

# Montana Recreation Handbook

## *For People with Special Needs*

The Montana Recreation Handbook for People with Special Needs is the place to start when you need a place to play or a chance to escape for some fun; it includes listings for travel agents and trip planning, and entries on athletics and activities for all seasons. Explore a multitude of choices and check out these nationwide resources to help you and your family challenge new horizons or return to the activities and adventures that you have always loved.

*"I am so impressed with the information you provide to families. You have created a rich community. Thank you for sharing with us." - EDUCATOR*

*"Thanks, this is such a great resource—I passed it along!" - PROFESSIONAL*

*"PLUK is a Montana treasure!" - PARENT*

*"Thanks for the information – BRAVO!!!" - PARENT*

*"YEAH!" - CONSUMER*

*"This is a wonderful resource! Stay Warm!" - SERVICE PROVIDER*

*"THANK YOU!" - PARENT*

PLUK is a Montana nonprofit dedicated to providing training, information, and support to the 20,000 families in Montana who have a child with a disability or special health care need, and the professionals and educators that serve them:

- **Resources** —Special Needs Library (5,000+ volumes including books, DVD/Video, software, curricula) Accessible and Adapted Computer Lab, a variety of PLUK publications including the PLUK News, the Monthly Update, the E-News, topic-specific PLUK Notes, several handbooks, and the PLUK website ([www.pluk.org](http://www.pluk.org))
- **Trainings** —Specific topics ranging from disabilities to medical, educational, financial, and human service issues, other training opportunities to learn parenting, communication, and advocacy skills. Conference listings are available in the PLUK E-News and the Monthly Update.
- **Support** —Trained Family Support Consultants offer support and assistance with information, conflict resolution, and essential services. Consultants also provide referrals to other professionals and community support groups. Parent-to-Parent volunteers offer moral support and encouragement to other parents.

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Montana Recreation  
Handbook  
Rev 2/2007

# Montana Recreation Handbook

## *For People with Special Needs*

**A guide to recreation, travel, and camp resources in Montana and around the United States.**



David Scott Smith Photography ©



PLUK services are available throughout Montana and are free to individuals with special needs and their families.

A publication of

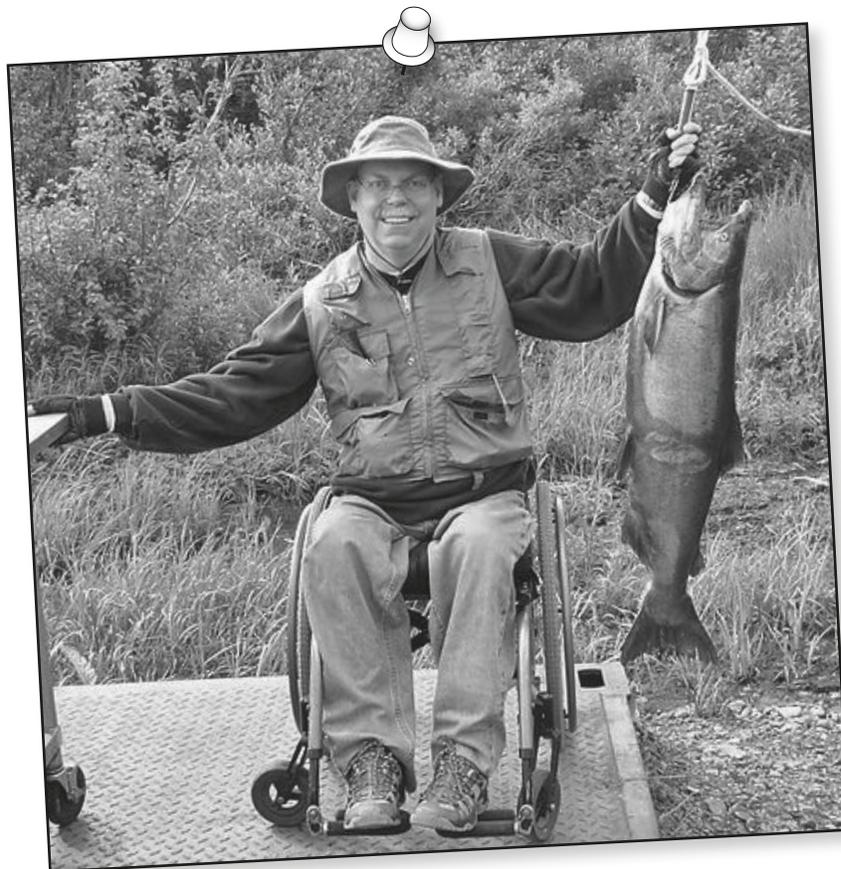


Montana's Parent Center

# Montana Recreation Handbook

## *For People with Special Needs*

**A guide to recreation, travel, and camp resources in Montana and around the United States.**





**Montana Recreation Handbook**  
*For People with Special Needs*

By PLUK

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# Introduction

Welcome to the PLUK Montana Recreation, Travel, & Camp Resource Handbook for People with Special Needs. In keeping with our mission to provide information to people with disabilities and their families, this handbook provides a variety of travel and recreation resources specifically for people with disabilities.

We've included articles on researching recreation camps for children and tips for managing your family's transition to vacation time, in addition to the listings for online information, Montana-based options, and national recreation resources.

If you need more information or if you have a resource you believe should be included future editions, please contact PLUK.

All of the information contained in this handbook (and much more) as well as an electronic version of this publication is available on the PLUK web site at <http://www.pluk.org>.

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## Missoula Satellite Office

2230 Reserve St, Suite 402  
Missoula MT 59802  
406-327-4645



## Transitioning From the School Daze to School Holidays: Reinforcing Structure and Play

Transitioning from school schedules to vacation days, and still managing to have fun, can be a struggle for families. Some simple strategies can save your free time and help you maintain family-friendly routines that reinforce play and learning for your children.

- Talk to your children’s teachers before school is out and ask for two or three skills that the teacher thinks your children should practice during the break. If you don’t understand what the teacher means, ask for a demonstration of the skills and the ways that the teacher would teach them. Ask the teacher for suggestions of “fun” ways to practice the skills and consider integrating these into your routine for the school holiday.
- Review the plans you’ve made for the school holiday and brainstorm options for hosting activities and supervising children during parents’ work days or busy times. Ask for help from family and friends before trying to juggle everything yourself.
- Use a family-size calendar to mark each person’s activities and the family schedule—be sure to mark the free time too.
- Include your children in the daily planning and activities list for your family calendar, to encourage participation and help kids recognize transition times.
- Expect to be spontaneous, and transition consciously from each activity by helping your children move from one task to another. Try out the museums, the community concerts, and sports events that are often missed during school times.
- Leave yourself some breathing space. Make sure your family can avoid the increased stress of a school holiday by giving yourself and your children the chance to choose relaxation.

Since most children with special needs require constant reinforcement of what they have learned all year long, learning and contributing to family schedules and encouraging play and community exploration is the perfect way to “work” during school breaks, not only to maintain skills but also to learn new concepts in a subtle, fun way. There are varieties of opportunities to explore and experiment with toys and different substances in the backyard, including water, snow, grass, sand, outdoor recreational equipment, and yard toys. Here are some hints to consider:

- Inspect your yard or the park areas that may be available to your child. Determine what opportunities there might be for playing with water, snow, sand, and grass as well as natural materials like pinecones, pebbles, and feathers. Use these materials as teaching tools and play objects.
- Arrange for a local teenager to baby-sit your child with special needs several times during the break. Plan for these times to include special activities with your child, like walks to the park, building sandcastles or snowmen, trips to the library, finger painting sessions or crafts you can do together as a family.
- Invite a small group of children your child’s age to join you to do a specific activity like making a combined mural, mixing up a batch of no-bake cookies, listening to a story and having a snack. Be sure to keep the group small and manageable. Hint strongly to the other parents that your child and his or her siblings would appreciate a similar invitation to their homes and offer to help with play dates.

With some planning and essential flexibility, it becomes a bit easier to make the school holiday a productive and enjoyable opportunity for your family.

## Evaluating Camps

There are so many children's recreation programs nationwide, especially camps and retreats, that it is important for parents to be able to assess the options available and find the ones that best meet their children's needs. To get started, you need the essential information.

