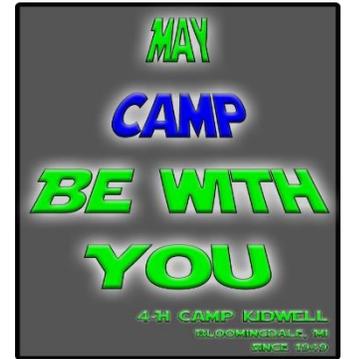




Owned and operated by  
Allegan County 4-H Clubs, Inc.  
39000 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Bloomington, MI 49026  
Phone: 269-521-3559  
Fax: 866-324-2797  
[www.campkidwell.org](http://www.campkidwell.org)  
[campkidwell@btc-bci.com](mailto:campkidwell@btc-bci.com)



## **WELCOME and THANK YOU!**

Summer 2017 is going to be a great and we are so glad you will be joining us! We are grateful you chose 4-H Camp Kidwell and look forward to showing you it was a great decision. This packet provides more information to help you and your child get ready. Please look through the enclosed info. You will find details about what to pack, when check-in and pick-up are, how to send mail to your camper and so much more!

We hope you found the registration process smooth, efficient and user friendly. We are very excited to offer you an online account and believe you will find it to be tremendously useful. The best feature is all your information is located in one place. When you log into your online account, you can make payments, adjust personal information, add additional registrations, etc. We are also glad to again be offering an online photo gallery and parent to camper one-way emails for free to all registered families. More details are included later in this packet.

Although, you completed camper forms during the reservation process, please don't forget that we need a copy of the camper's insurance card and immunization record. You can upload these in the document center in your online account.

Again thank you for choosing Camp Kidwell and we look forward to showing you and your camper our great program!!! If you have questions or need details, please contact me directly at 269-521-3559 or [campkidwell@btc-bci.com](mailto:campkidwell@btc-bci.com). I am always glad to help!

Sincerely,

K.J. Kelly  
Director  
4-H Camp Kidwell  
(269)521-3559  
[campkidwell@btc-bci.com](mailto:campkidwell@btc-bci.com)  
[www.campkidwell.org](http://www.campkidwell.org)

Enclosures

**OUR MISSION: To provide extraordinary camping opportunities for youth and to be a resource to youth, families, 4-H, schools, groups and organizations throughout the region.**

## **BEFORE ARRIVING AT CAMP**

If you have questions, please feel free to contact KJ Kelly directly at (269)521-3559 or at [campkidwell@btc-bci.com](mailto:campkidwell@btc-bci.com).

### **THINGS TO BRING**

Below is a list of things we recommend when attending a session at Camp Kidwell. If you are unsure if you should pack something or not, please don't hesitate to call and ask. Please help your children keep track of their things by putting initials on the tags of all clothing and on the bottom of other items with a permanent marker. Personal belongings do get mixed up and misplaced and it is much easier to find the correct owner if they have initials on them.

**\*SPECIAL NOTE\*** For campers who are interested in horseback riding, long pants and heeled, closed toed shoes are required; Please be sure to include these things so your child can participate in the horseback riding program.

#### *Overnight and Specialty Overnight Campers*

As you pack for camp, please remember that your children will be staying with us for at least 5 days. Please be sure they have enough of each item to last them for at least 5 days and we recommend even packing a couple of extra just in case.

Sleeping bag/bedding	Long sleeve shirts (helps with bugs)	Sandals (if desired)	Insect repellent
Pillow	Undergarments	Toothpaste/toothbrush	Life-preserver (if desired)
T-shirts	Socks	Soap and Shampoo	Rain gear
Shorts	Towels – At least 2	Deodorant	
Sweatshirt (helps with cool nights)	One-piece swimsuit	Flashlight	
Long pants ( <b>required</b> )	Tennis shoes ( <b>required</b> )	Sunscreen	

#### *Junior, Senior and Specialty Day Campers*

Please be sure your camper has a bag (a duffel bag or back pack are best) for their items. Please be sure to check out the bag each day and make sure everything is cleaned and fresh for the next day. It is recommended to send an extra set of clothes each day. Camp is a fun place and sometimes fun is messy.

