



Camp Wonder

INQUIRE. EXPLORE. DISCOVER.

howellnaturecenter.org



Howell Nature Center

Heal. Grow. Be Wild!

Howell Nature Center

Where FUN is in our NATURE!



Heal.

Our camps provide a restorative environment for children by replacing excessive screen time with the healing impact of nature.

Grow.

Our camps foster new skills that build confidence and emotional growth, while providing opportunities for kids to meet other campers outside their normal social circle.

Be Wild!

Our program provides campers an opportunity to JUST BE KIDS! We give kids a safe space to make their own risk assessments, developing a critical skill needed later in life.

Health & Safety at Camp

With COVID-19 protocols already put in place and certified Health Officers available 24 hours per day, Camp Wonder is always thinking safety first.

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 offers unique Summer Day, Overnight and Excursion Camps designed intentionally to help children enjoy and connect with nature, while teaching many classic camp traditions, new skills and life lessons.

We offer two-, three- and five-day Summer Day Camps and six-day Overnight and Excursion Camps.

Our intent is to provide your child(ren) with a fun, safe and enriching camp experience, while teaching them to be faithful caretakers of one another and the natural world around us.



THE GREAT EIGHT

OUR CORE VALUES

Nature

Building a lasting connection with the natural world.

Growth

Learning new skills, growing personally and achieving full potential.

Kindness

Fostering simple acts of kindness resulting in a ripple effect.

Respect

Teaching children to value themselves and others.

Friendship

Increasing a sense of belonging, confidence and self-worth.

Teamwork

Strengthening communication, collaboration and social skills.

Stewardship

Empowering kids to make the world greener and healthier.

Leadership

Emboldening kids to become leaders and make a difference!

Classic Day Camps

(2-DAY, 3-DAY AND 5-DAY OPTIONS)

Day Camp represents a progressive format designed for children to grow through the ages in learning new skills, building lasting friendships and gaining confidence and self-esteem.

Pups

Entering Kindergarten

A 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.

Cubs

Entering Grades 1 – 2

Cubs answers a child's yearning for discovery and making new friends. Designed for small group participation, campers are geared up for new adventures, all while developing a love of nature and playing outside.

Pack

Entering Grades 3 – 4

Designed for an age group that loves exploring more challenging activities and has no problem getting messy, the Pack will gain an appreciation for the outdoors while jumping into exciting adventures and new skill development daily.

Crew

Entering Grades 5 – 6

Summer days are filled with camp favorites and "Camper's Choice" activities, putting the Crew behind the wheel of their own experience. The Crew builds friendships, gains confidence and learns skills through an array of fun challenges.

Rangers

Entering Grades 7 – 8

Aimed for our oldest day campers, Rangers expand their horizons while experiencing adventures with new and old friends. Rangers help design their camp experience for the week, choosing activities that ignite their passions.

REGISTER EARLY FOR THE BEST RATES.

See the pricing page at end of brochure for details.



Classic Day Camp Overnight Options (\$40 Additional Fee)

Day Campers interested in trying an Overnight Camp experience can choose from four dates this summer.

- Week 3: Thursday, June 17 (1-night)
- Week 6: Thursday, July 8 (1-night)
- Week 8: Thursday, July 22 (1-night)
- Week 10: Thursday, August 5 (1-night)



2021 Dates & Themes

- Week 1: June 2 – 4
Beach Party Summer Kick-off
- Week 2: June 7 – 11
The Wild West
- Week 3: June 14 – 18
Superheroes vs Villains
- Week 4: June 21 – 25
Camp Safari
- Week 5: June 28 – July 2
Wet, Wild & Wacky
- Week 6: July 5 – 9
Medieval Times
- Week 7: July 12 – 16
Adventures Under the Sea
- Week 8: July 19 – 23
Jurassic Camp
- Week 9: July 26 – 30
Nature Olympics
- Week 10: August 2 – 6
Movie Magic
- Week 11: August 9 – 13
Out of this Galaxy
- Week 12: August 16 – 20
Pirates of Pleasant Lake

Weekly Themes

Weekly themes tap into a child's imagination and appeal to their sense of adventure. Daily storylines are interwoven into the morning program and culminate into themed activities including an all-camp event full of adventure and fun!



Specialty Day Camps

(5-DAY OPTIONS)

Specialty Day Camps offer a perfect mix of specialized programming for half of each camp day and classic camp fun for the other half. Specialty Day Camps differ from our Classic Day Camps in that each session is offered only as a full-week option. Specialty Camps are uniquely catered to specific ages and interests.

