



Camp Mitigwa North Entrance



Camp Akela Office
Recently viewed



Frankel Ridge

Map Your Path!

Camp Mitigwa



Mitigwa Scout Reservation
Sneak Peek 2025-2026

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At Summer Camp 2025, we learned to **Trust Our Compass** to **Chart Your Course** for leadership, personal development, and team building. Inspiration Outpost, afternoon troop games, and open merit badges gave Scouts the opportunity to learn new skills, lead others, and take charge of their advancement opportunities.

This year, we continue to challenge your Scouts to **Map Your Path**. Merit badges in Music, Pottery, Home Repair, Aviation, and Disability Awareness help Scouts learn about new areas for skill development, hobbies, and careers. Our afternoon programs will also continue to challenge units to work as a team, building leadership and Scouting skills, all while having fun.

Don't miss out on Fall Camporee and Winter Camp for opportunities to continue growing your outdoor skills and leadership. **We will see you at camp!**





Reserve your spot for 2026 when you check out of camp this summer!

Deposits and Site Reservations Are Available at Camp Check Out

When you reserve your campsite for our Summer 2026 program there will be a \$100 non-refundable deposit that will be applied to your final cost. You will also be asked an estimated number of adults and youth participants. When providing estimated participant numbers please be as accurate as possible. The deposit phase ends January 31, 2026. After the deposit phase ends, minimum down payments per participant will be required upon registration.

Full Registration

Beginning February 1, 2026, in order to enter participant information you will be required to verify your youth and adult participant number and pay a \$150 minimum down-payment for each youth. After you verify your youth participants and make the minimum payment, those participants are considered fully registered. Nothing is due at that time for verified adult participants. All new registrations starting February 1, 2027, will require a verified count of youth and adults, with a \$150 down-payment per youth.

Merit Badges

Merit Badge class registration will tentatively open March 20, 2026. All youth and adult participants must be verified, have required personal information filled in and \$150 minimum down-payment per youth to register for Merit Badges.

Campsites

Campsites are assigned based on the order the registration is received. Earlier registrations with proper registration deposit receive campsite priority. Campsite assignments are subject to change.

2026 Camp Fees

- Scout TBD
- Adult TBD
- Partial Adult TBD per day

Refunds

Reservation deposits are non-refundable. These funds may not be applied for the next summer. From April 1 to June 1, 2026, there will be a \$100 fee for any Scout or Scouter that is canceled. Transfers are allowed. After June 1, 2026, there are no refunds allowed except per the regular Mid-Iowa Council Refund Policy.

All payment of fees for District and Council events are non-refundable except under the following conditions:

- Serious illness, with refund request accompanied by a physician's note
- Death in the family
- Special unexpected and extraordinary circumstances, with detailed explanation
- Event is cancelled

More information can be found at campiowa.org/refund-policy/



Tentative Schedule

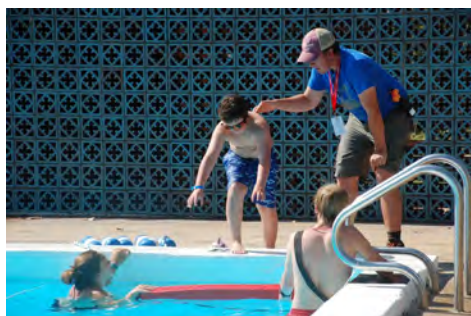
The following schedule is a ***tentative*** general timeline for day-to-day activities at Camp Mitigwa.
A more detailed camp schedule will be given to you upon check-in.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:00 AM		Sunrise Program					
6:30-7:00 AM		Open Breakfast					
7:50-8:00 AM		Flags and Morning Message 7:50					Checkout Begins at 7:00 AM
8:30-10:15 AM		Block A	Block A	Block C	Block C	Make Up and Ordeal	
10:35 AM-12:20 PM		Block B	Block B	Block D	Block D		
12:30 -1:15 PM	Check-in Begins 1:00 PM Arrival time assigned prior to your arrival at camp	Open Lunch 12:30-1:15pm					
1:30-3:00 PM		Camp wide Patrol/Troop Traveling Trophy Competitions					
3:00-5:00 PM		Troop Time/Open Areas					
4:15-5:00 PM	All Adult Meeting in Chapel						
5:50-6:45 PM	Flags at 5:50pm & Dinner at 6:00pm						
7:00-8:00 PM	7:00 PM Leader's and SPL Meeting	Sunset Program		Camp Fire and OA Call Out	Sunset Program	Troop Time	
8:00 PM	Camp Fire	Twilight Program			Twilight Program		
9:00 PM	1st year camper Cracker Barrel			Camp Fire			
10:30 PM	Taps						