T-shirt	One-piece swimsuit	Sunscreen	Life-preserver (if desired)
Shorts	Beach towel	Insect repellent	
Long pants ( <b>required</b> )	Tennis shoes ( <b>required</b> )	Sandals (if desired)	

### **THINGS NOT TO BRING**

Please do not pack items such as food/snacks, money, knives, electronics, fireworks, cell phones, iPods, MP3 players, video games etc. Camp Kidwell is not responsible for lost, broken or stolen items. Such items will be collected and held in the camp office until the end of the camp week.

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### **PREPARING YOURSELF AND YOUR CAMPER FOR CAMP**

- Parents can be just as nervous as their children about a prolonged stay away from home. There may be some sadness (homesickness) as a child gets acclimated to being away, but that is normal and is something that happens every week. We are glad to help your camper manage these feelings and learn it is safe, healthy and even fun to have some time for themselves.

As hard as it may seem, please help your child enjoy their time at camp by keeping a positive attitude and express excitement about camp (you might have to fake this excitement if you are worried yourself). We will use skills developed over many years of experience to help your child manage and overcome any homesickness they may experience. Please rest assured that if we have any prolonged or overwhelming concerns/issues we will contact you.

- Campers are NOT allowed to have cell phones at camp and are NOT allowed to call home. Please be sure to explain this to your camper. If a camper is struggling, becomes sick/injured, or has a behavior concern, a phone call from a camp representative to the parent/guardian will be made. Then, together the director and parent will make a decision on the best way to handle the situation. We know parents worry about their children and we are happy to help them feel at ease. Parents are welcome to call to check in, as we are happy to check on your children and give updates. You can call us at any time to check in or if there is an emergency please call us at (269)521-3559.
- INDIVIDUALS AUTHORIZED TO PICK UP AND PERSONS NOT ALLOWED CONTACT - During registration you indicated individuals allowed to pick up your camper as well as anyone who shouldn't have contact with your camper. Anyone picking up a camper will be required to show proper photo identification. Please be sure that anyone coming to pick up your camper knows of

this and is prepared to present a proper photo ID. Campers will not be released unless the person is on the authorized list and they can provide proper photo ID.

## **CHECK-IN AND DROP-OFF PROCEDURES**

### **CAMPER CHECK-IN**

When checking your camper in, you will need to visit a few stations to ensure we have all of the necessary information and that your camper is settled. This process can take about 45 minutes to an hour for resident camp and 30 minutes on the first day of day camp. Please plan to spend at least this much time with us. If for some reason you will be late please let us know. In the event your camper is not dropped off an hour after the drop off time you will be contacted to verify attendance status.

OVERNIGHT CAMP SCHEDULE – **Please do not arrive early to check-in;** we are unable to start the check-in process early and you will be asked to wait. Please be sure resident campers arriving on Sunday evenings have eaten dinner before arriving at camp; we do not serve dinner on Sunday evenings. Please note that pick up time is at 2pm on Friday

<u>Week of Camp</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Drop off</u>	<u>Pick up</u>
1	Wet and Wild OC	June 25-30	June 25 at 6:30pm	Jun3 30 at 2pm
2	Horse'n Around OC – Red			
3	Thrills and Chills Ropes OC - Red			
4	Kidwell Leaders - Red			
5	Movin' and Groovin' OC	July 9-14	July 9 at 6:30pm	July 14 at 2pm
6	Horse'n Around OC - Blue			
7	Thrills and Chills Ropes OC - Blue			
8	Kidwell Leaders - Blue			
9	The Great Expedition OC	July 23-28	July 23 at 6:30pm	July 28 at 2pm
10	Horse'n Around OC – Yellow			
11	Lights, Camera, Action! OC			
12	Kidwell Leaders - Yellow			
13	Ooey Gooley Science OC	July 30-Aug. 4	July 30 at 6:30pm	August 4 at 2pm
14	Horse'n Around OC – GREEN			
15	Adventure Island OC			
16	Kidwell Leaders - Green			
17	Surf'n Safari OC	August 13-18	August 13 at 6:30pm	August 18 at 2pm
18	Horse'n Around OC - Purple			
19	Kidwell Leaders - Purple			

DAY CAMP SCHEDULE – Please note that Friday pick up is at 2pm.

