FALL 2026 OUTDOOR SCHOOL

INFORMATION BOOKLET

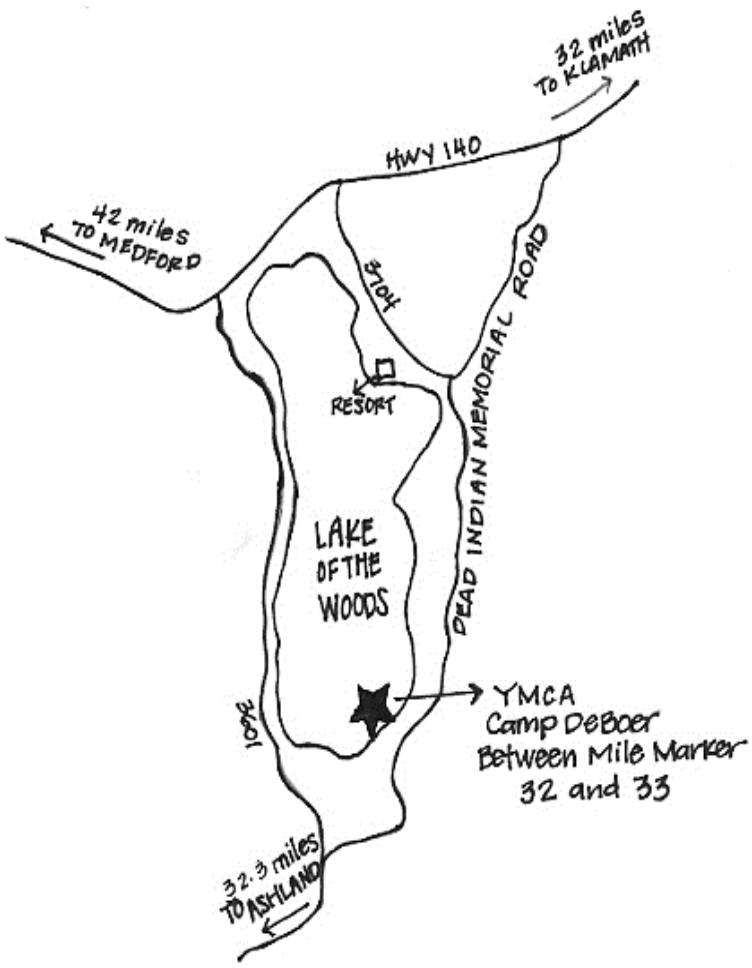
Outdoor School is hosted at YMCA Camp DeBoer which is owned and operated by the Ashland Family YMCA.

Directions to YMCA Camp DeBoer

Physical Address: 13430 Dead Indian Memorial Road, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

From Ashland:
https://goo.gl/maps/nkM5HxJJwaxugwL77

- From I-5, heading south, take Exit 14.
- Turn LEFT onto OR 66 E/Ashland Street, .7 miles to Dead Indian Memorial Rd.
- Turn LEFT onto Dead Indian Memorial Road approx. 32.4 miles.
- YMCA Camp DeBoer will be on LEFT side of the road, with signage to mark your arrival. Please park in designated parking.



From Medford:
https://goo.gl/maps/9X5kn5aWkipn4KkD8

- Take Rogue Valley Expressway approx. 4 miles to Crater Lake Hwy 62.
- Turn LEFT onto Crater Lake Hwy 62 approx. ½ mile to OR-140 E.
- Turn RIGHT onto OR-140 E approx. 36 miles to NF 3732.
- Turn RIGHT onto NF 3732, 1.5 miles to Dead Indian Memorial Road.
- Turn RIGHT onto Dead Indian Memorial Rd, approx. 2 miles.
- YMCA Camp DeBoer will be on RIGHT side of the road, with signage to mark your arrival. Please park in designated parking.

From Klamath Falls:
https://goo.gl/maps/WThdqw8rstEn6hFw6

- Take Hwy US-97 approx. 2 miles to OR-140 W.
- Take OR-140 W approx. 31 miles to Dead Indian Memorial Road.
- Turn LEFT onto Dead Indian Memorial Road approx. 4 miles. YMCA Camp DeBoer will be on RIGHT side of the road, with signage to mark your arrival. Please park in designated parking.

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Welcome!

We are excited to host you at YMCA Camp DeBoer for Outdoor School.

This information booklet has been designed to give you all the tools you need to prepare for a successful and enjoyable experience. If you are a teacher, chaperone, or parent/family member, there is another guide specifically for you to explain your individual responsibilities preparing for and/or participating in Outdoor School.

Maintaining communication between families, chaperones, school personnel and Ashland YMCA Camp DeBoer as well as meeting pre-visit deadlines and planning ahead are the keys to a successful Outdoor School experience. Please feel free to reach out at any time with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Karin Onkka

Outdoor Education Director
outdoored@ashlandymca.org
541-864-0269 cell

..I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief.
I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.
For a time, I rest in the grace of the world and I am free.

– Wendell Barry

The Klamath Tribes

Klamath-Modoc-Yahooskin

"We are the Klamath Tribes - the Klamath, the Modoc and the Yahooskin-Paiute people, known as mukluks and numu (the people). We have lived in the Klamath Basin of Oregon, from time beyond memory. Our legends and oral history tell about when the world and the animals were created, when the animals and Gmok'am'c – the Creator – sat together and discussed the creation of man. If stability defines success, our presence here has been, and always will be, essential to the well-being of our homeland and those who abide here."

