

Camp Cavell Conservancy



Camp Cavell at a Glance...

CAMP CAVELL is a unique environment set aside from our hectic world. It is not just a place, but rather, "Camp" is a philosophy, a way of operating. It is also a safe place where people can learn about one another, themselves, and their environment as they try new experiences and grow together. Within the boundaries of camp, lifetime friendships are formed spanning cultural, ethnic and social lines.



Camp Cavell is owned and operated by the Camp Cavell Conservancy. It is a wonderful three season camp located on 55 acres in Lexington, Michigan. It overlooks 1800 feet of beautiful Lake Huron shoreline and has two streams and a hardwood forest.

Camp Cavell has touched thousands of lives over 100 years of service to its community. Our campers will tell you that Camp Cavell has a positive, long lasting effect on people's lives. We bring together people of many different abilities, cultures, and economic backgrounds, helping to create a respectful community.

Programs we offer include: Fun Family Weekends, Women's Enrichment Weekends, Women's Adventure Trips, Senior Weekend, Children's Summer Camp, and Summer Day Camp. Activities include: waterfront, crafts, archery, horseback riding, kayaking, backpacking, woodshop, technical tree climbing, photography, nature and more! Our educational programs address environmental education, conflict resolution, communication, & team building.

We have also provided hundreds of community and school groups with beneficial camp experiences. Some of the groups who utilize our programming include the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Champs for Life (Children in foster care because of abuse), Henry Ford Health System Stroke Survivors, Girl Scouts, Community Enterprises (Mentally disabled adults), Family Shelters and many more.



Each year we serve over 3000 people in our community! We work with a unique mix of children and adults from very different economic and social backgrounds. We feel strongly that camp is a special place like no other and should be available to everyone!

We would Love to have you Join Us!

Camp Cavell, 3335 Lakeshore Rd., Lexington, MI 48450 / 810-359-2267

Email: cavell@campcavell.org Website: www.campcavell.org



Camp Cavell Program Focus



Camp Cavell has been providing camping programs for adults, children, families and community groups for over 100 years. Camp Cavell is built on a solid foundation and has evolved and matured to create a facility and program that strive toward making a safe, enjoyable and beneficial stay for our participants.

We offer week, weekend and day programs operated by the Camp Cavell Conservancy which are open to all. We also work with non-profit social agencies and other organized groups to create camp experiences including activities, room, and board.

Programs the Conservancy offers include:

- J VOLUNTEER WEEKEND - volunteers work together to open camp.
- J WOMEN'S GETAWAYS - recreational weekend for women to focus on fun, fitness relaxation and personal development.
- J ME & MY MOM WEEKEND - variety of activities to bring together mothers, grandmothers, and children.
- J FAMILY WEEKENDS - programs aimed toward a safe enjoyable time for families and friends of diverse cultural backgrounds to come together in a camp environment.
- J OPEN HOUSE AT CAMP - opportunity for parents thinking about a camp experience and to talk with the camp staff and tour site.
- J SUMMER CAMP - 80 campers from diverse backgrounds come together for a one or two week experience. Program includes: riding, waterfront, dance, woodshop, crafts, technical tree climbing, photography, crafts and more!
- J 50+ SENIOR'S GETAWAY - opportunity for seniors to come together for an enjoyable time with nature and exciting programs geared just for them.
- J DAY CAMP - a daytime program providing child care for local children who have the opportunity to learn new skills while enjoying camp programs.
- J COMMUNITY DAYS - day events for the community to come enjoy camp and participate in some of our camp activities.
- J COMMUNITY USE GROUPS - unique camp experiences created for Community Groups to fit their needs and budget. Groups include schools, churches, retreats, special needs populations, at risk programs and more.



Organizations that Have Benefited from a Camp Cavell Experience!



Community Enterprises
(adults with developmental disability)

Blue Water Housing
(people with disabilities in residential care)

Camp Fire Girls

Champs for Life *(foster children who have been removed from abusive situations)*

Christ Church

City Year Detroit *(youth who have given a year of their life to help their community)*

Church of New St. Paul Baptist Church

Congregation Shir Tikvah

Crestwood High School Band Camp

Cros-Lex Middle School

Boy Scouts Troops

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Detroit Academy of Math, Science and Technology

Detroit Recreation Department Senior Program

Ferndale – Kennedy High School
(mediation skills for student leaders)

Ferguson Academy for Young Women
(Detroit Public Schools)

Girl Scout Troops

Great Lakes Leadership Conference
(recreation leaders conference)

Harwood Elementary School
(environmental education and team building)

Henry Ford Health System
(Stroke Survivors & Families)

Hurford Acres *(adult care residential home)*

Hollandwood Middle School
(mediation skills for students)

