outdoor Adventure Camp (2nd Sibling)	\$410	\$450
6-Day: Alexandria's Naturalist In Training Camp (Entering Grades 7 – 9)	\$440	\$480
6-Day: Alexandria's Naturalist In Training Camp (2nd Sibling)	\$410	\$450
4-Day: Alexandria's Mini-Camp (Entering Grades 3 – 8)	\$305	\$345
4-Day: Alexandria's Mini-Camp (2nd Sibling)	\$275	\$315
6-Day: Excursion Camps (Entering Grades 6 – 12)	\$665	\$705
6-Day: Excursion Camps (2nd Sibling)	\$635	\$675
4-Day: Mini-Excursion (Entering Grade 6)	\$455	\$495
4-Day: Mini-Excursion (2nd Sibling)	\$425	\$465
2-Week Overnight Counselor In Training (CIT) Program (Entering Grades 9 – 12)	\$640	\$680

Day Camp Check-In/Check-Out

Early Care (\$6/Day)	7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Check-In	8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Check-Out	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Late Care (\$6/Day)	5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Overnight Camp Check-In/Check-Out

Check-In	Sunday	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Closing Ceremony	Friday	2:30 p.m.



Spirit of Alexandria Foundation FULL AND PARTIAL 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 scholarship program was developed with the mission of spreading the joys of nature to thousands of children.

Full and partial scholarships are available for SOA Overnight Camps and Alexandria's Nature Day Camp. Go to www.howellnaturecenter.org to learn more about this special scholarship program. First come basis.

TreeTops Village

The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation is excited to have launched an ambitious initiative to build the TreeTops Village, a dedicated series of cabins and activity spaces located at the Howell Nature Center.

This new site will offer Alexandria's Nature Camps a fun, interactive setting which will fully immerse the young campers in an unplugged, wooded habitat to learn about the wonders of nature and change the way they look at our world from an early age. The six themed cabins will be raised off the forest floor, truly an oasis in the trees, offering a new perspective and an opportunity to experience all of nature's sounds and surroundings. By offering scholarships to send children to camp every year, we will ensure that the most deserving of kids will be given this opportunity regardless of their family's financial situation.

After 12 years of connecting children to nature, TreeTops will allow us to connect with more of our youth than ever, but we can't do it without your help. Please consider supporting this fundraising opportunity and help us reach our goal to get TreeTops "off the ground!" Any contribution is appreciated, and if you cannot afford to contribute, please show your support by sharing this fundraiser and spreading the word.

For more information on how to give, please visit www.spiritofalexandria.org or call (810) 599-0106.





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SUMMER CAMP PREVIEW

April 28 | 2 – 5 p.m.

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center invites new and returning summer campers to preview our 2019 Summer Camp Programs. Bring your friends and family for an afternoon “camp sampler” of exciting summer programs and activities. Meet the staff, tour the facility and have all your questions about our summer programs answered!

Advanced registration required. Sign up online to hold your spot at www.howellnaturecenter.org.