

Winter Camp began in 1969 and has been a tradition since then. 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 weekend in February, the camp provides a social gathering for up to 80 adults from around the state.

Financing: Campers pay a small fee for housing, bedding, five meals, evening snacks, a Sunday sack lunch and craft materials. District 11-B1 subsidizes camp operating costs with contributions from Lions Clubs, Lions District "Parade of Checks", and individual donations. Saturday Bingo prizes are donated by many clubs.

Location: Winter Camp is held at the Battle Creek Public Schools 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 surrounding the camp provide an excellent venue for indoor and outdoor activities.



Questions? Contact the following:

Camp Operations Director

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Camp Administrative Officers

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@IIBIWinterCamp



2019 Winter Camp For the Blind February 1, 2, 3

Since 1969
OUR 50th YEAR

Lions of Michigan
District 11-B1

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

Arrival

Campers who arrive by bus or train are transported by bus from the station to the camp. Volunteer escorts take care of baggage transit and assist arrivals with check-in, bunk assignments and other details.

Special accommodations are made for those with Leader Dogs, however, the camp is **not wheelchair accessible**. An EMT is on staff all weekend.

Activities

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

Hot coffee and hot chocolate, as well as assorted fruits are free. Sodas and snacks can be purchased. An evening snack is served at 9:00 pm. before bedtime.



Saturday begins with breakfast at 8:00 am served by volunteers and the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy cadets.



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

Art's & Crafts projects are presented *free of charge* by the Michigan Center Lionesses.

We invite area vendors to show and demonstrate technology available for the visually impaired. A team from Western Michigan University will conduct interviews and train students in assisting the visually impaired in the use of new technologies.

Saturday afternoon the fun begins. Campers can remain indoors and continue winning *Bingo* prizes, do Arts & Crafts or sit by the warm fire. The adventurous can ride snow mobiles, hay ride, take a



guided nature hike, or just enjoy the crisp winter air. Special events such as



snowshoeing or a roaring camp fire depending on the weather. A vesper service is held in the afternoon.

After dinner, entertainment starts at 7:00 pm.



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 campership for the following year.

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