



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# YMCA CAMP TIMBERS



KIDS  
AGES  
6-17

WEST BRANCH, MICHIGAN



2025 SUMMER OVERNIGHT CAMPS

CAMPTIMBERS.ORG | 989-345-2630



# GREETINGS FROM YMCA CAMP TIMBERS!

Thank you for considering a camp experience with us for your child. I am confident our Summer 2025 season will be one of our best yet and I am thrilled to be returning for my 10th year as the director and my 5th year as a parent of campers. I hope your family will find YMCA Camp Timbers to be as much of a "home away from home" for your kids as it is for mine.

Within this brochure, you will find details on our goals – **EXPERIENCE, CONNECT, and GROW** – and information to help you better understand all that camp has to offer your family this summer.

I believe all kids need a place like camp in their lives. A place for:

- Laughing and smiling with new friends
- Disconnecting from screens and reconnecting with each other
- 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

As a parent of campers 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' care and 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.

I would be happy to speak with you more about camp and to help answer your questions. You are 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, meaningful, and memorable one for your camper.

Sincerely,

*Brian*

Brian Miller  
Executive 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 considerations, please contact us.**



# LIFE AT



# YMCA CAMP TIMBERS

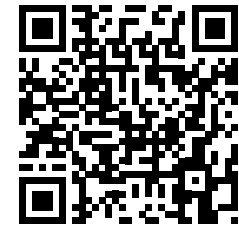
## SAMPLE TRADITIONAL OVERNIGHT CAMP SCHEDULE:



# YMCA CAMP TIMBERS

WEST BRANCH, MICHIGAN

HEAR WHAT OUR  
CAMPERS and STAFF  
SAY ABOUT CAMP!



# 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 208 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



# CONNECT

We help to build quality connections for our campers. Our counselors set out to make sure every camper knows 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 will remember long after camp.

## SMALL GROUP COMMUNITIES

Up to 12 campers and 2 counselors per cabin, grouped by age and gender



## HIGH-CALIBER STAFF

- Rigorously screened and selected based on their character, experience, and ability to be role models for kids
- 90+ hours of training prior to camp, including First Aid and CPR
- Majority pursuing degrees in education, recreation, or other youth-focused careers

“Camp helped my child feel more confident and make friends.”

# GROW

We facilitate meaningful individual growth for campers. Camp is fun. We also want a camp experience to make a lasting positive impact.

This growth is fostered by inspirational, value-based morning messages, small group reflections throughout 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



**“When I picked up my camper from camp, she ran as fast as she could to me with a huge smile on her face. While giving me a huge hug she said, ‘Mom! I got to the top of the rock wall! Can I come back next year?’”**

## SAMPLE CAMP ACTIVITIES:

- ▶ Archery
- ▶ Arts/Crafts
- ▶ Backyard Games
- ▶ Campfire Skits/Songs
- ▶ Canoes
- ▶ Climbing Tower
- ▶ Cooperative Games
- ▶ Fishing
- ▶ GaGa Ball
- ▶ Giant Swing
- ▶ Hammocking
- ▶ High Ropes Course
- ▶ Kayaks
- ▶ Library
- ▶ Nature Hikes
- ▶ Paddle Boards
- ▶ Sled Tube
- ▶ Sports/Games
- ▶ STEM Challenges
- ▶ Swimming
- ▶ Team-building Course
- ▶ Vertical Playpen
- ▶ Zip Lines

# CAMP VILLAGES



We intentionally organize camp into 3 age-based villages: CRUISERS, SAWYERS, and TOPPERS.

This provides a progressive program in which **the camp experience grows with your camper.**

Camp is structured based on the unique needs and readiness levels of these villages, such as:

- Opportunities for camper choice
- Activity-based skill development
- Rigor and complexity of challenges
- Timing and format of bedtime routines
- Counselor prompts for camper care

In this way, **every year a camper returns they have opportunities for new adventures.**

Each village shares daily waterfront and camper-choice schedules, allowing for even greater connections between similar-age campers.