Our Goals and Objectives

YMCA Camp DeBoer's Outdoor School Program creates an engaging, fun atmosphere where students are given an opportunity to learn in a natural environment. Students may discover more about themselves, their place in the world, and how to better relate to one another. Through place-based, experiential activities, students will marvel at how various elements of the natural world impact each other, and they will grow in awareness of and appreciation for our planet.

Our objectives are for students to:

- Foster an awareness of and appreciation for the natural world.
- Increase their knowledge of ecological concepts.
- Understand and experience the relationship between themselves and the natural world.
- Strengthen social relationships, encouraging cooperation, communication, and respect.
- Expand feelings of personal growth and self-confidence.
- Experience, and help create, a sense of belonging.
- Increase understanding of the effects and consequences of personal choices.
- Find comfort in and enjoy the natural world.
- Integrate the YMCA values of: **Responsibility, Caring, Respect, and Honesty.**

Our Approach

Our commitment: In our efforts to engage students and succeed in our goals and objectives, we embrace the concept that engagement and success can look different for every student. We are committed to creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive culture that integrates a strong sense of belonging, social-emotional growth, and self-care into the Outdoor School experience. Our staff is trained in practices that embrace various learning styles and we aim to address individual needs. In community living, it is up to each person to help maintain a healthy, respectful learning environment.

Behavior Management: We believe that every student will be successful if they are able, and our responsibility is to ensure that they have what they need to be successful. Our behavior management model focuses on encouraging students to participate rather than punishing disruptive behaviors. Students will be gently redirected. If additional assistance is needed, the field instructor will radio for the Outdoor Education Director or Teachers/Leaders. A student-led Behavior Modification Plan can be created between the student and the Outdoor Education Director with another adult present to contribute to the process as desired.

Arrival

For adults arriving in their own vehicles:

- Check with a staff member to see if it is a good time to pull closer to your cabin if you have several, or heavy/bulky, items to unload. Parking directly outside cabins is for the purpose of unloading only; vehicles must be returned to the parking lot in a timely manner. The staff member can radio this info to the rest of the staff.

Staff will greet buses when they arrive. All adults will work together to assist the students in:

- **Getting off the bus**, finding their luggage, and finding their cabin group by looking for a staff member holding up a cabin sign.
- **Following the staff member to your cabin**, hauling all gear to cabins, selecting bunks, setting down gear, unrolling sleeping bags, and visiting the restrooms.
- **Taking any "no's" on the packing list** (valuables/electronics/snacks) to the infirmary where they can be labeled and locked away in a cupboard for the duration of the program.

- **Checking to ensure students have everything they need** for the week and filling out the Borrow Barn request form.
    - **Using the Borrow Barn:** Locate the small Borrow Barn clipboard and list any items needed for the students such as a sleeping bag, toothbrush/toothpaste, pillow, or a rain jacket. Place the clipboard into the tub outside of Bandit's cabin (Kokanee Cabin) in lower village and a staff member will bring these items to your cabin before bedtime. **Note:** Rubber boots will be loaned to students during wetland field study. If a student has shoes that no longer function or are not right for the environment, a pair of boots can be loaned to them for the duration of the program.
- **Creating cabin agreements.** Staff will assist chaperones in creating a few sample cabin agreements. Additional agreements should be co-created with the students in your cabin later.
    - How do we want to live together as a cabin? When you create cabin agreements, this can set the tone for how the group interacts with each other. Make sure everyone agrees before adding an item to the list. Aim for positive phrasing. Have all the students sign their names to the list. If your group is having trouble coming up with ideas, you can ask them: How clean should the cabin be kept? How do you want to be treated? How can you be responsible for your own items? How can we be respectful?

Facilities and Meals

Lodge

Completed in 2021, our beautiful lodge has a large dining hall, commercial kitchen, two lounges (one for camp staff and one for teachers/chaperones, if not in use by the program), restrooms, and office.

Infirmary: Cabin for Health Officer and Storage for School-Provided Snacks

The Infirmary houses your school's health officer, all medications, and includes a bed for an ill participant. Students who are injured or ill during their time at Outdoor School will be accompanied to the infirmary within a "truddy" (2 adults and the child, or 2 children and an adult). This is also where children will come for their medications. This space has an attached cabin with a queen bed and kitchenette. There is a small refrigerator for medications and items such as Gatorade. Any school-provided snacks should be kept in secured cupboards in this building.

Family Arriving On Campus – Head to the Office First

Notify Karin "Bandit" Onkka about any scheduled family member visits or student transport with family members. If a family member of a student needs to come to campus for any reason, such as picking up their child for a medical/dental appointment, a family trip, or to take them home, they will need to check in at the office and wear a visitor badge for the duration of their visit.

Meals

Fresh, delicious, nutritious, kid-friendly meals are prepared in our state-of-the-art kitchen. Hand sanitizer is dispensed for everyone at the door. You will be detailing any dietary restrictions/allergies for attending adults and students prior to arrival using the form provided. We accommodate vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and dairy-free diets. If a person's diet is abundantly restrictive, we recommend they bring packaged meals from home in a cooler, which we'll then store in our walk-in and serve at mealtimes.