<u>Week of Camp</u>		<u>Dates</u>	<u>Drop off</u>	<u>Pick up</u>
1	Wacky, Wonderful Water Works Junior DC	June 26-30	Daily – 8am	5:30pm Daily and June 30 at 2pm
2	Wet and Wild Senior DC			
3	Mini Movers and Groovers Junior DC	July 10-14	Daily – 8am	5:30pm Daily and July 14 at 2pm
4	Movin' and Groovin' Senior DC			
5	Down and Dirty Junior DC	July 24-28	Daily – 8am	5:30pm Daily and July 28 at 2pm
6	The Great Expedition Senior DC			
7	Science Explorers Junior DC	July 31-Aug. 4	Daily– 8am	5:30pm Daily and Aug. 4 at 2pm
8	Ooey Gooley Science Senior DC			
9	Horse'n Around DC	August 7-11	Daily – 9am	4pm Daily and August 11 at 2pm
10	Thrills and Chills Ropes DC			
11	Under the Sea Junior DC	August 14-18	Daily – 8am	5:30pm Daily and August 18 at 2pm
12	Surf'n Safari Senior DC			

### **CLOSING CEREMONIES**

We invite all family members to our closing ceremonies. This takes place on the last day of camp each week. This ceremony is to recognize all of the great things the campers have accomplished while they were with us. Each campers receives an award, we watch the weekly video(s), and everyone has time to share stories. Please arrive about 1:15 on Friday if you would like to take part in this program. This program can take an hour or longer, so please be sure to plan for this. Please do not arrive earlier than 1:15, we will be finishing up our week and getting things ready for your arrival.

### **CAMPER PICK-UP**

After campers are checked in, Camp Kidwell staff members are responsible for their well-being. Campers are not allowed to leave camp until the end of their session, unless an authorized person makes a written or verbal request to pick the child up at another time (unseen foreseen circumstances, doctor's appointment, sporting events, etc.). In this case, the camper's legal guardian should contact the Camp Director to make these arrangements. Each child **MUST** be signed out with a camp staff member before they can leave. They **MUST** also be picked up by an authorized person with proof of photo ID. Authorized individuals will be indicated on the camper's health form and the camper will only be released to these individuals. If there are any changes to when or who will be picking up your child please make arrangements with the Camp Director. If for some reason you are not able to make pick up by the time listed above, please let us know so we can reassure your children that you have not forgotten them.

Pick up time is a very exciting and important time, as your child will be excited to see you and you will be excited to see them. It is also an important time for the camp program as we will be wrapping things up, and trying to give the campers a great send off. Please keep this in mind and please allow the campers to complete their programs before grabbing them and taking them away from the program that is taking place. Be sure to go through the full check out process, I.E; visit the lost and found area, visit camp store, and most importantly, sign your camper out (pick up medications, receive your exit parent packet) with the designated camp staff member. Under no circumstances is a camper to be left alone at camp during closing. If a camper is not picked up at the predetermined time, a phone call will be made to the authorized person. If contact cannot be made, the emergency contact person will be called. As a last resort, if no one has come by 3:30 p.m., the sheriff will be called and the episode will be treated as a child neglect situation until the situation is resolved.

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## **MUST KNOW FEATURES**

With paid tuition every camper receives the following: all activities, room and board, a t-shirt, group photo of their session, \$5 credit in camp store, digital copy of the weekly camp video, access to our one-way email program, and access to our online photo gallery. See details below.

- **Camper Mail** - Kids love to get mail at camp. We offer a few options to get them mail.
  - o **One-way Emails (parent to campers)** – Camp offers FREE one way emails for all families. To access this great feature, just log into your online account and find the “Email a Camper” link in the “additional options” dropdown.
  - o **Snail Mail** – If email isn't for you, please send something through the USPS. Our address is 39000 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Bloomingtondale, MI 49026. Don't forget to send these early as it usually takes a couple of days for them to get to us locally and more time the further you are away.
  - o **Prewritten Mail** – Get your letters written ahead of time and give them to us when you check-in. We will then hand them out during the week. Just be sure you have them labeled with the day you would like us to hand them out.
  - o **Camper to Parent Letters** – Campers feel lots of comfort from sending you mail as well. Please help your camper send you mail by packing: Paper, pencil, and pre-addressed and stamped envelopes.
  
