

FENNER NATURE CENTER
NATURE DAY CAMP
CAMPER INFORMATION PACKET
SUMMER 2023



2020 E. MOUNT HOPE AVE | LANSING, MI 48910 |
(517) 483-4224

Welcome to Fenner Nature Center's, Nature Day Camp for the 2023 summer season. We are excited to have you join us for what we know will be a great summer.

Fenner is proud to have operated summer youth programs in the heart of Lansing for more than 40 years. Each year, campers learn to enjoy the outdoors safely and leave camp with a deep appreciation and respect for the natural world. Fenner Nature Center is a place rich in Michigan history, wildlife, and beauty, and we couldn't be happier to welcome your campers for another great summer of programming.

Included in this document you will find general information about Fenner's Nature Day Camp. If you have any additional questions not answered in this document, please email us at camp@mynaturecenter.org or call Fenner Nature Center at (517) 483-4224.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our knowledge and love of nature with your camper this summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Ansaldi", written in a cursive style.

Sam Ansaldi
Program Manager
(517) 483-4224

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CONTACT INFORMATION

ADDRESS:

Fenner Nature Center
2020 E. Mount Hope Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910

EMAIL:

camp@mynaturecenter.org

PHONE:

(517) 483-4224

CAMP SCHEDULE

Fenner Nature Day Camp Schedule

Monday-Friday
9:00am-4:00pm

Fenner Nature Day Camp Aftercare Schedule

Monday-Friday
4:00pm-5:30pm

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GENERAL INFORMATION

CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

BUGS & SLUGS

- Beetles and millipedes and worms, oh my! Bugs & Slugs will introduce your camper to the wide world of insects and invertebrates. If it's creepy and crawly, we will investigate it. From essential decomposer bugs that live beneath our feet to high-flying, winged insect predators of the sky, your camper will follow the paths to some of Fenner's creepiest and coolest critters

HOOK, LINE, & SINKER

- Whether your camper is new to fishing or a seasoned pro, Hook, Line, & Sinker will help them develop and master their fishing skills in a camp focused on water ecology, the Grand River watershed, and what puts the FUN in fundamentals of fishing.

WILDERNESS SKILLS

- The wilderness is a WILD place. In Wilderness Skills, campers will learn a variety of modern and primitive methods used for backcountry camping and outdoor survival. They'll learn the fundamentals of shelter building, fire starting, water purification, navigation, and much more, as they put their skills to the test in their local wilderness.

ECO ART

- Do you like to create art inspired by nature? Well how about art created WITH nature? Eco Art will introduce campers to new ways of looking at and creating

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their art through the use of natural materials, inspiration from environmental landscapes, and imaginative design.

GROSS NATURE

- Sometimes nature is downright gross. But where there is gross, there is FUN! Campers will get their hands dirty with the micro science behind slime, mud, muck, and other sticky and goopy natural materials, while learning how nature's grossest residents survive and thrive within their environment.

NSI: NATURE SCENE INVESTIGATION

- Tracks in the mud; a trace of fur; there seems to have been a struggle. But what has happened to the prey, and who is the predator? As NSI agents, campers will hone their detective skills as they forensically scour nature's "crime scenes" and link the clues they find together to solve the mystery.

URBAN AGRICULTURE

- Potatoes on the porch; tomatoes on the terrace; kale in a cup. Through hands-on discovery and experimentation, campers will learn what it takes to grow a variety of plants and food in small spaces, city scapes, and sometimes even without soil at all. Your camper will get their hands dirty as we get up close and personal with plants, pollinators, and the science of growing food.

SCALES AND TAILS

- From snakes to salamanders and turtles to toads, Scales and Tails introduces campers to the fascinating cold-blooded world of reptiles and amphibians. Campers will learn how they survive in our northern climate, the places they call home, what and especially HOW they eat, as well as investigate some very common misconceptions about these scaly and slimy neighbors of ours.

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DEPOSITS & LATE FEES

- We require a minimum **50% deposit** of your total camp fee due at the time of registration, with the balance due by **June 1**. Late payments will be charged a **\$10** late fee. Registrations made **after June 1st** must be **paid in full** at the time of registration.

CANCELLATIONS, CHANGES, & REFUNDS

- Cancellations received by **June 1st** will receive a **50% refund of their deposit paid**. **We cannot offer any refunds after June 1st.** If spaces are available, registration can be changed to a different week for a **\$10** camp change fee.

NORRIS INGELLS EDUCATION FUND

- Scholarships are available for those who demonstrate need. Awards may be up to **50%** of your total registration fee, and are distributed based on the availability of funds. There is a **\$500 maximum scholarship award per family**. We cannot accept scholarship applications without a completed registration form and deposit.