Mealtimes are opportunities for students, staff, teachers, and chaperones to interact, build community, and nourish themselves. All adults go first through the line and teachers/chaperones sit at separate tables in the dining room. At this point, the students can fill in where they like. Some items may be served family style at tables. **We need at least one adult per table.** Teachers and chaperones are responsible for students while dining. Seconds can be had once everyone has fixed a plate. We'll have posters and/or announcements about what will follow in the day. Immediately after breakfast, students go to the pavilion for morning activity and ALL ADULTS meet in the teacher/chaperone lounge for a huddle.

Student and Chaperone Cabins

There are two villages – upper village for the boys and lower village for the girls. Each village has five cabins for a total of 10. Heated cabins have comfortable bunks and private rooms for changing, using the toilet and showering. There are also shower houses nearby that become gender-specific before bedtime. Each cabin sleeps a maximum of 14 students and 2 chaperones.
You will be assigning students and chaperones to cabins using forms that will be supplied. In each cabin, you will find a cabin kit with books, quiet games, art supplies, skit and song ideas, and other helpful materials.

Campus

Our campus is comprised of rustic structures and lesson areas amid a diverse blend of wetlands, lake, and forest ecosystems nestled within the beautiful Fremont-Winema National Forest and on the shores of the naturally-formed Lake of the Woods.

Teacher/Chaperone Lounge

The **lounge on the north end of the building** (to the right if entering through the front door) is for teachers and chaperones. This lovely room has Wifi, small tables, chairs, a comfortable couch, fireplace, and a view of the lake. There will be hot coffee and tea available in this room. If this room is not being used by the program, you may spend time hanging out in this relaxing space. Please plan to bring your preferred **non-alcoholic** drinks and snacks and store them in the mini fridge in this lounge.

Field Studies

We aim for a student to instructor ratio of 15:1 - 12:1. Two chaperones are required for each of the field study groups for supervision, restroom breaks, to lead students to the infirmary, and to help students stay on task. We do encourage teachers to visit each field study during the week to see what your students are up to.

Warm Up

Welcome to Outdoor School! We'll get our nametags, start our field journal, then jump into a lively intro to the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace! We'll then engage in some fun exercises to tune up our senses.

Towering Trees

Camp DeBoer is covered with giant conifers! We'll use a simple dichotomous key to learn a few of their names, then set out to estimate tree height with a clinometer. We'll learn how to age a tree, explore downed logs, and look for lichen. Other games and activities will be included, as well as some field journal time.

Fire Science

We'll look at the components of wildland fire behavior, then create and burn model forests with matchsticks, doing several variations. We'll apply our new skills and assess the site for fire resiliency (and return home with the ability to assess our homes and schools).

Wetland Wonders

We'll look at the importance and functions of wetlands and riparian areas through interaction with a wet meadow and a large marsh. With low impact in mind, we'll catch and release amphibians and macro-invertebrates. We'll collect data to assess the water quality on our site, and make observations of this ecosystem's plant and animal life.

Tracks, Scat and Skulls

We'll explore mammals by taking a look at skulls, scat, pelts, and tracks. Students will enjoy a number of games and activities as we investigate a variety of animal signs, habitat needs and adaptations.

Wilderness Skills

Students will discover what belongs in a Ten Essentials Kit and the importance of each item, hear a real-life survival story, discuss survival and signaling strategies, practice building a survival shelter, a sun compass, and try their hand at compass orienteering.

Wrap Up

Students will take time to reflect in their journal and create a memory map of Camp DeBoer as well as a nature poem. We'll then share out things we liked and learned from the week.

Other Elements of Outdoor School

Except where noted, Camp DeBoer Outdoor School staff will provide materials and leadership for the following activities. Chaperones and Teachers will provide assistance where needed, along with student supervision.

Morning Meetings and Chaperone Huddles followed by Classroom Meetings

After breakfast and before the first field study, students will gather for morning activity. These are times where staff and students interact and afterward where classroom teachers or administrators connect with their students for a classroom meetings. Teachers: Please plan to bring 2-3 activities that will last about 20 minutes with your students. Suggestions: identifying feelings, journaling, rose/bud/thorn, a game, or think/pair/share conversations.

All adults except field instructors: Immediately after breakfast, while students are having morning activity with field instructors, teachers and chaperones will have a chance to huddle with the Outdoor Education Director (Karin/"Bandit") and/or one of our ODS coordinators. Please meet in the teacher/chaperone lodge. This will be a time for teachers, chaperones and a staff representative to check in and work to resolve any concerns, needs, or issues or get their questions answered. Teachers will then meet students at the pavilion to hold classroom meetings. Chaperones will be released back to their cabins in time to help students get ready for their field study.

Cabin Time

Periodically, chaperones and students will gather in their cabin for "cabin time." These times are scheduled after field studies when students may need to change into dry socks or other clothing after exploring the wetlands. We encourage students to use the first part of this time to change, then rest, read, play quiet games, and relax. There will be a kit in each cabin with books, quiet games, and supplies. Chaperones can use the acronym FOB which stands for "feet on bunks" to encourage individual chill time. Students are not allowed to share bunks or visit other cabins. **Whether inside or out, one thing should be made clear: during this time students are expected to be with their cabin group with the chaperone supervising the activity.** If outside, give the group a set of boundaries where you can see and hear everyone. Cabin times are breaks for ODS staff, though we may have times where Student Leaders may be on rotation to help cabins settle into an activity. For welcome campfire, cabins will come up with a "Cabin Call!" For closing campfire, cabin time will be used to develop a skit, song, or talent for the closing campfire!

