



2024

# DISCOVERY DAY CAMP GUIDE



**CROSSROADS**  
OF AMERICA COUNCIL  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Aaron Vikemyr**  
Camp Director

Welcome to Camp Belzer,

Thank you for choosing Camp Belzer as your summer camp home. With hundreds of camps to choose from across the country, we are honored you put your trust in us. We believe we have the best summer day camps in the country, and we are confident they will live up to your expectations.

Camp is an amazing place where a child's imagination can come to life and their adventurous spirit can be unleashed in a safe and fun environment. We provide the information contained within this guide to answer your questions about Camp Belzer and to earn your complete confidence when you place your child in our care. At camp, our goal is to provide the highest quality customer service possible. That starts from the moment your child decides to come to camp all the way through their post-camp experience. Our goal is for every youth to remember their time at camp as a highlight of the summer.

We hope this guide will serve as a resource to help you plan for camp. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.





# CONTENTS

Contacts .....	1
Discovery Tracks .....	2-3
Daily Schedule .....	4
Camp Services.....	5
Trading Post Services.....	5
Meal Service.....	6
Preparing For Camp.....	7
Equipment Checklist.....	7
Arrival At Camp .....	8
Signing Up For Camp.....	9
Camper Fees & Payments .....	10
Financial Assistance.....	10
Refund Policy.....	10
Camp Policies.....	11
FAQ's .....	15
Map .....	18



**It is the mission of Camp Belzer to foster the Scout Oath and Law in both youth and adults by offering a fun, safe, inclusive, positive, memorable and challenging summer camp experience.**







# BUILD AN ADVENTURE

Children do stuff. They build things. Play with purpose. Make friends and work together. Set goals and clear them. They go places: physically, mentally and spiritually.

These life-changing experiences — and the confidence they provide — become bricks in the wall of childhood. These bricks eventually form a foundation that supports children as they embrace opportunity and overcome obstacles. For the parents watching in awe, it's not a question of where their child will go, but where they won't go.

## Prepared. For Life. At Camp.

### YEAR-ROUND OFFICE

CROSSROADS OF AMERICA COUNCIL  
Golden-Burke Scout Center  
7125 Fall Creek Road North  
Indianapolis, IN 46256  
Phone 317.813.7125

### SUMMER OFFICE (JUNE & JULY)

CAMP BELZER  
Camp Office  
6102 Boy Scout Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46226  
Phone 317.546.6031

## CONTACTS



**Aaron Vikemyr**  
Camp Director  
[campdirector@campbelzer.org](mailto:campdirector@campbelzer.org)



**Bill Sinclair**  
Senior Program Director  
[bill@campbelzer.org](mailto:bill@campbelzer.org)



**CAC Program Assistant**  
[camping@crossroadsbsa.org](mailto:camping@crossroadsbsa.org)

### Emergency Contact

Should you need our assistance to contact a person at camp, please call the Camp Office phone number at 317.546.6031. Generally, this phone is answered from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.



# DISCOVERY DAY CAMP

Discovery Day Camp, based in the Skip and Alex Lange Innovation Center, is open to the public

DISCOVERY DAY CAMP		GROUP SIZE	
GROUP	TRACKS	MIN.	MAX.
5 - 6 yrs. old	Outdoor Adventures	9	16
7 - 8 yrs. old	Discover the Wild	9	20
9 - 10 yrs. old	Tracks in the Woods	9	20

Throughout the week, campers can expect to have a shooting sports experience and time in the pool every day.

## DISCOVERY TRACKS

### OUTDOOR ADVENTURES (5-6 YEAR OLDS)

Campers will learn about the outdoors, the essentials for hiking, Leave no Trace principles, water safety, plants and insects, you will discover the wonder of nature even in your backyard. In addition to theme, specific program, participants will also have time to do traditional camp activities like archery and camp-wide games.