Aquatics

Merit Badge	Difficulty Level	Prerequisite	Comments
Swimming*	In this merit badge Scouts will learn basic rescue skills, swimming techniques along with competitive racing mastery. Scouts will swim in Maytag pool and learn lifelong swimming and proper diving techniques.		
	A	Pass BSA swimmer test	
Lifesaving*	In this merit badge Scouts will learn basic rescue skills along with more advanced rescue skills. Many skills taught in this merit badge lend nicely to a BSA lifeguard certification later. Recommended for strong swimmers. Swimming merit badge is strongly suggested before taking life-saving.		
	C	Pass BSA swimmer test. Pass Swimming merit badge.	Must be able to swim 400 yards demonstrating all swimming strokes in a strong manner.
Canoeing	In this merit badge Scouts will learn the j-stroke, power stroke, sculling among other canoeing skills which are important for embarking on float trips. Requires a certain amount of upper and core body strength.		
	B	Pass BSA swimmer test	
Kayaking	In this merit badge Scouts will learn different strokes, capsizing, and kayaking techniques on Lake Fisher. Limited number of spots available.		
	C	Pass BSA swimmer test	
Rowing	In this merit badge Scouts will learn how to row a boat on Lake Fisher. Limited number of spots available.		
	C	Pass BSA Swimmer test	



Activities - Dress Requirements

Mile Long Swim - Morning practice times will be available, more information will be given at leader meetings

Stand Up Paddleboarding - Basic water craft skills are taught—carrying, falling, paddling, positions—Scouts can apply for the Stand Up Paddleboarding Award upon completion.

Learn to Swim - Basic swimming skills are taught to help Scouts advance their swimming skills to the next level

Participants must wear one piece or tankini swim suits or swim trunks.

Ecology

Merit Badge	Difficulty Level	Prerequisite	Pre/Post-camp Prep
Astronomy/Weather	<p>Astronomy—In learning about astronomy, Scouts study how activities in space affect our own planet and bear witness to the wonders of the night sky: the nebulae, or giant clouds of gas and dust where new stars are born; old stars dying and exploding; meteor showers and shooting stars; the moon, planets, and a dazzling array of stars</p> <p>Weather—Meteorology is the study of Earth’s atmosphere and its weather and the ways in which temperature, wind, and moisture act together in the environment. In addition to learning how everyday weather is predicted, Scouts can learn about extreme weather such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes, and how to stay safe.</p>		
	A		
Archeology	Understand how cultures evolve and investigate the past using clues our ancestors left behind with the Archeology Merit Badge. Scouts will learn about five archaeological sites in and outside the United States and give a short presentation about their findings to a Cub Scout pack, Scout troop, or peers in their classrooms.		
	B		
Fish and Wildlife Management	Learn how animal diversity impacts the planet and the longevity of communities across the globe with the Fish and Wildlife Management Merit Badge. The Fish and Wildlife Merit Badge is a conservation-based merit badge recognizing our ecological impact and responsibility to preserve and protect animal life. Scouts will learn the purpose of fish and wildlife conservation while listing at least three significant problems threatening fish and wildlife resources in their community.		
	B		
Gardening	Humans have been growing plants for thousands of years. Farmers and horticulturists make their living growing food and other plants, while other people grow gardens for pleasure. Becoming a good gardener requires a Scout to understand the science of growing plants—how to prepare the soil, how to select and plant seeds, and how to care for the growing plants.		
	B		#5 visit a facility Requirements #2, #4
Pulp and Paper	Here’s an astonishing number to digest. Each person in the United States uses about 700 pounds of paper each year. Paper is everywhere in our lives. Every year in the United States, more than 2 billion individual books, 24 billion newspapers, and 350 million magazines are published on paper.		
	A		
Environmental Science*	While earning the Environmental Science merit badge, Scouts will get a taste of what it is like to be an environmental scientist, making observations and carrying out experiments to investigate the natural world.		
	B		