Gathering

Prior to lunch and dinner, the full ODS community will gather for a few minutes of mindfulness. During this time, we encourage everyone to check in with themselves, make observations about the natural environment around them, to breathe deeply and tune in to the environment. This is a rare moment when we are all together – quiet and still. We ask teachers and chaperones to include themselves in the circle and model appropriate participation.

Recreation/Recess

Check your schedule carefully to see where we have scheduled recreation or recess.

Recreation:

Students will sign up for recreation activities which take place in the late afternoon for about 30-45 minutes, either indoors or outdoors, depending on the activity. Recreation activities usually take place in groups of 15 or fewer and are opportunities for students to follow their interests. Staff will lead activities based on their individual strengths and student interest. Each day, a number of different activities will be offered for students to choose from. These may include: Hiking, gnome and fairy houses, rock painting and other art, friendship bracelets, chalk art, tie dye, gaga ball, field games, board games, birding, wetland wanders, nature journaling, fishing, archery, etc. We will announce when students will sign up. Students may **not** change activities in the midst of recreation.

Recess:

Staff will announce three or four activity areas where students can go and be supervised. Students are allowed to change activity areas when they like. Examples are: exploring the waterfront and docks without getting wet, gaga ball and court games, board games and an art/craft option inside of the lodge or directly outside of the lodge on picnic tables.

Chaperones have recess/recreation off. Teachers will help supervise recess.

Evening Program

We'll gather each evening after dinner for activities like team-building games, the great ODS Scavenger hunt, an owl program, stars and constellations, dance party, camp clue, the amazing race, trivia, evening hike, Dutch auction, and more!

Activities and locations will depend on the weather. We may also have a guest speaker or presentation during this time.

At dinner, we will issue a detailed rotation schedule to teachers and chaperones, who will be in charge of supervision and helping the students get to the next rotation station.

If there are extra teachers not chaperoning a cabin, we may have you help run the s'mores station or another station. Training or assistance will be provided.

We ask that team challenges be taken on by the students and not the adults. Activities are created to build trust and teamwork and to solve age-appropriate challenges.

Any competitive type of game is to be taken lightly without a focus on winners and losers.

Campfire

Our first night will feature a welcome campfire and our last night will feature a closing campfire.

The second night will be an extended set of evening rotation stations that offer both high-energy and low-energy activities with a cooking fire for a s'mores station.

Weather permitting, campfires will be held in our beautiful outdoor amphitheater or rustic fire circle (thus the need for **warm layers**). In inclement weather, we'll have an evening program in the lodge in front of our cozy fireplaces. Campfire is an entertaining and fun time for students to sing songs and share in cabin unity.

At the welcome campfire, staff will welcome each cabin and cabins will perform a "Cabin Call." Cabin calls are short songs, phrases, or dances that happen at their bench and are usually performed in unison. (Like saying "Who are we?" followed by spelling out your cabin name followed by YAY!) After cabin calls, staff will lead loud/active songs. Midway through campfire, staff will lead a transition to slower, quieter songs. To close campfire, staff will sing our goodnight song. After this final song, staff will dismiss cabin groups to get ready for bed.

For closing campfire, each cabin will perform a short talent show, song, or skit that totals a few minutes in length. We encourage creativity, humor, props, costumes, and fun! Staff will bring some surprise fun of their own!

Teachers and chaperones should be prepared to sit with cabin groups and encourage/model active and appropriate participation while handling any disruptive behavior.

Departure

The schedule for your final morning at Camp DeBoer allows time for:

- Packing up luggage prior to breakfast.
- Placing luggage on the porch of the cabin in order to clean and re-stock the cabin.
- Using the cleaning checklist to ensure that the cabins are free of personal items, swept, and wiped down. A staff member will oversee you during this time to help with replacing paper products and cleaning tasks.
- Luggage may be hauled to the departure area after breakfast and morning meeting. Ensure that luggage stations do not obstruct the buses from pulling in/turning around.

For adults driving their own vehicles:

- Check with a staff member to see if it is a good time to pull closer to your cabin if you have several or heavy/bulky items to unload. Parking directly outside cabins is for the purpose of loading only; vehicles must be returned to the parking lot in a timely manner. A staff member can radio this info to the rest of the staff.

3-Day/2-night Outdoor School Schedule (subject to change)

Day 1: (Arrival schedule depends on school and travel distance)

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:45am	Staff arrive and set up	All campus	Outdoor Ed Director (OED)
10:00am	Class arrives, welcome, unload	Arrival area	Staff + Teach/Chap (T/C)*
10:30am	Settle in, cabin agreements, campus tours	Cabins, then campus	Staff + Teach/Chap (T/C)*
11:30am	Teacher/Chaperone Huddle	Teacher/Chaperone Lounge	OED/Coordinator
12:00pm	Outdoor Sack Lunch, recess on court	Pavilion/Court	Teachers/Chaperones +
12:45pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
1:00pm	Field Study 1	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
2:15pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Packed kits can be left out	Staff send T/C to cabins
2:30pm	Snack, then Cabin time	Front of lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
2:45pm	Recess	Various locations	½ staff + Teachers
3:15pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
3:30pm	Field Study 2	Amphitheater, then various	Staff + 2 T/C per group
4:45pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Kits returned to Field Station	Staff send T/C to cabins
5:00pm	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
5:15pm	Gathering	Flagpole circle	Staff, T/C model behavior
5:30pm	Dinner, then cabins	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
6:30pm	Evening program and welcome campfire	TBD: Schedule rec'd at dinner	Staff with help from T/C
8:30pm	Get ready for Bedtime; Lights out at 9:30	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones

*A single staff member will be assigned to welcome each cabin and take them through the morning activities, ending with assisting their cabin in getting their lunch and sitting together. In the pavilion, there will be benches labeled so that each cabin can sit together for this meal. Teachers and chaperones will take over supervising students at this point, freeing up staff members to prepare for Field Studies.

+ Get ready for Field Study and into Field Study groups: Please quickly have students put on closed-toed shoes, have a jacket in hand, their water bottle and wood cookie nametag before leaving the cabin. A backpack may be helpful. Walk the students to the amphitheater as soon as possible so that they can get sorted into their Field Study groups.

Day 2:

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:45am	PJ Breakfast	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
8:30am	Morning activity, sign up for recreation	Pavilion/Various locations	Staff
8:30-9am	Teacher/Chaperone huddle	Teacher/Chaperone Lounge	OED/Coordinator
9:00am	Classroom meetings, led by teachers	Assigned Location	Teachers
9:15am	Brush teeth, get ready for FS and into groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones
9:30am	Field Study 3	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
10:45am	Straighten up FS, T/C to cabins	Kits can be left out	Staff send T/C to cabins
11:00am	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
11:15am	Recreation	Various locations	Staff
11:55pm	Line up at lodge door for lunch	Front of lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
12:00pm	Lunch	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
12:45pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
1:00pm	Field Study 4	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
2:15pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Packed kits can be left out	Staff send T/C to cabins
2:30pm	Snack, Cabin time	Front of lodge then cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
2:45pm	Recess	Various locations	Teachers + ½ the staff
3:15pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
3:30pm	Field Study 5	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
4:45pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Kits returned to Field Station	Staff send T/C to cabins
5:00pm	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
5:15pm	Gathering	Flagpole circle	Staff, T/C model behavior
5:30pm	Dinner	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
6:30pm	Evening program and closing campfire	TBD: Schedule rec'd at dinner	Staff with help from T/C
8:30pm	Get ready for Bedtime; Lights out at 9:30	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones

Day 3: (Departure day schedule depends on school and travel distance)

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:00am	Fun Sock Friday! **Pack your bag NOW!**	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
7:45am	Breakfast	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
8:30am	Clean cabins, set out bags, return borrowed items	Cabins	T/C with help from staff
9:00am	Field Study Wrap Up, ODS Names	Meet at amphitheater	Staff + 2 T/C per group
9:30am	Closing Circle	Amphitheater	Staff with help from T/C
TBD	Departure (time depending on school)	Departure area	All adults

***Some schools traveling a long distance will stay for lunch on departure day**

4-Day/3-night Outdoor School Schedule (subject to change)

Day 1: (Arrival schedule depends on school and travel distance)

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:45am	Staff arrive and set up	All campus	Outdoor Ed Director (OED)
10:00am	Class arrives, welcome, unload	Arrival area	Staff + Teach/Chap (T/C)*
10:30am	Settle in, cabin agreements, campus tours	Cabins, then campus	Staff + Teach/Chap (T/C)*
11:30am	Teacher/Chaperone Huddle	Teacher/Chaperone Lounge	OED/Coordinator
12:00pm	Outdoor Sack Lunch	Pavilion	Teachers/Chaperones +
12:45pm	Recess	Various locations	Teachers + ½ the staff
1:15pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
1:30pm	Field Study 1	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
3:15pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Kits returned to Field Station	Staff + 2 T/C per group
3:30pm	Snack, Sign up for Recreation, Cabin time	Front of lodge then cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
4:00pm	Recreation	Kits returned to proper place	Staff
4:45pm	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
5:15pm	Gathering	Flagpole circle	Staff, T/C model behavior
5:30pm	Dinner	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
6:30pm	Evening program and welcome campfire	TBD: Schedule rec'd at dinner	Staff with help from T/C
8:30pm	Get ready for Bedtime; Lights out at 9:30	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones

*A single staff member will be assigned to welcome each cabin and take them through the morning activities, ending with assisting their cabin in getting their lunch and sitting together. In the pavilion, there will be benches labeled so that each cabin can sit together for this meal. Teachers and chaperones will take over supervising students at this point, freeing up staff members to prepare for Field Studies.

+ Get ready for Field Study and into Field Study groups: Please quickly have students put on closed-toed shoes, have a jacket in hand, their water bottle and wood cookie nametag before leaving the cabin. A backpack may be helpful. Walk the students to the amphitheater as soon as possible so that they can get sorted into their Field Study groups.