## AGE-BASED COMMUNITIES

**CRUISERS**  
Ages 6-8

**SAWYERS**  
Ages 9-11

**TOPPERS**  
Ages 12-14

# CAMP FEATURES

## LODGING

Equipped with built-in bunks, heat, and electricity, each cabin is a welcoming community for campers. Cabins are centrally located and have easy access to one of our recently-renovated bathhouse facilities. The small-group cabin community becomes your child's "home away from home," with 8-12 campers and their counselors in each cabin.

## 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 in the fresh air at our Outdoor Dining Pavilion. Our food service team can accommodate most special dietary needs, please contact us to discuss any special considerations.

## HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Trained health officers live on site during each of our camp sessions. They are available 24/7 to assist with any medical care that may be required and medication management. A physician reviews our health policy and medical orders along with as-needed virtual consultations.

## MORNING WATCH AND EVENING REFLECTION

Each morning before breakfast campers gather for Morning Watch, an inspirational, value-based message. Campers end the day with a cabin-based reflection facilitated by their counselors. We focus on our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility and encourage stewardship, resiliency, gratitude, and empathy in our stories and skits.

## SAFETY AND SUPERVISION

Camper safety is our top priority, and campers are always with and under the supervision of our caring staff. Our "Rule of 3" ensures campers are never alone or in 1:1 situations, and the counselors are present during all parts of the day to facilitate friendship making and safe, fun, teachable moments.



**"So impressed with the activities, organization, and safety protocols... while providing such a FUN experience."**

# CAMP PROGRAMS

## **MINI CAMP:** AGES 6-10

For three days and two nights, our youngest campers explore the adventures of overnight camp and get used to the experience of being away from home. This session offers both a shorter program duration and a higher level of staff support to help make these new campers' first adventure with us as successful as possible.

## **TRADITIONAL OVERNIGHT CAMP:** AGES 7-14 **MOST POPULAR**

Our classic overnight camp experience, and the most popular program we offer! For 6 days and 5 nights, campers gain remarkable experiences, quality connections, and meaningful growth as part of our small-group, cabin-based communities.

## **HERTER BAND CAMP:** GRADES 6TH-10TH

This 7-day, 6-night program, a partnership with the Herter Music Center, offers campers the unique opportunity to advance their musical ability, prepare a concert performance, and experience many of the activities and adventures YMCA Camp Timbers has to offer. Campers must have completed at least one year of school band to participate.

## **LEADER-IN-TRAINING (LIT):** AGES 14-16

The first step in our progressive teen leadership program. Campers experience a combination of daily leadership-based lessons and traditional camp activities. Lessons focus on small-group facilitation skills, leadership styles, communication skills, and a partial-day service project at camp.

## **COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (CIT):** AGES 16-17

The capstone of our camper experience and the second stage of our progressive teen leadership program is the CIT program. Campers have an immersive leadership experience, including lessons in child development, coaching and encouraging others, and small-group leadership skills. CITs spend the week shadowing counselors, mentoring younger campers, and meeting to further learn and reflect on their experience. This program includes a day trip to canoe the AuSable River.

## **CHALLENGER SOCCER SKILLS CAMP:** AGES 7-12

A "best-of-both-worlds" experience to develop soccer skills within the traditional camp schedule. Challenger Sports' Foundational Skills Camp incorporates the best coaching methodologies from around the world. Players work on technical foundational skills in a game-based, fun and safe environment. Includes 3-hours of daily soccer instruction led by qualified, professional coaches from the UK, Ireland, and EU in partnership with Challenger Sports.



**REGISTER ONLINE AT [WWW.CAMPTIMBERS.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPTIMBERS.ORG) OR CONTACT US  
AT 989-345-2630 TO LEARN MORE.**