Michigan Dance Heritage

IMPACT *(people with disabilities in residential care)*

L'anse Creuse High School
(teens learning conflict resolution and communication)

MDA *(Muscular Dystrophy Association children's camp)*

Michigan Envirothon
(High School competition in environmental education)

Michigan Islamic Academy

New St. Paul Baptist Church

Our Lady of Guadalupe
(young girls school, youth development)

Roseville Handicapped Association
(camping experience for mentally disabled campers)

Roseville High School Band

Sacred Heart Church *(Youth Group)*

Shay's Retreat
(adults coming together to grow spiritually & share)

South Macomb Youth Circuit
(young teen character building)

The Giving Tree Montessori

University Liggitt School
(student's team building, environmental education)

University Public School *(youth development)*

Volunteers Assisting the Disabled
(adults who have Muscular Dystrophy)

Woodrow Wilson Elementary School

And many more....



Camp Cavell Purpose

OUR PURPOSE...

CAMP CAVELL provides an opportunity for people of many different experiences to come together, share, grow and develop a better understanding of themselves, their environment, and the community they live in. We also strive to be good stewards of our land and to provide transformative programs that can have a positive impact of our community.



OUR OBJECTIVES...

To provide programs that focus on providing experiences that address root problems which individuals and communities face today - programs that build self-esteem define values and challenge individuals.

To provide a respite, a chance for children and adults to escape pressures, breathe deeply, walk our beaches and take time to reestablish their relationships and direction.

To facilitate the use of camp by many different social agencies. To acquaint them with the benefits and possibilities of camp programs and assist them in incorporating a camp experience into their overall programming.

To help participants work towards a better understanding of the human role in the natural environment, and to develop a sense of responsibility to conserve and protect it.

To preserve a camp in Eastern Michigan for everyone to have the opportunity to enjoy the Great Lakes.

To develop and strengthen CAMP CAVELL'S operation and facilities in order to provide the best possible environment for successful programming and to insure its future.

OUR PHILOSOPHY...

CAMP CAVELL is a unique environment set aside from our hectic world. It is not just a place, but rather, "camp" is a philosophy, a way of operating. Within the boundaries of camp, lifetime friendships are formed spanning all cultural, ethnic and social lines. CAMP CAVELL fosters the ideal that individuals from diverse backgrounds can celebrate similarities while learning to appreciate diversity.

We also feel strongly that our entire site should be available to anyone who wishes to join in and are working to find ways to overcome as many barriers as possible, physical and otherwise. We welcome you to contact us if you would like to help make this a reality.

We also feel it is important to address environmental concerns. Campers this year operated a recycling project. Working with the kitchen staff, campers recycle cardboard, glass, tin and plastic, and helped with compost or as we call it "feed the earth". We also try to utilize the natural aspects of the site. Groups are encouraged to reduce the amount of program material that would land in a land fill and work to creatively use renewable natural materials.



History of Camp Cavell...



"Indeed 'tis upon the past that we build the present and dream of the future."

Back in 1914... far removed from the destructive din of the battlefields of Europe, a whole new world of adventure and excitement opened up for thirty Detroit girls at a camp sponsored for two weeks by the Girls' Work Department of the Detroit Young Women's Christian Association. The setting was Elizabeth Lake, and the program featured: rising, scripture and prayers around the flag pole, meals, inspection twice a day, sports and swimming, quiet hour, closing camp fire and to bed at nine o'clock.

Borrowed tents comprised its meager equipment. From this simple beginning, the Detroit YWCA girls' camp progressed through seasons of three, four, six and eight weeks from various temporary sites – Tecumseh on Lake St. Clair (1915), the Grindley Farm on Long Lake, notable for the luxury of wooden floors in the tents (1916-1917), and Oxley on Lake Erie where the custom of entertaining parents was inaugurated with a camp circus (1918).

In 1919, at the Carrigan site on Lake Huron (1919-21) the enterprise was christened "Camp Cavell" in honor of Nurse Edith Cavell whose heroic patriotism so fired the imagination of the girls of the post-war period. Sleeping tents for one hundred and twenty-three campers were set up along "Cavell Boulevard," and for the first time a permanent though primitive recreation-dining building was erected. In 1922, Camp Cavell was moved north to Lakeport. Here "Kamp Kavell Knoos" flourished weekly, and many traditional camp songs penned. Riding and creative arts were introduced, Indian tribal organization effected, and the first differentiation in age groups made.

In 1927, proceeds of the Women's Building Fund campaign made possible the purchase of Camp Cavell's present site on Lake Huron – 30 acres with 1000 feet of lake frontage – 4 ½ miles north of Lexington. Later 10 more acres were added which made 40 acres with 1400 feet of lake frontage. By July, 1929, a spacious Recreation Lodge, Crafts Wigwam, a few cabins and a temporary dining hall were ready for Camp Cavell's 14th season.

