

Camp Jorn YMCA

Discover Your Summer Adventure 2026 Program Guide



Explore resident, family camp, day camp, and sprout opportunities for everyone!



Registration opens
December 2!

Join us for an unforgettable summer!

GENERAL INFORMATION



ABOUT CAMP JORN YMCA

In 1953, Camp Jorn welcomed its first campers as part of the Waukegan, IL YMCA. In those early years, campers traveled by bus and train to get to camp. Camp Jorn continued to grow in popularity and in 2007 became Camp Jorn YMCA, an independent YMCA camp.

For more than 70 years, Camp Jorn YMCA has provided youth the opportunity to become part of a special community focused on friendship, acceptance, character values, self-discovery, and independence. Camp Jorn is located on a 70+ acre peninsula in the Northwood's of Wisconsin. Rest Lake is perfect for swimming, boating, and waterskiing. Acres of pine forest provide a unique setting for outdoor recreation and living skills.

OUR MISSION

Building character, confidence, and community through enriching outdoor experiences.

YMCA CORE VALUE

Campers and staff will learn and embody our core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility in everything we do!



SUMMER CAMP STAFF

Camp Jorn YMCA staff members are carefully selected through a rigorous application, interview and background check process. We hire staff who will be excellent role models for your children and have a passion for working with youth outdoors. Each person who works at Camp Jorn is selected because of their outstanding character and commitment to our core values. When campers come to Camp Jorn, they arrive to a well-trained staff team, ready to provide a safe, fun, and life-changing experience.

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLNESS

The safety of our campers is our top priority! Camp Jorn YMCA is accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) indicating safe, high quality programs that meet industry and government standards. ACA accreditation is a voluntary process we do in addition to our states licensing requirements. Camp Jorn YMCA has volunteer nurses and/or doctors on site throughout the summer. All of our staff are First Aid and CPR certified. Many of our staff also certified Lifequards and Wilderness First Aid training.

LIFE AT CAMP JORN YMCA

Since 1953, **Resident Camp** has offered a fun, safe, and nurturing environment where campers live, learn, and grow together. Campers bunk in small groups of 8–10 with 2 counselors, choose daily activities, and end each day sharing laughter and friendship around songs, skits, and large group games—culminating in the traditional Friendship Fire on the final night.

Day Camp & Sprouts gives campers a chance to explore, make friends, and enjoy the outdoors each day. Small age-based groups allow for guided activities, independent choice, and plenty of adventure, wrapping up each afternoon with creative games and lively group traditions.

Family Camp brings families together for shared experiences and lasting memories. Each day offers a mix of activities for all ages, with evenings spent connecting through music, laughter, and classic camp fun—ending with a meaningful Friendship Fire to close out the week.



GOALS

HEALTHY LIVING

CJ campers will develop a positive attitude about making healthy choices in their lives. Healthy living is infused throughout the camp schedule with physical activity, nutritious meals, relaxation, personal reflection, and healthy social interactions.

LEARNING ABOUT & APPRECIATING THE OUTDOORS

Every camper will have an enriching outdoor experience. Experiences vary and progress with the age of the campers whether it's an overnight camping trip, nature class, or wilderness skills. We teach campers to be stewards of the Earth, and to respect and connect with nature!

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR

Campers and staff will exhibit our core values of Caring, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility in all they do while at CJ. Our patient and supportive staff encourage and celebrate positive behavior. We facilitate foundational social and emotional learning, as well as personal growth opportunities for campers.

SERVICE

Our campers and staff all want the same thing: a safe, connected community where everyone can thrive. By giving back to Camp Jorn, campers and staff are able to have a valuable positive affect and make a difference at camp







ACITIVITES

Camp activities are progressive in nature, allowing for increased skill development each year.

Activities include, but are not limited to:

- Archery
- Arts & Crafts
- Swimming
- · Canoeing & Kayking
- Sailing
- Biking
- Air Riflery
- Waterskiing
- Fishing
- Team Sports
- Gaga Ball
- Music
- Drama

and so much more!

TRANSPORTATION

Fee: \$220 round trip, \$110 one way.

Stops

- Gurnee, IL
- · Kenosha, WI
- DeForest, WI

Please visit our website for more information regarding arrival and departure times as well as stop addresses.