Request brochures from camps that fit your needs, these brochures will give you information about dates, costs, camper's ages, and activities. Contact the camp director to ask specific questions. Use your discussion to get a feel for director's personality and philosophy. Here are some topics to discuss:

- **Camp Philosophy and Goals:** Some camps encourage a competitive environment, while others foster cooperation and interdependence. Be sure the camp's atmosphere is compatible with your child's personality.
- **Staff Background and Training:** Ask about the director's education and certification. Find out the ages of the counselors and how they are chosen and trained.
- **Counselor-to-Camper Ratio:** The American Camp Association recommends one counselor for every eight campers, but a lower ratio might be better.
- **Problem Handling:** Get specific information about camp rules and how problems are handled. **Parent Visits:** Ask if parent visits are allowed, at both day camps and residential camps.
- **Special Needs:** Find out how special needs are handled. For example, if your child is taking medication, ask who dispenses the medicine and how the schedule is ensured.
- **References:** Always request references and contact past campers.

Beyond these basic questions, discuss with the director any issues of special concern to your child, such as:

- The camp's experience with children with special needs
- Group size and age mix for activities
- The ratio of structured to unstructured time

You know which accommodations in your household and at school help your child succeed, so address these with the camp director. By keeping your child's strengths, needs, and interests in mind throughout your camp search, you'll be able to choose a summer camp that addresses your concerns and is fun for your child.



## Preparing for Camp Adventures

“Summer camp is more than a vacation for children,” says Bruce Muchnick, Ed.D., a licensed psychologist who works extensively with day and resident camps. “As a parent, there are a few things to consider to increase the opportunity for a rewarding camp experience for your child.” Some helpful suggestions provided by Dr. Muchnick and the American Camping Association include:

- Consider camp as a learning experience. This is an opportunity for your child to explore a world bigger than his/her neighborhood and a chance for you and your child to practice “letting go.” Letting go allows children to develop autonomy and a stronger sense of self, make new friends, develop new social skills, learn about teamwork, be creative, and more. This time also allows parents an opportunity to take care of themselves so that they will feel refreshed when their child returns home.
- Get ready for camp together. Decisions about camp — like where to go and what to pack — should be a joint venture, keeping in mind your child’s maturity. If your child feels a part of the decision-making process, his/her chances of having a positive experience will improve.
- Talk about concerns. As the first day of camp nears, some children experience uneasiness about going away. Encourage your child to talk about these feelings rather than acting on what you think his or her feelings may be. Communicate confidence in your child’s ability to handle being away from home.
- Have realistic expectations. Camp, like the rest of life, has high and low points. Not every moment will be filled with wonder and excitement.
- Encourage your child to have a reasonable and realistic view of camp. Discuss both the difficulties and joys your child may experience. Your child should not feel pressured to succeed at camp events or activities. The main purposes of camp are to relax and have fun.

Want to try out some recreation planning and research tools? Visit SchwabLearning.org at <http://www.schwablearning.org/Articles.asp?r=285> or the National Camp Association (NCA) at <http://www.summercamp.org/guidance/pamphlet.html> for articles and related information to help you find fun opportunities for your child.



# MONTANA CAMPS

## **A Camp to Remember — Seeley Lake**

Kids ages 6-18 join for this magical week of support, play, and respite amidst the splendor of the Montana summer. The goal of A Camp to Remember is to provide an enjoyable, supportive experience for kids grieving the death of a family member. Activities are designed to promote fun while facilitating grief work; blending traditional camp aspects with bereavement and commemoration activities.

406-721-7690

<http://www.familiesfirstmt.org/ACTR.aspx>

## **Camp Eureka for Children with Visual Impairments — Missoula**

Children 8-13 years old who are blind or have severe visual impairments are invited to explore western Montana's wetlands and forests under the guidance of mentors who are blind, and with expert educators and naturalists specially trained to work with children who have visual impairments.

Beth Underwood, 406-251-5069 or 406-642-3035  
underhogg@montana.comMOCSI

[http://www.blindscience.org/ncbys/Camp\\_Eureka.asp?SnID=698676](http://www.blindscience.org/ncbys/Camp_Eureka.asp?SnID=698676)

## **No Child Left Inside Summer Science Day Camps — Missoula**

Summer Science Day Camps are weeklong camps that engage children in the study of the natural world. Field trips, arts and crafts and science explorations will have your kids excited about nature!

406-327-0405

info@MontanaNaturalist.org

<http://www.montanaturalist.org/programs/daycamps.htm>

## **Camp Huff 'N Puff — Montana and Wyoming**

The ALA of the Northern Rockies sponsors two camps for children with asthma ages 7-13. One is a week-long camp at a Luccock Park, a Methodist Church camp in Livingston, Montana, and the other is a weekend camp co-sponsored with a hospital in Sheridan, Wyoming. A physician and nurses attend both camps around the clock. All camp staff are volunteers with the exception of camp counselors. Campers requiring medication receive careful attention to their medical routines and nurses dispense their prescribed medicines.

406-442-6556 (ALA of the Northern Rockies)

camphuffnpuff@hotmail.com

<http://www.alamn.org/asthmacamps/findacamp/>

## **Camp Mak-A-Dream — Missoula**

Camp Mak-A-Dream is operated by Children's Oncology Camp Foundation and is a medically supervised, cost-free camp for children (ages 6-13), teens (ages 14-18) and young adults (ages 19-25) with cancer and their siblings (ages 6-17). The facility is located approximately 65 miles east of Missoula, Montana on I-90 at the Gold Creek exit, just 3/4 of a mile south of the Interstate. The Winter/Spring 2007 schedule starts in early January.

406-549-5987

camp@montana.com

<http://www.campdream.org/>

## **Charles Campbell Children's Camp**

The Charles Campbell Camp, located in the beautiful Beartooth Mountains, is sponsored by the Billings Lions Club for physically disabled children. The camp allows children who may not otherwise be able to participate in other camps, to enjoy a safe, fun, challenging camp experience. All physically disabled children, ages 6 - 18 are eligible to participate.

Doug & Sue Hanson, 406-652-0438

campbellcamp@msn.com

<http://www.billingslions.org/ccs.htm>

## **Christikon Camp for Developmentally Disabled Adults**

Christikon lies along the Boulder River in the mountains just north of Yellowstone National Park, about 50 miles south of Big Timber. The program is geared toward adults who are at least 18 years old with cognitive delays whose mobility is not severely limited. Scholarships are available. (Winter) 406-656-1969, (Summer) 406-932-6300

christikon@aol.com

<http://www.christikon.org/>

## **Billings Optimist Clubs Special Children's Camp**

The Billings Optimist clubs provide the Special Children's Camp the first full week of August annually. Fifty children, aged 9-18 years are welcome (disabled & developmentally disabled) are accepted. The camp takes place at the Lion's Camp south of Red Lodge.

Contact: Adine Wardyn, President, Billings Optimist Club - Riverside Branch

406-670-5902

aw7885mt@msn.com

### **Rocky Mountain Hemophilia & Bleeding Disorders Assoc. — Family Camp**

Each summer, the Rocky Mountain Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorders Association (RMH&BDA) invites all the affected families living in Montana and Wyoming to attend a weekend retreat. The weekend is packed full of education, bonding, and fun! In past years, family camp has been held at various locations in Montana and Wyoming, including Billings, MT; Helena, MT; Chico Hot Springs, MT; and Cody, WY.

406-388-5650

info@rockymountainhemophilia.com

<http://www.rockymountainhemophilia.com/familycamp.html>

### **American Diabetes Association Youth Retreat — Big Timber**

The American Diabetes Association Montana Youth Retreat is a resident camp located at Camp on the Boulder, south of Big Timber, Montana. It provides a safe summer camp experience that allows an opportunity for youths to live with peers who also have diabetes. Kids learn diabetes self-management during “teachable moments” taught by qualified diabetes professionals.

800-766-8596

hfink@diabetes.org

<http://www.diabetes.org/communityprograms-and-localevents/diabetescamps/mt-retreat.jsp>

### **Summer Skills Camp for Deaf/Hard of Hearing & Blind/Visually Impaired — Great Falls**

The Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind offers two separate but unique summer camps. The programs target communication, social interaction, independent living skills and use of technology for students between the ages of 9-14 (7 and 8 year-olds will be considered on a case-by-case basis for the deaf camp only) who have hearing impairments or deafness, and for those ages 9-16 who have blindness or visual impairments. The week-long programs provide room, board and entertainment at no cost to the student.