### DISCOVER THE WILD(7-8 YEAR OLDS)

Discover your outdoor survival skills in the Wild Survival Discovery track. Campers will learn basic first aid, hiking, camping, fire starting and cooking skills while exploring and surviving in the forest throughout Camp Belzer. In addition to theme, specific program, participants will also have time to do traditional camp activities like archery and camp-wide games.



# DISCOVERY TRACKS (CONT.)

## TRACKS IN THE WOODS (9-10 YEAR OLDS)

Tracks in the Woods will prepare your camper for their next great camping adventure. Campers will learn shelter building, how to make a survival kit, learn basic first aid skills, identify poisonous plants, learn orienteering skills and much more. In addition to theme specific program, participants will also have time to do traditional camp activities like archery and camp-wide games.







## DAILY SCHEDULE

### EXTENDED CARE -----

Complimentary pre-care and after-care

7:30 AM Early drop-off  
 4:00 PM After-care starts  
 6:00 PM Last pickup

### GENERAL SCHEDULE -----

8:30 AM Drop Off  
 9:00 AM Opening ceremony /  
 Station rotation starts  
 12:00 PM Lunch  
 3:50 PM Station rotation ends  
 Closing  
 4:00 PM Pickup

### Trading Post Hours -----

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

### Medical Office Hours -----

OPEN DAILY 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM



# CAMP SERVICES

## HEALTH LODGE

The Health Lodge is located in main camp, just west of the Skip & Alex Lange Innovation Center. A qualified Health Officer is on duty during all program times. Routine medical needs and daily medical care are provided during the day. If more advanced care is needed, two staff members will accompany the camper to a nearby medical facility. The Camp Director will notify the parents or guardian. Upon check-in, please notify the Health Officer of any medical conditions or medications being taken.

## LOST AND FOUND

A lost and found is maintained at the Camp Office. Campers who have lost an item should check there first. If you have found an item without an owner, bring it to the office so that we can try to find who it belongs to. Any unclaimed items are donated within a month of the camp's final day.

## TRADING POST SERVICES

Camp Belzer features a Trading Post fully stocked with a variety of camp supplies. Here, campers can purchase products such as toiletries, water bottles, clothing, souvenirs, camping gear and refreshments. The Trading Post will be open during program times.





## SPENDING MONEY

We recommend campers bring spending money to purchase snacks and camp souvenirs. How much money to bring is a personal decision between the youth and their parents. To help determine how much money to bring to camp, a general price guide is below (prices may be different at camp).

Camp Souvenirs: \$1 - \$50

Camp T-shirts: \$12 - \$25

Toys & Games: \$5 - \$25

Camp Hats: \$10 - \$20

Camp Water Bottles: \$10 - \$15

Camp Equipment: \$1 - \$50

Drinks: \$1 - \$4

Snacks: \$1 - \$5

Candy: \$1 - \$3

Ice Cream: \$1 - \$5

We recommend that parents provide money each day rather than all at once. Cash and credit cards are accepted at the Trading Post.



## MEAL SERVICE

Camp Belzer is an Indiana Department of Education Summer Food Program Site operated by MSD of Lawrence Township, which provides lunch to all youth participants for free. Youth participants will be receiving USDA-approved lunches like those served in school. Adults can purchase this same meal for a small fee during morning check-in or at the office. Participants are welcome to pack their lunch if they choose. Many parents pack snacks for their campers to eat before and after lunch throughout the day.

# PREPARING FOR CAMP

## MEDICAL FORMS

The safety of your child and all our campers is our top priority. One aspect of that is for all campers to have a health form on file at camp, this included day camps. The BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (form # 680-001) is required for each youth and adult participant. Part C is not required for day camp. We collect parts A&B at camp.

Upon arrival at camp, a copy of a current medical form for each youth and adult must be turned in to the medical staff. An attached photocopy of the camper's insurance card must also be provided as directed by Part A. Copies of these health forms should not be faxed or emailed to Camp. Copies should also be kept by the pack or parents.