DISCOVERY CAMP | AGES 8-14

Camp Jorn YMCA has made a commitment to ensure a positive and safe camping experience for each child who attends our summer program. Our focus on character development helps youth to grow in the areas of our 4 core values - caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Campers choose 3 instructional classes for the week ensuring growth, progression, and competence. Days are rounded out with cabin activities such as sailing, cabin challenges, biking, archery, crafts, sports and much more. Evenings are a time for everyone to come together for all-camp activities, such as campfires and group games. Each cabin group will also participate in a cook out or overnight on or near Camp Jorn.



DATES:
JUNE 21-26
JUNE 28-JULY 3
AUGUST 9-14

EXPLORER CAMP | AGES 10-14

During this two-week session, campers follow the traditional Discovery camp schedule along with a special weekend day of activities designed to roll one week over to the next. Each cabin group will participate in a 2-4 day overnight hiking or canoe trip in the Northwoods! The tripping experience is a tech-free haven that fosters genuine bonds among the campers and the natural world. Campers will learn new outdoor skills, discover more about themselves and increase confidence in group settings.



DATES:
JULY 12-24
JULY 26-AUGUST 7

TEVA | AGES 13-14

TEVA is a co-ed leadership program focused on developing four core skills: Teamwork, **Education, Values, and Adventure. While** still engaging in the general camp schedule, TEVA offers young teens unique opportunities to step outside their comfort zones through new experiences, large group team-building activities, and selfdiscovery. Campers forge lifelong friendships in the process. TEVA participants live in the Yurt Village, set apart from the main camp, which fosters a distinct group dynamic and deeper engagement with the program's core values. These values are put to the test through a 4-day Chain of Lakes canoeing expedition and the exhilarating TEVA Challenge.



DATES:
JUNE 21-JULY 3
JULY 12-24

JULY 26-AUGUST 7

LEADER IN TRAINING | AGES 15-16

Through hands-on training and group initiatives, the Camp Jorn's LIT program focuses on cooperation, self-discovery, and leadership skills. Throughout the LIT program campers engage in activities and discussions about types of leadership, communication styles and methods, service work, team-building and other leadership skills while still participating in camp activities. Campers live in platform tents and follow a semi traditional camp schedule while participating in a 4 -5 day wilderness trip.



DATES:

JULY 12-24 JULY 26-AUGUST 7

COUNSELOR IN TRAINING | AGES 16-17

The Counselor in Training (CIT) Program is designed for campers aspiring to become counselors at Camp Jorn, providing them with the skills and experiences necessary to be exceptional camp leaders. While developing their own unique counseling style, CITs focus on problem-solving, perseverance, and discovering the joy of making a meaningful impact on the the camp community and lives of younger campers. The CIT schedule mirrors the overall camp structure, but participants step up as leaders, engaging in CIT-specific activities that enhance their leadership abilities. The 3-week CIT participants will embark on a 6-day, 5-night hiking trip in Michigan's Porcupine Mountains, where CITs face challenges that build resilience and teamwork. The 2-week CIT participants will go on a shorter wilderness trip and focus more on specific skills necessary to become a contributing staff member in the future (archery, fishing, biking, sailing, etc). All CITs will have the opportunity to shadow counselors in cabins or day camp groups, further refining their counselor skills.

Entry & Acceptance: Entry into the CIT program is competitive and is based upon the completed application and an interview with the camp director and/or experienced summer staff members. Applications must be turned in by January 15th, along with 2 reference letters. Please note that references can be coaches, teachers, pastors, employers, etc! Brief virtual interviews will take place on January 31, February 1 and February 2, 2026 and will be scheduled once the CIT applicant's application is received. Please note: the application and interview process is designed to help teens develop skills and experience that will prepare them for future college and career opportunities.

Please register for the CIT session of your choice when registration opens on December 2nd. CIT applicants will automatically be waitlisted and the credit card will not be charged unless your teen is accepted into the program. Parents/Guardians will be notified no later than February 16th regarding their teen's accepted into the CIT program.



DATES:
JUNE 21-JULY 9
JULY 12-24
JULY 26-AUG 14



PATHFINDER | AGES 12-15

Join us for a 4-day, 3-night backpacking adventure in the Porcupine Mountains. For youth ages 12-15! **Please reach out to lauren@campjornymca.org to discuss parent & family lodging options during this session!