800-882-MSDB

info@msdb.mt.gov

[http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer\\_programs.htm](http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer_programs.htm)

### **Family Learning Weekend for families of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children — Great Falls**

The Learning Weekend for families of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children is a creative program that provides opportunities for families of sensory impaired children to learn about deafness, share their experiences with other families, and learn how to communicate more fully with each other in a warm, caring atmosphere.

800-882-MSDB

info@msdb.mt.gov

[http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer\\_programs.htm](http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer_programs.htm)

### **Family Learning Weekend for families of Blind and Visually-Impaired Children — Great Falls**

The Family Learning Weekend is a creative program designed to be both informative and empowering for families. The Learning Weekend provides opportunities for families to share about blindness and visual impairment, share their experiences with other families, and communicate with one another in a warm and caring atmosphere.

800-882-MSDB

info@msdb.mt.gov

[http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer\\_programs.htm](http://www.msdb.mt.gov/summer_programs.htm)



# MONTANA TRAVEL RESOURCES

## Recreation Vacation Experiences (R.A.V.E.)

R.A.V.E. offers year-round recreation and social opportunities for people with disabilities. Individual interests are considered when programs are designed, ranging from classes in the arts, bike riding, rafting, to sightseeing or parties. We offer a range of trips from one day to five days. Vacations have included Disneyland, Black Hills of South Dakota, Thermopolis, Big Horn Days, Yellowstone National Park, Mall of America, Seattle, Worldwide Wrestling Federation, professional basketball, baseball, and football games, Medora, camping, Fairmont Hot Springs, Hawaii, Mountain Man Rendezvous, winter carnival in Red Lodge, to name a few. The price of each trip includes all expenses, except personal spending money.

406-652-5443

juecker@bresnan.net

<http://www.rsdinc.org/recadv.html>



# MONTANA SPORTS & RECREATION

## Dinosaur Explorations in Montana

Visit the Montana Dinosaur Trail website <http://mtdinotrail.org/> for all museums statewide.

### Museum of the Rockies — Bozeman

Home to the largest collection of dinosaur fossils from the United States, the Museum of the Rockies features skulls and eggs from world-famous Egg Mountain. The new Siebel Dinosaur Complex (designed by world-renowned dinosaur paleontologist and advisor to the Jurassic Park Films, Dr. Jack Horner) highlights upper Cretaceous dinosaurs of Montana including Tyrannosaurus rex, Torosaurus, Triceratops and more. Visit their web site for information on their programs for children, families, and adults...and summer camps.

406.994.DINO

[wwwmor@montana.edu](mailto:wwwmor@montana.edu)

<http://www.museumoftherockies.org/>

### Two Medicine Dinosaur Center — Bynum

Programs available through the Two Medicine Dinosaur Center of Montana are designed to allow participants to work beside actual research professionals and staff. Such interaction allows participants to learn current principles and techniques of fossil preservation, leading to better reporting and documentation of fossil discoveries.

800-238-6873

[dinoinfo@tmdinosaur.org](mailto:dinoinfo@tmdinosaur.org)

<http://www.tmdinosaur.org>

### Judith River Dinosaur Institute — Malta

The Field Station typically offers four five-day programs for participants 14 years old and older. Participants can dig for specimens and will learn how to find new excavation sites, record their finds, and extract specimens.

406-654-2323

[nmurphy@ttc-cmc.net](mailto:nmurphy@ttc-cmc.net)

<http://www.montanadinosauridigs.com>

## **North American Riding for the Handicapped Association — Montana**

NARHA is a national non-profit organization that promotes the benefit of the horse for individuals with physical, emotional and learning disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, equine-assisted activities have been shown to improve muscle tone, balance, posture, coordination, motor development as well as emotional well-being. And it's fun!

<http://www.narha.org>

### **Billings STAR Riding Program**

406-245-7227

Eagle Mount — Bozeman

406-586-1781

[cchristman@eaglemount.org](mailto:cchristman@eaglemount.org)

<http://www.eaglemount.org>

### **Butte Special Riders**

406-497-2806

[jim.griffin@northwestern.com](mailto:jim.griffin@northwestern.com)

Bitterroot Therapeutic Riding — Corvallis

406-961-2999

[btr@onewest.net](mailto:btr@onewest.net)

<http://www.btrp.org>

### **Shooting Star Ranch Therapeutic Riding Program — Darby**

406-821-4700

[diane@nevadajoe.net](mailto:diane@nevadajoe.net)

<http://www.nevadajoe.net/riding.html>

### **Eagle Mount — Great Falls**

406-454-1449

[eaglemount@eaglemount.net](mailto:eaglemount@eaglemount.net)

<http://www.eaglemount.net>

### **Eagle Mount — Helena**

406-227-7570

[pickofthecrop@msn.com](mailto:pickofthecrop@msn.com)

## **Missouri River Expeditions: Float Trips for Individuals with Disabilities**

Several of our guides have extensive experience providing services to individuals with disabilities and physical challenges. We can accommodate persons needing individualized supports, and we have modified drift boats to provide safe and comfortable trips for guests using wheelchairs. We can also arrange for transportation in vehicles with wheelchair lifts and for trained personal care attendants or nurses to accompany individuals if needed.

Tim Plaska, Outfitter, 406-449-6446

[tim@MissouriRiverExp.com](mailto:tim@MissouriRiverExp.com)

<http://www.missouririverexp.com>

## **Little League Baseball: Challenger Division — Billings**

Little League Baseball established the Challenger Division for kids with mental and or physical disabilities. The Challenger division is for kids that are ages 5-18, or who are in school with physical or mental disabilities. If you have any kids that enjoy baseball and may need additional support, this may be the program for you. So batter up and be a hitter. Questions? Call Sarita at 406-655-1568.

## **Montana Lightfoot Cycles — Adaptations for Special Needs**

We create custom variations on our standard models for riders who would not otherwise be able to enjoy bicycling. We offer single-sided controls for persons who can only use one hand, or hand-power and hand/foot-power conversions, safety pedals, and asymmetric crank lengths for persons with restricted leg use, as well as extra stability for those with balance difficulties using seat belts or safety harnesses. We also have hand/foot hybrids, tandems, wheelchair carrying, and electric motors for those without the strength to pedal.

406-821-4750

[info@lightfootcycles.com](mailto:info@lightfootcycles.com)

<http://www.lightfootcycles.com/special.htm>

## **Yellowstone Association for Mentally Retarded Citizens — Billings**

This association works to provide people with mental retardation information and recreational, educational, and religious programs, appropriate for all ages.

406-652-5510

## **Muscular Dystrophy Association — Billings**

The MDA-Billings provides clinic information, can help with medical equipment, or help you find and join support groups, offers summer camps, and offers workshops.

406-655-9000 or 1-800-360-7160

## **Growth Thru Art — Billings**

This renowned creative art center for disabled individuals offers a variety of artistic venues for participants.

406-252-8836

## **Shining Mountain Taekwondo — Billings**

Contact: Dan and Debbie Baluka

406- 860-0029

Sessions are available for children and adults of various skill levels including individuals with special needs.

**Campfire USA — Great Falls**

The Scholarships and Self-Reliance Education program provides after-school life skills educational activities and camp scholarships that foster positive youth development and promote fulfillment of individual potential.

406-452-8543

[campfireusa.ncmc@sofast.net](mailto:campfireusa.ncmc@sofast.net)

**Children's Museum of Montana — Great Falls**

Every exhibit in the entire museum is designed so that kids can touch, poke, raise, lower, push and examine to their hearts' content.

406-452-6661

[info@childrensmuseumofmt.org](mailto:info@childrensmuseumofmt.org)

<http://www.childrensmuseumofmt.org/>

**Children's Museum — Missoula**

The Children's Museum, Missoula provides fun, interactive and educational exhibits and programs that promote learning through play for children ages 0-8.

406-541-PLAY

<http://www.learnplayimagine.org>

**Community Recreation Center — Great Falls**

The center provides a safe environment for families and special activities for school-aged children.

