



NATURE JOURNEYS

SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camps, Teen, and Family Programs

RIVEREDGE

SUMMER OF
2026



SUMMER CAMP 2026

Use this chart to find the appropriate camp for your child's age group and available week.

Week begins on:

6/15

6/22

6/29

7/6

7/13

7/20

7/27

8/3

8/10

DISCOVERERS (Preschool, 3-4yrs old with an adult)

Eyes on Nature

●
AM

●
AM

●
AM

The Sounds of Nature

●
AM

●
AM

PATHFINDERS (Completed any level of Kindergarten, 5-6 yrs old)

Search for Nature's Wonders

● | ●
AM | PM

Mission Exploration

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Buggin' Outdoors

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TRAILBLAZERS (Completed Grades 1 or 2)

Secrets of Nature

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Nature's Enchantment

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EXPLORERS (Completed Grades 3 or 4)

Eco-Mysteries

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Discovering Watery Worlds

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GUARDIANS (Completed Grades 5 or 6)

Animal Tracking

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Earth Skills

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GARDEN WONDERS

Roots, Shoots, Buckets, & Boots (6-8 yrs old)

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Green Thumbs and Dirty Knees (8-10 yrs old)

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Cooking up a Storm! (10-12 yrs old)

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STEWARDS (Completed Grades 7 - 9)

Outdoor Adventures

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Mirror Lake Outpost Adventures

●

QUESTERS (Completed Grades 7 - 12)

Porcupine Mountains Backpacking (7/11 - 7/17)










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WELCOME TO SUMMER AT RIVEREDGE

Summer 2026 is just around the corner and we are busily getting ready for another amazing year! We hope you will join us on a new adventure with Riveredge Nature Journeys camps, where everyone is welcome, accepted, and celebrated for being who they are and who they want to be. Our camp helps us to build friendships, become kinder people, and engage in new experiences all without the fear of failure.

Our first and foremost priority is to strive to provide a safe magical experience that sparks lifelong friendships for our campers. Campers participate in hands-on explorations as they ask questions about the mysteries of the natural world, uncover evidence at their fingertips, and draw conclusions based on personal experiences. Of course, no day at camp is complete without playing in the mud! We want kids to experience the freedom of the outdoors, to get dirty, and to have fun.

We dedicate our summers to the growth and success of our campers. Interactions with other campers and with our highly qualified staff of educators (at 7 or fewer campers to one adult with additional teen volunteers) allow each camper to receive individualized attention from a variety of role models. Our goal is to give campers tools and strategies they can use to continue to explore the wonders of our natural world throughout their lives and to become role models themselves.

By connecting and building along our path from Discoverers, Pathfinders, Trailblazers, Garden Wonders, Explorers, Guardians, Stewards, Questers, and on through Family Adventures, campers can imagine and realize what they can become.

Please review this brochure to find the best path for your campers, your family and you. We look forward to making new memories with you in 2026!



Riveredge Nature Journeys Extended Care

Riveredge is happy to provide before and after camp extended care for our full day campers. Our programs allow campers to spend just a little more time exploring Riveredge with earlier drop off (7:30 am) and/or later pick up (5:30 pm) with daily or weekly options. Camp counselors will encourage your camper's imagination through games and activities and they will have plenty of time for free play in our natural playground. An option will be given during registration to receive more information on extended care options. Extended care is not available following an overnight program.



DISCOVERERS: EYES ON NATURE

Age Group: Preschool (3-4 years old) with an adult

Session 1: June 22-25, 9:15-11:15 am, M-Th

Session 2: July 6-9, 9:15-11:15 am, M-Th

Session 3: July 13-16, 9:15-11:15 am, M-Th

Fees: Member \$180 Non-member \$195

Experience the wonders of summertime and learn about the amazing world of insects, flowers, birds and pond life with a Riveredge Educator. Adults join in the fun with their camper as we explore diverse habitats and create projects that go along with our theme. Spend time with your child in nature and all eyes will be opened!



DISCOVERERS: THE SOUNDS OF NATURE

Age Group: Preschool (3-4 years old) with an adult

Session 1: July 20-23 9:15-11:15 am, M-Th

Session 2: August 3-6, 9:15-11:15 am, M-Th

Fees: Member \$180 Non-member \$195

Introduce your child to the wonderful world of nature. We will use all of our senses to discover the wonders of nature's calls. Adults join in the fun with their camper as we explore diverse habitats and create projects that go along with our theme. We'll share bird calls and find hidden perches, squish through the mud, create our own music, and splash our way across Riveredge.



