



2023 Winter Camp

The Return of
Jack Frost

Mitigwa Scout Reservation

Mitigwa Scout Reservation

Scouts BSA Winter Camp

December 27-29, 2023

Participant Information

& Program Guide

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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

- 10:00am- Check-in Begins (Camp Akela Parking Lot)**
- 11:00am- House Meetings (in House)**
- 12:00 – Lunch (Bear Creek Lodge)**
- 1:30pm —First aid and Winter Survival Tutorials**
- 6:00pm—Court Feast**
- 8:30pm- Winter Jubilee Campfire (Akela Amphitheater)**
- 10:30pm- Lights out (in House)**

Thursday, December 28, 2023

- 7:00am Breakfast (Bear Creek)**
- 8:15am- Opening Ceremony (Bear Creek Lodge)**
- 9:00am-10:00am- Training Session 1**
- 10:15am-11:15am- Training Session 2**
- 11:30am-12:30pm- Training Session 3**
- 12:30pm-2:00pm- Lunch (Bear Creek)**
- 2:00pm-3:00pm- Training Session 4**
- 3:15pm-4:15pm- Training Session 5**
- 4:30pm- House Meetings (in House)**
- 6:00pm- House Feast (Bear Creek)**
- 8:00pm- Court Exhibition (Bear Creek Lodge)**
- 10:30pm- Lights Out (in House)**

Thursday, December 29, 2022

- 6:00am-8:00am- Breakfast (in House)**
- 8:00am-10:00am- Clean up (in House and Assignments)**
- 10:00am- The Mitigwa Winter Games**
- 12:30pm- Closing Ceremony Feast (Bear Creek Lodge)**
- 2:00pm- Closing Ceremony (Bear Creek Lodge)**
- 3:00pm- Check-Out (Camp Akela Parking Lot)**

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

All camping for this program shall be done on a contingent basis. Camp will provide the necessary adult leadership and guidance for campers. Adults wanting to participate are encouraged to apply for camp staff or may attend and sleep in adult designated sleeping quarters. Please note, most bathroom facilities will be pit latrines.

Youth participants may choose one of two housing options, either cabin camping or tent camping.

Cabin Camping

Those choosing to cabin camp will be placed in one of the wood stove heated cabins with other Scouts of their same biological sex and around the same age. Scouts will work together as a cabin participating in program as a group. Please keep in mind that space is limited to the number of beds after staff are assigned housing.

Tent Camping

Scouts wishing to earn Polar Bear (Winter Camping) points, we will offer an opportunity to tent camp. Participants must bring their own winter camping gear. Limited gear transport to the tent camping site will be available (dependent on weather). Females will tent camp in Old Cherokee campsite (near Bear Creek Lodge) and Males will tent camp in Old Ottawa campsite (near Thomas Lodge). Bear Creek and Thomas Lodges will be used for adult staff housing and emergency shelter for those choosing to tent camp. Should you believe it is too cold to finish the night, an adult staff member will be available to assist you in those respective locations.

Adult Participation

Mitigwa Scout Reservation firmly believes in the adult association method of Scouting. With limited heated facilities, we ask that any adults wishing to participate contact the Reservation Director, Scott Robinson, and request more information about being a staff member. Adult staff members will be assigned cabin spots, first, to ensure youth protection protocols are followed. Remaining adult male staff will be housed at Thomas Lodge; female adult staff will be housed at Bear Creek and Flaming Arrow Lodges.

TRAINING SESSIONS

Shooting Sports

Scouts will learn the intricate arts of ancient archery, utilizing long-bows to test their skills of accuracy. Participants will also be challenged to tomahawk throwing. Can you represent your house as the best!?!?

Shelter Building

One of the most important ways to ensure your survival in a winter weather emergency is to be able to build a shelter. In this training, you will learn best practices for selecting a location and materials for winter survival camping. All participants will benefit from this session that examines emergency precautions in the wilderness and at home.

Survival and Cooking Fires

When the cold comes, where can one find the comfort of warmth? Fire! However, not all fires are created equal. Some fires do a better job of cooking or warming or lasting longer because of fuel source, structure, and a plethora of other physical and chemical science at play. Come learn how you can be more effective with your fire starting and building.

