



Hey Special Days! We made it! We can come back to Camp! While Remote Special Days was cool, we are so ready to get back into the cabins on the shores of beautiful Big Blue Lake. We will just have to do things a little bit different....So different that each week of camp will have its own unique name!

The first week will be for ALL campers aged 14 and up. We are calling it Special Days: Inverted!

The second week will be for ages 5-13. This week is called Special Days: Topsy Turvy! That's right, Partners and Special Days campers will be together in the summer! Think of it like Winter Camp...but for a whole week and no mittens!

Campers will form a "bubble" with their cabin group and will enjoy all the things that camp has to offer, including the Special Days Camps traditions that we love...beach nights, arts and crafts, All Camp games (it's all about Scipmylo!!), open activities and even some things that you might not have been able to do in previous years...but CAN do this year (zip line anyone?!) We want YOU at camp to see what it looks like when we turn the Special Day's Guy on his head!

Please take some time to review the information here in its entirety; we know it's long but we've tried to provide you with the important information you'll need for this summer.

CHECK-IN / CHECK OUT:

Campers Ages 14 – 18:

Check-in: Sunday, Aug 1st 11:00 a.m. - noon.

Checkout: Sunday, Aug. 8th 11:00 a.m. - Immediately after closing ceremonies

Campers Ages 5 – 13:

Check-in: Sunday, Aug. 8th 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (after closing ceremonies for first week campers)

Checkout: Saturday, Aug. 14th 10:00 a.m. - Immediately after closing ceremonies

BUS INFORMATION: For additional information please see COVID-19 Protocols for check-in

- Please arrive with your camper(s) at the drop off location at least 30 minutes BEFORE scheduled departure and arrival times. A responsible adult must check in each camper with the camp chaperone.
- Upon arrival, **please stay in your vehicle** until you have been checked in by a volunteer. Everyone is asked to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.
- All medications will be collected by the camp volunteers, please have your child's medications in a plastic zip lock bag with his/her name on it. Include any medical updates for the med staff with the medications.
- Please do not leave until you have made sure your camper has been checked in!
- The bus will leave promptly at the following scheduled times and will not wait for campers who are not present.
- Campers will sit on the bus by cohort (the cabin they will be with during camp).
- Lunch will be provided to campers once they arrive at camp and a sack lunch will be provided to campers returning home on the bus.

Location	Sun. Aug 1st (to camp)	Sun. Aug 8th (to camp)	Sun Aug 8th (from camp)	Sat. Aug 14th (from camp)
Detroit	7:30 am	7:30 am	5:30 pm	3:30 pm
Ann Arbor	8:30 am	8:30 am	4:30 pm	2:30 pm
Lansing	10:00 am	10:00 am	3:00 pm	1:00 pm
Camp	12:00 pm	12:00 pm	12:30 pm	10:30 am

CAMPER MEDICAL HISTORY RECORD: EVERY camper is required to have a medical history record on file prior to attending camp. This form may be found online.

1. [Medical History Record for first child attending camp](#) – this includes family information that only needs to be provided one time.
2. [Medical History Record for each additional child attending camp](#) – if sending more than one child to camp please complete this online form for each additional camper.

For example if you are sending:

- Only one child to camp then you only need to fill out the Medical History Record for first child attending camp (#1 Above)
- Three children to camp then you would fill out the Medical History Record for the first child attending camp (#1 Above) once and the Medical History Record for each additional child (#2 Above) twice.

MAIL AT CAMP: You may drop off mail when you check in or arrive at the bus or you may send through the United States Postal Service. All mail to campers should be addressed as follows:

Camper's Name
SPECIAL DAYS Camps
YMCA Camp Pentalouan
1243 E Fruitvale Rd.
Montague, MI 49437

Notes: Only use this address for mail. For driving directions please see ones provided in this document below. Allow at least four days for mail to arrive at camp. Care packages are welcomed. If you send a care package please do not send food or candy items as snacks in sleeping areas create trash, and attract insects. (We suggest books, stickers, notepads, games, or playing cards.)

PHONE CALLS: At camp, we do not allow campers to receive or to make phone calls except in emergencies. If you need to get a phone message to your child please call us at (866) 448-4710. Cell phone coverage is limited so you may also call or text Camp Director, Tammy Willis at 517-281-1308 or in case of an emergency call the camp land line directly at 231-894-4538.

Please do not encourage your camper to call home. It takes time for campers to get settled into camp and contacts home tend to contribute to a camper's homesickness.

We request that you do not allow your child to bring a cell phone to camp. Not only can they be easily lost or broken but they are disruptive to the program. If a camper comes with a cell phone it will be collected and held in the camp office until check-out at the end of the week. If your child needs to call home, arrangements may be made with the Camp Director.

