



Year-around mailing address: PO Box 723, Platteville, WI 53818
Or street address: 1250 E Business Hwy 151, Ste K, Platteville, WI 53818
Year-around phone: (608) 348-9689 Website: www.BadgerCamp.org
Summer address (**June 1-August 17**): 11815 Munz Lane, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821
Summer phone (**June 1-August 17**): (608) 988-4558



"No place I'd rather be!"

MISSION

The Mission of Wisconsin Badger Camp is to serve people with developmental disabilities by providing quality outdoor recreational experiences.

PURPOSE

Wisconsin Badger Camp is a special place where people with developmental disabilities are able to:

- Build and maintain friendships and social skills through fellowship and outdoor activities.
- Learn through new experiences in a positive and supportive environment.
- Enhance their personal skills, independence and self confidence.
- Have fun while enjoying Wisconsin's spectacular natural resources.

WHO WE ARE

Wisconsin Badger Camp, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization established in 1966. The organization is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors made up of teachers, health care professionals, business owners, parents, and other dedicated individuals. We are funded by individual camper fees, generous individuals, businesses, private foundations and other friends of camp.

OUR CAMPERS

All individuals with developmental disabilities (ages 3 and up) are welcome regardless of the severity or type of their disability, race, religion, creed, geographic location, gender, age, or national origin. Individuals are welcome to camp as long as there is a degree of cognitive delay. Our staff undergo rigorous background checks and extensive trainings to prepare them for the unique needs of our campers and program.

FACILITIES

Wisconsin Badger Camp is located on 680 beautifully wooded acres in Southwest Wisconsin overlooking the Wisconsin and Mississippi River valleys. Camp's facilities include three dormitory style lodges, Primitive Camp, cabins for camping out, an accessible swimming pool,



PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

We offer a variety of programs in order to accommodate many different interests. Please read through the following descriptions to determine which program best suits your needs, interests, and abilities.

MAIN CAMP

ACTIVITIES: Creative programs and positive experiences await each camper! Activities each week include: swimming, camping, hiking, fishing, nature studies, arts & crafts, animal farm, dances, a talent show, Badger Olympics, cookouts, campfire programs, and many other activities. Weekly themes also present great variety and excitement to all camp activities.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Our camper to staff ratio is approximately one adult staff person for every two campers. Most camper groups consist of 2-4 campers per counselor. Full care and well-planned days are provided for each camper's individualized program. Sessions are divided according to age. On site healthcare staff are available 24 hours/day to provide necessary support to campers with medical needs. These programs provide the maximum level of support to campers and are encouraged for first time Badger Camp participants!

SIBLING WEEK

(Siblings ages 7-13 of campers)

ACTIVITIES: Campers get to stay at our rustic Primitive Camp just off of Main Camp where they will lodge in cabins and cook meals over a fire. Activities will include swimming, fishing, hiking, crafts, sports, music and other exciting programs related to the theme of the week.

SPECIAL FEATURES: This is a fantastic opportunity for your son/daughter without special needs to meet peers who understand the rewards and challenges of having a sibling with a disability. Campers will participate in programs and discussions called SibShops specifically tailored to address subjects such as relationships, family related communication, self-esteem and bullying issues. Come join us for this fantastic week at camp!



PRIMITIVE CAMP PROGRAM

Primitive Camp is designed for those looking for a unique, more rustic and somewhat challenging experience. Individuals participating in Primitive Camp should be capable of moderately strenuous physical activity. Sessions are limited to 16 campers per session.

- Campers registered for horseback riding cannot weigh more than 190 lbs. and must bring hard soled shoes or boots to camp.
- Individuals participating in Primitive Camp will be staying in rustic cabins and tents. While outhouses are used at the Primitive Camp site, campers use the shower/bathroom facilities at main camp during the week. Electricity is not available while at Primitive Camp.
- Weekly activities may include outdoor cooking, nature crafts, hiking, hayrides, swimming, as well as activities offered according to the emphasis of the session.
- Specific skills are not necessary for fishing, canoeing, or horseback riding. These skills will be taught.

