2020 Summer Camp Rates

**Sessions 1 & 3**
Register by Feb 5 $1,160/two-week session
Register by April 15 $1,185/two-week session
Register after April 15 $1,210/two-week session

**Session 2 (Session 1A and 3A add $100)**
Register by Feb 5 $560/week
Register by April 15 $585/week
Register after April 15 $610/week

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Financial Aid is Available

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Camp life at Circle Pines is about cooperation. Working, singing, telling stories, making art, playing sports, circle discussions, dance parties, and field games create a spirit of unity while respecting individuality. Camp is a space where fun and growth coexist.

**Session 1**
1 - 2 weeks July 5 - 18 (1A July 5 - 11)

**Session 2**
1 week July 19 - 25

**Session 3**
1-2 weeks July 26 - Aug 8 (3A July 26 - August 1)

Session 3 reaches its climax as campers have the additional option to take everything they’ve learned from camp life to create an original Folk Opera. This musical spoof portrays the highlights and hijinks of a summer at Circle Pines to be presented to parents and fellow campers on the final night of camp. It is our grand finale!
UNIQUE PROGRAM
Our program combines elements of a traditional summer camp (swimming, sports, campfires, hikes, theater, dance, arts and crafts) with cooperative work projects (construction, organic gardening, trail maintenance and cleaning). Additionally, educational activities focus on topics like climate change, food politics, social justice, ecosystems and the importance of critical thinking. Parents frequently report that their kids come home from camp more independent, thoughtful and interested in the world around them.

COOPERATIVE COMMUNITY
Our focus on cooperation, as an interpersonal strategy and viable economic alternative, are embodied in our daily chores, work projects, decision making, camp store and other activities. Meal clean-up is a time when staff and campers work side by side to practice the equitable labor required to maintain a community. Every morning, we also share work projects which are designed to teach cooperation and give campers a sense of shared responsibility and confidence. Often, campers are most excited to tell their parents about work projects: showing off vegetables they planted, trails they trimmed or a shed they helped build.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE AND REFUND POLICY
Visit circlepinescenter.org and complete a registration for each child in the CampDoc system. Then, make a $100 deposit for each session and camper. We will confirm your registration and send a camper packet via email that includes a packing list, parent manual, and travel directions. Register early; there are only 70 camper spots per session. Total camp fees are due by July 9th. The $100 deposit is non-refundable. The balance of fees is refundable until two weeks before a session begins. After that, a medically verified reason is required for a refund of camp fees. No refunds will be given once camp begins.

CAMPERSHIPS/FINANCIAL AID
The Campership fund is supported year-round by donations from members, friends and organizations. This fund enables us to help families who cannot afford the full cost of camp. We try to assist as many families as we can with available funds, and therefore, we rarely grant full Camperships. Awards are based on financial information that is reviewed and held in strict confidence by our Campership Committee. To apply for a Campership, register for camp. Request a campership application and return the completed application by April 15. If you do not receive an adequate award, your deposit will be refunded in full.

CHANGEOVER POLICY
For campers staying two or more sessions, families are encouraged to pick them up over the session break. If this is not workable, we can provide meals, laundry, and childcare here at Circle Pines for a Changeover Fee of $75.

CHECK-IN/PICK-UP TIMES & POLICY
Check-in for each session is on Sunday afternoons, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm Eastern time (12:30 to 3:30 pm Central time). Pick-up at the end of each session is on Saturday, from 11 am to 1 pm Eastern time (10 am to noon Central). Parents who have not picked up their children by 1 pm will be charged at the rate of $10/hour and $5/meal for each child left in our care.
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
With 3 days’ notice and $25 per camper, CPC will pick up or drop off your child(ren) at the Kalamazoo train/bus station or the Grand Rapids or Kalamazoo airports.

ONE-WEEK OPTION
First-time campers are welcome to attend during the first week of Session I or III. This allows the option of staying on for the second week, if the camper and their guardian(s) are comfortable with that.

MEMBERSHIP
Circle Pines Center is a nonprofit cooperative membership organization. We host educational and recreational events all year round. CPC members get voting rights (age 14) and event discounts for a minimum membership fee of $10/month (or ask about $5/month for low income and students). Circle Pines is your “getaway” from the outside world. Enjoy the rustic charm, participate in our diverse events, and share your time and skills with the center by taking part in workbees, clearing trails, gardening, construction, and more.

DISCOUNTS
Circle Pines Member
$25/camper/week

Additional Sessions
$25/camper/session

Sibling Discount
$25/camper/session

New Camper Recruitment
$75 (siblings not included)

MEALS
CPC is committed to supporting sustainable farming and the slow food movement. Kitchen staff members work hard to provide delicious and nutritious meals from scratch using primarily local and organic ingredients. We source camp food from over 15 local farm families in Southwest Michigan. Meat dishes are prepared using pasture fed and humanely raised animals. Prior to each meal, the kitchen staff tells campers and staff about the source of the food they are soon to enjoy, then someone will contribute a musical offering to honor the labor that went into its preparation. Given advance notice, CPC can accommodate most dietary restrictions and allergies including vegetarian and vegan alternatives.

STAFF
We recruit experienced and mature individuals with a wide variety of knowledge, abilities and skills, as well as diversity in cultures and backgrounds. We hire people who love children and have talents to share and teach. Our overall staff-to-camper ratio is 1:3. All staff members go through an intensive training that includes first aid, water safety, camp skills, non-violent conflict resolution, child development and cooperative living.

HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS
Circle Pines Summer Camp is licensed by the State of Michigan and is accredited by the American Camp Association. To look after the health and medication needs of campers and staff, a certified health officer is on duty 24 hours a day and a local doctor is always on call.
CAMP STORE
Our co-op camp store has T-shirts, water bottles, note cards, stamps, flash lights, batteries, cameras, playing cards, bug repellent, sunscreen and toiletries. Parents leave money in a store account for campers on registration day. The store is open most days after dinner and the campers can choose to help run the store.

ACTIVITIES
Along with all the normal camp recreational activities - like swimming, canoeing, field games, arts and crafts, drama and dance, Circle Pines offers some unique options. Each day after lunch, campers and staff sing from our extensive collection of folk songs, many coming from the peace, social justice and environmental movements. Circle discussions foster critical thinking and creative problem solving: campers are empowered to come up with issues for discussion with their counselors and peers. Creation of varying theme days the and “folk opera” (3rd session) offers fun and participation for the whole camp.

SAFE, INCLUSIVE SPACE
Many of our campers tell us that they feel more at “home” at Circle Pines than they do anywhere else. We pride ourselves on creating a safe, inclusive, engaging space where diversity and growth are fostered.

Through our healthy ecological approach to rural living, campers learn about the impact of lifestyle on the environment.

Our camp’s small size allows us to get to know each child and to offer a safe and accepting environment.

UNITS/LIVING AREAS
ACORN UNIT (AGES 7-10)
The Acorn unit consists of two cabins that can hold up to 10 campers and two counselors each.

JUNIOR UNIT (AGES 11-13)
The Junior unit consists of eight cabins which sleep 4 campers each. The counselors sleep in cabins in the center of the unit.

YOUTH UNIT (AGES 13-15)
The youth stay in three cabins that sleep 7 to 10 campers and a counselor. The Youth also have a screened pavilion for unit activities.

YOUNG ADULT LEADERS (AGES 16-17)
This program is for a limited number of our older youth who are interested in training in camp jobs. They receive an orientation in camp work and counselor skills. They live as a group in their own unit by the lake. They help with Juniors and Acorns, but can also choose to work in areas of camp, such as the kitchen, housekeeping, maintenance, the waterfront and the garden.