Lil Zookeepers

Entering Grades 1 – 2 • Week 5: June 28 – July 2

Kids who love animals will not want to miss this program! Campers experience basics of animal care, while learning about our wildlife ambassadors through live presentations and unique wildlife education and enrichment activities.

Fish, Frogs and Forts

Entering Grades 1 – 2 • Week 10: August 2 – 6

“Nature Nuts” will explore a variety of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, bugs, birds and plants. Kids will enjoy being inquisitive as they learn how to fish, investigate animal tracks and build secret forts, while searching for the largest bullfrog on site!

Junior Rods & Reels

Entering Grades 3 – 4 • Week 3: June 14 – 18

Introduce your little minnow to the world of fishing in this beginner’s camp. Campers will spend the week exploring this popular outdoor recreational activity as they’re introduced to the basics of fishing while learning about common Michigan lake fish.

Critter Keepers

Entering Grades 3 – 4 • Week 4: June 21 – 25

Critter Keepers introduces your junior zookeeper to wildlife and the interesting aspects of animal care. Campers work with zookeepers while exploring all types of wildlife as they enjoy learning about their health, behavior, nutrition and welfare.

Junior Bushcrafters

Entering Grades 3 – 4 • Week 6: July 5 – 9

Campers will be introduced to the world of outdoor survival, learning basic bushcraft skills necessary to live off the land and survive in the wild. They’ll be introduced to real bushcraft tools (always under adult supervision), and the importance of respecting and maintaining these tools. Your child will leave feeling connected to the land and confident in their abilities!

Bushcraft Survival

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • Week 4: June 21 – 25

Give your adventurer a week of outdoor survival fun! Campers will learn bushcraft skills such as foraging for wild plants, building a shelter, tracking animals, cooking food on a fire, orienteering and more!

Rods & Reels

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • Week 7: July 12 – 16

Young anglers venture out on a daily quest to catch “Big Charlie!” Campers learn fundamental fishing skills, such as baiting, casting, tracking, and catch and release, all while enjoying the serenity of beautiful Pleasant Lake.

WILD About Wildlife

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • Week 9: July 26 – 30

Campers will go behind-the-scenes in our wildlife park where they will learn how to care for animals from real zookeepers! They will assist the wildlife care team with all aspects of animal husbandry, including cleaning, feeding, observing and giving enrichment.

STREAM in Nature

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • Week 11: August 9 – 13

Campers will discover SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART and MATH in the original classroom—nature! Each day we will be exploring our natural surroundings in a brand new way that blends learning with fun.

Wildlife Rehabbers

Entering Grades 7 – 8 • Week 2: June 7 – 11

This unique camp will teach your animal lover all about what it takes to be a hero for wildlife! Campers will learn how to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife by identifying injuries, observing animal behavior, designing and cleaning habitats, preparing diets and much more.

Zoomasters

Entering Grades 7 – 8 • Week 8: July 19 – 23

Budding zookeepers will participate in advanced workshops and experiences, working side-by-side with our Wildlife Park experts and veterinarian interns. Children will help care for and enrich our wildlife ambassadors.

REEL Pros

Entering Grades 7 – 8 • Week 9: July 26 – 30

Let us teach your future pro angler how to catch the BIG one! Campers will learn how to select, care for and maintain equipment, as well as how to better understand fish behavior. Will they be able to outsmart “Big Charlie?”

Leaders in Training

Entering Grades 9 – 10 • Week 6: July 5 – 9, Week 10: August 2 – 6

Leaders in Training (LIT) blends camp favorites with team challenges designed to develop compassionate, confident leaders. LITs work side-by-side with counselors planning and leading Thursday’s theme event. A perfect step in becoming a Counselor in Training.

REGISTER EARLY FOR THE BEST RATES.
See the pricing page at end of brochure for details.



Spirit Of Alexandria (SOA) Overnight Camps

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

Explorers

Entering Grades 3 – 4 • July 11 – 16, July 18 – 23,
July 25 – 30, August 1 – 6

Campers explore nature's wonder through a combination of exciting experiential-based activities, along with fun and traditional camp favorites. Campers develop lasting friendships, a sense of belonging and a connection to nature.

Adventurers

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • July 11 – 16, July 18 – 23,
July 25 – 30, August 1 – 6

Adventurers choose much of their own camp experience, while growing in a challenging and supportive atmosphere. Through inquiry-based programming and adventurous fun, campers develop skills, establish friendships and build confidence.

Trailblazers

Entering Grades 7 – 8 • July 11 – 16, July 18 – 23,
July 25 – 30, August 1 – 6

Unique to this age group, campers blaze their own trail of adventure! Trailblazers broaden their horizons and expand comfort zones, while learning the joy of exploration in the out-of-doors challenging them to grow as individuals.

