

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER CAMP



Junior Master Gardener camp (JMG) is a youth gardening program in cooperation with extension. It engages students in “hands on” group and individual learning experiences that provide a love of gardening, develop an appreciation of the environment, and cultivate the mind!

All levels combine academic achievement, gardening, nutrient dense food experiences, physical activity, and stewardship engagement. All levels will meet on the same dates and participate in the same study trips and stewardship projects such as:

- Community involvement by growing fresh vegetables to donate to the F.R.O.M. Food Pantry.
- Building entrepreneurial skills by selling produce at the Lowell Farmers Market.
- Visiting local farms and businesses to better understand Michigan's rich agricultural contributions.
- Developing stewardship and leadership skills helping care for the WWC gardens.
- ◆ **LEVEL 1**— for campers entering grades 4th, 5th, and 6th in the fall of 2016—Gardeners will explore the garden and nature while learning about plants and insects. Topics include: Plant Growth & Development, Soils & Water, Ecology, Insects & Disease, Landscape Horticulture, Fruits & Nuts, Vegies & Herbs, and Life Skills/Career Exploration in Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- ◆ **LEVEL 2**— for campers entering grades 5, 6, 7, 8 in the fall of 2016—Level Two activities are more in-depth focusing on plant growth and development with increased independent study and expanded experiments. It’s a great way for gardeners to build upon their plant knowledge and further develop their understanding of plant biology!
- ◆ **THURSDAYS, June 16—August 11, 9:30am—3:00pm (No Camp July 7th)**

JUNIOR MASTER NATURALISTS CAMP



Junior Master Naturalist Camp (JMN) is an 8-week nature discovery camp that will explore the plant and animal biodiversity of MI habitats. Each week campers will explore a different MI habitat and experience nature first hand!

Our camp leaders will guide students towards an awareness and appreciation of our natural world, using hands on activities, incorporating citizen science tools, developing team building and stewardship concepts, and encouraging individual growth in observation and outdoor skills. Acorns and Oaks will work together to create a field guide of the plant and animal communities of the WWC.

Each day will explore the following areas: Nature Journaling, Outdoor Skills, Stewardship Project, and Habitat Study.

- **ACORNS**—for campers entering grades 2nd, 3rd, and 4th in the fall of 2016—Acorns will explore nature while observing and learning about Michigan habitats.
- **OAKS**—for campers entering grades 5, 6, 7, 8 in the fall of 2016—Oaks will meet on the same dates and times as Acorns and will participate in all off campus study trips. Oaks activities are more in-depth focusing on habitat growth and development with increased independent observation and expanded experiments. It’s a great way for students to build upon their habitat knowledge and further develop their understanding of ecosystems!
- **TUESDAYS, June 14 – August 9, 9:30am—3:00pm (No Camp July 5th)**



GENERAL INFORMATION FOR SUMMER CAMPS

- ◆ Contact Courtney Cheers to register at ccheers@lowellschools.com or 616-987-2565
- ◆ Each camp runs 8 weeks, hours are 9:30 am—3:00 pm.
- ◆ Camp fee is \$160 and include materials, supplies, and transportation to and from study trips.
- ◆ Campers will be responsible for bringing a sack lunch each day camp meets.
- ◆ Camp size is a maximum of 15 students per session with a minimum of 5 students per session.
- ◆ 4 points possible to earn each week with 26 points required to earn a certificate of completion
- ◆ No camp July 5 or July 7 (Week of July 4th)
- ◆ Registration begins April 11—Ends June 3!
- ◆ Student and Adult Volunteers are wanted for Summer Camps!
- ◆ **Your Child's Safety:** We are serious about maintaining a safe learning environment for your child. All program instructors are either employees of Lowell Area Schools or volunteers and have participated in criminal background and driving record checks. Activities involve working on uneven surfaces, bending, twisting and walking outdoors. Persons with limited mobility and sensitivity to the sun and heat should consider these factors. If individualized attention is needed for campers with special needs, please contact Courtney Cheers to discuss options.
- ◆ **Scholarships Available**—Financial support is available to help offset the registration cost. For students in the Lowell Area Schools District, the Lowell Education Association offers scholarships for elementary and middle school students attending academic summer camps. Applications are available in your child's school office, DUE MAY 13.

Home school students and students attending from other districts requesting financial support, please contact Courtney Cheers for information on scholarships made possible through the generosity of donors such as the Lowell Showboat Garden Club.
- ◆ **If your group or business would like to donate to the Summer Camp Scholarship Fund, please contact Courtney for more information.**

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