CAMP BANK AND STORE: The Special Days Camps store sells T-shirts, hats, sweatshirts, and accessories with the Special Days Camps logo. (Not all items are available in all sizes and colors.) The store will also sell food items such as snacks, candy bars, chips and soft drinks.

It is suggested that \$20.00 - \$30.00 per camper be deposited in the camp bank at check-in. Campers should not keep money in their cabins. Campers will not be allowed to overdraw their camp bank account. Money not spent will be returned by check after camp or you may donate it to camp at checkout. The camp bank and store provides an excellent opportunity for your camper to learn money management skills. Please discuss the amount of deposit with your camper.

LOST AND FOUND: All lost and found items are brought to the dining hall and shown to the campers on a daily basis. It is each camper's responsibility to keep track of personal belongings. Parents will have the opportunity to see all lost and found items on checkout day. Please make sure you pick up ALL luggage and belongings before departing from camp; campers might have an extra plastic bag with wet or dirty clothes.

CAMPER EXPECTATIONS (Please review with your camper):

All campers are expected to:

1. Follow staff members' instructions at all times. This includes the instructions of cabin leaders, directors, medical staff, arts and crafts staff, and YMCA Pentalouan Camp staff.
2. Use the buddy system and let their cabin leaders know their whereabouts at all times.
3. Be respectful of one another's feelings and person (no hitting, kicking, name-calling).
4. Refrain from using foul, abusive or inappropriate language.
5. Respect one another's privacy. **STAY OUT** of others' personal belongings.
6. Wear shoes at all times to prevent injuries.
7. Stay out of others' sleeping areas.
8. Be ready and on time for meals, activities, and flag ceremony.
9. Try new activities and try to become a part of their cabin group.
10. Abide by all listed and stated camp rules.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY: We believe that every child has the right to experience camp and all it has to offer. We believe in setting limits and explaining the boundaries for all participants. When these boundaries are tested, we use specific procedures to help the camper to continue his/her experience at camp. All of our staff receive training in these procedures.

On the first day of camp our staff will go over cabin expectations and ground rules of camp life. Campers have the opportunity to ask questions about policies and rules, so everyone is clear about expectations.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES WE FOLLOW: Special Days Camps fully supports the Michigan Law that states "a camper will not be deprived of food or sleep, or be placed alone without staff supervision, observation, and interaction, or be subjected to ridicule, threat, corporal punishment, or excessive physical exercise or excessive restraint."

If a behavior problem arises, the camper's cabin leader will speak with the camper and make sure the camper understands why the behavior is unacceptable and knows what the consequences are. The cabin leader will restate the desired behavior, with clear consequences given for not following the desired behavior. If the behavior is repeated, the cabin leader will let the camper know that this is still unacceptable and will then involve the Associate Camp Director and/or Camp Director. At this stage the parent or guardian may be contacted. The purpose of contacting the parents is to make them aware of the situation and to ask for cooperation and insight.

If the behavior persists, the Associate Camp Director and/or Camp Director will determine if the camper should remain at camp or be sent home. Parents will need to make transportation arrangements for a camper who is to be sent home no matter what time of day or night the incident occurs. There are some actions that may warrant immediate removal from camp. These actions include but are not limited to: smoking or tobacco product use, alcohol or illegal drug use, or behavior which endangers the safety of the camper, staff, or other campers.

This discipline policy attempts to let campers know that while they are cared for, certain behaviors are not acceptable in a camp setting. This policy also involves the parents whenever possible before the problems escalate and invites them to be a part of the solution.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION STATEMENT: The Special Days Camp Board of Directors has approved a diversity, equity and inclusion statement to demonstrate our organization's commitment to be an inclusive and affirming camp regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation or identity, disability, education, or religion.

Special Days Camps is committed to providing a diverse, inclusive, and equitable environment where all feel valued, respected, and safe. We recognize the perspectives that each child, family, and volunteer brings to camp and celebrate their unique voices.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS 2021: We have created a medical advisory committee to develop protocols related to COVID-19 so we can safely return to an in-person program. This committee, made up of physicians, nurse practitioners and nurses, have reviewed recommendations from the CDC, American Camping Association (ACA), Children's Oncology Camping Association International (COCA-I), YMCA and the State of Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs - Bureau of Community and Health Systems for Camp Licensing.

Vaccination:

- Staff working at Special Days and YMCA Camp Pendalouan will be required to be fully vaccinated prior to working at Special Days Camps.
- Campers over the age of 12 will be encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccination prior to attending camp.
- Vaccinated staff and campers will still be required to follow all COVID-19 safety guidelines including mask wearing, social distancing and increased hand hygiene.