PATHFINDERS: SEARCH FOR NATURE'S WONDERS

Age group: Completed Half/Full Day 4K or kindergarten (ages 5-6)

Session 1: June 15-19, 9 am-12 pm, M-F

Session 2: June 15-19, 1-4 pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$220 Non-member \$240

Spend fun-filled days traversing the trails and uncovering the many hidden wonders in the nooks and crannies of Riveredge. Become immersed in the natural world as you crawl the forest floor, climb the hillsides, and splash in the wetlands. All this hands-on exploration will be blended with a myriad of games, crafts, and stories to keep you going.



PATHFINDERS: BUGGIN' OUTDOORS

Age group: Completed Full Day 4K or kindergarten (ages 5-6)

Session 1: July 20-23, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Session 2: July 27-30, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Session 3: August 10-13, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Fees: Member \$305 Non-member \$330

Are you ready to dig in the soil? Crawl under logs? Squish through the mud? Become part of our critter-finding crew and solve the mysteries happening around the nature center. Look for clues and discover a new mystery critter each day. Plus, stories, games, crafts, and all kinds of Riveredge fun!

"Everything about the camp was amazing. My son deepened his love of the outdoors and made new friends. He said he wishes he lived at Riveredge!"

- Parent of multiple summer campers



TRAILBLAZERS: SECRETS OF NATURE

Age Group: Completed Grades 1 or 2

Session 1: June 15-19, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 2: June 22-26, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 3: June 29- July 3, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 4: July 6-10, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 5: July 13-17, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$365 Non-member \$395

Nature is bursting with secrets and mysteries! Journey through Riveredge searching for secrets and solving mysteries of the forest, field, pond, and river. Join us for hands-on learning adventures that take you into the heart of the natural world. At the core of Trailblazer Camp is Trailblazer Island: our very own special world where we explore, build forts, climb, dig, and catch frogs!



PATHFINDERS: MISSION EXPLORATION

Age group: Completed Full Day 4K or kindergarten (ages 5-6)

Session 1: June 22-25, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Session 2: June 29-July 2, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Session 3: July 6-9, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Session 4: July 13-16, 9 am-4 pm, M-Th

Fees: Member \$305 Non-member \$330

Explore all that Riveredge has to offer as you uncover and investigate the adventures of the animal kingdom. Each day, study a different type of animal including mammals, birds, and reptiles. Learn and explore the wild places they inhabit. The fun-filled exploration will be mixed with games, crafts, and stories!

"My Discoverer's highlight was her AMAZING teacher. She did so well taking cues from what the students loved and were fascinated with, catering to them. My daughter loved making new friends and getting up close with nature! She loves holding spiders and bugs now!"

-Parent of a Discoverer Camper



TRAILBLAZERS: NATURE'S ENCHANTMENT

Age Group: Completed Grades 1 or 2

Session 1: July 13-17, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 2: July 20-24, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 3: July 27-31, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 4: August 3-7, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Session 5: August 10-14, 8:50 am-3:50 pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$365 Non-member \$395

Let nature cast a spell on you as you discover a magical world most people miss! Legends, myths, and our own imaginations will be our guides each morning as we explore forest, prairie, wetland, and river habitats at Riveredge. Our afternoon home will be the ever-changing and always magical Trailblazer Island!



EXPLORERS: ECO-MYSTERIES

Age Group: Completed Grades 3 or 4

Session 1: June 29- July 3, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9 am dismissal Friday)

Session 2: July 6-10, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9 am dismissal Friday)

Session 3: July 27-31, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9 am dismissal Friday)

Session 4: August 3-7, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9 am dismissal Friday)

Session 5: August 10-14, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9 am dismissal Friday)

Fees: Member \$390 Non-Member \$420

Calling all mystery and adventure seekers! Become a nature detective and spend a fun-filled week unraveling the riddles animals and plants weave throughout the landscape. Adventure through the forests, prairies, ponds, and creeks... and way, way up in the trees! Under the guidance of a certified instructor, climb into a secret treetop world using ropes and special equipment. Don't forget our overnight adventure complete with a night hike and campfire-roasted s'mores. Nature's mysteries await you!

"My daughter had so much fun tubing down the Milwaukee River. It has always been the highlight of her camp weeks at Riveredge. She describes it as calming, fun, and one of her favorite ways to connect with nature. Thank you Riveredge!"