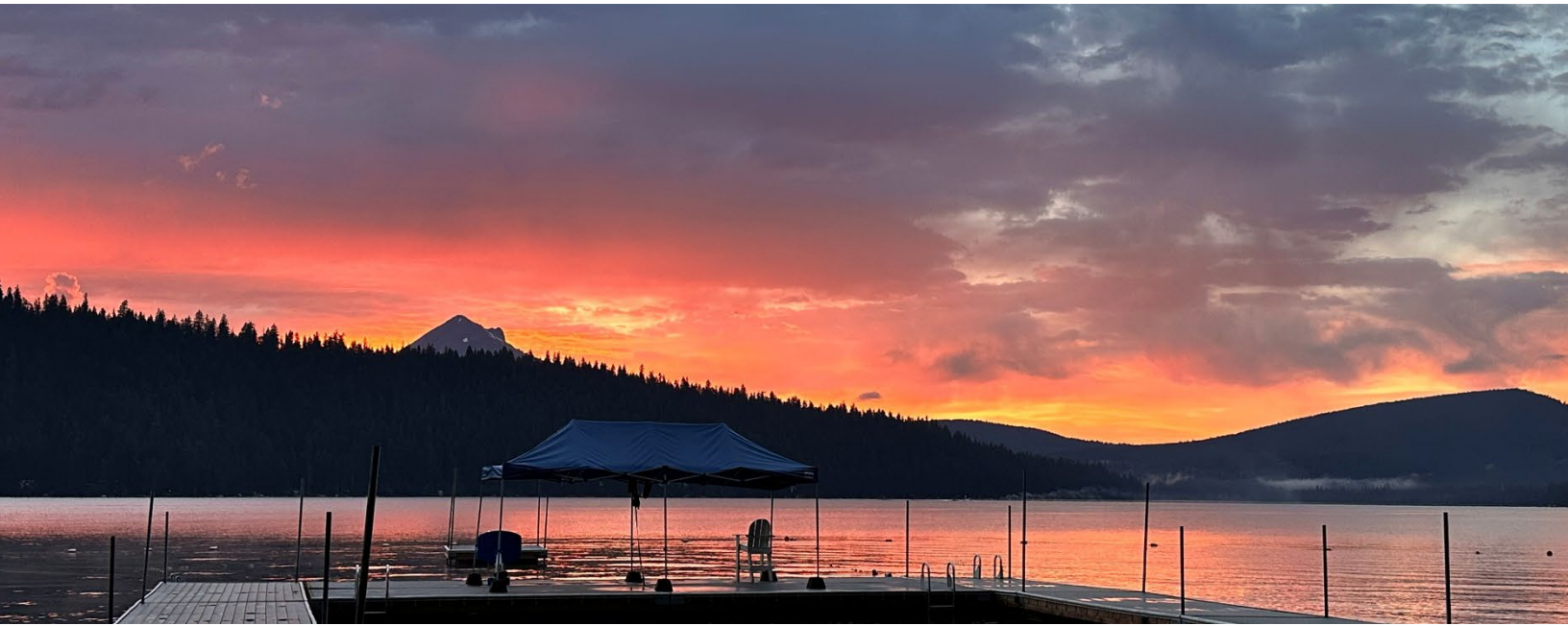
Day 2/3: (Day 3 follows the same schedule as Day 2)

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:45am	PJ Breakfast on second to last day!	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
8:30am	Morning activity	Pavilion/Various locations	Staff
8:30-9am	Teacher/Chaperone huddle	Teacher/Chaperone Lounge	OED/Coordinator
9:00am	Classroom meetings, led by teachers	Assigned Location	Teachers
9:15am	Brush teeth, get ready for FS	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones
9:30am	Field Study 2/4	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
11:15am	Straighten up FS, T/C to cabins	Packed kits can be left out	Staff send T/C to cabins
11:30am	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
11:45pm	Gathering	Flagpole	Staff, T/C model behavior
12:00pm	Lunch	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
12:45pm	Recess	Various locations	Teachers + ½ the staff
1:15pm	Get ready for Field Study and into FS groups	Cabins, then Amphitheater	Teachers/Chaperones +
1:30pm	Field Study 3/5	Around campus	Staff + 2 T/C per group
3:15pm	Straighten up FS (students help)	Kits returned to Field Station	Staff + 2 T/C per group
3:30pm	Snack, Sign up for Recreation, Cabin time	Front of lodge then cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
4:00pm	Recreation	Kits returned to proper place	Staff + 2 T/C per group
4:45pm	Cabin Time	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
5:15pm	Gathering	Flagpole circle	Staff, T/C model behavior
5:30pm	Dinner	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
6:30pm	Evening program and welcome campfire	TBD: Schedule rec'd at dinner	Staff with help from T/C
8:30pm	Get ready for Bedtime; Lights out at 9:30	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones

Day 4: (Departure day schedule depends on school and travel distance)

Time	Activity	Location	Who's In Charge
7:00am	Fun Sock Friday! **Pack your bag NOW!**	Cabins	Teachers/Chaperones
7:45am	Breakfast	Lodge	Teachers/Chaperones
8:30am	Clean cabins, set out bags, return items	Cabins	T/C with help from staff
9:00am	Field Study Wrap Up, ODS Names	Meet at amphitheater	Staff + 2 T/C per group
9:30am	Closing Circle	Amphitheater	Staff with help from T/C
TBD	Departure (time depending on school)	Departure area	All adults

***Some schools traveling a long distance will stay for lunch on departure day**



Supervision and Discipline

Schools are responsible for the supervision of their students at all times. This supervision of students can be provided by teachers or other leaders recruited by the school. During activities, disruptive students will be gently redirected, then referred to the Outdoor Education Director who will reach out to the teachers/leaders. In the event of a serious breach of camp rules by students, the school will be asked to remove the student(s) from camp property. Examples include, but are not limited to, acts or threats of violence, vandalism, lack of respect for the staff or program, regularly opting out of the program, and behaviors that threaten the safety of any individual.