406-727-6099

[http://www.ci.great-falls.mt.us/people\\_offices/rec\\_cntr/index.php](http://www.ci.great-falls.mt.us/people_offices/rec_cntr/index.php)

**Heisey Memorial Youth Center — Great Falls**

The Youth Scholarship Program provides scholarships for disadvantaged youth to participate in year-round recreational activities in a neighborhood center setting.

406-453-1211

[heiseyyc@hotmail.com](mailto:heiseyyc@hotmail.com)

**Eagle Mount — Billings**

Eagle Mount Billings offers recreational programs for people with all disabilities of all ages. We offer Skiing, Snowboarding, Cross Country Skiing, Equestrian, LIFE Academy, Parent and Toddler, Swimming, Golfing, Bicycling, Day Camps, Social Night, and Arts & Crafts opportunities.

406-245-5422

[samc@eaglemount.us](mailto:samc@eaglemount.us)

<http://www.eaglemountbillings.org/>

**Eagle Mount — Bozeman**

Against the backdrop of Montana's magnificent Rocky Mountains, therapeutic recreation provides amazing experiences in winter sports, horseback riding, swimming, camping, ice skating, fishing, kayaking, and much more.

406-586-1781

[eaglemount@eaglemount.org](mailto:eaglemount@eaglemount.org)

<http://www.eaglemount.org/>

**Eagle Mount — Great Falls**

Eagle Mount - Great Falls provides therapeutic and recreational activities for children and adults with physical, mental or behavioral challenges, striving to improve the quality of life for them and their families.

406- 454-1449

[eaglemount@eaglemount.net](mailto:eaglemount@eaglemount.net)

<http://www.eaglemount.net/>

**Eagle Mount — Helena**

We are currently doing swim classes, dance classes and plan to add a tumbling class in the near future. This summer we will be doing Recreational/Therapeutic Horse Back Riding as well.

406- 227-7570

[pickofthecrop@msn.com](mailto:pickofthecrop@msn.com)

**DREAM Adaptive Recreation — Whitefish**

DREAM's mission is to make the Flathead Valley accessible for all people through awareness, coordinating networking, and increasing accessibility. We seek to enhance and promote the self-esteem and physical well-being of participants of all ages and disabilities.

406-862-1817

<http://www.dreamadaptive.org>

[dreamadaptive@yahoo.com](mailto:dreamadaptive@yahoo.com)

**Special Olympics Montana**

Special Olympics Montana is a program of year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

800-242-6876 or 406-216-5327

<http://www.somt.org/>

[info@somt.org](mailto:info@somt.org)

**Wheelchair Getaways of Montana**

Wheelchair Getaways of Montana is committed to providing quality accessible vans and personalized service. The vans offer several seating/securing alternatives and they are all equipped with automatic ramp/lift/door entry systems. Hand controls are provided; and any special need equipment (such as power chairs, slide boards, etc.) can be arranged for through a local DME rental firm.

406-227-6534

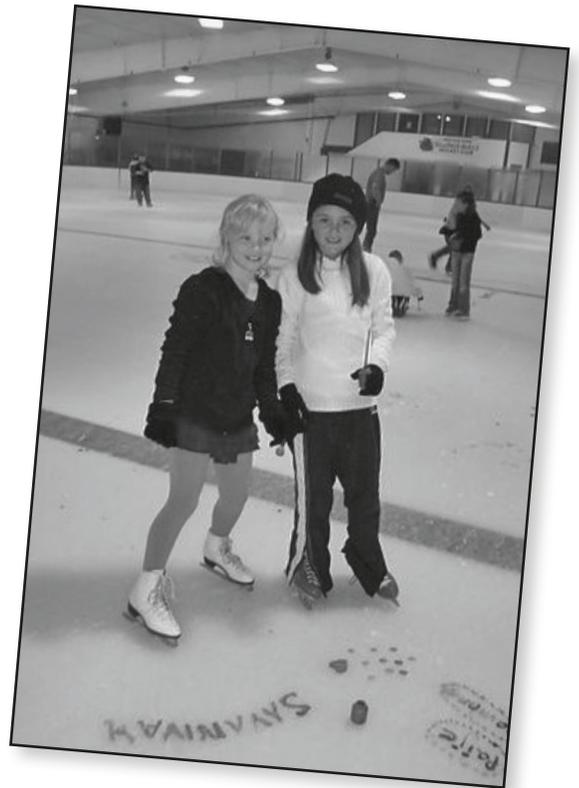
<http://www.wheelchairgetaways.com/montana.htm>

### Wheelchair Sports USA

Organized geographically into fourteen regional associations, each responsible for developing local wheelchair sports programs and for conducting qualifying meets for the National Wheelchair Games in archery, track & field, shooting, swimming, table tennis and weightlifting.  
732-422-4546  
wsusa@aol.com  
<http://www.wsusa.org/>

### Wheelchair Sports — Montana

Northwest Wheelchair Athletic Association  
JOE TODISCO  
PO Box 1596  
Big Timber, MT 59011  
406-932-5237



# NATIONAL CAMPS

## **Comfort Zone Camp — New York, New Jersey, & Virginia**

Our camps welcome children ages 7-17 from across the country who have experienced the death of a close loved one. Our camps are free and held primarily in Richmond, Virginia with a satellite program in the New York/New Jersey area. Travel scholarships for a child and a parent/guardian are also available.

866-488-5679

info@comfortzonecamp.org

<http://www.comfortzonecamp.org>

## **Lions Camp Tatiyee — Arizona**

The Mission of Lions Camp Tatiyee is to provide a camping experience for challenged individuals and their peers in an environment that fosters independence and self-confidence.

480-380-4254

arizonalionscamp@cox.net

<http://www.arizonalionscamp.com/>

## **Gallaudet University Sports Camps**

The Gallaudet Sports Camps, designed for deaf and hard-of-hearing boys and girls ages 10-18, are one-week sessions that will provide campers with instruction to improve their playing skills and better understand the dynamics of each sport.

202-651-6217 TTY

Lynn.Boren@gallaudet.edu

<http://athletics.gallaudet.edu/camps.php>

## **Camp Nuhop — Ohio**

Camp Nuhop is a residential summer camp for all children with learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders and behavior disorders. What started out as a one-week program years ago, with eight counselors serving 27 children, has blossomed into a camp that serves 560 children during six weeks, with a waiting list of 50. The camp has grown to 45 staff members and 5 directors.

419-289-2227

campnuhop@zoominternet.net

<http://www.campnuhop.org>

## **Camp Lee Mar — Pennsylvania**

Camp Lee Mar is a private residential special needs camp for children and young adults with mild to moderate learning and developmental challenges, including mental retardation, developmental disabilities, Down Syndrome, Autism, learning disabilities, Williams Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome, ADD, Prader Willi, and ADHD. A structured environment, individual attention and guidance are emphasized at all times.

215-658-1708

gtour400@aol.com

<http://www.leemar.com>

## **Frontier Travel Camp**

Frontier Travel Camp was established as a summer camp alternative for individuals with special needs. We believe that group travel is an ideal way to experience independence, improve social skills, and increase self-esteem in a secure and exciting environment. Frontier travelers are high-functioning individuals ranging in age from 15 to 35 years who are interested in making lasting relationships and in seeing the world. They often have learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, and/or other difficulties requiring more supervision and guidance than many other travelers would. Diagnoses include ADD/ADHD, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, William's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome and other special needs. Frontier travelers have explored the United States and Canada, including Hawaii and Alaska. We have rafted some of the best rivers in the west, hiked on some of the most beautiful mountain ranges in the world, and explored some of our most interesting cities and national parks.

## **Frontier Travel Camp, Inc.**

1000 Quayside Terrace #904

Miami Shores, FL 33138

866-750-CAMP

305-895-1123 phone

305-893-4169 fax

info@frontiertravelcamp.com

<http://www.frontiertravelcamp.com>

## **Camp Sky Ranch — North Carolina**

Camp Sky Ranch serves developmentally and mentally disabled individuals of all ages, from all over the world. Children and adults with Down Syndrome, Prader-Willie Syndrome, ADD/HD, and Fragile X Syndrome attend our camp each year.

