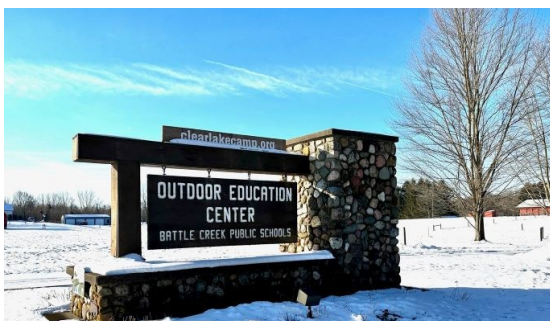


Winter Camp began in 1969 and has become a tradition. A major project of District 11-B1, it was established to provide a special camp adventure for blind and visually impaired adults. Held the first full weekend in February, the camp provides a social gathering for visually impaired adults from around the state.

Financing: Campers pay \$50 which covers part of the camp expense. The remaining costs are covered by Lions Clubs donations, grants, and individual donations. **WE NEED YOUR HELP** to ensure the future of Winter Camp. Please consider a generous donation at the Parade of Checks or contact us for ways to donate.

Location: Winter Camp is held at the BCPS Outdoor Education Center (Clear Lake Camp) located at 10160 M-37, Dowling, MI, 15 miles north of Battle Creek. The rustic lodge and hilly, wooded terrain of the camp provide an excellent venue for indoor and outdoor activities.



Questions? Contact the following:

Camp Operations Director

PCC Barry Allen

(734) 428-7034

(734) 904-4695

pdgbarryallen@gmail.com

Camp Administrative Officers

Lion Roger Bosse

(269) 578-3684

RogerBosse@att.net

Lion James Phelan

(517) 990-7221

Pizzajim2@aol.com



@11BIWinterCamp



2026
Winter Camp
For the Blind
February 6,7,8

Since 1969!

Lions of Michigan
District 11-B1

Battle Creek Public Schools
Outdoor Education Center
10160 M-37
Dowling, MI 49050
269-721-8161

Camper Health and Safety

While we have removed Covid-19 vaccine requirements, we encourage campers to take precautions related to their own health needs. An RN or EMT is on staff all weekend. Note: alcoholic beverages or recreational cannabis materials are strictly prohibited on school property.

Friday Arrival

Campers who arrive by bus or train, are transported by bus from the station to the camp. Special accommodations are made for those with Leader Dogs, however, the camp has limited wheelchair accessibility.

Activities

Friday activities begin with dinner at 6:00pm. After dinner there is music and entertainment, or campers can just sit by the warm fireplace and socialize. A light evening snack is served at 9:00pm.

Saturday begins with breakfast at 8:00am served by local Lions volunteers and the Michigan Job Challenge Associates.

All meals are prepared by BCPS staff.



Morning activities include **Bingo** hosted by the Bedford Area Lions. There is always a ton of prizes donated by area Lions Clubs so nobody goes away empty handed.

Arts & Crafts projects are presented and guided *free of charge* by volunteers.

We invite area vendors to show and demonstrate technology available for the visually impaired. A team of grad students from Western Michigan University demonstrate the use of assistive devices and new technologies.

Saturday afternoon the fun continues. Campers can remain indoors and continue Bingo, Arts and Crafts, have canes repaired, or sit by the warm fire. The adventurous can ride 4 wheelers or a wagon ride, take a guided nature hike, or just enjoy the crisp winter air.

Outdoor events are weather dependent.



A vesper service is held in the afternoon.

Entertainment starts after dinner at 7:00pm. The Campers put on a talent show of comedians, singers and dancers. The camp King and Queen are crowned. One lucky camper will win a free camper-



Sunday Morning

starts with breakfast at 8:00a.m. Campers can enjoy friendships and socializing before leaving. Volunteers and Cadets help with luggage and camp clean-up. We ensure all campers will get to their rides home, hopefully with all of their belongings! They are sent on their way with a delicious bag lunch and many happy memories of fun and camaraderie.