## EQUIPMENT CHECKLIST

The following list is provided as an aid, but certainly is not all encompassing. Children should ask parents to assist them.

- Swimsuit
- Towel
- Athletic shoes or comfortable hiking boots
- Plastic bags for wet swimsuit for travel home
- Poncho or raincoat
- Backpack
- Canteen or water bottle
- Suntan lotion and non-aerosol insect repellent (with DEET)
- Spending money for souvenirs and snacks at the Trading Post
- Prescription medication in its original container







# ARRIVING AND DEPARTING CAMP

## DROP OFF AND PICKUP

Discovery Day Camp is a drop off camp. When you arrive at camp, follow the signs directing you to the drop off and pickup lane. Drop off and pickup occurs at the traffic circle on the east side of the Skip & Alex Lange Innovation Center. There a staff member will greet you, check-in your camper, and escort them to their camp group. Pickup is much the same. A staff member will greet you and have your camper released from their camp group. Specific instructions regarding drop off and pickup for your camper will be emailed to you the week before camp.

## BEFORE CARE AND AFTER CARE

### Before Care

Before Care is available starting at 7:30 AM for those parents who are unable to drop off their child during the regular drop-off times. Trained staff members provide activities to campers until morning program begins. Parents are required to check in at the Skip & Alex Lange Innovation Center each morning.

### After Care

After Care is available from 4 PM to 6 PM at the Innovation Center for those parents who are unable to pick up their child during the regular pick-up times. Trained staff members provide activities for campers until their parent arrives. Parents are required to be listed on the health form and present a government-issued photo ID at pickup.



# SIGNING UP FOR CAMP

## REGISTRATION

Registration and payment for Discovery Day Camp is completed by a parent online at [www.campbelzer.org](http://www.campbelzer.org). All payments for Camp Belzer should be made online with a credit card or e-check.

### CAMP SCHEDULE

<b>Session 1</b>	June 10 - 14
<b>Session 2</b>	June 17 - 21
<b>Session 3</b>	June 24 - 28
<b>Session 4</b>	July 8 - 12
<b>Session 5</b>	July 15 - 19





## FEES & DEADLINES

	RATE	DEADLINE
Youth Member	\$300	By March 15, 2024
	\$325	After March 15, 2024
Youth Non-Member	\$340	By March 15, 2024
	\$365	After March 15, 2024

All fees are due at registration.

**Registration closes 30 days before camp.**

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Finances should never prevent a youth from attending camp. Crossroads of America Council offers a Campership program to its members that awards recipients up to 50% of the early summer camp fee. **Applications can be found at [www.247scouting.com/forms/160-Campership2024](http://www.247scouting.com/forms/160-Campership2024).**

To be considered for the first round of camperships, applications must be received by the deadline. After that, eligible camperships are distributed first come, first served until funding is exhausted. **Contact the council camping office by phone at 317.813.7125 or by email at [camping@crossroadsbsa.org](mailto:camping@crossroadsbsa.org) for more information.**

## REFUND POLICY

- All fees are nontransferable, this includes between attendees on the same registration.
- Cancellations and refund requests are accepted only for medical reasons, and they must be submitted within two weeks after the scheduled session of camp. A doctor's note is required for refund requests.
- A \$50 cancellation fee will be assessed in all cases.
- Refunds are processed within six to eight weeks of receipt and are returned to the original payer in the original form of payment.
- There are no refunds due to weather unless an entire camp session is canceled by the council.
- All refund requests should be emailed to [camping@crossroadsbsa.org](mailto:camping@crossroadsbsa.org).



# CAMP POLICIES

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

Experience has shown that dens and packs that double-check each Scout's medical information before leaving for camp can avoid unnecessary delays once at camp.