- **Online Photo Gallery** - Camp offers FREE access to our online photo gallery for all families. We upload pictures each day of the happenings here at camp. This great feature gives you a chance to see what your camper is doing while they are here with us. We try to upload pictures from all of the program areas as well as getting all of the kiddos, but we can't guarantee pictures of all campers will be uploaded. To access this great feature, just log into your online account and find the “Photo Gallery” link in the “additional options” dropdown.
  
- **Camp Store** – Each camper is credited \$5 in their account to make purchases for snacks or trinkets throughout their stay with us. As part of the check-in process you will make a stop at camp store to receive a t-shirt and water bottle. You will also be able review your camper's account and add additional money at this time.
  - o **Online access to Camp Store Account** – You can check your campers camp store balance from home and add money as you feel necessary. To access this great feature, just log into your online account and find the “camp store” link in the “additional options” dropdown.
  - o **Weekly Camp Video** – All campers will receive a free digital copy of the weekly camp video featuring photos and videos of the great week your camper had at camp. We will continue to sell DVD and Blu-Ray copies. If you would like to purchase a DVD or Blu-Ray copy, you can do this at check-in or check-out of your camp session. You can also purchase by calling our office.
  - o **Additional Purchases** – If you would like to purchase an extra t-shirt, photo or other camp store item you can do this during the check in or check out time at camp.
  - o **Offseason Purchases** – We may also have limited items available for purchase online during the offseason as well. One item we will have available is Gift Certificates. You can now purchase a Gift Certificate for Camp Kidwell as a birthday or other special occasion.

## **CAMPER RULES**

Below are our camp rules. Please take a moment and look them over and discuss them with your child.

1. Destruction of camp property, buildings, screens, nature, etc. is prohibited.
2. Shoes must be worn at all times. The exceptions to this rule include when in cabins, at swimming, boating, and shower areas.
3. No running allowed unless you're told otherwise.
4. Clean up after yourself and others.
5. Campers must stay within camp boundaries at all times. The waterfront, horse area, archery range, sports field and challenge course areas are off limits unless accompanied by a staff member.
6. Campers should wash their hands after each time they go to the restroom and before each meal.
7. Personal hygiene is very important.
8. Cabins will remain neat and organized:
  - a. Only one radio, playing **appropriate** music, may be played softly in each cabin.
  - b. All beds will be made before breakfast.
    - i. Beds must be made head to toe and at least 30 inches apart
  - c. All wet towels and suits will be hung on the clothes line outside the cabin.
  - d. Cabins will be swept and kept free of cobwebs and dirt.
  - e. Clothes picked up and put away neatly on bed or in suitcase.
9. Fire extinguishers are not to be touched by anyone other than camp staff members.
10. Throwing of stones, sticks, or any other dangerous objects is not allowed.
11. Campers should not go into cabins other than their own, the director's office, maintenance or storage shed.
12. Extra money or valuables should be turned into the camp director. Camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
13. All campers will participate in scheduled activities unless ill or injured.
14. A buddy system should be used at all times. Campers should take a friend with them wherever they go on camp grounds. **Special Note:** To use the restroom during the night wake up a counselor to tell them where you're going and also take a buddy.
15. Do not get into other person's belongings.
16. Smoking, swearing, alcohol, drugs, fighting, and sexual conduct are not allowed.
17. Animals, firearms and other hunting equipment are prohibited. Personal sports equipment must be approved by the camp director.