OUTPOST | AGES 12-15

Camp Jorn's Outpost program offers campers the chance to challenge themselves with extended wilderness camping experiences. Removed from the distractions of technology, campers build resilience while gaining skills in teamwork, trust, and communication. Outpost campers begin their journey at Camp Jorn learning basic wilderness living skills and "leave no trace" principles. On their trip, participants will get the chance to practice these skills. This action packed trip features whitewater rafting, rock climbing and a zip line tour during a 3 night off site camping excursion. We will raft the class IV rapids of the Menominee River, the biggest whitewater in the Midwest. When they are not on the water, campers will be climbing the walls of the Iron Mountain range or flying through a multi-line zip line canopy tour that weaves through tree canopies, over rolling terrain, and through the beauty of Wisconsin's Northwoods . Professional guides provide the safety and the campers provide the courage!



DATES:AUGUST 23-28



DATES:
JUNE 21-26
JUNE 28-JULY 3
AUGUST 9-14

MOUNTAIN BIKE SPECIALTY | AGES 13-15 | 10-12

Mountain Bike Specialty Campers will dedicate their mornings to mastering the ins and outs of this thrilling sport. They will cover essential bike maintenance, tackle obstacles on our mountain bike skills course, and spend hours riding on trails. This exciting program also includes day trips to the ultimate mountain biking destination: WinMan Trails! Some afternoons will be free for exploring other activities on camp. There is an option to rent bikes and helmets from Rivers Edge Adventure Company, but campers are more than welcome to bring their own gear. ***PLEASE NOTE: Campers who wish to bring their own bikes must arrange their own transportation, as there is no space for them on the bus! There are two sessions for this program: one designed for beginner to intermediate riders and one for intermediate to experienced riders.



DATES:
JULY 26-AUGUST 7
AUGUST 9-14

SAILING SPECIALTY | AGES 11-14

Ahoy sailors! There's no feeling quite like catching the perfect gust and skimming across Rest Lake in Camp Jorn's Sunfish sailboats. CJ's Sailing Specialty program is designed for adventurous campers of any skill level who are interested in or passionate about sailing. Campers will enjoy an extended period of sailing instruction and practice each day, from Camp Jorn's most beautiful docks, at the tip of the peninsula overlooking our own Fox Island. This group will enjoy a 2-night camping trip to the Apostle Islands as well.



DATES:JULY 12-24

FISHING SPECIALTY CAMP | AGES 11-14

Fishing Specialty Campers will enjoy a significant amount of time fishing for pike, crappie and walleve on our very own Rest Lake. The session will include a two-night camping trip in the beautiful Apostle Islands, to include a fishing charter with **Superior Sport Fishing! Advanced campers** will improve their skills and learn to teach others. Beginners will learn basic fishing skills like tying their own lines, baiting hooks, casting, reeling in a "big one"! Staff will share the joy of fishing with youth while teaching them the value of patience. Fishing campers will also take part in the traditional Camp Jorn afternoon and evening activities.



DATES: JULY 12-24

WATERSKI SPECIALTY | AGES 12-15

Get ready for sunny days behind the boat on glassy Rest Lake! The CJ Water Skiing Specialty Camp is designed for adventurous campers and experienced water skiers. Extended skiing time each day will allow skiers to level up! This crew will work together as a team to practice a variety of disciplines, such as: slalom skiing, trick skiing, wakeboarding, barefooting and more! We will continue a partnership with the Manitowish Waters Skiing Skeeters by joining some of their practices and being involved in one or more of their beloved ski shows!



DATES:JULY 26-AUG 14

DAY CAMP

AGES 7-12 | MON-FRI 7:30 AM-5:30 PM

The Camp Jorn Day Camp program is dedicated to creating a welcoming environment for every child. Each week features a fun mix of activities centered around unique themes. Campers get to enjoy sports, crafts, group games, archery, swimming, kayaking, camping skills, and much more!

SESSIONS

- June 22-June 26, 2026
- June 29-July 3, 2026
- July 6-10, 2026*
- July 13-17, 2026
- · July 20-24, 2026
- July 27-31, 2026*
- August 3-7, 2026
- August 10-14, 2026
- August 17-21, 2026*

* Weeks include a Day Camp Overnight option for campers ages 8 and up. Additional fee: \$55 per child.

RATE:

\$275 PER WEEK

TRANSPORATION

Shuttle from AVW school available for \$50 per child/per week





SPECIALTY DAY CAMPS

Our Day Camp Specialty Weeks give campers the traditional camp experience plus a focused theme or skill-building track. In addition to classic camp activities, campers spend part of each day diving deeper into a special interest such as basketball, water skiing, fishing, etc. These unique weeks offer campers a chance to explore a passion, learn new skills from trained staff and experience camp in a whole new way. Specialty Weeks are ideal for campers who want to take their camp experience to the next level with extra challenge and excitement.



