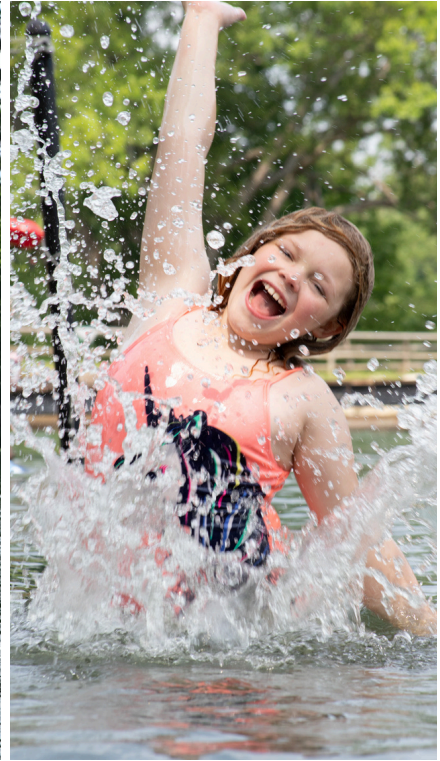


# THE CARSON CONNECTION

Welcome Home to YMCA Camp Carson



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# SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT CAMP!

We are having another busy Spring at Camp! We have already hosted 1000s of people in March & April, and have almost every day booked until Summer! Below are highlights of some recent Camp-hosted events.

## Earth Aware Day Camps

We led three days of environmentally-focused learning and outdoor activities for 300 local fourth-grade students. Each group spent the day exploring Camp, playing nature-related games, learning about animals, and understanding our impact on nature. These were really fun days of learning and adventure.



## NASP Archery Tournament

We hosted our fifth Outdoor NASP National Archery in Schools Program on Saturday, April 11 in collaboration with North Gibson Archery Club. This event featured an Outdoor Bullseye NASP-style tournament, drawing more than 400 archers from all over the state. Princeton High School Band sold food, and several local organizations supported with donations or booths. This community event is made possible by North Gibson Archery Club, Knights of Columbus Council #1131, Prince Lodge F&AM #231, and Sportsmen for Youth.

Proceeds go to scholarships for local youth to attend a week of overnight summer camp.

## Women's Wellness Weekend

For the first time in 20+ years, we hosted a Women's Wellness Weekend at Camp Carson! 25 women joined us for a full weekend of fun camp adventures, relaxation, creativity, campfires, connecting, and watching the lake. A couple of the women are also Camp Moms who took the opportunity to experience some of the camp things their kids have done for years.

We are thankful for the women who spent the weekend with us, and we are already looking forward to next year's Women's Weekend!



# CARSON'S ALUMNI & FRIENDS HANGOUT

## AT TURONI'S

8011 BELL OAKS DR, NEWBURGH, IN

**OCT 10, 2026**  
3 - 7 PM

### We are getting all of our friends together!

Please JOIN US for an awesome time to share Camp stories, reconnect, and socialize with Camp Carson alumni and friends. This is a casual gathering that coincides with the West Side Nut Club Fall Festival in Evansville, so we are hoping all of you out-of-towners can make a weekend trip. (Did we mention pizza? Join us AT TURONIS!)

We will have lots of Camp photos to look through, but please feel free to bring your own to share! We will also have some Camp swag for purchase, and pre-event tours are available at camp at 1pm for anyone interested.



**Click HERE to RSVP!**

or contact us for more info 812-385-3597 [hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org](mailto:hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org)

**CAMPCARSONALUMNI.ORG**



Take a trip down memory trails with our Camp Carson Alumni website. The collection of photos, songs, and stories will bring you right back to your days at Camp, however long ago it may have been. Connect with Alumni from around the world and across generations!

In addition to the October event mentioned above, PLEASE come visit anytime you are in the area! We love to take a tour with Alumni and hear your stories. Our Alumni room is full of photos, news clippings, and memorabilia from every generation, and it's a great trip down memory lane.