## **GOALS(G) and OUTCOMES(O)**

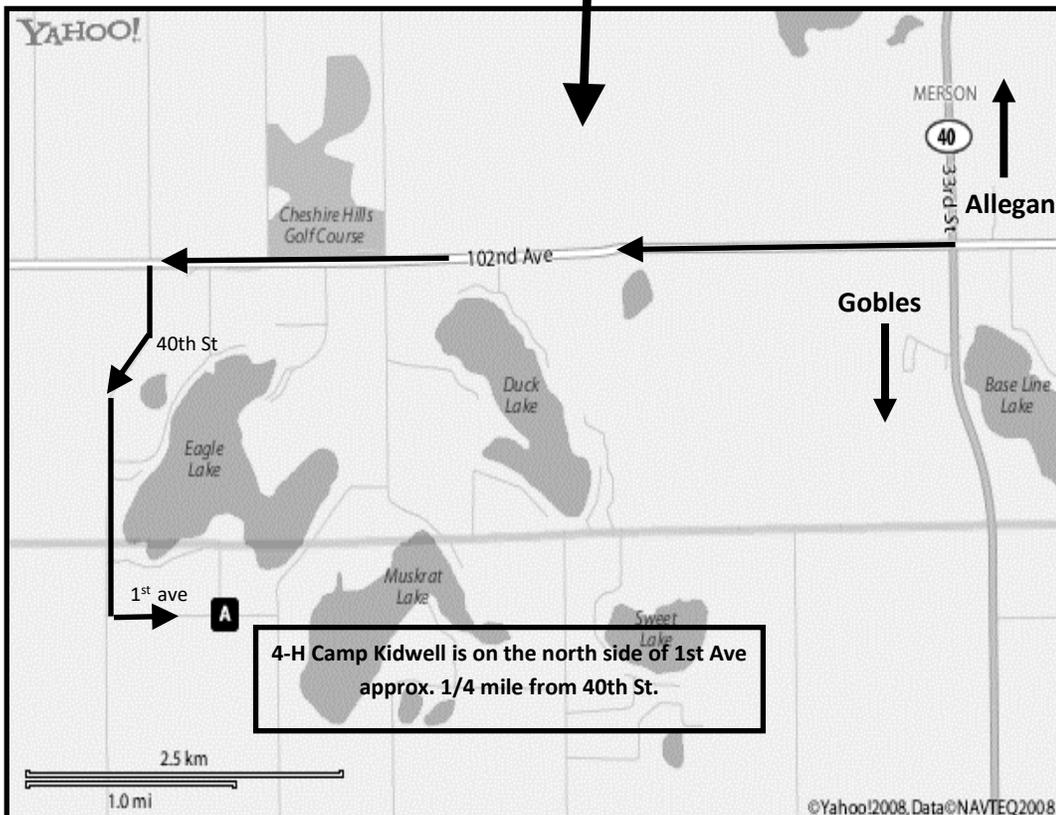
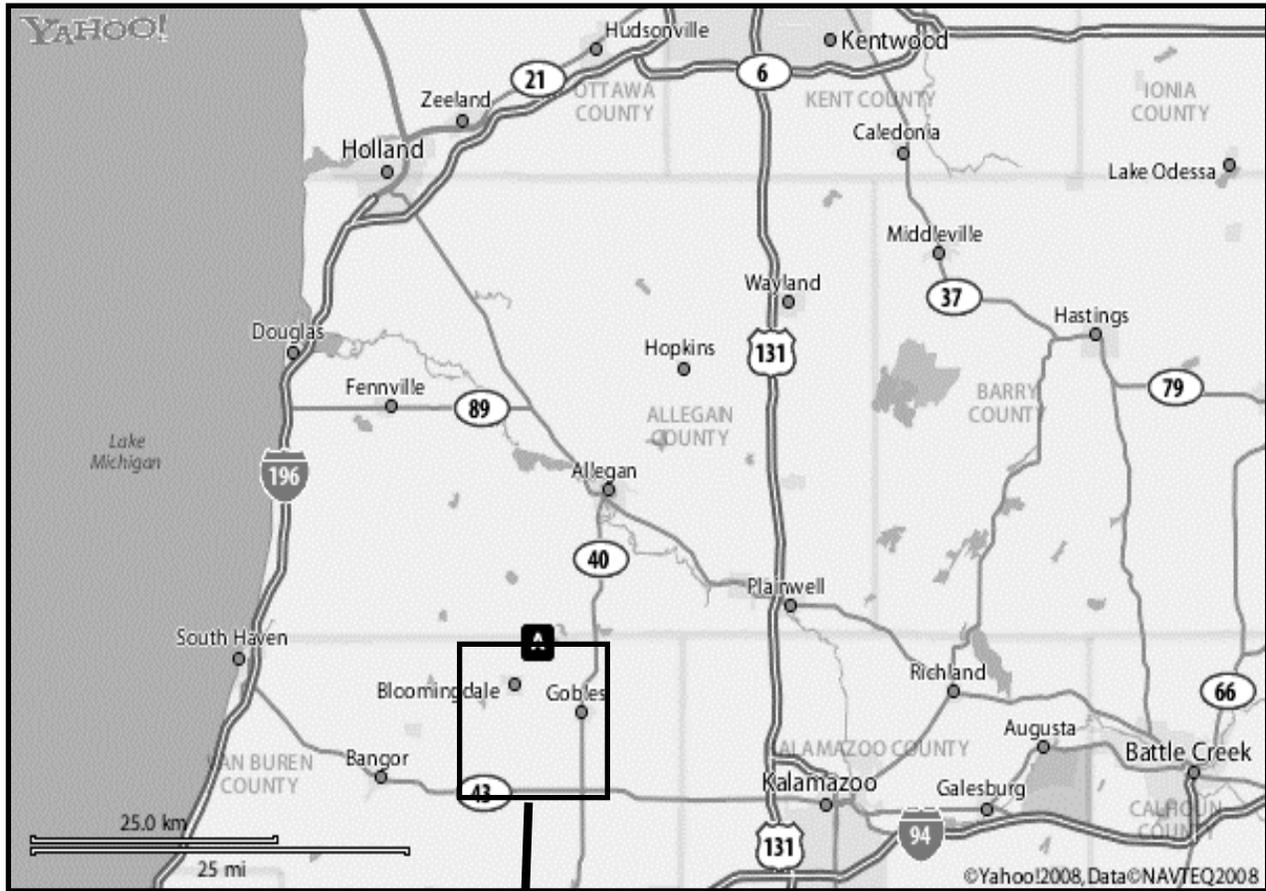
Below are some of the goals and outcomes we hope your child(ren) experience while they are with us.