Scoutcraft

Merit Badge or Activity	Difficulty Level	Prerequisite	Pre/Post-Camp Prep
Camping*	Camping is one of the best-known methods of the Scouting movement. When he founded the Scouting movement in the early 1900s, Robert Baden-Powell encouraged every Scout to learn the art of living out-of-doors. He believed a young person able to take care of himself while camping would have the confidence to meet life's other challenges, too.		
	B	8c, 8d, 9a, 9b are required to be completed before camp.	Bring your own backpack for requirement #5e Requirement #4b, #10
Emergency Preparedness*	Scouts are often called upon to help because they know first aid and they know about the discipline and planning needed to react to an emergency situation. Earning this merit badge helps a Scout to be prepared by learning the actions that can be helpful and needed before, during, and after an emergency.		
	B		
First Aid *	First aid—caring for injured or ill persons until they can receive professional medical care—is an important skill for every Scout. With some knowledge of first aid, a Scout can provide immediate care and help to someone who is hurt or who becomes ill. First aid can help prevent infection and serious loss of blood. It could even save a limb or a life.		
	A	Be at least 1st Class or higher, or provide documentation of completing the first aid requirements up to 1st Class	#5 prepare a home first aid kit and bring it to camp. Show contents to counselor.
Search and Rescue	A search is an emergency situation requiring a team of trained searchers to locate a missing person. A rescue is an emergency situation where a person's location is known – perhaps having just been found by searchers – and he or she must be removed from danger and returned to safety. By working on the Search and Rescue merit badge, you will learn and practice many skills that may someday save a life.		
	A		
Signs, Signals, and Codes	The Signs, Signals and Codes merit badge covers a number of the nonverbal ways we communicate: emergency signaling, Morse code, American Sign Language, braille, trail signs, sports officiating hand signals, traffic signs, secret codes and more.		
	A		
Pioneering	Pioneering—the knowledge of ropes, knots, and splices along with the ability to build rustic structures by lashing together poles and spars—is among the oldest of Scouting's skills. Practicing rope use and completing projects with lashings also allow Scouts to connect with past generations, ancestors who used many of these skills as they sailed the open seas and lived in America's forests and prairies.		
	C	Complete Tenderfoot, 2nd, & 1st Class rope requirements	



Range and Target Activities

Merit Badge or Activity	Difficulty level	Prerequisite	Pre-Camp Prep
Archery	In this merit badge Scouts will learn archery safety rules, how to string a bow, how to make a bowstring, and how to shoot a bow and arrow. Scouts will have to purchase an arrow making kit in the trading post.		
	A	Fee- \$8 for arrow kit	
Rifle Shooting	In this merit badge Scouts will learn techniques on how to shoot a rifle with precision. Recommended for experienced Scouts.		
	B	Fee- \$20 for unlimited shooting for the week.	Print out the Merit Badge Packet and complete written requirements prior to camp.
Shotgun Shooting	In this merit badge Scouts will learn the mechanics and intricacies of shotgun shooting. Must be 13 years of age or older.		
	C	Must be 13 or older or by Scoutmaster Recommendation. Fee- \$25 first 50 shots, \$5.00 for each 10 rounds after that.	Print out the Merit Badge Packet and complete written requirements prior to camp.