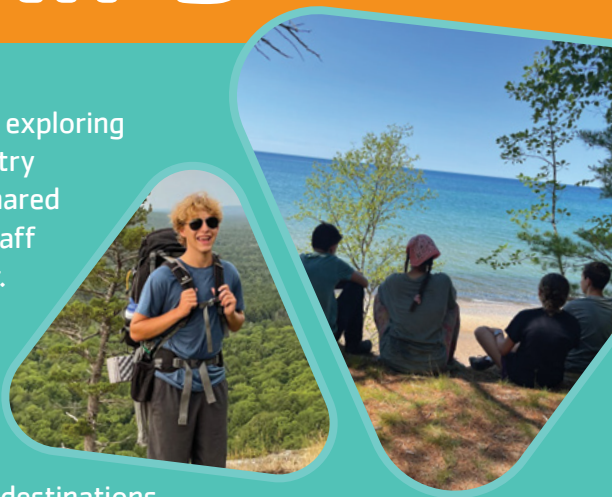


# ADVENTURE TRIPS

Adventure trips are the perfect option for older campers interested in exploring some of Michigan's most scenic locations. Trips utilize rustic backcountry campsites with limited access to restrooms and spend each night in shared backpacking tents. All trips begin and end at camp, are led by camp staff with backpacking experience, and include all backpacking-related gear.

## **BACKPACKING SOUTH MANITOU ISLAND: AGES 12-13**

Participants spend 4 days and 3 nights on South Manitou Island in Lake Michigan, using the same rustic campsite each night. Day hike destinations include towering sand dunes, old-growth forests, remnants of a ghost town, and a lighthouse. Includes all meals, equipment, ferry, and transportation from camp.



## **BACKPACKING THE NORTH COUNTRY TRAIL: AGES 13-14**

Participants hike approximately 20 miles of the North Country Trail near Paradise, Michigan through forests, past woodland lakes, and to the shores of Lake Superior, expanding their backpacking skills along the way. Participants carry all gear each day, setting up different campsites each night as they hike. Includes all meals, equipment, and transportation from camp.

## **BACKPACKING THE PICTURED ROCKS: AGES 14-15**

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

## **BACKPACKING ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK: AGES 14-17**

This capstone backpacking adventure offers participants an extended 10-day session hiking the rugged and remote trails of Isle Royale National Park. Often considered the ultimate hiking destination in Michigan with some of our state's highest-rated trails, this trip builds upon the skills and mileage of other trips. Prior trip experience required.

### **GIVE THE GIFT OF CAMP**

No child should miss out on a camp experience for financial reasons. Project 192 is our annual campaign to ensure scholarships are available for at least 192 campers each year, equal to the number of camper beds at YMCA Camp Timbers.

To join us in supporting these camper scholarships, visit [www.SaginawYMCA.org/give](http://www.SaginawYMCA.org/give). To learn about business sponsorship opportunities, contact Brian at [BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org](mailto:BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org) or 989-345-2630.

**PROJECT  
192**

# FAQS

## 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.

## WHAT IF CAMP DOESN'T FIT IN OUR BUDGET? ARE THERE SCHOLARSHIPS?

All families are invited to select the pricing tier that best fits their needs. Please refer to “Why 3 Prices?” on the next page for details. Additional income-based scholarships are available based on the scale below. The application to qualify for this additional support is available at [CampTimbers.org](http://CampTimbers.org).

Total Annual Household Income	Number of People in Household				
	2	3	4	5	6+
Less than \$12,000	80%	85%	85%	85%	85%
\$12,000 to \$16,000	80%	80%	85%	85%	85%
\$16,001 to \$20,000	70%	80%	80%	85%	85%
\$20,001 to \$24,000	70%	70%	80%	80%	85%
\$24,001 to \$28,000	60%	70%	70%	80%	80%
\$28,001 to \$32,000	60%	60%	70%	70%	80%
\$32,001 to \$36,000	50%	60%	60%	70%	70%
\$36,001 to \$40,000	50%	50%	60%	60%	70%
\$40,001 to \$45,000	40%	50%	50%	60%	60%
\$45,001 to \$49,000	40%	40%	50%	50%	60%
\$49,001 to \$53,000	30%	40%	40%	50%	50%
\$53,001 to \$57,000	30%	30%	40%	40%	50%
\$57,001 to \$61,000		30%	30%	40%	40%
\$61,001 to \$64,000			30%	30%	40%
\$64,001 to \$67,000				30%	30%
\$67,001 to \$70,000					30%
	Percentage of Scholarship Support				

## 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 to be in the same cabin group during registration, up to 3 requests per camper.

