



Nature Discovery

Summer 2017

DOES YOUR CHILD EXHIBIT A STRONG INTEREST IN THE NATURAL WORLD? Nature Discovery's summer camps offer high-quality Michigan wildlife education experiences in a rural setting *SPECIFICALLY TARGETING SUCH STUDENTS*. We limit the enrollment each week to only six students to provide a friendlier, less inhibited atmosphere with a low student-to-teacher ratio. Parents are amazed at the breadth of natural knowledge that gushes from students who have taken these camps! Each week emphasizes a specific area of interest, and is labeled with the recommended age range. A student who is a year outside the age range for a specific week may be accepted based on the ages of the other children enrolled for that week and the parent's assessment of the child's abilities. (Please *do not* enroll a "buddy" with your student if that child does not also exhibit a strong affinity to natural subjects.)



Our popular captive collection of Michigan reptiles and amphibians, the largest in the state, is kept in our small, bi-level nature center from which the camps are conducted. No matter which week your child attends, the collection is accessible every day. The camps are designed such that a student naturalist has an opportunity, over several summers of attendance, to gain a broad background in Michigan natural science. We recommend enrolling in a different camp topic each year. We do not recommend a child taking the same camp topic year after year. Parents are invited to participate on any camp day(s) at no charge.



FEES are listed at the bottom of each week's description. Some weeks have additional materials or travel fees. A non-refundable (NR) deposit is required to reserve a space on the roster. The space is not guaranteed until the deposit is received. The balance is due on the first day of the camp or trip. Do not send a check prior to phone or e-mail correspondence. Availability of an opening for the week of your choice must first be confirmed.

The schedule of weeks and descriptions is found on the following pages. Carol will also be teaching summer science classes for students entering grades 2-10 at Lansing Community College East. See the LCC section for details.



Michigan Field Birding (10 yrs & up)

June 19-22; 8am to 2pm. There are about 400 species of birds in Michigan, yet, most people would have a hard time naming twenty! In this whirlwind 4-day adventure we will try to encounter as many species as possible in a diversity of locations and habitats. Each day, we'll head in a different direction within an hour drive of Williamston to see up to 90 species, many of which you don't find just anywhere. Birders will keep their own personal checklists. Bring a good pair of binoculars. (Jim can recommend some good ones. Compact binoculars are NOT recommended.) Serious birders only, please. FEE: \$260, plus \$20 travel fee (\$130 NR deposit).

Nature Discovery (7 to 9 yrs)

June 26-29 or August 7-10; 9am to 3pm. This week offers students engaging exposure to a range of Michigan wildlife through a mix of inside and outside activities, including hands-on studies with our huge collection of live Michigan frogs, salamanders, turtles, and snakes, in addition to bird-watching, insect collecting, tree, shrub, vine, and wildflower identification, pond life studies, and more. We will also take short drives around the neighborhood to experience a diversity of habitats and wildlife.

FEE: \$260 (\$130 NR deposit).



Budding Naturalists (5-6 yrs)

July 10-13 or July 31-August 3; 9am to 12pm.

Young naturalists will enjoy a variety of indoor and outdoor nature activities, including hands-on visits with our captive reptiles & amphibians, and excursions around the yard and on our nature trails. Wildflower and tree identification; catching and identifying insects; feeding pools and tanks full of turtles, frogs and salamanders, bird watching and more. A snack is served each day. Parents are welcome to participate on any or all days.

FEE: \$130 (\$65 NR deposit).

Michigan Reptiles & Amphibians

(10 yrs & up)

August 21-24; 9am to 3pm. Here's a full week of Michigan frogs, salamanders, turtles, lizards and snakes in the classroom and in the field. Students will handle snakes and help feed and maintain all the animals on hand while learning about them at the same time. We'll also go on various field excursions by van and on foot around the neighborhood to find and identify as many wild herps as we can. Students will keep checklists of their herpetological finds.

FEE: \$260 (\$130 NR deposit).





Michigan Herp Atlas Field Camp

(Middle School / High School Students)

August 14-17. Join us for a 4-day, 3-night trip to survey reptile and amphibian populations in northern Michigan! Michigan Herp Atlas is a program coordinated by the Michigan DNR that recruits citizen involvement in reporting species and numbers of turtles, snakes, frogs, salamanders and lizards by way of a cell phone app that uses GPS coordinates. Our crew will traverse a variety of wild habitats on public land across the island, the data from which will be submitted instantly to the DNR. Depart ~9am, return ~7pm. FEE: \$550 (\$250 NR deposit), includes all transportation, lodging and meals. Enrollment limited to 4.

To Enroll...

Call Jim & Carol at: 517.655.5349

or Email us at naturedisc87@gmail.com.

After availability is confirmed, send a deposit check to secure your reservation.

Remember, enrollment for each day camp is limited to only 6, so sign-up early!

Lansing Community College

Carol will be teaching 4-day summer science camps for students entering grades 2-10, at LCC's East Lansing Campus, Monday thru Thursday the weeks of July 10, July 17 and July 24. Morning classes, 9am-noon. Afternoon classes, 1-4pm. For more information and to register visit lcc.edu/seriousfun.

NATURE DISCOVERY is owned and operated by Jim & Carol McGrath

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