These policies are set by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the State of Indiana. Compliance with the policies regarding the completion of the health forms is mandatory and necessary to maintain the admirable safety record of the Boy Scouts of America. Failure to comply can be particularly difficult to deal with as available options are limited once you arrive at camp. Please help us avoid these awkward moments that can diminish the memories of an otherwise worthwhile experience.

The BSA Annual Health and Medical Record (form # 680-001) is required for each youth and adult participant. Upon arrival at camp, a copy of a current medical form for each youth and adult must be turned in to the medical staff. An attached photocopy of the camper's insurance card must also be provided as directed by Part A.

Packs are highly encouraged to send a copy of the Annual Health and Medical Records for all Scouts and adults prior to your camping week. Please include the following information:

- Pack number and council/district
- Week you will be attending
- Roster of the included forms

Copies should be sent all at once or in large groups and not individually. Please use the U.S. Postal Service and mail to the camp address. Copies of these health forms should not be faxed or emailed to camp. Copies should also be kept by the pack or parents.





## MEDICATION POLICY

All medication brought to camp by a person under 18 years of age shall be kept in a locked unit or in the Health Lodge and shall be administered by a qualified adult leader designated by the Camp Health Supervisor. EpiPens, inhalers, insulin syringes and other medication or devices used in the event of life-threatening situations may be carried by a camper or staff member. Campers ages 18 years and older may take responsibility for the security of their medication provided it is stored in a locked unit.

All medications brought to camp by a camper shall be in a container that is clearly labeled to include the name of the camper, the name of the medication, the dosage, the frequency of administration and the route of administration. All medication prescribed by a physician shall, in addition, be labeled to include the name of the prescribing physician, the prescription number, date prescribed, possible adverse reactions, specific conditions under which contact should be made with the physician and other special instructions as needed.

When a medication is administered to a camper, the qualified adult leader designated by the Camp Health Supervisor shall make a record of the action in a bound book provided by the camp indicating the following information: name of the person receiving the medication or treatment, ailment, name of the medication or treatment, quantity given, date and time administered, by whom administered and comments.

## ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS ASSISTANCE

All registered members of Crossroads of America Council are covered by the Council Accident and Sickness Assistance Insurance Plan. Please keep in mind this coverage is not intended to replace or diminish the need for family health insurance. BSA insurance provides supplemental coverage only. Special conditions are as follows:

- Injuries or illness sustained prior to arriving in camp, requiring attention during your stay, are not covered.
- Every injury or illness must be reported to the Health Lodge immediately to be covered.
- Medical expenses incurred after camp because of an illness or injury sustained at camp are covered. These must be reported to the Council Service Center for clearance with the insurance provider.
- Out-of-council units should check with their home council office to determine plan limits.
- Youth, adults and visitors who are not members of the Crossroads of America Council are not covered by the accident insurance plan.





## SERVICE ANIMALS

Camp allows service animals following the rules of the American Disability Act, which states: “Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability.”

Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA (and are not allowed in camp). Please see the U.S. Department of Justice, ADA website ([https://www.ada.gov/service\\_animals\\_2010.htm](https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm)) for more information.