Food Preservation

Nearly every culture developed some kind of food preservation system for the survival of its people. Our own history in the United States is filled with recipes preserving the autumn's harvest for sustenance over the winter. Scouts will learn some food preservation basics and taste the results of quality preservation practices.

Cross Country Skiing

The mobility to get from Point A to Point B is what has allowed us to push the boundaries of exploration. During the winter we have had to get creative with our transportation to be more efficient. Scouts will learn the basis of cross country skiing, utilizing their new skills to navigate an obstacle course.

PACKING LISTS

Please make sure to consult the following list of suggested equipment while packing for the Mitigwa Winter Games:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Toiletries & Towel
(Deodorant, shampoo, soap, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cold weather/insulated sleeping bag
(Camping Pillow is also suggested) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Medications
(To be checked in with the Nurse) | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Weather Clothing
(Warm hat, extra socks, gloves, insulated underwear, warm pants, long-sleeve shirt, sweater, warm coat, scarf/face covering, winter boots)* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight
(Red light suggested for night) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire-starting kit
(No flames, liquid fuels, nor heaters in tents) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Meal /Mess Kit
(Plate/bowl, utensils, cup) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Day Pack | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout Spirit
(Positive Attitude!) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Tent (Those tent camping)
(strong tent stakes and mallet) | <input type="checkbox"/> Check-in Paperwork
(Parts A & B Physical Form) |

 Please monitor the weather as camping dates get closer as you pack your gear.

Campers will have an opportunity to purchase camp memorabilia and snacks at the Trading Post

Cell phones are discouraged during the event. If the camp administration feels that a phone has become a distraction during the event, the participant will be asked to store the phone with gear. If it continues to be a distraction camp administration reserves the right to ask for the phone to be turned in and returned at the end of the event.

The Mitigwa Scout Reservation recognizes and practices all guidelines within the Guide to Safe Scouting. This includes, but is not limited to the prohibition of drugs and alcohol, personal firearms, and fireworks on Scout properties. These guidelines will be enforced during all programs offered at the Mitigwa Scout Reservation.

LOGISTICS

Check-in

Participants may begin arriving around 10:00am on Wednesday, December 27, 2023. All participants must arrive by 11:00am.

Registration will take place at Camp Akela. The entrance to Camp Akela is located approximately 1/2 mile North of the camp main gate. Upon arrival, participants will check in at the registration tent. They will need to turn in their Health History Parts A & B at this time. Adult participants will also need to turn in verification of their Youth Protection Training. After reviewing these forms, participants will be assigned their housing.

Participants will unload their gear into trailers hauled by camp staff to housing locations or pack their gear in on foot. NO personal participant vehicles will be allowed past the parking lot.

Participants will have time to set up their sleeping area during the House meetings.

Emergency Contacts

**Camp Office Address
1798 Magnolia Rd.
Woodward, IA 50276**

**Scott Robinson
Reservation Director Phone
515-400-7366**

**Council Address
6123 Scout Trail
Des Moines, IA 50321**

**Camp Office Phone
515-438-2351**

**Council Office Phone
515-266-2135**

Check-out

Participants will be given time during the morning of check-out day to clean and pack their equipment. Scouts will be dismissed around 3:00pm Friday, December 29, 2023 and can be picked up from the Camp Akela Parking lot, where they were dropped off to start camp. Please note, that the North gate (Camp Akela entrance) is approximately 1/2 mile North of the camp main entrance. Scouts can only be picked up by those that dropped them off, unless other arrangements are made during check-in with the Reservation Director.