Fees

Rifle Shooting - \$20.00 for unlimited shooting for the week

Shot Gun - \$25.00 for first 50 rounds, then \$5.00 each for 10 rounds after that



STEAM

Merit Badge or Activity	Difficulty level	Prerequisite	Pre/Post-camp Prep
Aviation	For most of history, people have dreamed of flying, imagining how it would feel to soar through the sky like an eagle or hover in midair like a hummingbird, to float on unseen currents, free of Earth's constant tug, able to travel great distances and to rise above any obstacle. Today, through aviation, we can not only join the birds but also fly farther, faster, and higher than they ever could.		
	C		
Electronics	The Electronics Merit Badge is a fun, STEM-based merit badge that will inspire Scouts to pursue a possible career in Electronics. Scouts will learn about capacitors, transistors, and resistors while grasping the basic principles of digital techniques and demonstrating how to build a control device circuit. Understand the behaviors of electrons and learn safety precautions when using, building, altering, or repairing electronic devices with the Electronics Merit Badge.		
	B		
Engineering	Engineers use both science and technology to turn ideas into reality, devising all sorts of things, ranging from a tiny, low-cost battery for your cell phone to a gigantic dam across the mighty Yangtze River in China.		
	B		
Model Design and Building	Model making, the art of creating copies of objects that are either smaller or larger than the objects they represent, is not only an enjoyable and educational hobby: it is widely used in the professional world for such things as creating special effects for movies, developing plans for buildings, and designing automobiles and airplanes.		
	B		
Robotics	Build your own working robot with the Robotics Merit Badge. Learn about the robotics industry, discover the different fields of robotics, explore the available career options in robotics, and design, build, program and test your own robot.		
	B		

Inspiration Outpost

Merit Badge or Activity	Difficulty level	Prerequisite	Pre/Post-camp Prep
Pottery	The Pottery merit badge provides an introduction to pottery making, enabling Scouts to gain skill and understanding from actually creating pottery. Completing the requirements will include hands-on production of a work of art, from start to finish.		
	B		
Music	The history of music is rich and exciting. Through the ages, new music has been created by people who learned from tradition, then explored and innovated. All the great music has not yet been written. Today, the possibilities for creating new music are limitless.		
	B		
Disability Awareness	Understand various disabilities and how they affect your friends, family, and community members with the Disability Awareness Merit Badge. Scouts will learn about the experiences of someone with a disability, explain the significance of disability etiquette, and how it may differ depending on the specific disability.		
	A		

Tradecraft

Merit Badge or Activity	Difficulty level	Prerequisite	Pre-camp Prep
Home Repairs	Successfully completing this badge's requirements can lead to a lifetime of personal and financial rewards: Doing basic home repairs provides a sense of personal pride in one's achievements and increased self-confidence. In addition, safe and successful do-it-yourselfers can easily save a family thousands of dollars in repair bills over the years.		
	C		
Welding	Welding is the process of joining with a weld – joining or combining similar pieces of metal by heating them with a flame torch or an electric current, then hammering or pressing them together while they are soft. Welding plays a major role in our modern world, and mastery of the skill can lead to exciting career opportunities. Someday, you may have an opportunity to experience exciting new career paths in welding.		
	C		
Surveying	While earning this merit badge, Scouts will discover how land is measured and how it is described so that others can know where boundary lines are. They will have a chance to use some fine measuring instruments, apply advanced mathematics, operate computing equipment, and create a survey map.		
	C		
Law	Earning this merit badge enables a Scout to learn about the history and kinds of laws, the purpose and methods of law enforcement, consumer protection agencies, emerging law, and careers in the legal profession.		
	B		

COPE/Climbing

Merit Badge	Difficulty level	Prerequisite	Pre-camp Prep
Climbing	Climbing is not a sport that requires tremendous muscular strength, it demands mental toughness and the willingness to practice hard to master a set of skills. The adventure of climbing can also provide a new way to enjoy the outdoors.		
	B		
COPE (Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience)	The Mitigwa Scout Reservation opened our new High COPE course in the summer of 2023 with many new courses for Scouts to challenge their skills and agility.		
	C		

Fee and Dress Requirement

Participant Fee \$10.00

Participants must wear knee length shorts or long pants and short/long-sleeved shirts

Eagle Academy

New to Scouting or wanting to master foundational skills early in the Scouting program? Attend Eagle Academy at Camp Mitigwa! We know Scouts value authentically learning skills while having fun. This, in fact, is the Scouting method. Join the prestigious graduates of the Eagle Academy and forge your legend!