Lake Safety

Other than supervised exploration of ankle-deep waters in our wetlands, there will be **NO** entering of Lake of the Woods by foot or watercraft at any time. Students may sit on the docks only when supervised by a staff member, teacher, or chaperone who understands and will abide by this policy. The lake is extremely cold this time of year and there are no YMCA-authorized lifeguards on duty. Our policy is to have YMCA-authorized and trained lifeguards for all water activities, including wading.

Rules for School Use of Camp DeBoer

The YMCA Camp DeBoer staff is very proud to serve you. We are equally proud of our exceptional facilities and ask that you help maintain them by following these rules:

- **Respect the natural beauty** of camp by using the trash containers around camp, and by not disturbing plant or animal life. Pets, the possession of firearms or other weapons, or intoxication are NOT allowed. We are on Forest Service land and federal laws/consequences apply.
- Camp is an alcohol-free/drug free area. The consumption of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances/federally illegal drugs are **prohibited** on camp property. **This includes marijuana.**
- Camp is also a tobacco-free area. **No smoking** in the camp area. There is a smoking area in the parking lot for tobacco products only.
- Vehicles are not permitted beyond the parking areas without staff approval.

Guidelines for Students

Our top priority is ensuring everyone has a safe and enjoyable time at ODS. **To help us with that goal, please read through the following rules with your students/children** so that everybody is familiar with the expected community behaviors.

- All school policies and rules apply while participating in ODS programs. If a rule is not stated, common sense, good judgment, courtesy, respect, and safety apply.
- All living creatures, including people, are to be treated with courtesy and respect. This means no obscenities, jokes or slurs relating to another's race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or physical or mental abilities. It also means that plants, creatures, and all of nature deserve your respect and should not be damaged, injured, or harassed.
- Handling or harassing dangerous organisms (animals, plants, insects, etc.) is not allowed.
- Stay with your group, be a good listener, and always wear your wood cookie nametag.
- Stay out of other cabins and be respectful of others' sleeping areas and belongings.
- Use the **RULE OF THREE**. You should always have an adult and one student buddy(ies) at all times. A student may also be alone with two adults. Students will never be alone with an adult or another student. If a student finds themself alone, they are not where they should be.
- Treat your ODS materials/equipment with care and use them as directed, at the appropriate time.
- Unsafe activities must be avoided at all times (e.g. no climbing trees, running, sliding or jumping on rough, slick areas). Walk wherever you go. Remain in the boundaries of camp. You should never be near the road, or in the lake -- even up to your ankles -- unless you are there in a supervised activity.
- Violations of these policies, particularly those relating to an individual's physical or mental health, will result in staff intervention and may result in removal from the program. Upon arrival, students will go through an orientation to review these and other ODS policies.

The following steps are a general outline of how we support students and may be adapted.

Step 1: ODS staff talks to the student to determine if they understand the rules and are capable of following them. The student receives a short break from the group, if necessary.

Step 2: If the behavior continues, the student meets with the Outdoor Education Director and/or teacher to write a behavior modification/support plan that outlines the student's responsibilities, behavior goals, and supports they may need.

Step 3: If the behavior continues, parents or guardians will be notified of the situation and asked for input and support. The student will then meet with the Outdoor Education Director (and other staff as needed) plus a teacher to discuss what their participation will look like going forward.

Step 4: If the behavior continues, the teacher and Outdoor Education Director will determine next steps, which may include asking the parent or guardian to come to camp to take them home.

Outdoor School Packing List

Please have your name on EVERY item you bring! YMCA Camp DeBoer is not responsible for lost or damaged items. Please try to pack everything in one or two duffle bags.