# SUMMER 2026 REGISTRATION



Don't delay - Summer 2026 is almost FULL! If you haven't registered your camper yet, please hurry! As of April 15th, we have a FEW openings in these programs:

- Overnight Camp Sessions 6, 7, & 9
- Operation Military Support, May 31 - June 5
- 1st Year Dirt Bike - weeks 2 & 8
- Wrangler - weeks 1 & 6
- Counselor in Training (CIT) - BOYS limited availability, GIRLS are full
- Leader in Training (LIT) - BOYS limited availability, GIRLS are full

Register online today at [campcarson.org](http://campcarson.org). You can also click the registration link to get on the waitlist, in case we have a spot open up.

**[Click here for Financial Assistance & Foster Care scholarships!](#)**



## Operation Military Support - May 31 - June 5

1 Week, Ages 7-16

This special week of camp is offered to children of Military families. Kind Camp Carson supporters allow us to offer this program to families for just \$200 per camper.

Scholarships are also available - [CLICK HERE!](#)

To register or get more info, please go to [campcarson.org/military-camps](http://campcarson.org/military-camps).

**Please share with other Military families!**



# THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

## AmeriCorps NCCC at Camp

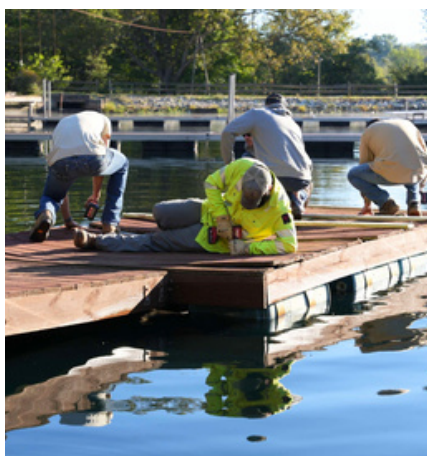
Camp Carson had the honor of hosting a team of AmeriCorps NCCC volunteers this Spring. Their primary projects included building a new human foosball court, building a pavilion, picnic tables, and shelves for our Arts & Crafts center.

This is our fourth year hosting an AmeriCorps NCCC team, and we are grateful for their support, hard work, and commitment to our community.



The mission of AmeriCorps NCCC is to strengthen communities and develop leaders through direct, team-based national and community service. To learn more, go to [americorps.gov](http://americorps.gov).

**If you would like to share your skills and spend a day (or a few hours) volunteering at Camp, please call us at 812-385-3597 or email [hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org](mailto:hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org).**



Camp Carson is honored to have the support of many volunteers throughout the year, helping with various projects and clean-up around Camp. This year, we are especially grateful for the following volunteers:

Tim Burris  
Camp Carson Junior Board  
Duke Energy  
Earl and Emma Griswold  
Knights of Columbus  
Beth Martin  
North Gibson Archery Club

The Peddie Family  
Prince Lodge F&AM #231  
Princeton Community High School  
Buddy Rogers  
Rick Sims

Sportsmen for Youth  
Sgt. Peppers Fireworks!  
United Way Week of Caring  
United Way Youth Day of Caring  
Mary & Brian Williams  
WIN Energy REMC

# GIVING MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We have kicked off our annual fundraising campaign - our largest fundraiser supporting YMCA Camp Carson.

When you help send a kid to camp, they dive into new experiences and activities, love the outdoors, grow personally, make new friends, and create lifelong memories. Your generosity helps every child, regardless of their background, have their best summer ever.

Your donation supports campers through:

- Camper scholarships & subsidies for young people with financial barriers to camp.
- Reduced camp fees for our Operation Military Support summer camp program.
- A matching grant of \$7,500 for our Military Family Weekends.
- Improved programs and facilities, to keep Camp Carson a safe and positive space for campers.