828-264-8600

jsharp1@triad.rr.com

<http://www.campskyranch.com>

### **The Learning Camp — Colorado**

The Learning Camp is one of the first-few summer camps developed specifically for kids with learning disabilities such as ADD, ADHD, dyslexia and other challenges. We have dedicated ourselves to providing adventurous summer camp fun for boys and girls ages 7-14 combined with carefully designed academic programs. With only one location tucked in the Vail Valley of Colorado we are able to focus on our singular mission; helping kids with learning disabilities build self-esteem and independence.

970-524-2706

information@learningcamp.com

<http://www.learningcamp.com/>

### **National Military Family Association Operation Purple — Summer Camp Information**

Deployment affects everyone not just the servicemember but the spouse and children as well. NMFA is committed to promoting and protecting the interests of military families. The Operation Purple summer camp program was created by NMFA in order to give the children the tools to face these challenges head-on and with success.

‘Operation Purple’: (op’er-a-tion pur’ple)

1. Free summer camps around the world for military children
2. Fun camp activities
3. Friendships to last a lifetime
4. Support for dealing with the difficulties of deployment

800-260-0218

Rebeiz@nmfa.org

[http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op\\_information](http://www.nmfa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=op_information)

### **National Ability Center: Sports Programs & Summer Camps — Utah**

The National Ability Center provides adaptive outdoor recreation programs for people who are physically, developmentally, emotionally, or medically disabled. We also provide programs for ‘at-risk’ individuals, integrated programs, and school groups. Our staff members are skilled professionals with extensive experience working with special populations and in a wide variety of recreation settings. All programs are tailored to the specific needs and abilities of each group.

435-649-3991

info@nac1985.org

<http://www.nac1985.org/camps>

### **Adaptive Adventures — Colorado & Illinois**

Adaptive Adventures is dedicated to improving the lives of children and adults with disabilities and their families through outdoor sports & recreation. Adaptive Adventures provides adaptive sport and recreational activities to meet the needs of participants of all ages with disabilities. Our certified staff can help identify a variety of activities appropriate for participants according to their level of physical and cognitive function.

877-679-2770 or 866-679-2770

info@adaptiveadventures.org

<http://www.adaptiveadventures.org/>

### **Association of Hole in the Wall Camps for Children with Serious Illnesses**

Hole in the Wall Camps are the world’s largest family of camps for children with serious illnesses and life threatening conditions. Children with cancer, sickle cell anemia, HIV/AIDS, and many other conditions come to Camp to experience the simple joys of childhood, without compromising any of their medical needs thanks to our state-of-the-art medical care.

203-562-1203

info@holeinthewallcamps.org

<http://www.holeinthewallcamps.org>

### **Double H Ranch — New York**

The Double H Ranch provides specialized camping and year round services for children and families dealing with life-threatening illnesses in order to enrich their lives and provide experiences that are memorable, empowering, fun, physically safe and medically sound while offered in a magical Adirondack setting.

518-696-5676

<http://www.doublehranch.org/>

### **The Painted Turtle Camp and Family Care Center — California**

The Painted Turtle is the sixth addition to Paul Newman’s family of Hole in the Wall Camps for seriously ill children. It is also the only multi-disease camp and family care center of its kind on the West Coast. Through educational, therapeutic, safe, and just plain fun summer camp and year-round programs, The Painted Turtle provides a life-changing experience to children whose daily struggles often diminish both their desire to be well and their ability to lead a rich, productive life.

310-451-1353

info@thepaintedturtle.org

<http://www.thepaintedturtle.org>

### **Victory Junction Gang Camp — North Carolina**

The Victory Junction Gang Camp enriches the lives of children with chronic medical conditions or serious illnesses by providing life-changing camping experiences that are exciting, fun, and empowering, in a safe and medically sound environment.

336-498-9055

<http://www.victoryjunction.org>

### **Hole in the Wall Gang Camp — Connecticut**

It is here that children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses find camaraderie, joy and a renewed sense of being a kid. They also get to do things that no one knew they were capable of doing.

<http://www.holeinthewallgang.org/>

### **Island Dolphin Care — Florida**

Island Dolphin Care provides dolphin therapy to children with critical illnesses, disabilities and special needs from all over the world. We invite you to meet our therapy staff, learn about dolphin-assisted therapy, explore great resources for families, and meet our dolphins.

305-451-5884

[fonzie@islanddolphinscare.org](mailto:fonzie@islanddolphinscare.org)

<http://www.islanddolphinscare.org>

### **Camp Rise n' Shine - For Children Affected by HIV — Washington**

Since 1988, Rise n' Shine, has been providing emotional support programs, stability, advocacy, and AIDS education for children and teens affected by HIV and AIDS. This includes children and teens who have been orphaned by the disease, children and teens who live with a parent or other close family member with HIV or AIDS, and those who are infected by HIV themselves.

206-628-8949

[terry@risenshine.org](mailto:terry@risenshine.org)

[http://www.risenshine.org/summer\\_camp.htm](http://www.risenshine.org/summer_camp.htm)

### **Camp Boggy Creek: For Children with Chronic Illnesses — Florida**

Our camp is specifically designed for children with chronic or life threatening illnesses and allows them to safely enjoy the activities of a “traditional” camp. Between early morning swims and evening campfires, children whose lives have been a series of medical procedures and hospital stays are transformed into just “kids.” They have a chance to be with others coping with the same illness or condition and realize that they are not alone.

352-483-4200

866-Go-Boggy

[info@boggycreek.org](mailto:info@boggycreek.org)

<http://www.boggycreek.org>

### **Miracle Camp — Florida**

Miracle Camp is a camping and retreat center that lifts the spirits of children and adults with chronic or life-threatening illnesses. Thanks to this special place, people of all ages may experience a “getaway from the every day.”

850-944-1677

[bulander@shhpens.org](mailto:bulander@shhpens.org)

<http://www.sacred-heart.org/miraclecamp/>

### **Camping for Children with Special Needs — Texas**

Camp C.A.M.P. provides overnight camping experiences to children with special needs. C.A.M.P. provides a summer camp experience for children with no verbal communication or self-help skills or with need for multiple medications around the clock, tracheotomies, ventilator support, gastrostomies, central catheters, peritoneal dialysis, and overnight drip infusions, when appropriate health care providers can be enlisted. In order to allow regular care providers a complete respite experience, we accept the siblings of our campers.

210-292-3566

[arlene.gomez@campcamp.org](mailto:arlene.gomez@campcamp.org)

<http://www.campcamp.org/CampCamp.htm>

### **Junior Wheelchair Basketball Camp — University of Pennsylvania-Edinboro**

The camp is open to youth (ages 12 to 18) who have a permanent lower-extremity disability. Participants must have their own chair and any other equipment they may need to participate in the sport of wheelchair basketball. The camp offers two separate curriculums for novice and advanced players.

Jim Glatch, Coach 814-732-1875

[jglatch@edinboro.edu](mailto:jglatch@edinboro.edu)

<http://departments.edinboro.edu/athletics/sportscamps.asp>

### **Bradford Woods Camping and Retreats Center — Indiana**

We offer both single-day and overnight programs and events for children with special health care needs and their families. Our overnight programs have been fulfilling the recreational and therapeutic requirements of both children and adults with disabilities and chronic illnesses for over forty years.