Norris Ingells Individual Scholarship Application

<https://mynaturecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/norris-ingells-individual-scholarship-application.pdf>

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MORNING DROP-OFF

CAMPER DROP-OFF

- Camper drop-off is between **8:45am - 9:10am**.
- Campers are dropped off at **Fenner's Campground location**. The entrance to the campground parking lot is located East of Fenner's main driveway on Mount Hope Avenue before the entrance to Evergreen Cemetery.
- On the 1st day of each camp week, campers will check-in at the **Camp Welcome Table** located on the trail to Fenner's Campground. (Follow signs from the parking lot to Camp Welcome Table). The rest of the week, camper check-in and check-out will be done at the campers cabins.
- At check-in, campers will have a general **health evaluation** done before joining their cabin. Health evaluation procedures are subject to change depending on CDC and Michigan Health Department guidelines.
- If your camper is arriving **after 9:10am**, please drop-off your camper at **Fenner's Visitor Center**, located at 2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing, MI 48910, and they will be escorted to camp by Fenner staff members.

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AFTERNOON PICK-UP

CAMPER PICK-UP

- Camper pick-up is from **3:45pm - 4:10pm**.
- Late pick-up **after 4:10pm** is **\$10** per additional **10 minutes** due at pick-up.
- Camper pick-up is located at **Fenner's Campground Location** (the same location as camper drop-off).
- Only those listed on your campers **Approved Camper Pick-Up List** are allowed to pick-up your camper from Fenner's Nature Day Camp.
- Upon pick-up, the adult listed on your camper's **Approved Camper Pick-Up List** will be asked to provide camp staff with a **government** or **state issued photo identification card** before camp staff will release your camper.
- Campers **WILL NOT** be released from camp without providing camp staff with a **government** or **state issued photo identification card** at pick-up **EVERY DAY** during the camp week.

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AFTERCARE

AFTERCARE

- Aftercare operates from **4:00pm - 5:30pm**, and is an additional **\$20** per camp week (*pre-registration is required*)
- Pick-up from Aftercare will be located at **Fenner's Visitor Center**, 2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave, Lansing, MI 48910.
- Late pick-up **after 5:40pm** is **\$10** per additional **10 minutes** due at pick-up.
- Only those listed on your camper's **Approved Camper Pick-Up List** are allowed to pick-up your camper from Fenner's Nature Day Camp.
- Upon pick-up, the adult listed on your camper's **Approved Camper Pick-Up List** will be asked to provide camp staff with a **government** or **state issued photo identification card** before camp staff will release your camper.
- Campers **WILL NOT** be released from camp without providing camp staff with a **government** or **state issued photo identification card** at pick-up **EVERY DAY** during the camp week.

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EARLY PICK UP

If your camper needs to be picked up early from camp, please contact **Fenner's Visitor Center** at **(517) 483-4224** to make arrangements.

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CAMPER'S "CAMP BACKPACK"

This checklist provides parents/guardians with items your child should bring with them to camp. Fenner is not responsible for items which are lost, stolen or damaged. Do not send anything that cannot be easily replaced or that you consider to be expensive.

	Camp Checklist
	Water Bottle
	Extra Socks
	Medications - if necessary
	Sunscreen - also applied before camp
	Bug Spray - also applied before camp
	Lunch - non-refrigerated
	Snack - AM
	Snack - PM
	Change of Clothes
	Sturdy Shoes - no open toe

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FENNER'S NATURE DAY CAMP COVID-19 POLICIES

WHEN SHOULD A SICK CAMPER STAY HOME?

- Fever of 100.4°F or Higher
- Sore Throat
- Persistent Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Diarrhea or Vomiting
- Severe Headache
- If they or anyone in their household have been exposed to an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19
- If the camper tests positive for COVID-19

WHAT TO DO NEXT?

- Call Fenner Nature Center and inform them of the campers absence
- Visit your local healthcare provider
- Schedule a COVID-19 test (if deemed necessary)

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

- Fenner Nature Center follows the **Michigan Health Department, Ingham County Health Department**, and **CDC** in regards to COVID-19 related actions. Please visit Michigan.gov for more information.
https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_104699---,00.html

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

WHAT KIND OF BUG SPRAY SHOULD I USE?

- Fenner Nature Day Camps are operated outdoors, and as such campers are exposed to mosquitos, ticks, and biting bugs. For advice on mosquito and tick repellent please view the CDC's mosquito and tick repellent pages below.

Prevent Mosquito Bites

<https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/mosquito-bites/prevent-mosquito-bites.html>

Preventing Tick Bites

https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_people.html

WEATHER CONDITIONS

- Fenner Nature Day Camps are operated outdoors, even in wet weather. On rainy days please pack your camper appropriate rain gear such as a **rain jacket**, **hat**, and **rain boots**. In the event of inclement weather such as a thunder and lightning storm or a tornado warning, campers will be brought indoors.