Pre-Camp Health Screening: This is for ALL campers; both those checking in at camp and those riding the bus

- **All unvaccinated campers will be required to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to camp and to bring documentation with them to check in.**
- A phone call will be made to all unvaccinated campers 4-7 days prior to camp start date to confirm testing requirements and provide resources for testing locations.
 - Option 1: Obtain a PCR test within 72 hours of arrival to camp. • NOTE: PCR tests can take several days for test results to return. Before booking appointment, ask the clinic how long their typical test result turn-around time is to ensure that results can be completed within the 72-hour timeframe.
 - Option 2: Complete At-Home Antigen Tests – Within 24 hours of arrival at the camp. Follow the manufacturer instructions for testing. For example, for the Abbott BinaxNow test: The at home kit contains two tests, the testing should be timed so that the second test is conducted within 24 hours of arrival to the camp. The first and second test should be administered 36 hours apart. For kits that are sold as a single at home test, MDHHS recommends taking that test within 24 hours of arrival to the camp.
 - If you have difficulty obtaining a test, please do not let that be a barrier for attendance. Call our Health Director, Lynne Royer-Willoughby at 317-965-9029 for assistance.
- We encourage all non-vaccinated participants to self-isolate the recommended 10 days prior to coming to camp.
- Self-screening for COVID-19 symptoms including fever of at least 100.4°F, dry cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, vomiting, etc.
- Campers who exhibit a fever of 100.4° F or a combination of any COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to stay home.
- The CDC and State of Michigan do not recommend testing for vaccinated individuals.

Camp Check-In Procedures:

- Camp staff wearing masks and practicing proper hand hygiene will greet camper families and direct them for check-in (please stay in your vehicle until directed to do otherwise). We ask that adults and campers wear their masks during the check in process and undergo a symptom screen at camp entry.
- All campers must have proof of full vaccination status or a documented negative COVID-19 test within the 72 hours prior to arrival to camp.

Walking to Cabins: At the Check-In point, campers will meet the camp staff and will be taken down to their cabin by staff wearing masks and practicing proper hand hygiene. Parents can walk to the cabin but are asked to not enter the cabin.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS 2021 CONTINUED:

Daily Screening of Campers/Staff:

- Campers/staff will also be screened daily for symptoms (at meal times and prn), any unexplained combination of symptoms will be taken to isolation at the health center and examined by health center staff (rapid testing will be available on site).
- Cabin groups that have a camper/staff who is being isolated will have increased observation and will continue to follow their schedule with increased social distancing with other cabins.

Suspected and Positive cases of COVID-19 in Campers:

- Campers/staff with a positive rapid Covid test will be placed in isolation at the Health Center. Camper's guardians will be contacted so they can be picked up.
- Cabin groups that have a camper/staff with a positive rapid Covid test and are not vaccinated will undergo a rapid Covid test and be quarantined. The case will be reported to MDHHS and further instructions will be followed. According to current guidelines, fully vaccinated campers/staff will not need to complete testing or quarantine but will be monitored for symptoms.
- Isolation room will be cleaned and sanitized after use.
- Relevant information of COVID-19 positive and suspected cases will be communicated to staff and campers' families.

Meal Service:

- Meals will be served family style with an emphasis on outdoor eating. Cabin Leaders will retrieve the meals and distribute to their own cabin. Hand washing and hand sanitizing stations will be placed around the lodge and campers will perform hand hygiene before eating.
- If outdoor eating is not practical due to inclement weather, cabins will be assigned indoor/covered spaces to eat with meals delivered to their locations.

Activities:

- Campers will travel as a cabin group to activities throughout the day. Campers may only be swim buddies with other campers from their own cabin.
- Equipment will be cleaned in between each cabin group use. When single use items can be used, they will be. Staff will be trained on how to use and appropriately clean specific equipment (i.e. paddles, harnesses, PFDs), depending on the activity.
- Activity areas will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- All Camp Games/Activities (e.g. campfires, pre-meal meet-ups) will be outdoors, and cohorts will maintain social distance from each other.
- Physical distancing will be monitored during waterfront activities when face masks cannot be worn.

Mask Wearing: Acceptable masks include homemade masks that cover the nose and mouth, surgical or procedural masks, dust masks, or N95 masks without vents. Unacceptable masks would be those with vents, athletic neck gaiters, bandanas or those made from crochet material.

- Campers will be required to wear their masks when they are indoors with people other than their cabin group.
- Campers will not be required to wear their masks when they are with their own cabin group or socially distanced out of doors.
- Staff will follow the same protocol for mask wearing.