Minimum necessary skills to participate in this program include:

- 1) Minimal assistance with grooming skills (dressing, washing, toileting, showering, etc.)
- 2) Nearly independent eating skills (including minimal special diets).
- 3) Reasonably good coordination and an ability to independently walk or wheel 2 miles per day (with supervision).
- 4) Social skills appropriate for close contact group living environments where minimal staff intervention is required.

————— **2013 PRIMITIVE CAMP SESSIONS** —————

<u>Music Week</u> Session 1: June 9-14	“Music can change the world because it can change people.” If you love music and the outdoors, this is the session for you! Campers will learn how to make their own unique instruments, create lyrics to an original Badger Camp original song, and perform a skit at Friday’s Talent Show. Fishing, hiking, and camping, along with all of your favorite Badger Camp activities will be waiting for you! Fee is \$600
<u>Horseback Riding Week</u> Session 2: June 16-21	Participants will spend the week learning how to care for and ride horses. The week will begin with a trip to a local horse farm, where you will receive a tour of the farm and will learn how to feed and groom the horses. Participants will then be provided a safe and fun riding experience throughout the rest of the week in our newly built riding corral and will ride in a demonstration at Friday’s Talent Show. No prior riding experience is required. Badger Camp is requiring that participants pay an additional \$25 fee to help cover extra costs. Additional activities include crafts, hiking, fishing, and more! Fee is \$625
<u>Young Adult Week</u> (<i>ages 14-25</i>) Session 3: June 23-28	Teens and young adults will explore their adventurous side during this Primitive Camp week. To keep things exciting, we will be offering a variety of our large activities, such as horseback riding and canoeing as well as instrument making and skit design for our talent show. This is a great opportunity to explore all that nature has to offer while having the opportunity to make friends that will last a lifetime! This session will also include Main Camp activities such as Badger Ball, swimming and visiting the animal barn. Fee is \$600
<u>Pioneer Week</u> Session 4: June 30-July 5	Have you ever wondered how the pioneers lived? Spend the week learning how to cook meals, such as stew and cobbler, and make candles all over an open fire. Pioneers will have the opportunity to explore their natural surroundings through hiking on 680 acres on some of camp’s many trails and spending a night under the stars at one of our campsites. Additional activities include fishing, crafts, swimming, and more! Fee is \$600
<u>Horseback Riding/Adventure Camp</u> Session 5/6: July 7-18	Do you feel like 5 days just isn’t enough time at Primitive Camp? Join our ‘super sized’ two week session and you’ll get to have twice as much fun participating in exciting activities like horseback riding, canoeing, and hiking! Along with other special activities that take place throughout the week, you will get to go fishing, swimming and do crafts, music and much more! No prior riding experience is required. Fee is \$1,200
<u>Theatre Arts Week</u> Session 7: July 21-26	Have a flare for the dramatic? Join us as we spend the week creating, writing and directing a Wisconsin Badger Camp original play. Participants will then perform their production for the rest of camp at Friday’s Talent Show. Additional activities include camping, crafts, hiking, fishing, and more! Fee is \$600.
<u>Canoe Week</u> Session 8: July 28-August 2	Prepare for a fun and exciting week of canoeing, fishing, and camping! All participants are taught canoeing skills in our swimming pool before experiencing the backwaters of the Mississippi River at Wyalusing State Park. Previous experience with canoeing is not required, but come ready and willing to participate! Campers will have to pass a swim test (about 25 yards in length) in order to canoe. Crafts, hiking, and many more activities await you here at camp! Fee is \$600

TRAVEL PROGRAM

SPECIAL FEATURES: In addition to the Main Camp programs and Primitive Camp, a Travel Program is offered. This program offers a variety of choices from a tour of the largest Mall in America to a trip down the Mississippi River. Each trip is limited to 6 campers per travel session who are guided by two experienced staff members. The Travel Program is designed for those looking for a more challenging experience and an unique adventure. Individuals participating in the Travel Program should be capable of moderately strenuous physical activity.

