



Press Release

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Camp Fire USA & Camp Wathana Earn ACA-Accredited Camp Status

Holly Michigan, The American Camp Association (ACA) announced today that Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council has received ACA-Accredited Camp status at Camp Wathana. Camp Wathana is Camp Fire USA's fully functional 250 acre youth camp located in beautiful Holly, Michigan.

"ACA Accreditation means that Camp Wathana submitted to a thorough (up to 300 standards) review of its operation by the American Camp Association (ACA) — from staff qualifications and training to emergency management — and complied with the highest standards in the industry," said Cindy Moore, National Standards Commission. "Parents expect their children to attend accredited schools. They also deserve a camp experience that is reviewed and accredited by an expert, independent organization," Moore said.

"Camp Wathana and ACA form a partnership that promotes summers of growth and fun in an environment committed to safety," said Linda Tarjeft, Camp Fire USA's Executive Director, "ACA accreditation demonstrates our commitment to quality camp programming."

Camp Wathana has been running programs since 1926, this year they served over 600 youth in the programs and activities. The camp is in operation year round and offers sessions lasting from 3 hours to one week. For more information, parents can contact the camp at 800-860-5840, or visit the camp's Web site at www.wathana.org.

ACA is the only independent accrediting organization reviewing camp operations in the country. Its nationally-recognized standards program focuses primarily on the program quality, health and safety aspects of a camp's operation. ACA collaborates with experts from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Red Cross, and other youth-serving agencies to assure that current practices at the camp reflect the most up-to-date, research-based standards in camp operation. For more parent-focused information about accreditation, visit ACA's www.CampParents.org.

Camp Fire USA Southeast Michigan Council has been providing youth development services in Southeast Michigan since 1910. Camp Fire USA is all-inclusive, welcoming children, youth and adults regardless of race, religion, socioeconomic, disability, sexual orientation, or other aspects of diversity.

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