



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
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# YMCA CAMP TIMBERS

WEST BRANCH, MICHIGAN



# 2021 SUMMER CAMPS & TRIPS



[CAMPTIMBERS.ORG](http://CAMPTIMBERS.ORG)

# Greetings from YMCA Camp Timbers!



Thank you for considering a camp experience for your child. I believe all kids need a place like camp in their lives, perhaps more so this summer than ever before.

We're planning, preparing, and excited for the return of summer camp programs and campers in 2021. Camp will look different this year: a reduced capacity to support social distancing, heightened health and cleaning procedures, and an emphasis on small-group cabin experiences. Despite the changes, much of camp will look and feel as it has for decades, with campers:

- Laughing and smiling with new friends
- Disconnecting from screens for more doing than viewing
- Experiencing the fresh air, wonder, and adventure of nature
- Growing in confidence and self-esteem as they set and achieve goals
- Finding acceptance, self-worth, and a sense of belonging
- Enjoying the care-free joy of being a kid
- Returning home with lifelong memories and new inspiration

As a parent of a camper myself, I understand and appreciate how challenging it can be to entrust someone else with the care of your child. At YMCA Camp Timbers, our campers' safety has always been our top priority. As a camp that is accredited by the American Camp Association, we are committed to the highest levels of quality, care, and safety in all that we do. For our most up-to-date health plans and procedures for this summer, please visit our website at [www.CampTimbers.org](http://www.CampTimbers.org).

I would be happy to speak with you more about camp and to help answer your questions. You're welcome to contact me directly at 989-345-2630 or [BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org](mailto:BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org). It would be a privilege to partner with you to make this summer a fun and memorable one for your camper.

Sincerely,

Brian Miller  
Camp Director

We strive to be a camp community that is for all, where all campers are welcomed, valued, respected, and inspired. If you have questions about whether YMCA Camp Timbers is the right fit for your child due to any special consideration, please contact us.

# EXPERIENCE



We create remarkable experiences for campers. Camp is full of new activities, adventures, and lifelong memories for your child. These are the adventures and achievements they'll remember long after camp.

- **The Perfect Size** – Large enough for extensive activity options, and small enough (capacity of 120 campers) to feel like family
- **An “Up North” Feel** - Located on 300 acres of beautiful Northern Michigan forest, with Piper Lake – our private, spring-fed lake
- **The Highest Standards** - Accredited by the American Camp Association and licensed by the State of Michigan

## HEALTH & SAFETY INTERVENTIONS

<b>PRE-SCREENING</b> 	<b>DAILY HEALTH SCREENING</b> 	<b>HAND WASHING</b> 
<b>CABIN GROUP COHORTS</b> 	<b>OUTDOOR DINING</b> 	<b>MASKS</b> 
<b>DISINFECTING &amp; CLEANING</b> 	<b>MODIFIED SCHEDULE</b> 	<b>REDUCED CAPACITY</b> <b>65%</b>

Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information and additional details related to health and safety plans for Summer 2021.

# CONNECT

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We help to build quality connections with our campers. Our counselors set out to make sure every camper knows that camp is a place they belong, feel accepted, and can be themselves. Camp connects campers with face-to-face friends, the inspiration of nature, and our supportive and encouraging counselors. These are the friends and role models they'll remember long after camp.



## Small Group Communities

Up to 8 campers and 2 counselors per cabin, grouped by age and gender

## High-Caliber Staff

Selected for their character, experience, and ability to be role models for campers, with over 80 hours of training prior to camp and First Aid/CPR certification



**“It’s a beautiful camp with quality staff who are creative at ensuring that all campers are included and make connections with other children.”**

# GROW

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We facilitate meaningful individual growth for campers. Camp is a lot of fun; we also want a camp experience to make a lasting impact. This growth is fostered by inspirational, value-based morning messages, small group reflections through the day, intentional evening cabin reflections, and opportunities to practice 21st-century skills – collaboration, teamwork, conflict resolution, problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, and stewardship.



