



2026

Camp Discovery Info Sheet for Registrations

Registration will open on March 1st. 2026

Weekly Camping Program

Camp Discovery, a camping facility designed to serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is owned and operated by the Tennessee Jaycee Foundation, Inc. All programming will be in direct consultation with, and closely supervised, by our Camp Director. Our staff will include a core group of administration, teachers, nurses, lifeguards and college students in special education and related fields. Our staff changes somewhat from year to year as we continually work to keep the best and bring in new people who are eager and motivated to serve people with special needs. The camp's facilities, programming and supervision are all designed to ensure each camper receives a safe and rewarding weeklong experience. **The counselor-camper ratio will be as close to one-to-three as possible. We are unable to provide a one-on-one experience for the campers, so if your camper requires this needed attention, we will not be able to be accommodate.**

The Program

Activities in the specialty areas will be planned and instructed by experienced staff members. Campers will participate in such activities as: arts and crafts, outdoor recreation, music, games, contests, sports, dancing, movies, cabin activities, and swimming when weather permits.

Primary Objectives

To provide a fun and safe environment during the summer months, using water-related and outdoor activities for campers with various special needs. An associated purpose is to provide training for supervisory and administrative personnel who will implement similar camp programs in other states.

Location

The campsite is in the Flynn's Lick Creek area of Cordell Hull Lake in Jackson County, Tennessee (Gainesboro). This is approximately halfway between Nashville and Knoxville, about 20 miles north of Interstate 40. The land is flat to rolling with wet weather streams and waterfalls. Approximately 50% of the tract is covered with thick growths of large hardwood trees. The area is conducive to all types of camping activities, i.e. hiking, nature studies, and water activities. Directions are available on the last page or on our website at www.campdiscoverytn.org/contact-page/

Dormitory and Indoor Activities

All dormitories are fully insulated, heated, and air conditioned to be comfortable. The Camp also has a large heated and air-conditioned Dining Hall / Recreational Area and other buildings to accommodate all activities during inclement weather.

Arrival and Departure

Campers should **report to camp between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm, central time (CST), on Sunday of the scheduled week.** Report to the dining hall upon arrival. ALL medications & vitamins must be left with the Nurse at this time. Campers will need to **be picked up the following Friday between 9:00 am and 11:00 am, central time (CST).** It is imperative that you adhere to these times for our counselors to adhere to ACA regulations for staff work hours and times off.

Reservations

NO reservation will be accepted by telephone. Reservations will be made only after the application (including week choices, medical information, and paid registration fees) has been received in our office. You will receive an electronic confirmation number within ten days of receipt of your completed application. Groups with one confirmation number may not switch campers from other weeks.



Camper Fee

The cost per camper is **\$625.00** (as of January 1st. 2026) This includes all supervision, teaching, craft supplies, entertainment, food, use of equipment, room, and board (however, please note that we will not be responsible for transportation). If a camper needs to change their arrival date, it must be done at least two weeks in advance. **Cancellations made less than SEVEN days prior to arrival will NOT receive a refund. All fees must be paid in full at least ONE WEEK prior to date of arrival.** We will not accept payments on site at camp.

Medical

All medications must be brought to camp in the current prescription bottles and administered by the pharmacist. Two full time nurses are available to dispense medications and provide first aid. Campers on medication and vitamins should bring a **seven (7) day supply and a written instruction sheet** (see Medical Summary Form) on dosages and times to be dispensed. Bottle labels will not be sufficient. Copies of Medical Administration Record (MAR), Medicaid, Medicare cards, or other insurance information must accompany the camper application. (see Medical Summary Form.) ***Regretfully, we are unable to accept campers who require tube-feeding, one-on-one assistance, catheter, colostomy, and ileostomy.*** Also, provide information regarding possible DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) orders for our records in the event of a medical event. Refer any questions to the Camp Director.

Food Service

Dinner will be provided on Sunday evening after check-in. During the week, three meals a day will be provided. On Friday, breakfast will be provided prior to departure. If the camper has a **special diet or food allergies**, please provide that information with the completed application.

What to Bring:

Campers should bring at least the items listed below. **The basic rule is to send what your camper would normally wear for one week during the summer months. This includes extra bottoms, briefs, and wipes for those campers who typically need to be changed multiple times each day.** Make sure the camper has some cool clothing (shorts, t shirts, etc.) since many of the activities are outdoors. All items need to be labeled with camper's name or initials. **Please provide the counselor with a list of the camper's belongings.** Also, please do not send expensive clothing and other items to camp, especially electronic devices and phones. Camp Discovery will not be responsible for these items if misplaced or stolen.

Bare minimum needs per camper:

- 1 set of twin sheets/1 pillow and case
- 2 warm blankets or 1 sleeping bag (bunks and mattress provided only. You must supply linens and blankets.)
- 2 towels and washcloths
- brush/comb/toothpaste/toothbrush
- medications/vitamins - a 7-day supply
- personal hygiene articles (shampoo, soap, etc.)
- clothing for 6 days (shorts, jeans, t-shirts, etc.)
 - extras if camper needs changed often
- 6 pairs of socks – extras if camper needs changed often
- 6 pairs of underwear – extras if camper needs changed often
- 2-3 pairs of shoes (sneakers, sandals, etc.)
- 2 pairs of pajamas
- 1 bathing suit
- a bottle of sunscreen
- 1 raincoat or poncho
- Face masks/face coverings/face shields if deemed appropriate

DIRECT RESERVATION INQUIRIES TO:

Chester Lowe, Vice President

2072 Catalina Way

Nolensville, Tennessee 37135

615-504-1727

vicepresident@jayceecamp.org

The camp sessions will be on a
"First Come, First Serve Basis."

You may call Chester Lowe at 615-504-1727 or email at vicepresident@jayceecamp.org concerning reservations.

All camp fees should be paid in full at least 30 days prior to arrival, unless proper financial arrangements with Camp Discovery have been made. Cancellations made less than seven (7) days prior to arrival dates will result in camper fees not be refunded.



Directions to Camp Discovery

400 Camp Discovery Lane, Gainesboro, TN 38562

From East Tennessee

- Take I-40W to Baxter/Gainesboro exit #280 (west of Cookeville)
- Turn north onto HWY 56N to Gainesboro and turn left on HWY 53 (just past the Dairy Queen) and go through town
- Go six (6) miles and turn right at the Camp Discovery sign onto White's Bend Lane (Recreation Area)
- Go two (2) miles and turn left at the Camp Discovery sign (on the left side-just beyond the Darwin Cemetery)
- Proceed, up the hill, approximately one-half (1/2) mile to Camp Discovery.

From West Tennessee

- You may follow the above directions (I-40 E exiting at Baxter/Gainesboro exit #280) -OR-take the following alternate route (winding steep roads at times.)
- Take I-40E to Gordonsville/Carthage Exit #258 (South Carthage) (approximately 50 miles east of Nashville)
- Turn left off exit ramp onto HWY 53N toward Carthage and go approx. five (5) miles to HWY 70.
- Turn right on HWY 70 and go approx. 7.5 miles to the Chestnut Mound community.
- Turn left on HWY 53 toward Gainesboro (this is directly across from the post office.) You'll pass through the Granville and Flynn's Lick communities (approximately 13 miles total)
- On your left will be a sign for the White's Bend Recreation Area, ¼ mile beyond is a Camp Discovery sign on the right side of the road, turn left at the Camp Discovery sign onto White's Bend Lane.
- Go two (2) miles and turn left at the Camp Discovery sign (on the left side-just beyond the Darwin Cemetery)
- Proceed, up the hill, approximately one-half (1/2) mile to Camp Discovery.