Each year has saw additional buildings and equipment added – tennis courts, stables, dining hall, shower house, director's cabin and additional cabins, and in 1958, three new Unit Houses, a new Brookside Unit and a CIT cabin. In 1963, during our 50th Anniversary Year, all new winterized Northwood and Southwood Unit cabins were erected as well as a new Health Cabin, and winterizing done to the kitchen and Dining Hall.

We now have 55 acres and 1800 feet of lake frontage. Programs in Technical Tree Climbing, Woodshop, Kayaking and Backpacking have been added. Ramps and walkways now make Camp Cavell accessible to all. Thanks to our "Camp Friends" herb gardens, a turtle pond, a picnic shelter, an animal petting farm and comfortable porches make camp more inviting then ever! As we enter a new century, we will continue to grow and develop new programs and improve our buildings and facilities.

To Insure the camps future the Camp Cavell Conservancy was formed in March of 2013 and in the following September the Conservancy entered into a land contract with the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit to purchase the camp. The Camp Cavell Conservancy has committed itself to providing stewardship of the property while continuing to provide camp experiences for children in the Lexington, Port Huron, Metropolitan Detroit, and other communities throughout Michigan.

The Conservancy is continuing to improve Camp Cavell's facilities with the addition of a new Brookside Bathroom complex, two new bathrooms in Northwood, enclosed our picnic shelter, upgraded infrastructure and expanded programs. We are excited as we enter this new era with renewed spirit and a commitment to our mission.



We can Measure our Success by the Comments we Receive...

CAMP CAVELL has a long history of serving its community and we are proud of the many positive comment shared with us!

"...so exciting to see the wonderful work you all are doing at camp. What a resource we have in Michigan! The camp looks great--you have the Spirit and the heart to continue to make a great place to learn and grow. All the best to you..."

Kathleen Rowe - Alumni

"I made a lot of friends. Before camp I didn't talk to anyone. I knew I needed to talk more but I just couldn't. When I first got to camp, I didn't want to participate in anything or at least not very much. My Counselor "Deano" had a long talk with me and kept encouraging me all the time. I think it helped me be more confident. I even went on the mud hike and had mud from the top of my head to the tip of my shoes. My Mom always told me at home that I had a "Bad Attitude" but at camp I won the cabin award for "Best Attitude". I am very proud of that. I ended up having a lot of fun. Ninth grade hasn't been easy but having friends I made at camp made a big difference because I have someone to talk to. Having a counselor who cares to talk to me means a lot."

Amari 9th grade camper

"...we would like to compliment the cooks for their outstanding food..."

Thomas Edison Elementary

"...Thank you for your help and caring... Thank you for all the little extras..."

Muscular Dystrophy Association

"...The staff and board members of the MDH wanted me to convey their sincerest gratitude for the part you and your fine staff played in making our weekend there a pleasure as well as a success. So many positive comments about the site, the food, your cooperative spirit came from the participants..." The evaluations from our 120 participants tell the story, "the weekend was great... Camp Cavell was the perfect spot... thank you for having such a fine facility in the state of Michigan and especially to thank you for having the caliber of staff as you do at Camp Cavell."

Michigan Dance Heritage

"...Thank you for your endless assistance in making sure our youngsters enjoyed a positive and fun camping experience... Thank you for being there."

Y.E.S. (Youth Enrichment Source)

"...The site is conducive to a variety of activities / the great food & location keep us coming back."

Emerson Elementary School

"...you made us feel special. All those extra little touches, the name tags, the names over the kid's beds, balloons... and so much more that made our stay very pleasant."

Me & My Mom Parent

"...I had a fabulous time during Women's Get Away weekend! The weather was great and the experience was tremendous. Thank you so much to all those who helped out!

Cathie Martin Women's Weekend Participant



Camp Cavell: Moving into the Future...

In our continuing efforts to refurbish our facilities and expand our reach we have identified objectives in three major areas.

FACILITIES

-)] Continue to adapt the site to be “accessible to all”
-)] Renovate and expand housing and program areas
-)] Renovate and redesign food service operation
-)] Further winterize facilities to extend season
-)] Strengthen the camp’s infrastructure
-)] Improve grounds and protect natural areas

PROGRAMS

-)] INCREASE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS - to create programs that provide opportunities for expanding knowledge in areas of conservation & environmental awareness focusing on the Great Lakes
-)] INCREASE CHALLENGE PROGRAMS - which create opportunities for individual and group growth through a series of activities that focus on self assessment, group dynamics, community building, and fosters a positive spirit to change for the betterment of all
-)] INCREASE SUPPORT PROGRAMS - for families, youth at risk, victims of domestic violence, seniors and our special needs populations
-)] INCREASE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS - continue to strengthen our efforts to bring together children of many different cultural, social and ethnic backgrounds in a supportive environment

MARKETING

-)] Collaborate with other entities to create and facilitate programs that can strengthen our community.
-)] Target groups that traditionally do not attend camps and enlighten them to the benefits of an experience in a camp setting
-)] Network with social agencies to find populations that would benefit from a camp experience and assist them in including Camp Cavell in their overall objectives

Our Board of Directors and staff have been working hard to plan for the future that will insure that each investment made to improve Camp Cavell will have many future returns.