Junior Zookeepers

Entering Grades 5 – 6 • August 8 – 13

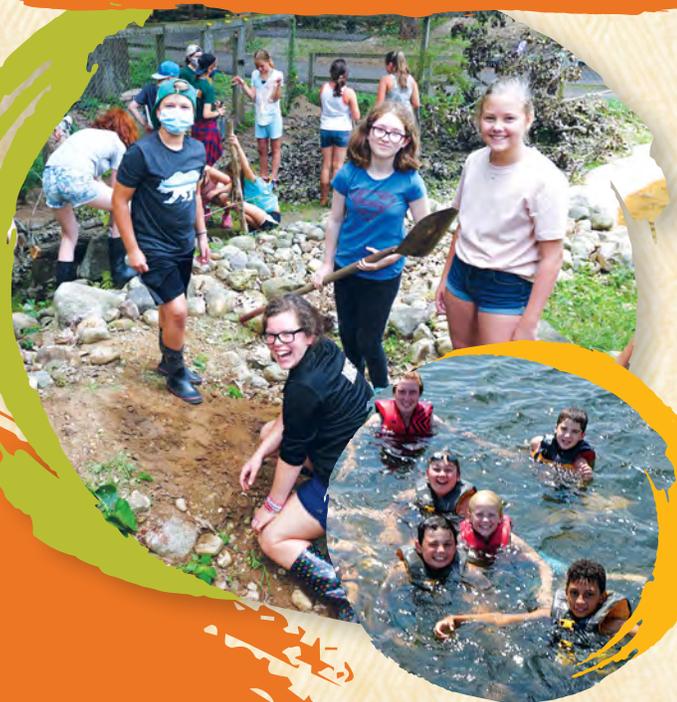
Junior Zookeepers will teach your wildlife lover about what it takes to care for animals, including observing animal behavior, exhibit design, zookeeper games, diet preparation, feeding and much more.

Naturalist in Training

Entering Grades 7 – 8 • August 8 – 13

For nature-lovers who want an in-depth nature experience, we collaborate with our naturalists to provide great outdoor, hands-on FUN! Unique programs include stargazing, owl feeding and calling, a service project in the Wildlife Park, zoo enrichment and much more.

REGISTER EARLY FOR THE BEST RATES.
See the pricing page at end of brochure for details.



Spirit of Alexandria Foundation SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Spirit of Alexandria Foundation (SOA) was created in honor of the legacy of Alexandria Bennett, a little girl who was passionate about exploring the mysteries of the natural world and selflessly sharing those wonders with others.



Through her inspiration, the SOA Foundation was formed with the simple goal of connecting thousands of children to nature.

The SOA Foundation offers Sponsorships on a first come basis. Campers must submit a short essay describing why they are interested in attending camp. SOA Sponsorship Applications can be accessed online during the camp registration process.

Find camp registration at www.howellnaturecenter.org



Howell Nature Center Teen Leadership Camps

In addition to SOA sponsored camps, Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center offers additional specialized Overnight Leadership and Excursion Camp experiences for teenage campers, both onsite and off. Whether heading out on an excursion or learning the skills to become a counselor, teens will get in-depth experiences, have a BLAST with their peers, and grow as leaders. Please Note: The SOA Sponsorship Program does not apply for the Counselor In Training and Excursion Camp programs.

Counselor In Training

Entering Grades 9 – 12 • Two Weeks: July 25 – August 6

Counselor In Training (CIT) is a perfect introduction to camp counseling. CITs enjoy classic activities, while learning valuable skills. CITs are then paired with counselors and learn how to be a role model in an overnight camp setting.



REGISTER EARLY FOR THE BEST RATES.
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Howell Nature Center Overnight Excursion Camps

“Be Wild” Project

Entering Grades 9 – 12 • July 11 – 16

Days are spent being “WILD” experiencing incredible behind-the-scenes tours of nature centers and zoos that excel in conservation education and animal care. Evenings are spent enjoying nature and evening campfires at beautiful campsites around Michigan. Campers explore the challenges involved with captive animal care and apply their learnings by returning to Howell Nature Center at the end of the week and working with our dedicated staff to create their own contribution to HNC’s conservation and education mission.

Dune Discovery

Entering Grades 11 – 12 • July 25 – 30

The Sleeping Bear Dunes provide the perfect backdrop for exploration and discovery in this week-long 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. Campers will have a chance to cook their own food, do a short backpacking overnight and engage in classic recreation activities like kayaking, paddle boarding, biking and hiking.