- Parent of a Guardian Camper



EXPLORERS: DISCOVERING WATERY WORLDS

Age Group: Completed Grades 3 or 4

Session 1: June 15-19, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-F (no overnight)

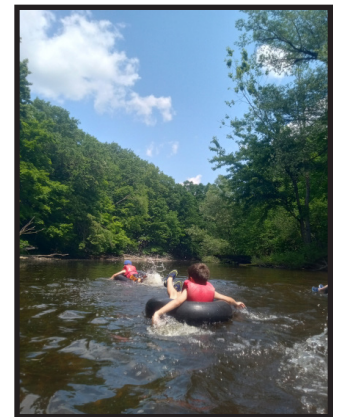
Session 2: June 22-26, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-F (no overnight)

Session 3: July 13-17, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-F (no overnight)

Session 4: July 20-24, 8:40 am-3:40 pm M-F (no overnight)

Fees: Member \$380 Non-Member \$410

Hey campers, come explore the Milwaukee River, Riveredge Creek, ponds, and wetlands! Unravel riddles and follow clues to discover the secrets of the many aquatic wonders that we have at Riveredge. Our mission will be to discover the living things that call these unique watery worlds their homes and how these special places affect all living things, including us. Join us for a week of wonder and play, including wading in Riveredge Creek, floating on tubes, and kayaking at Mauthe Lake. *Please note: Watery Worlds sessions do not include an overnight camp out.*



GUARDIANS: ANIMAL TRACKING

Age group: Completed Grades 5 or 6

Session 1: June 15-19, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M-F (no overnight)

Session 2: June 22-26, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M-F (no overnight)

Session 3: July 13-17, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M-F (no overnight)

Session 4: July 20-24, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M-F (no overnight)

Fees: Member \$380 Non-member \$410

From aquatic insects to Wisconsin mammals, we'll spend the week tracking animals of various habitats! Extra stealth and attentiveness will be needed as we follow animal signs leading us throughout the sanctuary. We'll visit hidden lookouts, set trail cameras, and observe animals from our hiding spots. We'll venture to Mauthe Lake for a paddling experience and float the Milwaukee River in search of crayfish and adventure! *Please note: Animal Tracking sessions do not include an overnight camp out.*



GUARDIANS: EARTH SKILLS

Age group: Completed Grades 5 or 6

Session 1: June 29- July 3, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M-Th
(Overnight Thursday - 9am dismissal Friday)

Session 2: July 6-10, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M- Th
(Overnight Thursday - 9am dismissal Friday)

Session 3: July 27-31, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M- Th
(Overnight Thursday - 9am dismissal Friday)

Session 4: August 3-7, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, M- Th
(Overnight Thursday - 9am dismissal Friday)

Fees: Member \$390 Non-member \$420

Foods, fibers, and finding your way! Harvest and prepare wild food, improve your cartography (map making) abilities, and find a hidden treasure. Utilize primitive pigments in artistic creations, float on tubes, and practice your Leave No Trace skills in the nature sanctuary. Connect with the forest as you climb into the treetops using ropes and special equipment under the supervision of trained tree-climbing facilitators.

“My camper really enjoyed tending to the garden. I believe he felt he was making a difference and had an impact on something. I loved the farmers market and that kids were responsible for setting up, decorating, giving tours, and selling the vegetables they were responsible for all week.”

-Parent of a Garden Wonders Camper



GARDEN WONDERS: ROOTS, SHOOTS, BUCKETS, & BOOTS

Age Group: 6-8 year olds

Session 1: July 27-31, 9am-4pm, M-F

Session 2: August 3-7, 9am-4pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$375 Non-member \$405

The Riveredge Children's Garden is a magical place full of mysteries to explore, plants and animals to meet, and delicious sights, smells, and tastes. Be ready for adventure as we journey through forests, prairies, ponds, and the river to discover how they are similar to our garden. This fun-filled week includes digging, catching frogs, hosting a kids' farmers market, visiting the farm, and much more.



GARDEN WONDERS: GREEN THUMBS AND DIRTY KNEES

Age Group: 8-10 year olds

Session 1: August 3-7, 9am-4pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$375 Non-member \$405

Come and explore the bounty of the Riveredge Children's Garden as we unravel the secrets of plants, the glory of pollinators, and the joy of simply digging in the soil. Discover how the garden is like other ecosystems as we journey through forests, prairies, ponds, and rivers in search of adventures and fun. Our week will also include river tubing, swimming, fishing, and a harvest quest. We'll top our week off with a kids' farmers market, and many other surprises along the way.



GARDEN WONDERS: COOKING UP A STORM!