765-342-2915

[bradwood@indiana.edu](mailto:bradwood@indiana.edu)

<http://www.bradwoods.org/crc.html>

### **Austine Camp — Vermont**

The Austine Green Mountain Lions Camp provides a wonderful summer program for deaf and hard of hearing children and their siblings.  
802-258-9502 (Voice/TTY)  
camp@austine.pvt.k12.vt.us  
<http://www.austine.pvt.k12.vt.us/education/camp/main.html>

### **Building Bridges Camp — California**

Building Bridges Camp is designed to give individuals who use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and Assistive Technology (AT) an opportunity to develop their communication skills in a fun, motivating, no-pressure environment.  
650-696-7295  
camp@bridgeschool.org  
[http://www.bridgeschool.org/camp/camp\\_campprog.html](http://www.bridgeschool.org/camp/camp_campprog.html)

### **Camp Confidence — Minnesota**

Camp Confidence, is a year-round center for persons with developmental disabilities. Specializing in recreation and outdoor education, the Confidence Learning Center serves persons of all ages and abilities. The groups that typically visit camp include public and private schools, group homes, families developmental achievement centers, day and residential treatment centers and regional treatment center facilities. Confidence Learning Center is truly a unique place. Instead of being sent to Camp, campers are brought by their staff, family or guardians who provide for their direct care. Each two to three bedroom cabin contains a complete kitchen, one or two fully accessible bathrooms, and a cozy living area with a woodstove or fireplace. It is this comfortable home/family atmosphere that makes Camp Confidence unique.  
218-828-2344  
<http://www.campconfidence.com>

### **Courage Camps — Minnesota**

Courage Camps offer safe, accessible, natural environments where children and adults with physical disabilities, sensory and language impairments, and other disabilities or illnesses discover abilities they never knew they had or they thought they had lost. Campers make new friends, and are often introduced to sports or hobbies they develop further at home or at school. Their self-confidence grows and their attitudes improve. Speech/language services are available at Camp Courage for campers on the active caseload of a school Speech/Language Pathologist.  
763-520-0504  
camping@courage.org  
<http://www.couragecamps.org>

### **Camps for Children with Diabetes**

The American Diabetes Association is proud to be the largest provider of camps for children with diabetes in the world. Each year, more than 10,000 children benefit from camping programs provided through ADA funding.  
510-937-3393  
<http://www.childrenwithdiabetes.com/camps/index.htm>

### **Easter Seals Washington State: Camping and Recreation**

Camp Stand By Me is a residential summer camp for children and adults with disabilities.  
206-281-5700  
800-678-5708  
<http://www.wa.easterseals.com/>

### **Learning Disabilities/ADHD Camps @ KidsCamps.com**

This site is an online database of camps, including camps for children with special needs.  
[http://www.kidscamps.com/special\\_needs/learning\\_disab\\_add.html](http://www.kidscamps.com/special_needs/learning_disab_add.html)

### **MDA Summer Camps**

Each year MDA supports nearly 90 summer camps across the country. MDA Camp is a magical place where year-round skills are developed and where a child with a disability can just be a kid. In addition to knowledgeable camp staff and medical personnel, most campers have his or her own one-on-one volunteer, who helps with all aspects of both fun and personal care.  
Camps in Montana 406-655-9000  
Camps Nationwide 1-800-572-1717 (toll free)  
<http://www.mda.org/clinics/camp/>

### **Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students — Alabama**

SCIVIS is a weeklong camp that takes place at the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama, coordinated by teachers of the visually impaired.  
Dan Oates, scivis@atlanticbb.net  
<http://www.tsbvi.edu/space/index.htm>

### **Space Camp and Aviation Challenge for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing — Alabama**

Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, and the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, have teamed up to provide a Space Camp experiences for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children from all over the world. These camp programs are offered one week each year at the Huntsville campus.  
Amy Newland 412-371-7000 (TTY/V)  
amn01wpd@wpsd.org  
<http://www.spacecamp.com/deaf/>

### **ADHD & Learning Disability Summer Camps — North Carolina & Wyoming**

Success Oriented Achievement Realized (SOAR) believes all individuals identified with learning disabilities (LD) and attention deficit disorders (ADD, ADHD) possess inherent talents, abilities, and gifts, which we harness during our summer camps, fall and spring weekends, and the winter break program and semester courses. The SOAR model is founded on two fundamental principles. The first principle is youth with LD and ADHD flourish when they are encouraged to focus on their strengths in an experiential setting, such as summer camp and outdoor adventure activities. The second principle is that youth with LD and ADHD must develop and utilize strategies that enable them to deal with the challenges associated with LD and ADHD.

828-456-3435  
admissions@soarnc.org  
<http://www.soarnc.org/>

### **Camp Taloali — Oregon**

Camp Taloali is for Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and Hearing campers of all ages. We are located in the foothills of Oregon's Cascades Mountains on 111 acres of level forested land of pines and firs with open fields bordering North Santiam River.

Phone (TDD) 503-769-6415  
info@taloali.org  
<http://www.taloali.org/>

### **EXITE Camp — Minnesota**

The mission of the EX.I.T.E. Camp is to empower middle school girls with disabilities in the fields of math, science, and engineering.

952-838-9000  
stc@pacer.org  
<http://www.pacer.org/stc/exite.htm>

### **Camp Trek — Illinois**

Camp Trek is a weeklong summer camp for children with physical disabilities. A wide range of indoor and outdoor sports including: basketball, cycling, handcycling, kayaking, hockey, bocce, softball, tennis, aerobics, & arts & crafts will be offered. Camp Trek is based at Independence Grove and Oak Grove Middle School in Libertyville, IL.

847-283-0908  
sbeyler@glasa.org  
<http://masl.to/?R2A712A6E>

### **Shady Oaks AAC Camp — Illinois**

Conveniently located 30 miles south of Chicago and nestled beneath the shade of majestic oak trees, campers of all communication abilities participate in fun and interactive language-building activities alongside their families. The staff of experienced professionals integrates AAC into a variety of traditional camping activities including arts and crafts, swimming, hayrides, campfires, music, and nature programs. The staff's skilled planning also extends to supporting interactive communication in the cabins and dining hall. Parents will appreciate the camp counselor, assigned to each cabin, trained to provide respite and an extra pair of hands. Siblings will enjoy special "sibs-only" activities designed just for them. Activities and Camp for Families truly strengthens each AAC camper's ability to communicate by supporting them and their communication partners.

847-966-8963  
jsenner@actsil.org  
<http://masl.to/?R54832A6E>  
<http://www.shadyoakscamp.org/>



# NATIONAL CAMP INFORMATION

## **American Camp Association — Special Needs**

The American Camp Association (formerly known as the American Camping Association) is a community of camp professionals who, for nearly 100 years, have joined together to share our knowledge and experience and to ensure the quality of camp programs.

[http://find.acacamps.org/finding\\_special\\_needs.php](http://find.acacamps.org/finding_special_needs.php)

## **CRS National Camps for Blind Children**

Imagine what it's like for a blind child to attend one of our National Camps for Blind Children. Fun and adventure provide motivation, recreation, and education -- free of charge to the blind. Summer camps span North America, with canoeing, archery (yes, with balloons on the targets), horsemanship, tandem bicycling, talent programs, and much more. Some two dozen camps in all serve approximately one thousand blind campers each year.

402-488-0981

[info@christianrecord.org](mailto:info@christianrecord.org)

<http://www.christianrecord.org/>

## **Summer Camps for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

This list identifies camps, family learning vacations, and remedial clinics for deaf and hard of hearing children. This list is updated as new information comes in. Some programs are designed for the entire family. Most camp programs require a small application fee with the completed application. Contact the camp sponsor directly for more information about their program.

<http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu/InfoToGo/142.html>

## **NICHCY: Summer Camps for Children with Disabilities**

This is a guide to some of the directories and listings of summer camps. Half of these resources identify camps specifically intended for children who have disabilities. The other half is simply directories listing camp opportunities available to all children.

<http://www.nichcy.org/pubs/genresc/camps.htm>

## **Discover Camp: Resources for Parents**

Camp is one of the greatest experiences for children. For many parents, sending their child off to summer camp for the first time is a roller coaster experience. For parents of children with disabilities, the camp experience is all the more intense when the child's disability-related needs are factors. Discover Camp provides resources for parents who are selecting a camp for their child.

<http://www.ncaonline.org/discover/>

## **Easter Seals — Selecting an Accessible Camp**

This web page from Easter Seals outlines several important points for parents considering recreation camps. If you are a parent and you have additional questions about camps or Easter Seals programs, please contact Easter Seals.

[http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntl\\_accessible\\_camp](http://www.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=ntl_accessible_camp)

## **SchwabLearning.org — Summer Camps Database**

Please note: Camps in our Summer Camps database may serve students beyond the LD & ADHD scope, such as those with Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Developmental Disabilities, etc. Please call, email, or visit the camp's website to verify the accuracy of the listing. SchwabLearning.org does not endorse any one camp and the information provided is solely for the benefit of our audience.

<http://www.schwablearning.org/camp/index.asp>

## **Summer Camps for Kids with Learning and Attention Problems**

Winter break is hardly over when many families start making summer plans for their kids. Choosing a summer camp for a child with learning or attention difficulties has its particular challenges. Finding the right fit between the child and the camp often involves plenty of research, dialogue, and decisions. Slots in specialized camps go quickly, so parents often have to start early and move fast during the camp selection process.