# ADDITIONAL POLICIES

1. The Scout Oath and Law are the codes of conduct for behavior expected at camp.
2. Youth Protection guidelines must always be followed by youth and adults. Please review Youth Protection guidelines before attending camp.
3. While at camp, all children, parents and visitors must wear a wristband provided during check-in.
4. Visitors must check in at the Camp Office upon arrival and wear a visitor's wristband while in camp.
5. Everyone – campers, parents and staff – must sign in and sign out of camp when leaving the property. The sign-in and sign-out list is located at the Camp Office.
6. Any camper who is a minor and is to leave camp property for any reason needs to be signed out by a parent or legal guardian. All other individuals with parental permission to take a minor away from camp must be listed on the camper's medical form and must have a photo ID to verify their identity.
7. Closed toed and closed heeled shoes and socks must always be worn, except when showering or swimming.
8. Do not climb over, lean against or sit on fences in camp. Respect camp boundaries. Do not cross fences or other obstacles onto private property.
9. Do not tamper with smoke detectors, fire extinguishers or other emergency or lifesaving equipment.
10. Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, fireworks or firearms are not permitted in camp. Vandalism, theft, personal injury or other illegal actions will not be tolerated. Local authorities will be called, and damages will be assessed.
11. Under no circumstances is an open flame to be used inside a tent. Lanterns (except those that are battery operated), candles, etc., are not allowed in any tent.
12. Pets are not permitted; service animals are welcome (please see the service animal policy).
13. Swimwear should be comfortable, functional and modest. For males, swim trunks or board shorts are appropriate. Females should bring modest tankinis or one-piece swimsuits.
14. Camp is a NON-SMOKING facility. Smoking will be limited to SPECIFICALLY designated areas. Violators will be asked to leave the property.
15. Personal firearms may NOT be brought to camp. Personal firearms will be confiscated and secured by the Shooting Sports Director or Camp Ranger until the owner's departure. Personal shooting equipment may not be stored in campsites or vehicles.
16. Personal vehicles are not allowed on camp roads at any time without the specific permission of the Camp Director or Camp Ranger. They must be kept in the parking lot.
17. Report all injuries on camp property to the Health Lodge and any damage or breakage of camp facilities or equipment to the Camp Office as soon as possible.
18. No standing tree, living or dead, may be cut down without the permission of the Camp Ranger.

# FAQ

Welcome to Camp Belzer and thank you for choosing us for your child's summer camp experience. We encourage parents to review the FAQ section, which we hope answers many questions about Camp Belzer and our commitment to safety.

Camp is an amazing place where the magic of a child's imagination (and adventurous spirit) can come to life in a safe and fun environment. We know that sending your child to day camp on their own can be stressful and worrisome. We provide the information below to answer your questions about Camp Belzer to earn your complete confidence when you put your child in our care. If we are unable to answer your questions below or if you have any hesitations, please contact us at 317.813.7125. We want to do whatever we can to earn your trust and ensure your child does not miss out on the life-changing experience of camp.

## **Who runs Camp Belzer?**

Camp Belzer operates year-round serving youth of all ages with dedicated professionals from the Boy Scouts of America. During the summer, Camp Belzer is focused on providing safe, age-appropriate activities for our youngest campers. With a combined total of over 100 years of youth development and camp experience, our summertime camp leadership team is prepared to look after your child. Our camp leadership team is trained at National Camping School. Camp Belzer's leadership team increases during the summer to include professional educators who care for and teach our community's students during the school year.

## **What sort of activities will my child do?**

Your son or daughter will do all sorts of fun, age-appropriate activities, including archery, swimming, hiking, STEM activities and making new friends. You should know that while we do a variety of activities at Camp Belzer, they are not the most important part. The most important part is that your child will be able to challenge themselves in a safe and supportive environment surrounded by well-trained staff. Sometimes that means your child will be uncomfortable meeting a new friend or trying a new activity. It is through camp that your child will grow and learn how to face new challenges on their own.

## **What if my child gets homesick?**

Children do get homesick. Even with parents around, they might start missing their friends, pets – even their bed – at home. When this happens, our staff, who are all trained in working with homesick youth, will be there to support them. When needed, our leadership team and medical team have further training and years of experience. In our years of service, we have found it's best to get the camper busy doing fun activities. Rest assured, we will consult you about any concerns.





### **Do you provide lunch?**

Camp Belzer is lucky to be an Indiana Department of Education Summer Food Program Site operated by MSD of Lawrence Township. This program, through the USDA, allows MSD of Lawrence Township to provide lunch to all youth participants for free. Campers will receive USDA-approved lunches like those served in schools. Adults can purchase this same meal during morning drop-off or at the office. Campers can also choose to pack their own lunch. Many parents pack snacks for their children to eat before and after lunch throughout the day.