- Participants do not have immediate access to our advanced healthcare team. There will be a First Responder traveling with the group at all times. Campers who have significant medical issues should choose Main Camp or contact our Camp Director.
- The Travel Program spends most of the week off camp, but does participate in some ‘all camp’ activities such as Badger Ball.
- Campers in the Travel Program should be capable of being unsupervised for short periods of time while in their room with staff on site.
- Camperships are not offered for any of the Travel programs.

Minimum necessary skills to participate in this program include:

- 1) Minimal assistance with grooming skills (dressing, washing, toileting, showering, etc.)
- 2) Nearly independent eating skills (including minimal special diets).
- 3) Reasonably good coordination and an ability to independently walk or wheel 2 miles per day (with supervision).
- 4) Social skills appropriate for close contact group living environments where minimal staff intervention is required.

2013 TRAVEL PROGRAM SESSIONS

<u>Green Bay</u> Session 1: June 9-14	Calling all Packer fans! This is your chance to be in the same stadium where some of football's greatest players have played! While in Green Bay, we will be touring Lambeau Field, and the Packers Hall of Fame as well as seeing the Walk of Legends to learn more about the Packers history. This exciting trip will also offer the opportunity to relax . Fee is \$785.
<u>Wisconsin Dells</u> Session 2: June 16-21	Swimming, hiking, arts and crafts, feeding giraffes, all in a typical week at camp, right?! Come with us to explore Wisconsin Dells' natural beauty as well as the exciting attractions that made the area famous. We will be ‘camping in style’ in cabins and relaxing in front of the campfire in the evening, while touring the Dells during the day. Activities may include touring Timbavati Wildlife Park, old time photos, a Tommy Bartlett show, and hiking Devil's Lake. Fee is \$785.
<u>Sheboygan</u> Session 3: June 23-28 (ages 14-25)	Have you always wanted to visit (arguably) the greatest of our Great Lakes, Lake Michigan? We will explore Sheboygan, one of Wisconsin's lovely lake cities, as well as Kohler to check out the amazing factory tour. Along the way, we will hike Kohler-Andre State Park, visit the Aerospace Museum, and Storybrook Gardens and check out the Elkhart Lake Observatory. Fee is \$785.
<u>Eau Claire</u> Session 4: June 30-July 5	Looking for a unique way to spend our nation's Independence Day? Come with us to the beautiful city of Eau Claire and see all there is to see! We will be exploring Crystal Cave and the 3,000 acre Beaver Creek Reserve as well as finding our adventurous side at the local water park and Action City theme park. We will celebrate the morning of the Fourth at the beautiful Eau Claire Lake, and will dance the night away at Badger Ball. It should be a holiday to remember! Fee is \$785.
<u>Milwaukee</u> Session 5: July 7-12	What would a trip to Milwaukee be without a tour of Miller Park?! While there, we might as well stay for the game! While on this trip we may be attending a Brewers Game (weather permitting), as well as touring Milwaukee's Ocean's of Fun at the Milwaukee Zoo, Discovery World and the famous Domes. Fee is \$785
<u>Twin Cities</u> Session 6: July 13-18 (<i>Note: This session runs Sat, July 13 through Thurs, July 18</i>)	Did you know that the Mall of America has over 400 stores, 50 restaurants, a theme park and underwater aquarium? While we won't get to all of it, travelers will be able to spend a day exploring the Mall and the aquarium. During this trip, we may also be visiting the Minnesota Zoo, touring the Metrodome, Minnehaha Falls and the famous Outdoor Sculpture Garden. Fee is \$815
<u>Quad Cities</u> Session 7: July 21-26	‘If you build it, they will come!’ Does that quote sound familiar? If so, you are probably the perfect traveler for this trip! We will be visiting the Field of Dreams on our way down to the Quad Cities for a full trip including a John Deere factory tours, adventure courses, and exploring some of the fantastic Mississippi River activities. Fee is \$785.
<u>Oshkosh– EAA</u> Session 8: July 28-August 2	This trip is created especially for airplane enthusiasts! Spend a day exploring many of the worlds oldest, most unique airplanes up close and personal and stay for the amazing airshow! Other activities during this trip may include a tour of the National Airplane Museum, visiting the Harry Houdini Museum, hiking around Lake Winnebago and much more! Fee is \$830