SESSIONS

- Fishing Specialty | June 22-26 | Ages 10+ | Rate \$375
- Soccer Specialty | July 7-10 | Ages 7-10 | Rate \$350
- Waterski Ad On | July 6-10 & Aug 17-21 | Ages 10+ | Rate \$150
- Basketball Specialty | July 20-24 | Ages 9+ | Rate \$350
- Arts & Crafts Specialty | Aug 3-7 | Ages 7-10 | Rate \$350
- Northwoods Naturalist Specialty | Aug 3-7 | Ages 7-10 | Rate \$300





CJ SPROUTS

AGES 5-6 | MON-FRI 7:30 AM-5:30 PM

The Camp Jorn CJ Sprouts program is dedicated to creating a welcoming environment for every child. Each week features a fun mix of activities centered around unique themes. Campers get to enjoy sports, crafts, group games, archery, swimming, kayaking, camping skills, and much more!



- June 22-June 26, 2026
- June 29-July 3, 2026
- July 6-10, 2026
- July 13-17, 2026
- July 20-24, 2026
- July 27-31, 2026
- August 3-7, 2026
- August 10-14, 2026
- August 17-21, 2026

RATE:

\$300 PER WEEK

TRANSPORATION

Shuttle from AVW school available for \$50 per child/per week





FAMILY CAMP

Experience the magic of the Northwoods together! Family Camp offers a fun and relaxed getaway where families enjoy classic Camp Jorn activities—swimming, paddling, sailing, archery, crafts, and more. Choose a full schedule of programs and events, or simply unwind and enjoy camp at your own pace.

Weekly lodging available; partial-week stays are welcome with your own tent or camper. Pricing includes accommodations, meals, and most activities!

SESSIONS

- Family Camp Session 1: July 3-9, 2026
- Family Camp Session 2: August 16-22, 2026

Please view our website for additional information regarding registration and rates!





CAMP TRADING POST

CJ gear (tees, sweatshirts, bottles, stickers, hats, mugs, flashlights) + limited snacks (daily snack limits apply). Recommended deposit: \$40-\$60 per week (loaded via Camp InTouch; refunds issued in fall for balances \$10+). No cash with campers, please.



MEALS

Balanced, nutritious meals are served family-style in our dining hall, fostering connection and community at every table. Campers take turns serving as "Hoppers," assisting with set-up and clean-up to help build responsibility, teamwork, and camp pride. We are happy to accommodate dietary needs with advance notice to ensure every camper has a safe and enjoyable dining experience.



ELECTRONICS POLICY

At Camp Jorn, campers build friendships, enjoy nature, and fully engage in activities—without screens. To support this, cell phones, computers, iPods, and other electronics are not allowed.



SUMMER REGISTRATION

Find all our information online at campjornymca.org or call us anytime at 715-543-8808.

HOW TO REGISTER

Registration information and forms for each of our summer programs can be found on our website on the day camp, resident camp or sprouts, and family camp pages. Your registration will not be considered complete until you complete your online application and all required forms.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships: At Camp Jorn, we believe every child should have the opportunity to experience camp. Scholarships and fundraising options are available to help families of all sizes and income levels. Please view our website additional information regarding scholarship opportunities for each program.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNTIES

Families can choose to participate in fundraising programs (e.g., Meadow Farms, Flower Power) to help reduce camp costs. All earnings go directly toward your camper's balance.

TRANSPORTATION

Day camp, sprouts and resident camp offer transportation to and from Camp Jorn YMCA! There is an additional fee and stops are in specific locations. You can find more information on the day and resident camp pages of our website. Of course parents for all programs are always welcome to drop off or pick up their children directly from Camp Jorn YMCA.

FORMS

Each of our programs do require additional forms to be filled out after you register. Forms can be found in your campintouch account and a link will be sent to you after you register. All forms are required to be filled out every year due to licensing.

Join us for an unforgettable summer!











CAMP JORN YMCA

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PHONE: 715-543-8808

FAX: 608-901-0593

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: CAMPJORNYMCA.ORG

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LEARN MORE



CAMP JORN YMCA

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT. FOR HEALTHY LIVING. FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

CAMP JORN YMCA — CREATING MEMORIES IN THE NORTHWOODS SINCE 1953