Full Circle Learning

Our Goals:

To get youth excited about the outdoors and strengthen their connection to it

To educate on the importance of traditional ecological knowledge

To encourage natural resource careers

To build confidence, leadership, and self-reliance

To promote and protect treaty rights

To honor all our relations

To deepen understanding of traditional ways

For more information, please contact:

Christina Dzwonkowski
GLIFWC Conservation Warden
Director
715.892.0874
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Holly Berkstresser
GLIFWC Conservation Warden
Co-Director
715.562.0063
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Onji-Akiing Cultural Youth Camp

Camp Onji-Akiing (From the Earth) is a cooperative effort between the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) and the USDA-Forest Service, Ottawa National Forest to explore opportunities for connecting youth with their natural world. Hosted at the Lake Nesbit Environmental Center near Sidnaw, Michigan, the camp centers around the Medicine Wheel, addressing not only the physical but also the emotional, mental and spiritual aspects of adventure-based learning workshops. Youth will explore natural resource careers, Native American treaty rights, building leadership skills and environmental stewardship. Onji-Akiing is open to youth entering 5th–8th grade in the fall of 2022.

2022 Programs

- Environmental Sciences (e.g., aquatic ecology, bird life, forestry, terrestrial ecology, wildlife, Career Fair, etc.)
- Team building
- Service learning
- Cultural exploration
- Hunting, fishing, archery
- Fireside programs
- Canoeing
- Indigenous games and ceremony

Students will be expected to fully participate in all camp activities. It is important to the success of the students that they take part in all group and individual activities for service, leadership, recreation and cultural awareness to the best of their abilities. Students will stay in the camp cabins and eat meals in the dining commons area.

Sample daily schedule

7:00 – Rise and shine
7:15 – Spirit Run
8:00 – Breakfast
9:00 – Team building activity
12:00 – Lunch
1:00 – Problem solving activity
3:30 – Leadership development
5:00 – Dinner
6:00 – Clan time
7:00 – Warrior games
9:00 – Snack
9:30 – Talking Circle fireside
10:00 – In cabins
10:30 – Lights out
Onji-Akiing Summer Program
“From the Earth”
August 8-12, 2022
Camp Nesbit Environmental Center, Sidnaw, Michigan
GLIFWC/USFS application

Participant

Name _______________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________

City ___________________ State ________ Zip code __________

Email _______________________________________________________

Grade ___________ Age __________

Tribe Affiliation ___________________________ (if none, leave blank)

Phone # ( __ ) __________________

Gender ____________________________ T-Shirt Size _____________ (Adult)

Special Concerns ____________________________________________

Known Allergies _____________________________________________

Please attach another sheet of paper with a short essay (at least 100 words, written by youth) on why you want to attend the 2022 Camp Onji-Akiing Summer Program. Please include any special achievements, how this camp might help you in school, your community, and any life goals.

Students entering 5th-8th grade in the fall, are accepted on the basis of their essays and space availability. In the event you are accepted, you will be expected to sign a statement saying that you will participate fully in all activities and parents/guardians will have to complete and sign health forms and permission forms for all camp activities.

For questions or concerns, please contact:
Christina Dzwonkowski, GLIFWC LE, Director (715) 892-0874 cdzwonkowski@glifwc.org
Holly Berkstresser, GLIFWC LE, Co-Director (715) 562-0063 hberkstresser@glifwc.org

Mail application and essay to:
Jill Miller
Attn: Camp Onji-Akiing
PO Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.........DEADLINE for applications is JULY 1, 2022