

Camp Bovey - Values and Outcomes

Reducing barriers for youth and their families to engage in nature conservation in the great outdoors.

Located in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin, about 2.5 hours northeast of the Twin Cities, Camp Bovey offers the perfect setting for campers to experience the wonders of nature in a safe and exciting environment. Camp Bovey provides deeply engaging, prolonged, and high quality experiences in nature for youth ages 8-14 who primarily come from the Twin Cities area. Camp Bovey aims to reduce barriers (such as economic factors, limited transportation, and other institutionalized barriers such as poverty and racism) that limit underrepresented children from accessing high quality, nature-based summer camps.

The emotional well-being of each camper is our team's highest priority. We are camper-focused and driven to ensure that 100% of our campers get on the bus on Friday feeling better about themselves than when they arrived at the start of the week.

Camp Bovey's core values are **Caring, Sharing, Curiosity, and Connection.**

Our mission is to center youth, families, and community while providing rich, joyful experiences that foster respect for self, community, and nature.

Our vision is to provide a safe place for youth to have fun while participating in outdoor activities that build respect for self, community, and the environment.



Healing Centered Engagement is central to our core values:

We use adventure, play, and teambuilding to create a camp experience that helps all campers feel included, safe, and cared for. A growing percentage of our camper family communities have experienced or are experiencing trauma that may increase their likelihood to become easily triggered (by fears, worries, sadness, bugs, etc.) Therefore we believe we have an ethical obligation to families and the campers themselves to:

- hold ourselves to the highest possible bar for kindness,
- create the most inclusive type of environment for all campers, staff, and visitors,
- teach to each individual camper, even if it means adjusting our preferred style,
- maintain a clean and orderly community space that is safe, healthy, and feels like a stable "home" for our campers and ourselves,
- commit to being patient with campers, each other and camper families.



EAST SIDE
Neighborhood



Services



What happens at Camp Bovey?

Every summer campers head north to our private 200-acre property on Lake Metzger in Wisconsin to enjoy 5-day sleep away camp sessions for youth and Family Camp weekends.

There, we provide traditional outdoor programming such as archery, canoeing, hiking, and skiing, while also providing environmental education about local habitats, native plants, animal life cycles, and skills necessary for outdoor survival, such as fire-building, sheltering, and water safety. We don't forget about the creativity either - with many fun activities happening in the arts and crafts cabin. And of course, there is a lot of singing, swimming, playing, and laughter to make Camp Bovey the most memorable part of every camper's summer!

Beyond our summer programming, Camp Bovey is also available for private rentals during the "open" season from June through September.

Goals for Each Camper

1. Each camper will make at least one new friend and socialize proactively with their peers.
2. Campers interact proactively and respectfully among other campers with diverse lived, cultural, racial, ethnic, religious, class, or gendered experiences.
3. Every camper gets to try something new and experience safe risks.
4. Each camper will leave with a positive self-concept and feel more confident and brave.



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Learn more about Camp Bovey at [esns.org/Camp Bovey](https://esns.org/CampBovey)
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