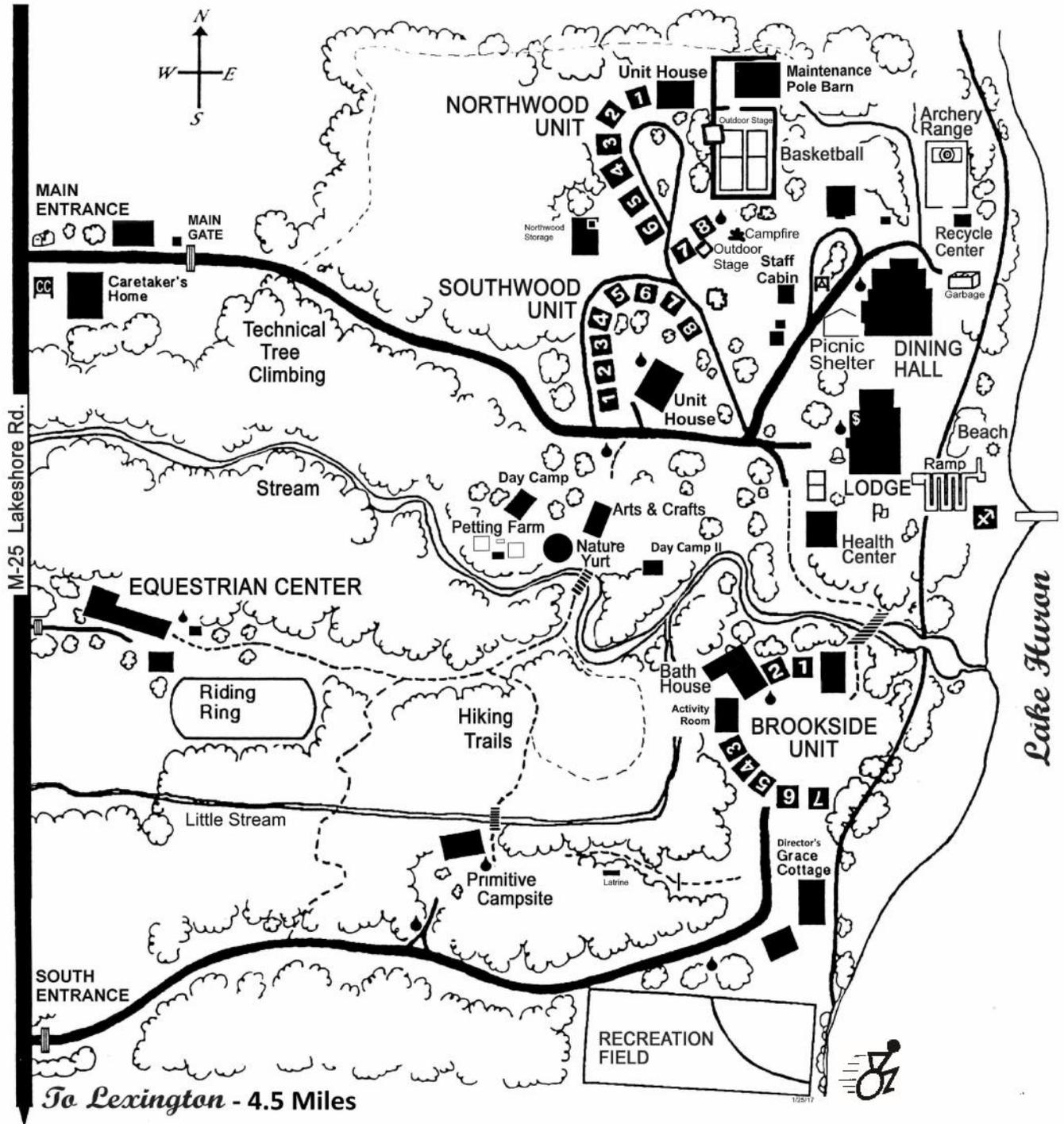


Camp Cavell’s future is in the hands of a caring community of people who believe like we do that camp truly fosters a world of good in everyone it touches!



Camp Cavell Conservancy

Map of Camp Cavell



Camp Cavell Conservancy, 3335 Lakeshore, Lexington, MI 48450

810-359-2267 FAX: 810-359-2430

Email: office@campcavell.org Website: www.campcavell.org