## Camp Helped My Child...

**98%**

Build confidence

**98%**

Feel a sense of belonging at camp

**97%**

Build independence

**97%**

Make new friends

**95%**

Discover what he/she can achieve

**97%**

Gain new skills

Camp Timbers family surveys

**“My 7-year-old absolutely loved the experience. She came home slightly braver and 100% more confident. This will be a yearly thing!”**

# SAMPLE SCHEDULE



<b>7:45 am</b>	Morning Watch
<b>8:00 am</b>	Breakfast
<b>9:00 am</b>	Activity 1*
<b>10:45 am</b>	Activity 2*
<b>12:15 pm</b>	Lunch
<b>1:30 pm</b>	Activity 3*
<b>2:30 pm</b>	Snack
<b>3:00 pm</b>	Rest Period
<b>4:30 pm</b>	Activity 4*
<b>5:45 pm</b>	Dinner
<b>7:15 pm</b>	Evening Program
<b>8:30 pm</b>	Showers
<b>9:00 pm</b>	Evening Cabin Reflections
<b>9:30 pm</b>	Lights Out Begins

**\*Activities are cabin-based, with all cabin groups rotating through all age-based activities during a session.**

## CAMP ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- High Ropes Course
- Giant Swing
- Climbing Tower
- Zip Lines
- Nature Hikes
- Bog Walks
- Arts/Crafts
- Archery
- Fishing
- Hammock Hikes
- Outdoor Cooking
- Backyard Games
- Gaga Ball
- Sports/Games
- Swimming
- Canoes/Kayaks
- Paddle Boards
- Horse Trail Rides

# CAMP FEATURES

## LODGING

Campers stay in our charming, rustic cabins. Equipped with built-in bunks, heat, and electricity, each cabin offers a welcoming environment to create lasting memories. Cabins are centrally located and have easy access to one of our bathhouse facilities, fully renovated in 2018.

## DINING

Our Woodland Lodge features healthy, family-style meals for campers to enjoy. Not only is there great food, but also enough space to eat outdoors and socially distance for the 2021 camp season. Our cooks can accommodate most special dietary needs.

## MEDICAL

A licensed medical professional lives on site during each of our camp sessions. They are available 24/7 to assist with any medical care that may be required. A physician specializing in family medicine reviews our health policy and provides as-needed virtual consultations.

## MORNING WATCH

Each morning before breakfast campers gather for Morning Watch, an inspirational, value-based message. We focus on our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility and encourage stewardship, resiliency, gratitude, and empathy in our stories and skits.

## ACCREDITATION

YMCA Camp Timbers is accredited by the American Camp Association and licensed by the State of Michigan.

## INCOME-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

Income-based scholarships are available to ensure no child misses a camp experience for financial reasons. Please visit [www.CampTimbers.org](http://www.CampTimbers.org) or contact us at 989-345-2630 to learn more about levels of support and to request a scholarship application.

## TOURS

We would love for you to visit us! Contact us at 989-345-2630 or [Timbers@SaginawYMCA.org](mailto:Timbers@SaginawYMCA.org) to schedule a personal tour of camp for your family. Visit our website for a virtual tour of camp and for information about Virtual Open House events later this year.

# PROGRAMS

## Mini Camp: Ages 6–9

For three days and two nights, our youngest campers have the chance to explore the activities of our traditional camp and get used to the adventure of being away from home. Offered only during Session 4 (July 7–9).

## Traditional Overnight Camp: Ages 7–14

**MOST POPULAR**

This is our classic overnight camp experience: a full week of remarkable experiences, quality connections, and meaningful growth – and a lot of fun activities and adventures. See our timeline on the previous page for a typical day at camp.

## Day Camp: Ages 7–14

An excellent option for our friends living close to camp! Campers join cabin groups from 8:30am–5:30pm Monday–Friday, with lunch included.