***All trips and activities are subject to change depending on weather and other travel concerns outside of our control.**

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1. Fill out our 2013 Camper Application in its entirety and return it to Badger Camp. Please include a care or behavior plan if one is being followed at the camper's home program. If there are portions of the application not filled out, the application may be returned to you without the applicant being registered. Information provided helps our staff to thoroughly care for each camper, continue current behavior management plans, and inform them of each camper's personal interests.
2. We are sending the Medical Form with the application. Have your physician fill the medical form out and sign it. It must be returned to us at least 3 weeks prior to coming to camp. To help us provide the best medical care, we request that the camp medical form be completed within 6 months of your camp session. **Campers will not be able to attend camp if we do not have a signed and updated medical form.**
3. Parent/Legal Guardian and Applicant Consent Form: This is found on the last page of the application. This may be copied and the original signature sent at a later date, but must be received at the camp office no later than 3 weeks before attending camp. Failure to sign and return this form with the proper signatures will prohibit camp attendance.
4. Confirmations will be sent out after your application has been reviewed. This process could take up to 10 weeks. If you are requesting a campership, a Campership Aid Form will be included in your confirmation packet.

New this year! Everything you need to prepare for camp is included in your confirmation packet. This information was previously sent in May. To reduce costs, we are including it with your confirmation. This includes a clothing list that will suggest types and amounts of clothing to bring, a map to help you get to Wisconsin Badger Camp, and other registration information.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The actual costs for summer programs at Wisconsin Badger Camp are \$800 per week. This is significantly underwritten through the generosity of our many contributors and year-round fundraising efforts. In addition to these fundraising efforts, the 2013 camp fees are as follows:

- Main Camp is \$600, except for the two-week session which is \$1,200
- Primitive Camp is \$600, except for the Horseback Riding Session which is \$625
- Travel Program is \$785, except where noted.

The camp fee is due before attendance to camp. If you foresee difficulty paying the fee in full, please contact our Registrar to set up a payment plan. Camperships are available for those needing financial assistance with any amount of the fee. (No camperships are available for the two week sessions and the Travel Programs). We would appreciate that everyone help us with financial arrangements as much as possible. This may include contacting area organizations for financial help or providing information about an applicant's typical income and expenses.

In order to better serve all individuals wanting to attend camp, we have set the following policy:

- If you received a campership in excess of \$150 for the summer of 2012 and are requesting a campership in excess of \$150 for this year, your registration will not be processed until March 4, 2013 (you are still eligible to attend, but will have a delayed registration).

If you should cancel:

We do understand that for various reasons you may have to cancel. If this should happen, please call as soon as possible so we can give someone on our waiting list a chance to attend. If you cancel:

- **BEFORE THREE WEEKS** of your scheduled camp session, all but \$25.00 of your payment will be refunded.
- **WITHIN THREE WEEKS** of the first day of the scheduled session, \$300.00 is non-refundable.
- **If a cancellation is made less than 7 days** before the start of the camper's session, no portion of the payment is refundable.

Our camping spots fill rapidly, so send your application in as soon as possible to:

Wisconsin Badger Camp, PO Box 723, Platteville, WI 53818



Wisconsin Badger Camp, Inc. reserves the right to alter or cancel any scheduled programs. All fees will be returned for programs that have been cancelled by Badger Camp.

Please review the checklist below prior to mailing your application.

- _____ Did you fill out the application completely?
- _____ Did you fill out the application in ink?
- _____ Did you sign the application or send a copy of the last page for the guardian to sign, if you are not the guardian?
- _____ Did you enclose your registration deposit?
- _____ Did you complete the payment section on the back of the application?