Ottawa National Forest

Camp Nesbit

About Camp Nesbit

Camp Nesbit was built in 1938 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and exists today much as it did when construction was completed in the late 1930’s. The facilities blend a rustic feel with many modern conveniences.

The 12 dormitory-style cabins can accommodate up to 144 people and are readily accessible to Lake Nesbit—an 18-acre lake perfect for fishing, canoeing and swimming. A recreation hall, kitchen and dining hall, nurse’s cabin, and fire circle complete the Center.

Amenities such as an archery range, shooting range, hiking trails, ropes course, volleyball and basketball courts, baseball diamond, and swimming beach provide for outstanding recreational opportunities.

Contact Information

For more information, please contact:

Ottawa National Forest
Kenton Ranger District
4810 M28 East
Kenton, MI 49967
(906) 852-3500

Ottawa Website:
www.fs.usda.gov/ottawa

Fees

User Fees
Standard User Fee: $17/person per night
School Group K—12: $10/person per night

Cancellations

Cancellation requests must be in writing and received at least 14 days prior to your scheduled arrival.

Swimming Beach

Recreation Hall

Overnight Use

Nestled in the beautiful northwoods of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Camp Nesbit Environmental Center is the perfect setting for exploring the natural world.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
How Do I Reserve Camp Nesbit?

Reservation requests must be made in writing and submitted to the Kenton Ranger District office by January 31. Requests made after January 31 will only be considered if openings are available. Your request should include:

- First, second, and third choice dates
- Approximate number in group (campers 144 maximum and staff 11 additional beds)
- Federal Tax Identification Number
- Name, address, phone number, and e-mail address for the group point of contact

Please note, Camp Nesbit is not available prior to May 1st or after October 15th.

How Are Requests Evaluated?

While reservations are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, priority is given to school groups, then to organizations whose primary mission is conservation or environmental education.

How Do I Know if My Request is Accepted?

If your request is approved, you will receive a letter confirming your reservation and some additional forms you will need to complete. At that time, you will be required to complete and return a Permit Request form (FS-2300-43). This form will ask you how many campers you will have.

You will receive a Bill for Collection prior to your scheduled use. Bill payment will be accepted upon your arrival by a Forest Service representative. Once payment is made, you will be given the official permit.

Preparing for Your Trip

If utilizing the available facilities, groups are required to provide their own cooks, kitchen linens, camp nurse, certified water instructor, and certified archery/shooting instructors.

Make arrangements for all supply deliveries to be delivered during the dates on your permit.

Have a camp attendance roster available at check-in.

While You’re at Camp

Groups are responsible for daily housekeeping of all building and grounds. This includes:

- Sweeping and mopping
- Emptying trash containers
- Cleaning restrooms
- Recycling in provided containers
- Keeping a clean camp

The US Forest Service will provide the following supplies:

- Broom and mop
- Cleaning agents
- Paper towel and toilet paper

Limited parking is available. The following applies to vehicles in Camp:

- All vehicles must be parked in the designated areas. NO PARKING IN CAMP.
- Belongings must be carried from the vehicle parking areas to your cabin. If you need closer access, coordinate with the group point of contact.
- Service drives must remain open and clear of vehicles at all times.

In the event of an emergency, the permit holder is responsible for the safe evacuation of campers.