Mighty Mackinaw

Entering Grades 9 – 10 • August 8 – 13

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 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 29 – April 2

Campers will gear up early for the summer during this exciting week of outdoor FUN and imaginative adventures. After a long winter season, campers will be eager to join us for a unique Pokémon-themed week designed special with an adventurous Thursday Theme Day, along with a “Camper’s Choice” format where campers can tailor their week to their interests. Whether it’s archery, Ga Ga Ball, arts and crafts, crazy games, zip line, wildlife programs or many more exciting activities, this is a week not to be missed!



Camp Frosty Day Camp

Entering Grades K – 8 • December 20 – 23, 27 – 30

Campers will enjoy the “magic” of summer day camp over winter break! Camp Frosty Day Camp will get kids outside to enjoy winter activities such as cross-country skiing, broomball, snow games and sledding (weather permitting). Following the “Camper’s Choice” format, campers enjoy customizing much of their winter day camp experience, while also enjoying a special theme activity each day.



Memberships

We welcome you to become a member of the Howell Nature Center. Through our unique setting where people, nature and wildlife flourish together, our members enjoy the 230 rich acres of rolling hills, hiking trails and lush gardens. Members love our family focused “Aquamania” days on Pleasant Lake, as well as the Wild Wonders Wildlife Park, Alexandria’s NatureScape and Glacier Valley Zip Tour experiences. An Annual Membership offers year-round admission to the Howell Nature Center, special membership pricing and gift shop discounts, as well as FREE or reduced admittance to over 180 nature centers in the U.S. and Canada. Furthermore, HNC members are always offered the **lowest camp fee** regardless of the time of year.

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



Camp Pricing

Day Camp Pricing

	Jan 15 – Feb 14	Feb 15 – Apr 11	Apr 12 – Jun 6	After Jun 7
5-Day: Monday – Friday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$210	\$225	\$240	\$255
5-Day: Monday – Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$175	\$190	\$205	\$220
3-Day: Wednesday – Friday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$150	\$165	\$180	\$195
3-Day: Wednesday – Friday (2nd Sibling)	\$125	\$140	\$155	\$170
2-Day: Monday – Tuesday (Entering Grades K – 8)	\$100	\$110	\$120	\$130
2-Day: Monday – Tuesday (2nd Sibling)	\$85	\$95	\$105	\$115
5-Day Specialty Day Camps (Entering Grades 1 – 12)	\$225	\$240	\$255	\$270
5-Day Specialty Day Camps (2nd Sibling)	\$95	\$110	\$225	\$240

Overnight, Leadership and Excursion Camp Pricing

	Jan 15 – Feb 14	Feb 15 – Apr 11	Apr 12 – Jun 6	After Jun 7
6-Day: SOA Explorers/Adventurers/Trailblazers (Entering Grades 3 – 8)	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
6-Day: SOA Explorers/Adventurers/Trailblazers (2nd Sibling)	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
6-Day: SOA Junior Zookeepers (Entering Grades 5 – 6)	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
6-Day: SOA Junior Zookeepers (2nd Sibling)	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
6-Day: SOA Naturalist In Training (Entering Grades 7 – 8)	\$450	\$500	\$550	\$600
6-Day: SOA Naturalist In Training (2nd Sibling)	\$400	\$450	\$500	\$550
6-Day: Excursion Camps (Entering Grades 9 – 10; 11 – 12)	\$700	\$750	\$800	\$850
6-Day: Excursion Camps (2nd Sibling)	\$650	\$700	\$750	\$800
2-Wk: Counselor In Training (Entering grades 9 – 12)	\$700	\$750	\$800	\$850

Spring Break and Camp Frosty Pricing

	Per Day	Entire Session
5-Day Spring Break Day Camp	\$45	\$200
8-Day Camp Frosty Day Camp	\$45	\$360

Through our partnership with the Spirit of Alexandra Foundation, camp sponsorships for camps labeled SOA are available. Applications can be found at howellnaturecenter.org/soa/overnight-camps.



Day Camp Check-In/Check-Out

Before 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.
After Care (\$6/Day) 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Overnight Camp Check-In/Check-Out

Check-In Sun 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closing Ceremony Fri 2:30 p.m.

For day and overnight camps not sponsored by SOA, financial assistance is available through our Campership Program based solely on financial need. Auto-payment plans are available. For campership applications or to register, go to howellnaturecenter.org. Or, for questions, call our main office at (517) 546-0249.

**Learn
New
Skills**



**Connect
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Exciting
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1005 Triangle Lake Road

Howell, MI 48843

(517) 546-0249

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SUMMER CAMP PREVIEWS

March 7 (Virtual) | 2 – 5 p.m.
May 2 (In-person)

Camp Wonder at the Howell Nature Center invites new and returning summer campers to preview our 2021 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