Age Group: 10-12 year olds

August 10-14, 9am-4pm, M-F

Fees: Member \$390 Non-member \$420

Have you got what it takes to Cook up a Storm this summer? It's an unforgettable week full of cooking, learning, team adventures, and FUN! Each day, campers will be challenged to create delicious eats and treats straight from the Riveredge Farm. Campers will explore how natural systems support both humans and wildlife by visiting a variety of habitats. Throughout the week we will get our hands dirty as we gain a new appreciation of where our food comes from by harvesting, planting, and preparing vegetables for the whole family to enjoy, wrapping up with our famous kids' farmers market.



“My son had a great time for his second summer at Riveredge and is always excited to go back the next day. He said his leader and the other helpers are all really fun and nice. He'll be talking about Trailblazer Island and penny toads for months!”

-Parent of a Trailblazer Camper



STEWARDS: OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Age Group: Completed grades 7-9

June 29-July 3, 9am-4pm M-Th

(Overnight Thursday - 9am dismissal Friday)

Fee: Members \$405 Non-members \$435

During this leadership-focused week, we'll look inwards and outwards as we learn the skills necessary to be a successful camp counselor, and challenge ourselves in a variety of exciting outdoor pursuits. Spend the week hiking, swimming, and paddling. We will model our leadership skills with younger campers, and challenge ourselves to a full-day paddle. When the sun sets, we'll explore the trails in search of wildlife and glimmering stars on our overnight campout. Come prepared to make new friends and experience new challenges... Riveredge style, of course!



STEWARDS: MIRROR LAKE OUTPOST ADVENTURES

Age Group: Completed grades 7-9

June 15-19, 9am-4pm M-F

(Overnight Thursday at Mirror Lake)

Fee: Members \$460 Non-members \$490

Stewards are leadership-focused, so we'll practice observation and reflection as we gain the skills necessary to be a successful camp leader, and challenge ourselves with adventuresome outdoor pursuits. Learn how to motivate others and become a role model. We will practice our leadership skills by guiding younger campers and build a lasting legacy with land stewardship. On Thursday, we'll make our way to Mirror Lake State Park to hike, paddle, and explore one of Wisconsin's most glacially impacted areas, camping out overnight. We will return from our adventure on Friday afternoon.



QUESTERS: PORCUPINE MOUNTAINS BACKPACKING TRIP

Age Group: Completed Grades 7-12

Space is limited, so sign up early!

Saturday, July 11 – Friday, July 17

We will meet at Riveredge at 7am on Saturday, July 11 and return by 8pm on Friday, July 17.

Pre-Trip meeting: Tuesday June 23@ 6:30 pm (for all parents and trip participants)

Pre-Trip packing party: Friday July 10@ 6-7:30 pm (for all trip participants, parents welcome)

Fees: \$1000 Campers may complete volunteer hours at Riveredge to reduce their fee to \$900 - contact Steff at smerten@riveredge.us for additional information.

Join a crew of amazing youth for the adventure of a lifetime...

Journey to the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park, Michigan's largest Wilderness Area, for once-in-a-lifetime experience. Spend a week exploring the most extensive hardwood forest west of the Adirondack while also experiencing the Lake in the Clouds and incomparably beautiful vistas of Lake Superior. We'll camp in backcountry sites in the peaceful wilderness and practice "Leave No Trace" principles. You provide a sleeping bag, pack, and personal items and we'll provide the rest. (Don't have the gear? Riveredge may be able to furnish some sleeping bags and packs for those who request it - contact us for more information.)



SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Registration for the Nature Journeys Summer Camps will be taken through our online registration system. You may access the registration system through the Summer Camp page on our website. Navigate to our Programs page on the website, selecting “Come to Camp” and “Summer Camp.”

When registering, make sure you have all the medical information (insurance, primary doctor, medication, etc.) handy for each child you are registering. A medical information form is required during the registration process. Online registration will close the Wednesday before the week of each camp. Spaces may still be available at that time - call 262-375-2715 to ask about last-minute availability.



Camp Drop Off and Pick Up:

For the convenience of all, we're now using staggered start and end times for all camps. This allows families with multiple children the time needed to drop off and pick up at multiple locations. If you are not able to arrive during the 15 minute drop off window, you will be able to walk your child to their classroom. Extended care will be available to families who need a later pick up time.

Membership Discount:

Riveredge Family Membership (\$75 annually) will discount camp prices, ranging from \$15-\$30 per camp. Membership also provides many other benefits all year round! Visit RiveredgeNatureCenter.org/membership for more information.