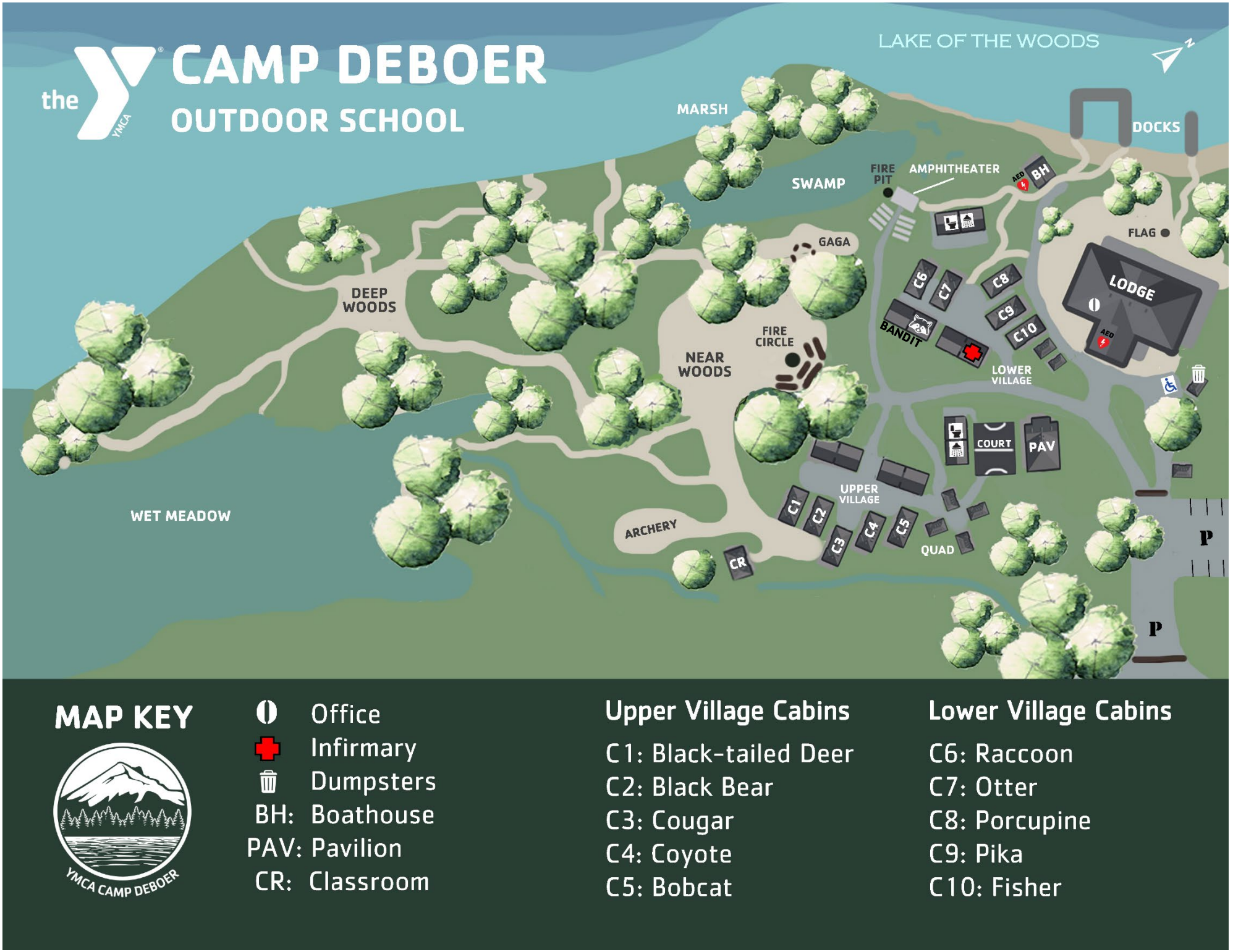
Think LAYERS! Dress in layers to be prepared for changing weather conditions. That might look like a shirt, then a sweatshirt, then a warm jacket, and a rain jacket as needed.

Located at an elevation of 5,000 feet, spring and fall seasons can be chilly at Camp DeBoer and everyone needs to **be prepared to spend the day and evening outdoors**! Raingear, layers, and sturdy footwear are essentials. There may still be snow on the ground in places in spring; snow may also fall in October.

Food, snacks, drinks, electronics, expensive jewelry, cash, and other valuables are **NOT ALLOWED**.

- ☐ Jeans or long pants (2-3 pair)
- ☐ Shirts (3-4, at least 2 long-sleeved)
- ☐ Underwear (1 pair per day)
- ☐ Warm PJs/sweats (we'll have a pajama breakfast!)
- ☐ Socks (4-5 pair, 2 non-cotton + a fun pair!)
- ☐ Warm hoodie, fleece jacket, or sweater
- ☐ Light jacket or windbreaker (for layering)
- ☐ Rainwear (poncho, raincoat, or heavy trash bag)
- ☐ Shoes – sturdy, comfortable (NO open-toed, open-back, or sandals!)
- ☐ BOOTS or old tennis shoes which can get WET!
- ☐ Hat with brim for sun protection
- ☐ Warm hat that covers the ears
- ☐ Gloves/mittens
- ☐ Warm sleeping bag
- ☐ Extra blanket
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap and container
- ☐ Washcloth and towel
- ☐ Hair care products including shampoo
- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Sunscreen and lip balm
- ☐ Sunglasses/glasses as needed
- ☐ Flashlight or headlamp (+ batteries)
- ☐ Backpack or tote
- ☐ Water Bottle (not too big)
- ☐ Book or journal for rest time
- ☐ Medications in original packaging (stored and administered by school staff)

☐ Smile and good attitude! ☺


the YMCA
CAMP DEBOER
OUTDOOR SCHOOL
LAKE OF THE WOODS
MARSH
DOCKS
SWAMP
FIRE PIT
AMPHITHEATER
AED
BH
FLAG
GAGA
DEEP WOODS
C6
C7
C8
C9
C10
LODGE
AED
BANDIT
FIRE CIRCLE
NEAR WOODS
LOWER VILLAGE
COURT
PAV
UPPER VILLAGE
C1
C2
C3
C4
C5
QUAD
ARCHERY
CR
WET MEADOW
P
P
MAP KEY
Office
Infirmary
Dumpsters
BH: Boathouse
PAV: Pavilion
CR: Classroom
YMCA CAMP DEBOER
Upper Village Cabins
C1: Black-tailed Deer
C2: Black Bear
C3: Cougar
C4: Coyote
C5: Bobcat
Lower Village Cabins
C6: Raccoon
C7: Otter
C8: Porcupine
C9: Pika
C10: Fisher