

# Counselor-in-Training Volunteers

## Nature Day Camp at Chippewa Nature Center

### What is a Counselor-in-Training (CIT)?

CITs are volunteers who work alongside Nature Day Camp staff to help campers have a fantastic day camp experience. CITs assist with crafts, keep track of campers on hikes, sing songs, play games, lead lunch time activities, watch out for camper safety, and help with set up and clean up before and after camp. Campers range in age from 4 to 15 years old. CITs arrive at 8:30am and finish the day around 4pm (except on Monday when we have a Team Meeting until 4:15pm). We ask each CIT to volunteer for **two weeks** of the summer, but the weeks do not need to be consecutive. Camp runs from June 11<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup>.

### What training do CITs receive?

#### Orientation Meeting for New CITs Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 10am-Noon

This meeting will cover expectations and general information so new CITs will have the background they need to effectively participate in CIT training. It is also an important opportunity to get to meet Steve Frisbee, the Camp Program Coordinator, and Jenn Kirts, the Camp Director.

#### CIT Training for All CITs

#### Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12:30pm

This mandatory training prepares our CIT team for a great summer. We will get to know each other, learn important safety information, play the games we'll play with campers in the summer, become familiar with the day camp setting, and receive the CIT Manual.

### Who can be a CIT?

CITs must be between the ages of 13 and 17, be comfortable in the outdoors, enjoy working with children, and demonstrate responsibility, self-control, and a positive attitude. We have a limited number of spaces for CITs, so it is important to fill out your application completely and in a timely manner. Preference will be given to individuals who have completed our Leaders in Training program or are entering 10<sup>th</sup> grade, but we encourage anyone who is interested to apply.

### How do I apply?

Complete a CIT application which is available online or at our Visitor Center (400 S. Badour Road, Midland in the Temporary Visitor Center Trailer). If you are a returning CIT, you may complete the shortened "Returning CIT Application". **Applications are due Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.**

### What is Chippewa Nature Center?

We are a nature center with more than 1200 acres of fields, forests, and ponds and over 14 miles of trails. We have an 1870s Homestead Farm and Schoolhouse as well as a modern Resource Building, Nature Study Building, Nature Preschool, and temporary Visitor Center and Office trailers. We offer programs for children, teens, adults, and families on a variety of natural and historical topics.



### Send Application To:

Jennifer Kirts, Day Camp Director  
Chippewa Nature Center  
400 S. Badour Rd.  
Midland, MI 48640  
Phone: 989-631-0830  
Fax: 989-631-7070  
jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org  
www.chippewanaturecenter.org





# Returning CIT Application

## Nature Day Camp 2012

If you have never been a CIT at Chippewa Nature Center before, please fill out the *New CIT Application*.

### Personal information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Street City State Zip  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Grade currently in \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Other information

What years were you a CIT previously? \_\_\_\_\_  
What camp programs did you work with? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why would you like to return to Nature Day Camp as a CIT this year? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any skills or talents that you might enjoy sharing at camp? (such as photography, skits, knowledge of fish, etc.)?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Availability

Are you able to attend the May 19 CIT Training from 9am to 12:30 pm? **Yes No** If no, what not? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to be a mentor for a new CIT? **Yes No**

T-Shirt Size (*adult*): S\_\_\_ M\_\_\_ L\_\_\_ XL\_\_\_ XXL\_\_\_ (*All CITs receive a free t-shirt for your volunteer work.*)

First name as you would like it on your CIT nametag: \_\_\_\_\_

Weeks available this summer:

(Please list 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th choices.)

_____ June 11-15	_____ July 9-13	_____ July 30-August 3
_____ June 18-22	_____ July 16-20	_____ August 6-8
_____ June 25-29	_____ July 23-27	(Monday through Wednesday only)

Preferred ages:

___ Preschool	___ 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	___ 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	___ 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
___ Kindergarten	___ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	___ 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	___ 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade

Are there any ages you would prefer NOT to work with? \_\_\_\_\_

**TURN THE PAPER OVER TO COMPLETE THE OTHER SIDE.**

Is there a particular program you'd really like to work with? **Yes No**

If yes, which program(s)? \_\_\_\_\_  
Please understand that although we will try to honor your request, assignments are made on a first-come first-serve basis taking into account experience, availability, last year's evaluations, and other factors.

I certify that the facts contained in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and understand that, if accepted as a CIT, falsified statements on this application shall be grounds for dismissal. I authorize investigation of all statements contained herein and the references listed above to give you any and all pertinent information they may have, personal or otherwise, and release all parties from all liability for any damage that may result from furnishing same to you. I understand and agree that, if accepted as a CIT my volunteer position may be terminated at any time without any prior notice.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

You will be required to fill complete a Health Form so that in case of an emergency, we know about any health concerns you have, including allergies and any medications you are taking if you are accepted as a volunteer.

Please return this application to:

Jenn Kirts  
Chippewa Nature Center  
400 S. Badour Road  
Midland, MI 48640  
989-631-0830  
989-631-7070 (fax)  
jkirts@chippewanaturecenter.org