Bathrooms:

- Those with bathrooms in their cabins will be encouraged to use their cabin bathrooms whenever possible.
- Common use bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized at regular intervals.
- Shower and bathroom schedules will be devised for common use bathrooms to limit more than one cabin using a bathroom at a time.

PACKING FOR CAMP:

- Have your child “live out of a suitcase or bag” for a few days before camp so he/she can learn to keep personal belongings somewhat organized.
- Please pack for camp **WITH** your child, not **FOR** them. They need to know where everything is and they will also need to know how to pack again at the end of the week.
- **LABEL EVERYTHING!** Please use first and last names on all belongings, as many children have similar possessions and names. Please use masking tape to label the outside of suitcases, bags and pillows with the camper’s full name.
- Please do not pack belongings loose in a sleeping bag or pillow. If you are not using a suitcase or duffel bag, please use a plastic garbage bag tied securely shut and labeled on the outside with masking tape.
- Due to the nature of camp activities, send old clothes to camp with the camper. Please avoid purchasing new clothes for camp, due to the fact that campers may be unfamiliar with those new articles of clothing. Campers play hard and are more comfortable in clothing they can get dirty or wet. **EXPECT CLOTHES TO COME HOME DIRTY.**

PACKING LIST:

Linen

- Wash cloth and towels (remember to bring extra for the beach)
- Sleeping bag with single bed sheet (or sheets and a warm blanket)
- Pillow

Clothing

- Black/dark colored cotton t-shirts for Arts & Crafts REVERSE tie dye!**
- 7 pairs of underwear
- 8 - 10 pairs of socks
- 2 pairs of pajamas
- 2 pairs of tennis shoes (Wet shoes need time to dry out.)
- 1 pair of beach shoes (sandals or water shoes)
- 3 pairs of jeans
- 2 sweatshirts
- 1 warm jacket
- 4 pairs of shorts
- 6 T-shirts
- 1-2 bathing suits
- 1-2 sweat pants
- rain gear (poncho or rain coat)

Miscellaneous

- MASK/S!**
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Toilet articles: soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.
- Sunglasses
- Bug repellent
- Sunscreen
- Plastic garbage bag for dirty clothes
- Plastic bag for wet clothes

Other suggestions (not required)

- Pajamas to wear to breakfast on “Sleep-In Day”
- Camera with extra film
- Favorite toys and books for rest period
- Paper, pens, envelopes, and stamps
- Coloring books and crayons
- Sports equipment
- Tote bag or backpack to carry mask, towel, sunscreen, etc. to the waterfront
- Water bottle
- Money for camp store

DO NOT BRING:

- **VALUABLE ITEMS**, they could be lost or broken!
- We also ask that campers do not bring cell phones with them to camp.
- Tobacco products, Alcohol, Illegal drugs, Knives, Firearms or weapons - Possession of any of these items will result in immediate dismissal from camp

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

YMCA Camp Pandalouan
1243 E. Fruitvale Rd.
Montague, MI 49437

PLEASE NOTE: For GPS (and Mapquest) directions, type in E Fruitvale Rd & Blue Lake Rd, 49425. If you type in the camp address then most mapping programs will not take you to the correct address.

From the South

- Take U.S. 31 North.
- Take the RUSSELL ROAD exit. (Approx. 6 miles North of the Apple Ave. exit).
- Turn Right onto Russell Road.
- Follow Russell all the way until it ends, about 10 miles. (Russell Road twists and turns, be sure to follow the signs for Muskegon County B-23).
- Russell Road will end at FRUITVALE ROAD.
- Take a right onto Fruitvale Road. Go 1/2 mile, Camp Pandalouan is on the right.
- Staff will be near the entrance to greet you and show you to the parking area.

From the North

- Take U.S. 31 South.
- Take the COLBY ROAD - Whitehall Exit.
- Take a left onto Colby Road. Go exactly 1/2 mile to SILVER CREEK ROAD.
- Take a left onto Silver Creek Road. Go 5.1 miles. Silver Creek will end at RUSSELL ROAD.
- Take a left onto Russell Road. Go 2.4 miles. Russell Road will end at FRUITVALE ROAD.
- Take a right onto Fruitvale Road. Go 1/2 mile, Camp Pandalouan is on the right.
- Staff will be near the entrance to greet you and show you to the parking area.

QUESTIONS: We are here to help make your child(ren's) camp experience the best it can be. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions you may have.

Executive/Camp Director:

Tammy Willis, R.N.
Camp Phone: 866-448-4710
Cell Phone: 517-281-1308
Email: Tammy.Willis@specialdays.org

Director, Health/Medical Center &
President, Special Days Camp Board of Directors:

Lynne Royer-Willoughby, RN, MSN, NP
Cell Phone: 317-965-9029
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