<http://www.schwablearning.org/Articles.asp?r=285>

Directory of Washington Summer Camps & Programs for Children with Special Needs

This directory can help you find summer camps or programs for children with special needs and their siblings. The directory is produced by Children's Resource Center and the Center for Children with Special Needs at Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center.

<http://www.cshcn.org/resources/campcalendar.cfm?intro=yes>

## **Very Special Camps — Summer Camps for Individuals With Special Needs**

Very Special Camps is an online resource for individuals - with one or more of a wide range of special needs - to obtain information about related summer camp programs and special needs camps.

[info@veryspecialcamps.com](mailto:info@veryspecialcamps.com)

<http://www.veryspecialcamps.com>

### Wilderness Inquiry

We strive to include anyone who wants to experience wild places. Since 1978 we have served over 150,000 people, including many who have disabilities or otherwise do not fit the “wilderness traveler” stereotype. Our trips are usually integrated to include older people, younger people, people with disabilities, veterans, accountants, physicians, people who live in the city and people who live in rural areas. Both novices and experienced backcountry travelers participate. It’s the unique mix of people and places that make each WI trip a special experience.

612.676.9400

800.728.0719

TTY: 612.676.9475

info@wildernessinquiry.org

<http://www.wildernessinquiry.org/aboutus.shtml>

### The Consortium of Children’s Asthma Camps

The Consortium has taken an important role in coordinating the activities of asthma camps nationwide, promoting the quality of medical care and asthma education, and advancing the positive impact of the camps on the lives of children with asthma.

651-227-8014

asthmacamp@alamn.org

<http://www.alamn.org/AsthmaCamps/>

### The Guided Tour, Inc.

The Guided Tour provides professionally supervised vacations for adults with developmental challenges, including, but not limited to: mental retardation, developmental disabilities, down syndrome, autism, learning disabilities, Williams Syndrome, Asperger Syndrome, Prader Willi, and ADHD. Our unique program provides recreation and socialization for our special needs travelers. Our trips include special vacations and excursions planned out by our experienced staff, led by Irv and Ari Segal, a father and son team with Masters in Social Work and over 60 years combined experience in the field of special needs.

215-782-1370

gtour400@aol.com

<http://www.guidedtour.com>

### Access-Able Travel Source

Access-Able Travel Source has information about scuba diving, accessible safaris, sailing, raft trips, and even a place where you can learn to sky sail. We’ve included information for persons who are blind about hands on attractions and seashore areas that have beach wheelchairs

303-232-2979

<http://www.access-able.com/>

bill@access-able.com

### National Accessible Travelers Database

The National Accessible Travelers Database (NATD) stores information on accessible travel options in cities across the US. Entries include details on transit, paratransit, taxi, airport shuttles, and many other transportation services.

202-347-3066

800-659-6428

TDD: 202-347-7385

<http://projectaction.easterseals.com/site/>

PageServer?pagename=ESPA\_travelers\_database

### Wheelchair Getaways

Wheelchair Getaways provides both short-term and long term rentals of vans equipped with raised roofs or lowered floors, wheelchair lifts or ramps, plush interiors, and tie down systems. Some vehicles are also equipped with power doors, outside-entry controls, six-way power seats in the driver’s position, and hand controls to maximize independence. Customers rent vans for a variety of reasons, including vacations, shopping, medical visits, and replacement of vehicles that are being repaired. There are several franchises located across the United States.

800-536-5518

859-873-4973

<http://www.wheelchairgetaways.com/>

corporate@wheelchairgetaways.com



### **MySummerCamps.com**

MySummerCamps.com is a comprehensive, easy to use summer camps directory and summer camp guide for kids, teens and youth.

Special Needs Camps Sub-Categories (number of camps in directory):

- Aspergers (20)
- Asthma (14)
- Autism (29)
- Blood Disorder (4)
- Burn (8)
- Cancer (31)
- Cerebral Palsy (14)
- Cystic Fibrosis (4)
- Developmental Disabilities (52)
- Diabetes (59)
- Epilepsy (7)
- Hearing Impaired (9)
- HIV and AIDS (8)
- Learning Disabilities and ADHD (81)
- Mainstreaming (12)
- Mental Retardation (25)
- Muscular Dystrophy (1)
- Other Special Needs (32)
- Physical Disabilities (34)
- Speech Impaired (4)
- Spina Bifida (7)
- Substance Abuse (2)
- Tourettes Syndrome (7)
- Visually Impaired (11)

[http://www.mysummerncamps.com/camps/Special\\_Needs\\_Camps/](http://www.mysummerncamps.com/camps/Special_Needs_Camps/)



### **CampResource.com**

This site presents a directory of kids and teens summer special needs camps including day and overnight special needs camps.

- ADHD Camps (7)
- Aspergers Camps (5)
- Asthma Camps (2)
- At-Risk Children Camps (3)
- Blood Disorders Camps (1)
- Developmental Disabilities Camps (14)
- Diabetes Camps (11)
- Eating Disorders Camps (1)
- Enuresis/Encopresis Camps (2)
- Epilepsy Camps (1)
- Hearing/Speech Impaired Camps (2)
- HIV/AIDS Camps (2)
- Learning Disabilities Camps (6)
- Nutritional Camps (5)
- Oncology Camps (2)
- Other Special Needs Camps (9)
- Physical Disabilities Camps (11)
- Visually Impaired Camps (1)
- Weight Loss Camps (8)

[http://www.campresource.com/camps/spec\\_needs\\_camps.cfm](http://www.campresource.com/camps/spec_needs_camps.cfm)

### **SNOW Kids —Canadian Resources**

Visit the web site and choose “Kids, Parents & Community” then “Camps and Recreation.”

<http://snow.utoronto.ca>

### **Summer Camps for Children With Physical Disabilities**

A campfire, hotdogs, s'mores, stars — all the signs show that it's time for summer camps; the time-honored activities, such as horseback riding, swimming, and nature walks, become commonplace to youths enjoying a nice day or week in the woods. It's also a time to make new friends and to help adolescents with physical disabilities understand that they are not alone. So pick up those phones or fire up the computer and make reservations for a summer of fun, adventure, and new experiences and friendships.

[http://www.amputee-coalition.org/fact\\_sheets/Kidscamps.html](http://www.amputee-coalition.org/fact_sheets/Kidscamps.html)

# NATIONAL RECREATION & TRAVEL INFORMATION

## How to Plan an Accessible Caribbean Vacation

Logistically, most of the Caribbean presents a daunting challenge to disabled travelers as well as those with injuries or age-related mobility problems. But with a heightened sensitivity to their concerns - and regulations requiring compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) on cruise ships and in the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico - tour operators and destinations are making the Caribbean dream vacation attainable for more people than ever before.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/9531906/>

## Accessible Tent for Wheelchair Users from BlueSky Designs

The Freedom tent's key elements to improve accessibility are the door, which is zipperless, and can be opened with minimal dexterity, and the vestibule, which offers a protected area in which to store equipment.

888-724-7002

<http://www.blueskydesigns.us/freedomtent.htm>

Disability Travel Resources from the Savvy Traveler  
This site offers helpful tips and resources for the disabled traveler.

<http://savvytraveler.publicradio.org/before/disability-resource.shtml>

## Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality

The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH), founded in 1976, is an educational nonprofit membership organization whose mission is to raise awareness of the needs of all travelers with disabilities, remove physical and attitudinal barriers to free access and expand travel opportunities in the United States and abroad. Members include travel professionals, consumers with disabilities and other individuals and corporations who support our mission.

212-447-7284

[info@sath.org](mailto:info@sath.org)

<http://www.sath.org>

## American Society of Travel Agents

A consumer service site of the American Society of Travel Agents, this website can help you find travel agents in your area, just fill in the applicable boxes including specialties and your hometown, to create a list of agents.

<http://www.travelsense.org>

## TRIPS for Special Travelers With Developmental Disabilities

Trips Inc. Special Adventures provides travel outings to adults of various abilities in a safe, respectful and fun atmosphere. Our trips are designed for people with developmental disabilities and special needs who require staff assistance for a safe and enjoyable vacation.