## Herter Band Camp: Incoming 6th–9th graders

This program, through a partnership with the Herter Music Center, offers campers the opportunity to advance their musical ability, prepare a concert performance, and experience all the summer fun Camp Timbers has to offer. For more information and to register, visit [www.hertermusiccenter.com/band-camp/](http://www.hertermusiccenter.com/band-camp/).



## Boots & Saddle Horse Camp: Ages 9–14

Campers spend two hours each day with an in-depth focus on horses, including lessons on horse care, riding instruction, and on-camp trail rides. The rest of the schedule includes the adventures of our traditional camp program.

# TEEN PROGRAMS & TRIPS

## Leader-In-Training (LIT) Program: Ages 14–16

This is the first step in our progressive leadership program. Campers experience leadership-based activities in the morning and enjoy traditional camp activities, for the remainder of the day.

**View our Adventure Trips Guide at CampTimbers.com**

## **Emerging Leaders in Music (ELMs):** Ages 15–16 **NEW**

A one-week leadership program specifically for alumni of our Herter Band Camp program passionate about music, leadership, and being role models for younger campers. Contact us at [Timbers@SaginawYMCA.org](mailto:Timbers@SaginawYMCA.org) for details and availability.

## **Counselor-In-Training (CIT) Program:** Ages 16–17

Campers in this two-week program will have an immersive leadership experience. A three-day, two-night AuSable River canoe trip, a Camp Timbers' tradition, is included. We expect our CITs to be eager to learn and mature enough to be strong role models for other campers.

## **Backpacking the Nordhouse Dunes:** Ages 10–12 **NEW**

An introduction to backpacking for our youngest trip participants. Includes in-camp campouts and a 3-day, 2-night adventure trip backpacking the Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness on the shores of Lake Michigan.

## **Backpacking South Manitou Island:** Ages 12–14

Participants spend 5 days and 4 nights on South Manitou Island, part of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Hike destinations include sand dunes, old-growth forests, a ghost town, and lighthouse. Includes all meals, equipment, ferry, and bus transportation from camp.

## **Canoeing the AuSable River:** Ages 14–15

Campers enjoy a 5-day, 4-night adventure along the river, paddling 6–8 hours daily and camping overnight along the river. All camping equipment, canoes, meals, and transportation between camp and the river are provided.

## **Backpacking the Pictured Rocks:** Ages 15–17

Participants will hike and camp along Lake Superior and the famous Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, building confidence, friendships, and lifelong memories along the way. Experienced camp trip leaders will guide participants as they hike approximately 30 miles, gaining the sense of empowerment that comes from carrying all they need on their backs.

## **Backpacking Isle Royale:** Ages 16–17 with Trip Experience

This is the capstone experience of our trip program. Participants will spend 10 days hiking and exploring this remote national park in northern Lake Superior.

[timbers.org](https://www.timbers.org) for full trip details and itineraries.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How do we register?

Visit [www.CampTimbers.org](http://www.CampTimbers.org) for our online registration – the quickest way to reserve a spot for your camper. To request a printed registration form or to register by phone, contact us at 989-345-2630.

## Can my child bring a friend?

Many campers attend camp with a friend or two from home, and all campers make new friends too. Friends of the same gender and within 2 years of age can request the same cabin during registration.

## What is your refund policy?

A \$50 deposit per session is due at registration to hold a camper's space in a cabin. The balance is due by June 1, 2021. Any amount paid in addition to the deposit will be refunded if the family cancels the registration at least one week prior to the start of the session. The deposit is refundable only in the event of a physician-documented illness or injury, including if the camper is unable to attend due to COVID-19 symptoms or a required quarantine. Cancellations for other reasons less than one week in advance are non-refundable. If a specific session is cancelled by camp or if camp is unable to operate all payments will be 100% refunded.

## Will my child need to wear a mask at camp?

We'll follow current guidelines and recommendations related to mask use. We expect masks will be needed when campers are indoors or when social distancing isn't possible. We've adjusted our schedule to be cabin-group based and outdoors as much as possible to reduce this need. Masks will not be required when campers are swimming, showering, eating, sleeping, or enjoying outdoor, distanced activities.