- G- Provide a unique, exciting, fun-filled and growing experience to all campers.**
- O- Campers learn personal strengths and weaknesses, and how to use them.
- G- Convey to each camper the feeling that he or she is a unique and worthwhile human being.**
- O- Campers become more confident and outgoing and are able to express themselves more clearly.
- G- Each camper is a winner if he or she does the best they can with the abilities they have.**
- O- Campers develop willingness to try new things.
- G- Provide experiences that allow for cooperation with others, a close relationship with campers and staff members.**
- O- Campers develop a healthy respect and interaction level with campers and adults.
- G- Provide a caring community in which campers and staff work together and enjoy each new day and experience.**
- O- Campers show concern for others and willingness to help each other solve problems.
- G- Expose campers to activities with which they may not be familiar.**
- O- Campers develop interest in new activities.
- G- Offer individual, small group, and large group activities, which are skillfully taught and thoroughly organized.**
- O- Campers demonstrate ability to be productive members of any size group.
- G- Challenge children to treat each other with respect and promote positive communication skills.**
- O- Campers think before acting and work through issues in positive and appropriate means.
- G- Provide challenging co-educational experiences, promoting a positive feeling between boys and girls.**
- O- Campers demonstrate positive, meaningful relationships with members of the opposite sex.
- G- Maintain and build meaningful 4-H Camp Kidwell traditions through songs, activities, and camping.**
- O- Campers want to become members of staff and continue to share the positive experience that camp provides.

- G- Provide a quality overall program in which campers and families are excited about and want to return.
- O- Campers will want to return year after year.

## Directions to 4-H Camp Kidwell

39000 1st Ave Bloomingdale, MI 49026



### From North and East

At the corner of M-40 and 102nd Ave, go west on 102nd Ave to 40th St. Go south on 40th St. to 1st Ave. turn east on 1st Ave. 4-H Camp Kidwell will be on the north side of 1st Ave about 1/4 of a mile from 40th St.

### From South and West

Turn north on CR 665 from M-43, follow CR 665 through Bloomingdale to CR 390, turn East on CR 390. Follow CR 390 to 40th St, turn north on 40th St. Follow 40th St. to 1st Ave, and turn east. 4-H Camp Kidwell will be on the north side of 1st Ave about 1/4 of a mile from 40th St.