REGISTRATION

Fee: \$75.00 per participant

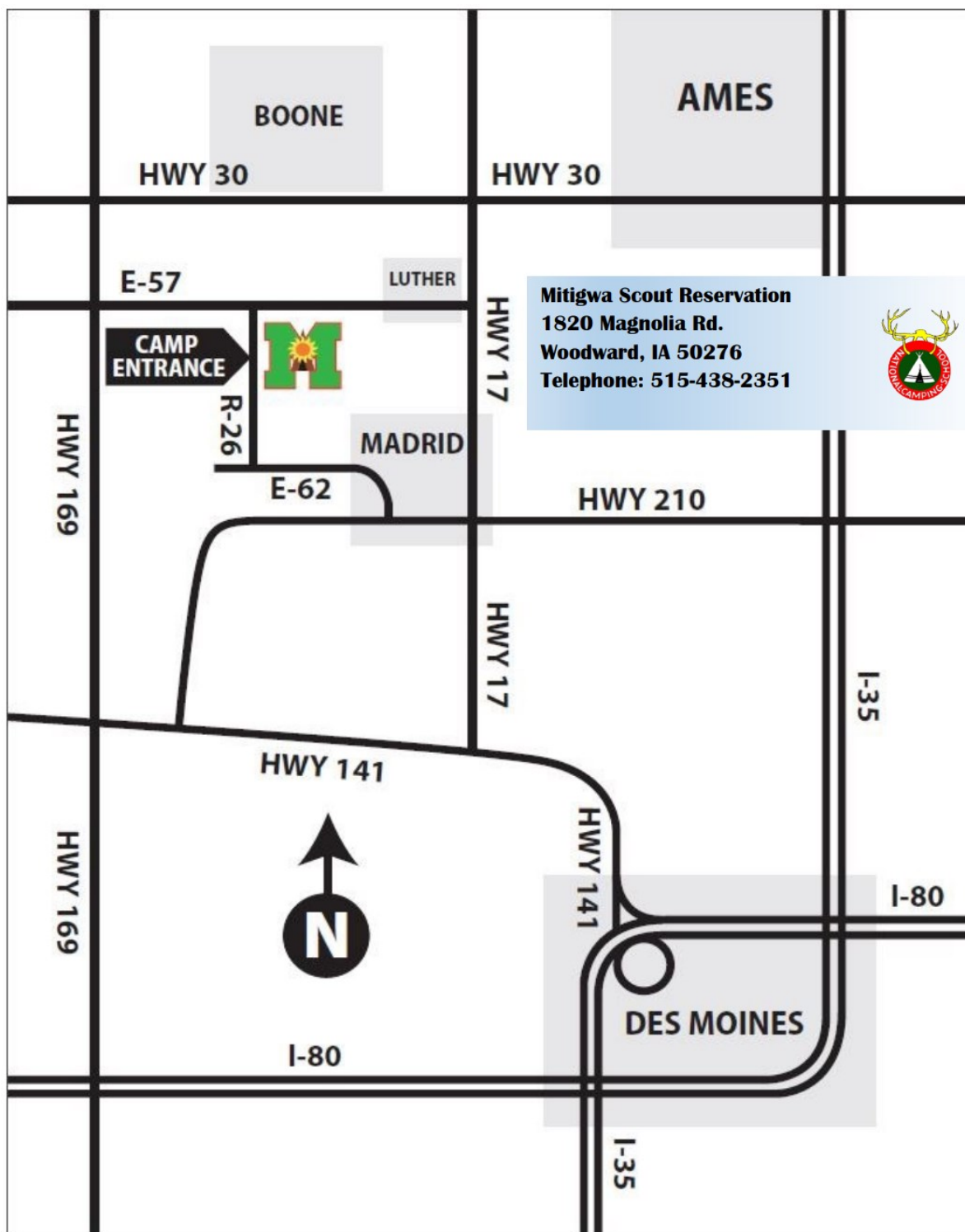
The fee for this event is being subsidized by the Mid Iowa Council Program Fee to help keep costs down per participant.

Limits: Due to the nature of the camp and limited number of cabin spaces we will have to place a limit of 42 male youth campers and 32 female youth campers for cabins and to 20 male and 20 female youth campers for tent camping. Adults that are interested in attending the camp should contact Scott Robinson at scott.robinson@scouting.org or 515-400-7366 and inquire about being a staff member for the event.

Each participant will receive an event patch.

Participants with dietary and health requirement should note such requirements on their registration as well as contacting Scott Robinson at least a week prior to the event.

GETTING TO CAMP



Winter camp participants must enter through the North gate (Camp Akela) entrance. Please note that the North entrance is about a half mile north of the Ranger or Main entrance for camp.