

Full Circle Learning

Our Goals:

- To get youth excited about the outdoors and strengthen their connection to it.
- Educate youth on the importance of traditional ecological knowledge
- Help youth experience possible careers in natural resources
- Promote and Protect Treaty Rights
- Help youth recognize their connection to Nimaamaa-aki (Mother Earth)



Connecting Youth

In Proud Partnership Between



For more information, please contact:

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For More About
GLIFWC

www.glifwc.org

Camp Onji Akiing (From the Earth)

Sponsored by
GLIFWC & USFS



Natural Resource Cultural Summer Camp



August 3-7, 2026



Held at Camp Nesbit, US Forest Service Rd
1400, Watton, MI 49907



Onji Akiing Cultural Youth Camp

Camp Onji Akiing is a joint effort between the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) and the USDA Forest Service, Ottawa National Forest to provide an opportunity to connect youth to the outdoors. Camp Onji Akiing is hosted at the Lake Nesbit Environmental Center near Watton, Michigan. There, youth will explore natural resource careers, Native American treaty rights, building leadership skills, and environmental stewardship. Onji Akiing is open to youth (10-14 years old) entering 5th-8th grade in the fall, and for 14-18 year-olds as Junior Counselors who participate in camp and act as young leaders.

2026 Programs

- Environmental Sciences (aquatic ecology, terrestrial ecology, wildlife, and forestry)
- Indigenous Games and Ceremonies
- Career Fair
- Painting and Crafts
- Cultural Exploration
- Fishing, Gathering, and Archery
- Fireside Programs
- Canoeing
- Learning about Treaty Rights



Camper Expectations

The success of our campers is important to us. That is why we ask all campers to participate earnestly in all our group and individual activities. Campers will learn service, leadership, recreation, and cultural awareness skills. Campers will sleep and store their belongings in cabins. Campers will also eat three meals a day in the dining commons area.

Sample Daily Schedule

- 7:00 - Rise and Shine!
- 7:15 - Spirit Run/Walk
- 8:00 - Breakfast
- 9:00 - Canoeing
- 12:00 - Lunch
- 1:00 - Low Ropes Course
- 3:30 - Archery
- 5:00 - Dinner
- 6:00 - Clan Time
- 7:00 - Warrior Games
- 8:45 - Fireside Talking Circle
- 10:00 - Lights Out