800-686-1013

[trips@tripsinc.com](mailto:trips@tripsinc.com)

<http://www.tripsinc.com/>

## Wheelchairs and Beaches Do Mix: Sand Friendly Wheels Come to the Rescue

Think of summer, and one of the first things that come to mind is a trip to the beach, lake, or river, and a scrumptious barbeque under the hot summer sun. What probably doesn't come to mind would be seeing wheelchairs at the beach. Wheels and sand don't mix. Right? Wrong! Several companies make wheelchairs or wheelchair dollies specifically for the beach or grassy parks. The key is to use wide, low-pressure wheels. The National Center on Accessibility's (NCA) web site lists a variety of manufacturers that provide these specialty wheelchairs.

<http://www.emediawire.com/releases/2006/7/emw410590.htm>

<http://www.ncaonline.org/products/beach-wheelchairs/>

## The National Center on Physical Activity and Disability — NCPAD

NCPAD is an information center concerned with physical activity and disability. Being physically active is good for every body. There are many resources on adapting sport and exercises for persons with disabilities.

<http://www.ncpad.org/videos/>

## BlazeSports America

BlazeSports America provides sports training, competitions, summer camps and other sports and recreational opportunities for youth and adults who use wheelchairs, have a visual impairments, amputations, or neurological disabilities such as Cerebral Palsy or Spina Bifida.

Depending on the program, participant ages range from 6 years through adulthood. These grassroots programs offer introduction and instruction for youth and adults with physical disability in a variety of adaptive sports, such as wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis, wheelchair rugby, swimming and track and field. BlazeSports America supports the community providers with training for community instructors and coaches, sports training manuals, operations standards, and other direct benefits. 50 community programs are in operation in 25 states and the District of Columbia.

770-850-8199

[blazesports@blazesports.org](mailto:blazesports@blazesports.org)

<http://blazesports.com>

### Golden Access Passport

The Federal Government offers citizens who are blind or permanently disabled (deafness qualifies) a free pass to national parks, monuments, historical sites, recreation areas and national wildlife refuges that charge an entrance fee. The Gold Access Passport is a lifetime entrance pass providing admission to the pass holder and everyone in a private vehicle (if the park offers a per vehicle entrance fee.) The passport also gives a 50% discount of fees charge for facilities and services such as camping, swimming, parking, boating and tours. It also works for sites managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Forest Service the Bureau of Land Management, and the Army Corps of Engineers. The pass must be obtained in person with proof (such as an audiogram) of the disability. The card is available at most national parks, federal recreation areas and Army Corps campgrounds.  
[http://www.us-parks.com/golden\\_access\\_passport.html](http://www.us-parks.com/golden_access_passport.html)

### Accessible Park information by State

Visitors to this site can view the information by Name, General Accessibility Features, and by Information and Interpretation Features.  
<http://www.ncpad.org/parks/index.php>

### Accessible Playgrounds from Boundless Playgrounds

Boundless Playgrounds is the first national nonprofit dedicated to helping communities create extraordinary playgrounds where all children, with and without disabilities, can develop essential skills for life as they learn together through play.  
 860-243-8315  
[info@boundlessplaygrounds.org](mailto:info@boundlessplaygrounds.org)  
<http://www.boundlessplaygrounds.org>

### Easy Access Clothing

Do You Need New Clothes for Your Next Trip? Check out Easy Access Products and Clothing for people with special care needs

- \* Always looking good and feeling good with easy access clothes
- \* Cargo pants, dress pants, sweats, jeans, tops, outerwear and more
- \* Ease of dressing and discreet access for personal care
- \* Customize your clothes with the modifications you need
- \* Never forfeit fashion or comfort
- \* Clothing for men, women, and children

800-775-5536

<http://easyaccessclothing.com/>

### Able Apparel — Adaptive Clothing

AbleApparel has designed a line of beautiful polar fleece jackets. From the front they look like any other jacket. However, they have been designed with a wider armhole for easy accessibility, a longer zipper, and a VELCRO brand closure in the back. The jacket has also been cut to hip length so anyone sitting in a wheelchair can sit comfortably. Sizes range from a child's small to an adult's extra large. They also have rain ponchos, winter ponchos, gloves, and much more.  
 516-873-6552  
[sales@ableapparel.com](mailto:sales@ableapparel.com)  
<http://www.ableapparel.com/>

### Adaptations by Adrian™ — Adaptive Clothing

Adaptive clothing, wheelchair jeans, adult onesies, adult bibs, and post-op clothes for people with disabilities are our specialty. Our adaptive clothing features back openings with hook and loop closures, side zippers and wide band elastic waists for easy dressing, fashion and comfort.  
 877-6-ADRIAN  
[adrians1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:adrians1@sbcglobal.net)  
<http://www.adaptationsbyadrian.com/>

### MJ Designs — Adaptive & Everyday Clothing

This company offers a large variety of clothing for men and women.  
<http://www.mjdesignsinc.com/servlet/StoreFront>

### Professional Fit Clothing for the Disabled

Our company specializes in clothing for the disabled such as adult bibs, elastic waist pants, wheelchair clothing and much more.  
 800-422-2348  
[sales@professionalfit.com](mailto:sales@professionalfit.com)  
<http://www.professionalfit.com/>

### Simplantex — All Weather Wear for Wheelchair and Scooter Users

We specialize in the supply of:

- Wheelchair Mats
- Scooter Storage Covers
- Warm Fleece Products
- Wheelchair and Scooter Bags
- Wheelchair Cushions and much, much more...

877-675-2689

[sales@simplantex.com](mailto:sales@simplantex.com)

<http://www.simplantex.com/index.php>

## **Wardrobe Wagon — The Special Needs**

### **Clothing Store**

We offer both adaptive and traditional clothing for men and women. Our adaptive line closes down the back, allowing dressing with only the extension of both arms straight out front, and can be snapped by a caregiver. Dresses, shirts, blouses, undershirts, slips, and nightwear all are available with back snap closings. Shoes and sneakers come with easy to put on Velcro® closings. Wardrobe Wagon has been the leader in the health care apparel industry since 1974. With our unconditional guarantee and secure credit card site, you can buy with confidence.

800-992-2737

info@wardrobewagon.com

<http://www.wardrobewagon.com/>

### **Art Activities and Resources for Children and Adults with Disabilities**

KinderArt® features many activities and lesson plans that have proven successful with children and adults with disabilities. In order to help those who work with special children and adults, we have listed appropriate activities in one place and more lessons will be added as they are available. Remember to always have patience and encourage students to do as much as they can on their own. The key is to keep levels of ability in mind at all times and remember to be supportive every step of the way.

<http://www.kinderart.com/special/>

### **Disabled Sports USA**

DS/USA now offers nationwide sports rehabilitation programs to anyone with a permanent disability. Activities include winter skiing, water sports, summer and winter competitions, fitness and special sports events. Participants include those with visual impairments, amputations, spinal cord injury, dwarfism, multiple sclerosis, head injury, cerebral palsy, and other neuromuscular and orthopedic conditions.

301-217-0960

information@dsusa.org

<http://www.dsusa.org>

### **Wounded Warrior Project**

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) seeks to assist those men and women of our armed forces who have been severely injured during the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other locations around the world. The Wounded Warrior Project has partnered with Disabled Sports USA to provide a variety of opportunities for our dedicated service members and their families to experience everything life has to offer through sports and recreation.

540-342-0032

info@woundedwarriorproject.org

<http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org>

## **Ski Resorts with Adaptive Skiing Programs**

Alpine Meadows, Lake Tahoe, CA

530-583-4232

<http://www.skialpine.com>

Breckenridge Resort, Breckenridge, CO

800-789-7669

<http://www.breckenridge.com>

Killington Resort, Killington, VT

800-734-9435

<http://www.killington.com>

Park City Mountain Resort, Park City, UT

435-649-8111

<http://www.parkcitymountain.com>

Ski Windham, Catskills, NY

518-734-4300

<http://www.windhammountain.com>

Waterville Valley, Waterville Valley, NH

603-236-8311

<http://www.waterville.com>

Wintergreen Adaptive Ski, Wintergreen, VA

434-325-2007

<http://www.skiwas.org>

Winter Park Resort, Winter Park, CO

303-316-1564

<http://www.skiwinterpark.com>