Multiple Camps/Children Discount:

If you register for multiple camps (they can be for the same child or different children), you will pay the normal fee for the first camp and receive a 10% discount off of each additional camp. There is also a discount for registering multiple children from the same household for any combination of camps (first child full price, additional siblings 10% off). Please note that our registration system can sometimes have trouble when multiple discounts are applied. If this happens and your total doesn't look right, please pay 50% of the cost and contact Riveredge directly at 262-375-2715 to have the remaining balance adjusted. We're here to help and make sure you get all the discounts you qualify for!

Waitlist:

Riveredge camps are popular and fill QUICKLY! Waitlists will be formed when camps have reached their capacity. It is very beneficial to put your name on waitlists as spots do often open up due to family scheduling conflicts. There is no fee to put your child on the waitlist. If a space becomes available, you will be contacted via email, with 48 hours to confirm the spot and pay the deposit. If we do not hear from you within 48 hours, a call will be made and you will have an additional 48 hours to respond before the spot is given to the next person on the waitlist.



Payment:

50% of camp fees are due at the time of registration until April 30, 2026. Full payment for all camps is due by May 1st. You may make payments on your account at any time through the Active registration system using your log-in.



Camperships (like a scholarship, but for camp!):

Thanks to generous donors, Riveredge is able to offer camperships to families who may not otherwise be able to attend camp. Contact Steff Merten at smerten@riveredge.us for more information and an application. If you would like to donate to the campership fund, that can be done during camp registration or call 262-375-2715.

Cancellations:

Registrations may be canceled up to 30 days prior and receive a refund of registration fees minus a \$50 non-refundable deposit. If you cancel less than 30 days before your week of camp, refunds are only given for medical reasons and family emergencies. These refunds are also subject to the \$50 non-refundable deposit.



Switching Camps:

If you'd like to move your camp registration to another camp, we are happy to accommodate those requests as space allows. Each date/camp change is subject to a \$35 fee. Please contact us at 262-375-2715 to request a date change.

Camper Illness Policy:

All participants must be free from fever or vomiting without medication for a minimum of 24 hours before they may attend/return to camp. Please keep your child at home if they are not feeling well.

There's always something new at Riveredge!
Visit www.riveredgenaturecenter.org for more information

WINTER CAMP 2026



SAVE THE DATES!

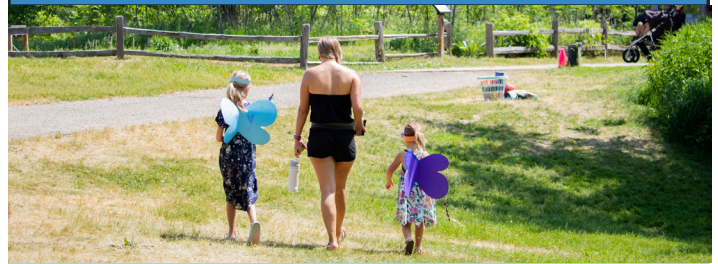
Monday, Dec. 28 through
Wednesday, Dec. 30
9 am – 4 pm*

*option to add overnight to
the 31st!

Do your kids miss summer camp and wish they had something exciting to do during winter break? We've got just the solution... Winter Camp!

Our beautiful 485 acres unveil a whole new world in winter. During our fun-filled days, we'll hike, snowshoe, build campfires, create winter crafts, and play games! Both indoor and outdoor activities are carefully planned based on the weather and led by our fun and fully trained camp education staff. Give the gift of awesome memories around the holidays!

FAIRY FEST 2026



Saturday, June 6
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

For one day each year, Riveredge becomes extra magical... and that day is Fairy Fest! Come celebrate the mythology, lore, and flying beings that inhabit Riveredge. Robbie the Gnome, Bigfoot, fairies, minpins, and reedgivers; butterflies, dragonflies, fairy shrimp--let's see who visits! Come dressed for the weather AND the occasion... Costumes are encouraged! For children ages 2-12 and their families.

Have you heard about these FREE opportunities? Family Nature Club meets regularly for family fun in nature at outdoor locations in Sheboygan, Ozaukee, and Washington counties! Meetups happen throughout the year. Check out our Programs page on www.riveredgenaturecenter.org to learn more, or follow Riveredge Family Nature Club on Facebook. Also, don't forget: if you have a 4th grader in your household, your whole family qualifies for a free Riveredge Family Membership! See our website for details, under "Join."

Family Nature Club



**FREE RIVEREDGE
MEMBERSHIPS
FOR
4TH GRADERS!**