At the center of the Scouting philosophy is play; we play a game with a purpose. The newly revised Eagle Academy at Camp Mitigwa puts the game of Scouting center. Using cutting edge approaches in modern pedagogy to demonstrate effective patrol method, Scouts are challenged to help each other develop Scout skills for rank advancement. The benefit for each Scout is the preparedness they receive for future Scouting experiences. Your unit benefits from higher retention rates among youth members and enculturation of servant leadership within your use of the patrol method.

Patrols work together to demonstrate knowledge in:

- First Aid
- Outdoor Cooking
- Rope Craft
- Navigation

Participants will spend the week at the Eagle Academy from 8:15am to 3:15pm, including lunch. Besides practicing the patrol method, and working on rank requirements, they will also earn the Signs, Signals, and Codes and First Aid Merit Badges.



Fees

Participant Fee \$15.00

1st Year Camper	2nd Year Camper	3rd Year Camper and Beyond
Eagle Academy Archery Astronomy/Weather Disability Awareness First Aid* Pulp and Paper Search and Rescue Signs, Signals, and Codes Swimming*	Any 1st year Merit Badge Archeology Camping* Canoeing Electronics Emergency Preparedness* Engineering Environmental Science* Fish & Wildlife Management Gardening Law Model Design & Building Music Pottery Rifle Shooting Robotics	Older Scout Programs Any 1st or 2nd year Merit Badge Aviation Climbing COPE Home Repairs Kayaking Lifesaving* Pioneering Rowing Shotgun Shooting Surveying Welding

*Eagle Required Merit Badge

Course Completion Records

All merit badge work completed at camp will be documented and reported in the online registration system. A final report will be sent home with the unit leader on Saturday. Unit leaders can access completion information online at any time by logging in and viewing Reports for their summer camp registration.

Those Scouts who have not completed all necessary requirements will be given “partial” merit badge completion status and those requirements completed at camp will be recorded. Remaining requirements must then be completed outside of camp. There is no “statute of limitations” on completing work, but Scouts should be encouraged to finish remaining requirements while the information is fresh in their minds.

Family Night

On Wednesday night, families and friends are encouraged to visit their Scouts at camp! We ask that visitors check in at the camp office when they arrive. **Check-in begins at 4:00 PM and ends at 6:00 PM.** Camp staff will be coordinating parking in the main camp lot. A limited number of camp vehicles may be available to transport those visitors requiring assistance around camp. Units are encouraged to arrange meals on their own via potluck or cooking for their visitors. For those unable to make those arrangements, camp offers meals in the dining hall for visitors at \$8.00 per person. There is no charge for campers (youth or adult). Tickets for visitors may be purchased at the Trading Post. Units needing meals in the dining hall Wednesday evening will need to sign up in the camp office.

Units are also encouraged to provide programming for visitors to camp. Areas will be open early evening in an open house format to allow Scouts to show their families what they have been doing during the week.

A staff led campfire will bring families and Scouts together in the amphitheater as family night activities wind down. The campfire will last approximately 30 minutes. Units will line up by the Maytag Pool and families will proceed to the amphitheater.

Family Night will conclude with the Mitigwa Lodge Order of the Arrow Call-Out Ceremony (see Order of the Arrow information on the next page). Family night will end at approximately 10:30 PM so please plan accordingly.

For those visitors desiring to leave before the OA Call-Out, they may do so following the campfire and before the Call-Out Ceremony begins. Instructions will be shared at the campfire.



Order of the Arrow

The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society. The Mitigwa Lodge's Call Out Ceremony is one of the highlights of each week's Camp Mitigwa experience. The call out of newly-elected candidates will take place on Wednesday evening as the closing of our family night activities.

Information about completing the Ordeal will be available in March.