### **Can you accommodate dietary restrictions?**

Since lunch is provided by a third-party provider, we are unable to accommodate dietary restrictions. We recommend packing a lunch for those who have dietary restrictions.

### **What if I need to get in contact with my child?**

Should you need to contact your child, please call the camp office phone number at 317.546.6031. Generally, this phone is answered between the hours of 8 AM and 6 PM. However, during peak arrival, departure and other busy times, callbacks may be delayed.

### **Can Camp Belzer accommodate my child's medication or other special needs?**

Camp Belzer employs a qualified and dedicated health officer who is on duty and on property during all program times. The Health Lodge is already prepared for routine medical needs including dispensing medications. Camp Belzer has golf carts available for participants who have mobility issues. If there are additional special needs, please call us to determine if we can host your child.

### **What if my child gets injured?**

Camp Belzer employs a qualified and dedicated health officer who is on duty and on property during all program times. The Health Lodge is located near the activity center for routine medical needs. While we strive to prevent all accidents, we recognize that injuries will occur, and our staff is trained and equipped to respond. Most injuries are simple scrapes and bruises and are cared for in the program areas by the trained program staff. However, sometimes they need a bit more care and are treated in our Health Lodge. If this happens, you will be notified. If an emergency occurs, please know that we are prepared. In addition to our Health Officer, our staff is well-trained in first aid and CPR, and our Camp Ranger is an EMT. If necessary, two trained staff members will accompany your child to a nearby medical facility. When possible, the Camp Director will make every effort to contact you before transporting your child, though we will not delay care when immediate care is warranted.

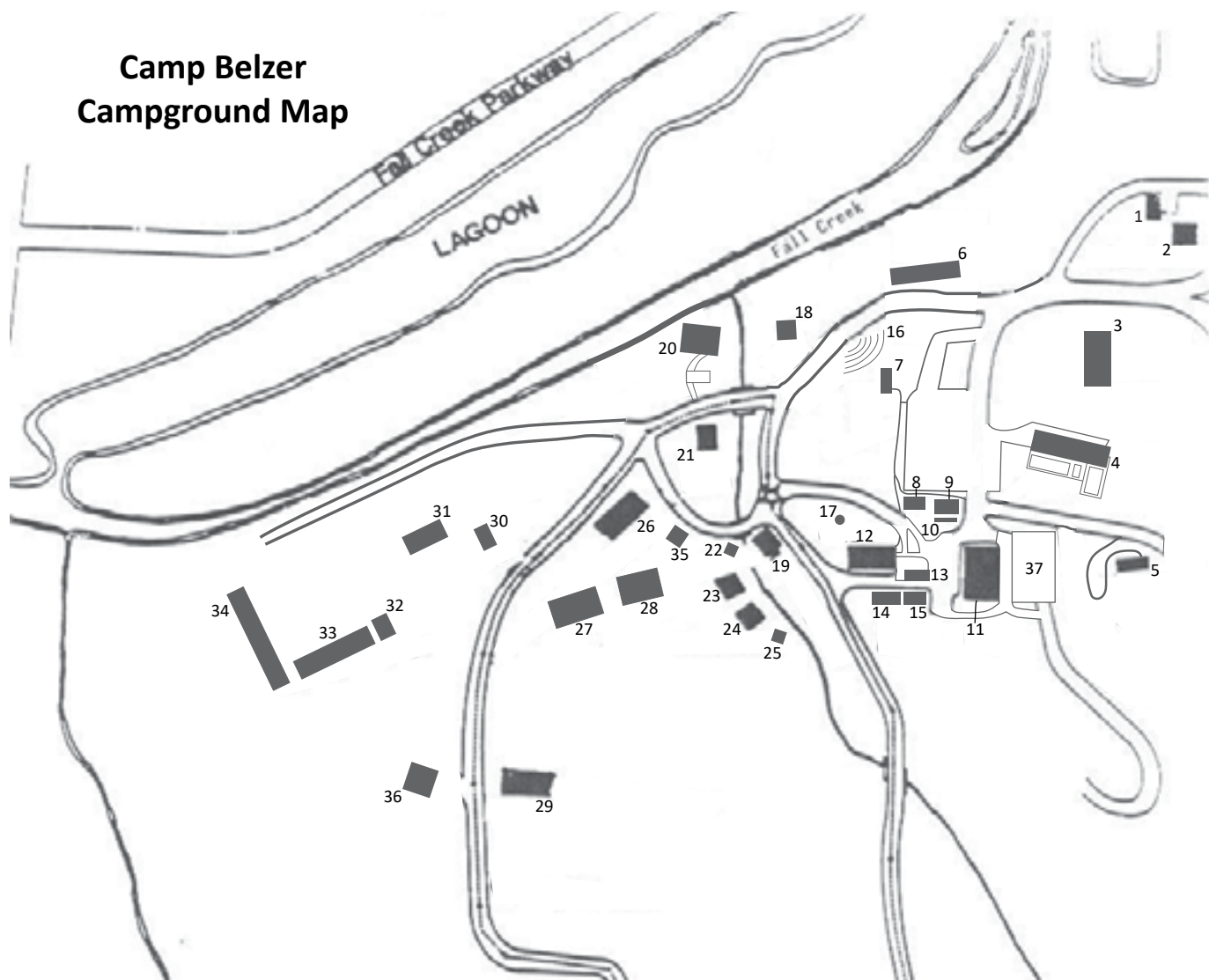
### **What happens if there is bad weather?**