## WHAT IS YOUR REFUND POLICY?

A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due at registration to hold a camper’s spot. Additional payments are refundable for cancellations at least one month prior to the start of camp.

## CAN WE TOUR CAMP BEFORE MY CHILD ATTENDS THIS SUMMER?

Yes! We’d love to help your family become more familiar with camp. You’re invited to attend one of our Open House events to meet our staff, tour the facilities, and help you and your child feel more prepared and comfortable before camp starts.

**VIRTUAL  
OPEN HOUSES**  
THURS, MARCH 13, 7-8PM  
TUES, APRIL 15, 7-8PM



**IN-PERSON  
OPEN HOUSE at CAMP**  
SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025  
11AM-4 PM

## THANK YOU BROCHURE SPONSOR!

Thank you to Goyette Mechanical for sponsoring this year’s brochure. To learn how your business or organization can get involved with sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, contact Brian at [BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org](mailto:BAMiller@SaginawYMCA.org) or 989-345-2630.





## SUMMER 2025

DATES	SESSION
June 8-13	1
June 15-21	2 (Herter Band Camp)
June 22-27	3
June 29 -July 1	4 (Mini Camp)
July 6-11	5
July 13-18	6
July 20-25	7
July 27 - August 1	8

## WHY 3 PRICES?

We offer a voluntary three-tier pricing program. Choose the tier most suitable for your family. Your choice is confidential and does not impact the program or experience. This allows us to provide quality experiences to as many campers as possible and ensure no child misses out for financial reasons.

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

**TIER B** - A partially subsidized rate representing \$75 of scholarship assistance needed.

**TIER C** - A subsidized rate to allow camp to be possible for as many as possible with \$150 scholarship assistance.

**ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** - Income-based scholarships are available in addition to TIER C pricing. Please visit our website or call 989-345-2630 for details.

SUMMER PROGRAMS	SESSION PRICING		
	TIER A TRUE COST	TIER B \$75 SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED	TIER C \$150 SCHOLARSHIP APPLIED
<b>CAMPS</b>			
<b>Traditional Overnight Camp:</b> ages 7-14 Sessions 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 (Sunday-Friday)	\$785	\$710	\$635
<b>Herter Band Camp:</b> grades 6-10 with school band experience Session 2 (Sunday-Saturday)	\$835	\$760	\$685
<b>Mini Overnight Camp:</b> ages 6-10 Session 4 (Sunday-Tuesday)	\$465	\$390	\$315
<b>Challenger Soccer Skills Camp:</b> ages 7-12 Session 3 (Sunday-Friday)	\$885	\$810	\$735
<b>Leader in Training (LIT):</b> ages 14-16 Sessions 6, 7 (Sunday-Friday)	\$785	\$710	\$635
<b>Counselor in Training (CIT):</b> ages 16-17 Session 5 (Sunday-Friday)	\$785	\$710	\$635
<b>TRIPS</b>			
<b>Backpacking South Manitou Island:</b> ages 12-13 Session 7	\$835	\$760	\$685
<b>Backpacking the North Country Trail:</b> ages 13-14 Session 6	\$835	\$760	\$685
<b>Backpacking the Pictured Rocks Lakeshore:</b> ages 14-15 Session 5	\$835	\$760	\$685
<b>Backpacking Isle Royale National Park:</b> ages 14-17 Sessions 3-4 (10-Day Program)	\$1,450	\$1,375	\$1,300

**REGISTER ONLINE and LEARN MORE at [CAMPTIMBERS.ORG](http://CAMPTIMBERS.ORG)**



# YMCA CAMP TIMBERS

3269 Horseshoe Lake Rd, West Branch, MI 48661  
P 989-345-2630 [www.CampTimbers.org](http://www.CampTimbers.org)



WATCH OUR NEWEST VIDEO -  
WHAT MATTERS MOST at CAMP!



## LOCATION

3269 Horseshoe Lake Road  
West Branch, MI, 48661

### FROM SAGINAW

1 HOUR, 15 MINUTES

### FROM MIDLAND

1 HOUR, 20 MINUTES

### FROM BAY CITY

1 HOUR, 5 MINUTES

### FROM MT PLEASANT

1 HOUR, 30 MINUTES