Troops from other councils need written permission from their Lodge to be called out at Camp Mitigwa. Their elections must be held in their own Council prior to arrival at camp, and a copy of the letter of approval should be presented at check-in. All Out-of-Council candidates must complete their Ordeal within their own Lodge.

Visit www.mitigwa-lodge.org to learn more about the Order of the Arrow and the Ordeal process.



Ordeal fees of \$75 are required to be paid after completion of the Ordeal. These fees will be added to the unit bill and must be paid at check out.



There will be Order of the Arrow activities for members to participate in during the week of camp. These will be announce at leader meetings. Please let your Order of the Arrow members know about these extra activities.

Apply to be on camp staff!

Camp staff provides opportunities to learn leadership skills, meet new friends while exploring the great outdoors, and get paid for it! Camp Mitigwa employs approximately 70 season staff members each summer to teach Scouts all types of skills. All staff participate in a weekend training in April or May, and a week and half training prior to the start of camp.

Other benefits of being on staff are, opportunities to win a scholarship from our Alumni Association and internship opportunities.



Camp Staff are role models for the Scouts and make a positive influence on young lives. Our staff culture expects our members to live by the Scout Oath and Law, while having fun providing an exceptional experience to our campers!

Salaries are dependent on certifications, relevant experience and job responsibility. Meals and housing are provided.

If you have any Scouts who would be interested in being a part of our Nationally Accredited Team, please have them fill out a staff application online at www.campiowa.org. Interviews will start in late fall 2024 and run through the spring. Some Scouting experience is helpful but not required.

Interested Scouts and Leaders may contact Scott Robinson at scott.robinson@scouting.org

Volunteer Commissioner Team

Are you, or someone you know, interested in spending a week at camp, helping units with their summer camp program? Duties will include campsite visitations to ensure health and safety compliance, helping with sanitation of public areas, and providing adult leadership when it is required by the reservation administration. Housing, meals and some cool swag are provided.

Counselor-in-Training Program



The Mitigwa Scout Reservation offers Scouts the opportunity to learn what it is like to be on camp staff, while working in different areas of our program and operations in the Counselor-in-Training program. This program is available for 14-year-olds and older to learn while spending two weeks at camp.

CITs choose up to two weeks to spend working at camp and see what it is like to work in various program areas. CITs are able to earn merit badges while helping their mentors. During a two week tour of camp CITs will spend one week at Camp Mitigwa BSA and one week at Camp Akela.

Camp-Wide Programs

Camp Mitigwa offers many Camp-wide program opportunities that are open to all campers to participate in, in addition to our open program areas in the afternoon. Each program area will host at least one Sunrise Program, One Evening Program, and One Twilight Program.

In addition to the program areas we have activities that your troop or Scouts can participate in. Here are a few that you can anticipate in 2026:

Yard Games Area: Introduced in 2024 you can enjoy a variety of lawn games in the field by the trading post including Giant Jenga, Volleyball, Badminton, Checkers, Boce Ball, Ladder Golf and giant puzzles.

Disc Golf: Camp Mitigwa's very own Disk Golf Course is open to Adult Leaders anytime and to Scouts during open program times in the afternoon and evenings. Camp has frisbees, but units and Scouts may bring their own.

Night Hike: Challenge your senses on a night hike around camp. This is fun way to connect with the environment around you.

Dutch Oven Dessert Challenge: Bring your best recipe for campsite desserts. Entries will be judged on flavor, presentation and originality. Each week's overall winner will be featured on the Mitigwa Scout Reservation Facebook page.

Glow in the Dark Climb: Are you looking for a new challenge? Climbers will use glow sticks and headlamps to ascend the tower.

We will have a supplemental guide published this spring with more information on our camp-wide programs.

Mid-Iowa Council Fall Camporee

Scout Jam: Redux

September 12-14, 2025

"We are not a club or a Sunday school class, but a school of the woods". -Baden Powell

Get ready for this amazing Council Wide Fall Camporee. There will be competitions that test your Scouting skills, your health and fitness, and your unit's ability to work as a team. There will be amazing food and a closing campfire you won't want to miss.