Indiana summer weather can be very accommodating or very unaccommodating. The leadership team tracks the weather for possible concerns involving storms, lightning or high temperatures. Some programs can continue as normal during rain while others cannot. You and your child should be prepared to continue during rain. In cases of severe rain, we will close programs and move activities indoors as appropriate. In cases of severe thunderstorms or tornadoes, all participants and staff will be sheltered in preapproved locations. In the case of severe heat, we activate our hot weather emergency plans. Depending on the heat indexes, we may cancel or substitute activities. We will take all necessary actions to ensure the safety of your child during severe weather.

### **Is my child safe at Camp Belzer?**

Camp Belzer is a BSA Nationally Accredited Camp with yearly inspections. Camp Belzer has always prioritized safety and has an exemplary safety record. Our highly trained staff is prepared to handle all situations that may arise.

## Camp Belzer Campground Map



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1</b> Ranger House Garage           | <b>19</b> Gyro Trading Post                 |
| <b>2</b> Rangers House                 | <b>20</b> Rotary Shelter                    |
| <b>3</b> Maintenance Building          | <b>21</b> Kahn Cabin                        |
| <b>4</b> Pool House & Pool             | <b>22</b> Pump House                        |
| <b>5</b> Nature Lodge                  | <b>23</b> Chief Belzer Cabin                |
| <b>6</b> Voyager Shelter & Voyager Hut | <b>24</b> K-Hut Cabin                       |
| <b>7</b> Kiwanis Shelter               | <b>25</b> Jeff Osterman Firecrafter Shelter |
| <b>8</b> Firecrafter Welcome Shelter   | <b>26</b> Second Stop Shelter               |
| <b>9</b> Camp Office                   | <b>27</b> Pioneer Cabin                     |
| <b>10</b> Cart Racks                   | <b>28</b> Hunt Construction Cabin           |
| <b>11</b> Fieldhouse                   | <b>29</b> AT&T Lucent Shelter               |
| <b>12</b> Activities Center            | <b>30</b> Bathrooms                         |
| <b>13</b> Health Lodge/Restrooms       | <b>31</b> Rotary Intel Shelter              |





[www.campbelzer.org](http://www.campbelzer.org)



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