

FENNER NATURE CENTER  
NATURE DAY CAMP  
**CAMPER INFORMATION PACKET**

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2020 E. MOUNT HOPE AVE | LANSING, MI 48910 |  
(517) 483-4245

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Welcome to Fenner Nature Center's, Nature Day Camp! 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](mailto:camp@mynaturecenter.org) or call Fenner Nature Center at (517) 483-4245.

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

Sincerely,

Sam Ansaldi  
Education Director  
(517) 483-4245

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

**ADDRESS:**

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

**EMAIL:**

[camp@mynaturecenter.org](mailto:camp@mynaturecenter.org)

**PHONE:**

(517) 483-4245

## CAMP SCHEDULE

**Fenner Nature Day Camp & Adventure Camp Schedule**

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

**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 crawlly, 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

#### AQUATIC ECOLOGY

- Examine the wonders of life in the water! Develop an understanding of how aquatic habitats are formed, how they sustain life, and why we need to protect these fragile ecosystems.

#### 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.

#### BACKYARD BIRDING

- Have you ever sat outside and heard a beautiful song coming from the forest but didn't know who was singing it? Or, seen a flash of color go flying by on an afternoon hike and said to yourself, "what was that"? Well, this is the chance for all of your questions to be answered and more. The Backyard Birding program

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teaches kids the biology of birds, how to identify them through colors and songs, as well as the tips and tricks that every birder needs to know.

**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.

**PRECIOUS PLANTS**

- Discover and explore a world of diverse ecosystems, and learn why plants are so important to all other life on Earth. Campers will learn about plant life cycles, plant uses, important native species, and the impact of invasive plants on the ecosystem.

**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.

**CONSERVATION KIDS**

- Is your camper a budding environmental scientist? Then Conservation Kids is the camp for them! Campers will learn about, and contribute to the work of conservations from organizations such as The Michigan Bluebird Society, Michigan Vernal Pool Patrol, and Monarch Watch.

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### DEPOSITS & PAYMENTS

- Fenner requires a minimum **50%** deposit of your total camp fee due at the time of registration, with the remaining balance due by **June 1st**. Registrations made after June 1st require **full payment** due at the time of registration.

### CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

- Fenner Nature Center does **NOT** offer refunds for camp fees. **Deposit fees paid at time of registration are non-refundable.** Cancellations made prior to June 1st are **not** required to pay remaining registration balances. **Cancellations made after June 1st are non-refundable.**

Reservations can be changed to a different week for a **\$20** camp change fee, if space is available.

### 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 paid 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 **\$50** 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 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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## EARLY PICK UP

If your camper needs to be picked up early from camp, please contact **Fenner's Visitor Center** at **(517) 483-4245** 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
	Medication (if necessary) - <u>All medications must be in original labeled package</u>
	Sunscreen - <b>also applied before camp</b>
	Bug Spray - <b>also applied before camp</b>
	Lunch - <b>non-refrigerated</b>
	Snack - AM
	Snack - PM
	Change of Clothes
	Sturdy Shoes - <b>no open toe</b>

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## FENNER'S NATURE DAY CAMP SICK CAMPER POLICY

### **WHEN SHOULD A SICK CAMPER STAY HOME?**

- Fever of 100 degrees (Fahrenheit) or more
- Upset stomach, vomiting and or diarrhea the night before or before camp in the morning
- Earaches that continue and have not been treated by a health care provider
- Coughs that are constant, keeps the child from participating in activities and cause the camper to be uncomfortable
- Any open, draining wound or sore that has not been treated by a health care provider
- Rashes that have an unknown cause

### **IF A CAMPER HAS BEEN ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT HE/SHE NOT RETURN TO CAMP UNTIL**

- Temperature has been normal for 24 hours, without the use of fever decreasing medication
- There has been no vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours (one camp day)

### **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)

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**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

- Fenner Nature Center follows the recommendations of the [Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, Ingham County Health Department, and CDC](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_104699---,00.html) in regards to sickness/disease related actions. Please visit Michigan.gov for more information.  
[https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178\\_104699---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98178_104699---,00.html)

## 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/prevention/?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/mosquito-bites/prevent-mosquito-bites.html](https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/prevention/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/mosquitoes/mosquito-bites/prevent-mosquito-bites.html)

Preventing Tick Bites

[https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/prevention/?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on\\_people.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/prevention/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_people.html)

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### 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.