## What other safety policies and procedures will camp have to mitigate COVID-19 risks?

Based on local, state, and national guidelines and best-practice recommendations from across the camping industry, we're planning a camp experience that is:

- **SMALLER** – with a reduced capacity and an emphasis on small-group cabin pods, each with 8-10 campers and 2 staff members, as well as schedule modifications to limit all-camp gatherings
- **CLEANER** – with increased cleaning and disinfecting routines, the addition of professional-quality electrostatic disinfectant sprayers, disinfecting of all shared equipment between cabin-group uses, and new hand sanitizer stations at all cabins and program areas
- **SAFER** – with outdoor, open-air programming and dining options and a fully-revised healthcare policy that incorporates updated camper health screenings, routine temperature/symptom checks, and the most up-to-date standing orders for our on-site health officer (an EMT)

Please visit our website for the most up-to-date information and additional details related to health and safety plans for Summer 2021.

# SUMMER 2021 DATES AND PRICING

Dates	Session
June 13-19	1 (Herter Band Camp)
June 20-26	2 (Herter Band Camp)
June 27-July 2	3
July 4-9	4
July 11-16	5
July 18-23	6
July 25-30	7

## WHY 3 PRICES?

Realizing families have different abilities to pay, we offer a voluntary three-tier fee program. Choose the tier most suitable for your family. Your choice is confidential and does not impact the camp program or experience.

**TIER A** - Reflects the **true cost** of camp. If able to pay this amount, please do so.

**TIER B** - A **partially subsidized** rate representing \$50 of scholarship assistance needed.

**TIER C** - A **subsidized** rate to allow camp to be possible for as many as possible with \$100 scholarship assistance.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** - A scholarship application is available on our website or by calling 989-345-2630 for families in need of additional support.

Summer Programs	Session Pricing		
CAMPS	TIER A TRUE COST	TIER B \$50 SUPPORT	TIER C \$100 SUPPORT
<b>Herter Band Camp:</b> grades 6-10 (register at HerterMusicCenter.com) Sessions 1, 2 (Sunday-Saturday)			
<b>Traditional Overnight Camp:</b> ages 7-14 Sessions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Sunday-Friday)	\$585	\$535	\$485
<b>Boots and Saddles Horse Camp:</b> ages 9-14 Sessions 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 (Sunday-Friday)	\$685	\$635	\$585
<b>Mini Overnight Camp:</b> ages 6-9 Session 4, (Wednesday, July 7 - Friday, July 9 only)	\$385	\$335	\$285
<b>Day Camp:</b> ages 7-14 Sessions 3, 4, 5, 6 (Monday-Friday)	\$285	\$235	\$185
<b>Leader in Training (LIT):</b> ages 14-16 Sessions 3, 6 (Sunday-Friday)	\$585	\$535	\$485
<b>Counsellor in Training (CIT):</b> ages 16-17 Sessions 4-5 (2-week program, with weekend canoe trip)	\$735	\$685	\$635
TRIPS	TIER A TRUE COST	TIER B \$50 SUPPORT	TIER C \$100 SUPPORT
<b>Backpacking the Nordhouse Dunes:</b> ages 10-12 Session 5 (blended in-camp, on-trip experience)	\$685	\$635	\$585
<b>Backpacking South Manitou Island:</b> ages 12-14 Session 4	\$685	\$635	\$585
<b>Canoeing the Au Sable River:</b> ages 14-15 Session 3	\$685	\$635	\$585
<b>Backpacking the Pictured Rocks Lakeshore:</b> ages 15-17 Session 2	\$685	\$635	\$585
<b>Backpacking Isle Royale:</b> ages 16-17, with trip experience Sessions 6-7 (2-week program)	\$1,450	\$1,400	\$1,350



**YMCA CAMP TIMBERS**  
3269 Horseshoe Lake Rd, West Branch, MI 48661  
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