We are also grateful for donations of gently used items, or you can check our [Amazon Wishlist](#).

We welcome your donations online at [www.campcarson.org/giving](http://www.campcarson.org/giving)

or mail to: YMCA Camp Carson, 2034 Outer Lake Rd, Princeton, IN, 47670

## SETTING COURSE FOR THE FUTURE

YMCA Camp Carson 2026 Annual Campaign



## Become a Bridge Builder

YMCA Camp Carson Bridge Builders are a dedicated group of donors who are committed to ensuring that Camp continues to serve campers and carry on the traditions and positive impact of summer camp.

Please contact Heather to learn more about becoming a Bridge Builder: 812-385-3597 or [hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org](mailto:hpierce@ymcacampcarson.org).



# WHAT'S NEXT AT CAMP?



## Infrastructure, Safety, Growth, and Environment! (oh my!)

We are excited to share that we have received a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. through its Capital Project Initiative for Residential Youth Camps.

With this grant, YMCA Camp Carson will focus on critical infrastructure, enhancing safety, promoting environmental stewardship, and expanding our year-round operational capacity. These improvements and expansions are being designed to create a safe and welcoming space for many future generations of campers and community members to call home.

Jim Sexstone, Executive Director of YMCA Camp Carson shared "We are honored to be a part of this historic investment in camps around Indiana. For Camp Carson, this will allow us to embark on important infrastructure, growth, and enhancement projects that will ensure that Camp Carson is relevant for the next 100 years."



# OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES AT CAMP



## OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Bring your classroom to Camp Carson! We have developed unique Outdoor Education programs for local schools, combining outdoor adventures with learning. We can customize the day(s) based on your school's preferences.



## RENTALS

Book your weekend getaway, group retreat, reunion, company meeting, or team-building event! Camp Carson offers small and large spaces, indoor and outdoor - practical spaces with a warm Camp atmosphere.

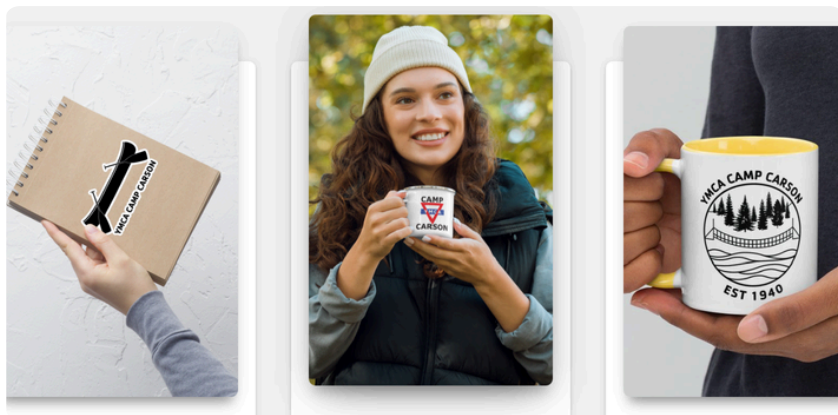


## WEDDINGS

Your fairytale wedding awaits! We offer options for indoor or outdoor weddings, including a lakefront amphitheatre, chapel, gazebo, and suspension bridges. We also offer a service kitchen in the lodge, changing rooms, restrooms, and parking.

\*Photo courtesy of Kendalyn Nicole Photography

To book an event or request a quote, go to [campcarson.org/events](https://campcarson.org/events) or contact Ryan Meeks at 812-385-3597 or [rmeeks@ymcacampcarson.org](mailto:rmeeks@ymcacampcarson.org)



[campcarsonalumni.org](http://campcarsonalumni.org)  
click on Camp Store



The Carson Connection is our digital newsletter, our Camp newspaper, and a way of sharing updates with Camp Alumni, Families, and Friends. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or [campcarson.org](http://campcarson.org) for more updates and opportunities to connect.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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