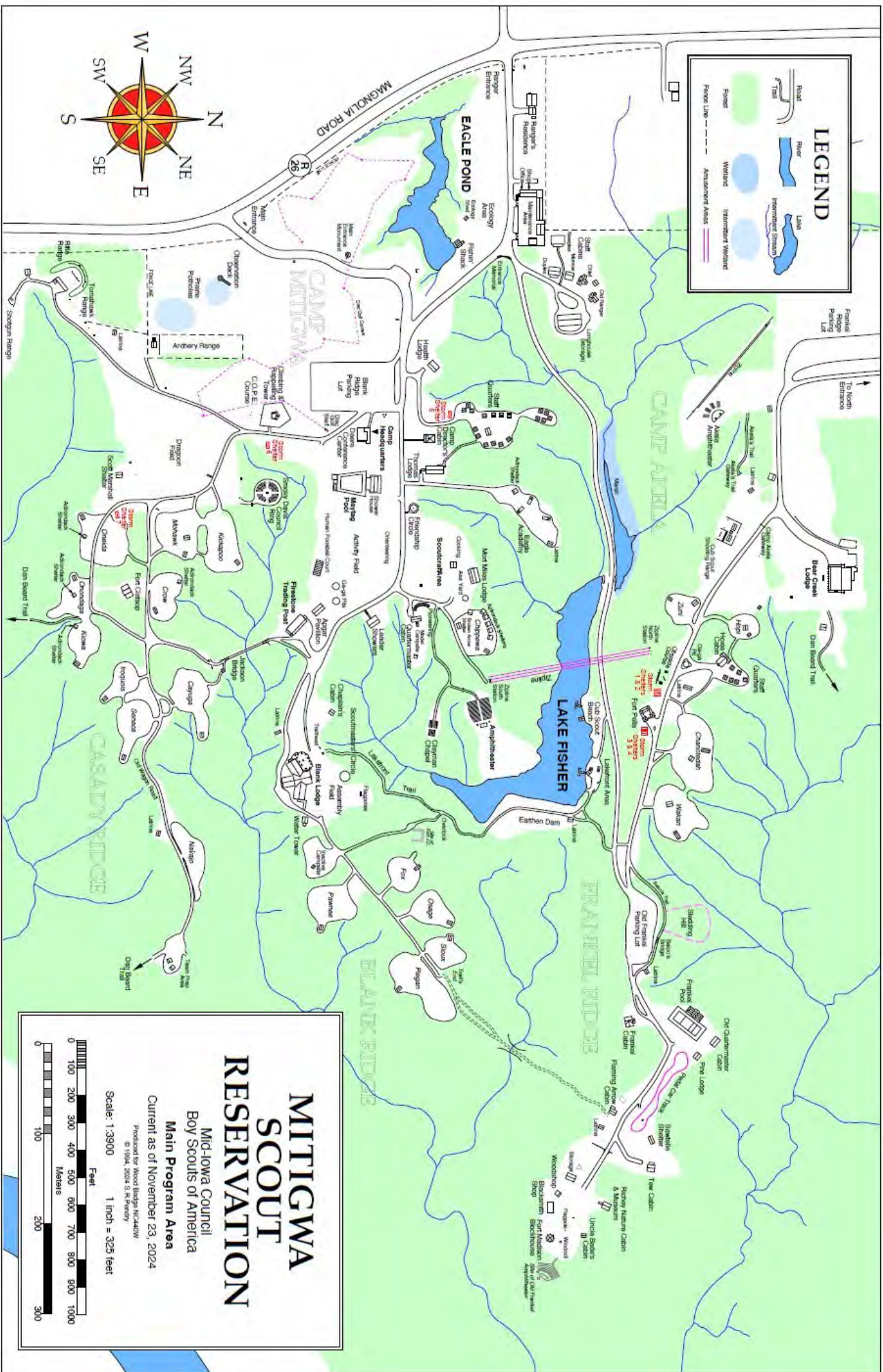
EMBRACE THE COLD

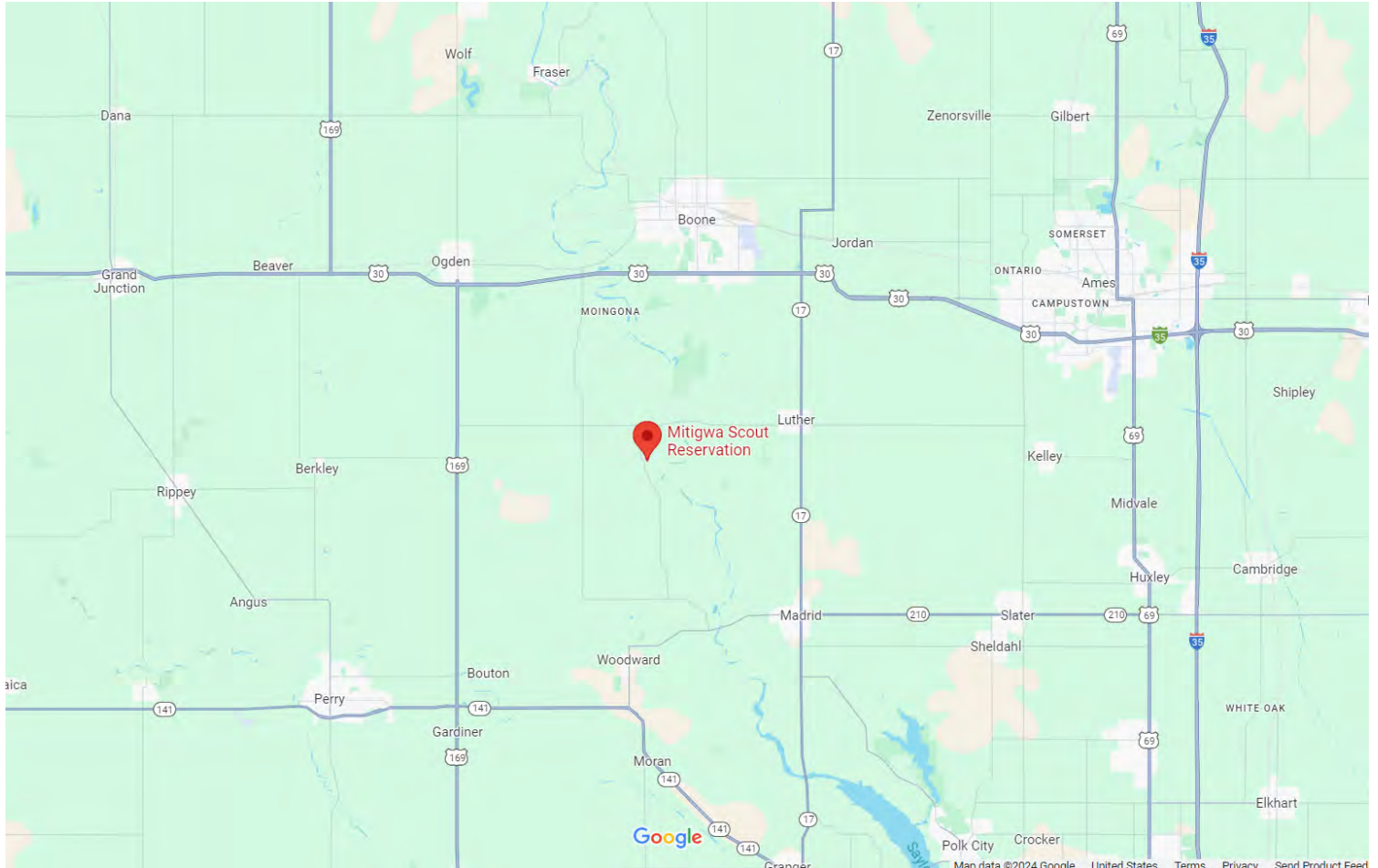
ARCTIC EDGE: IN SEARCH OF WINTER

WINTER CAMP

DECEMBER 27-29, 2025

REGISTRATION OPENS AUGUST 1ST





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