STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

September 15, 2025

Gabriella Franciosi
Buttonbush Forest School LLC
10534 Tuthill Road
South Lyon, MI 48178

RE: Application #: CD470419365 and SD470419364
Buttonbush Forest School
10505 Tuthill Road
South Lyon, MI 48178

Dear Gabriella Franciosi

Attached is the Original Licensing Study Report for the above referenced facility. The study has determined substantial compliance with applicable licensing statutes and administrative rules. Therefore, original SITE and PROGRAM licenses have been issued.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. If I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the licensing unit at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

James Vanden Heuvel

James Vanden Heuvel, Lead Camp Consultant
Camp Licensing Unit
105 W. Allegan St. 2nd Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
616-901-3730

CAMP ORIGINAL LICENSING STUDY REPORT

Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

PROGRAM License Number	PROGRAM (Camp) Name		Application Date		
CD470419365	Buttonbush Forest School		3/13/2025		
PROGRAM Phone Number	**PROGRAM Applicant Address**		**City**	**State**	**Zip**
248-854-1703	10634 Tuthill Road		South Lyon	MI	48178
SITE License Number	**SITE Name**	**Camp SITE Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip**
SD470419364	Buttonbush Forest School	10505 Tuthill Road	South Lyon	MI	48178
Camp SITE Telephone	**Applicant/Licensee Designee Name**		**E-Mail**		
248-854-1703	Gabriella Franciosi		Gabriella.tuthill@gmail.com		

Is the PROGRAM applicant the same as SITE Applicant/Licensee?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Terms: Gender: Both Capacity: 6
From Age: 3 To Age: 5

PROGRAM Type
☒ Day ☐ Residential ☐ Troop ☐ Travel

SITE Type
☒ New Day Site ☐ New Residential Site
☐ Existing Day Site ☐ Existing Residential Site

METHODOLOGY

03/13/2025	Enrollment
03/26/2025	PSOR on Address Completed
04/01/2025	Contact Document-Sent
08/06/2025	Contact Document Received: updated policies/procedures
08/06/2025	Onsite Inspection Completed
08/07/2025	Contact Document Sent
08/28/2025	Inspection Completed: Environmental Health: A Rated
09/09/2025	Inspection in Full Compliance
09/09/2025	Recommend License Issuance

DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Outdoor
- ☒ Acreage: 20
- ☒ Water Supply: Private
- ☒ Sewage: Private Sewer
- Bodies of Water: ☐ Lake(s) ☐ Pond(s) ☒ River(s) ☐ Pool(s)
- ☒ Other: farm/woodlands

Indoor
- Sleeping: ☐ Dormitory ☐ Cabins ☐ Tents ☒ None
- Dining: ☐ Dining Hall ☒ Outdoor
- Health Area: ☐ Center ☐ Office ☒ Isolation
- Activity Area(s): ☐ Classrooms ☐ Craft Rooms ☐ Gym ☒ Multipurpose ☐ Indoor pool(s)
- Bathroom(s): ☐ Indoor ☒ Portable ☐ Accessible
- Fire Safety: QFI N/A
- Env. Health: EHI approved

High Adventure
- Aquatics: ☐ Swimming ☐ Sailing ☐ Canoe/kayak ☐ Waterskiing ☐ Tubing ☐ Waterslide
- Target: ☐ Archery ☐ Riflery ☐ Other:
- Trail Sport: ☐ Biking ☐ Horseback ☐ Go Carts ☐ Other:
- Adventure: ☐ Low Obstacle ☐ High Ropes ☐ Rappelling ☐ Climbing ☐ Zipline ☐ Gymnastics
- Travel: ☐ Day Trips ☐ Overnight Off-site
- Other: ☐ ☐
- Winter Sports: ☐ ☐

Findings: This campsite is located at a historic family farm in South Lyon, MI. The outdoor classroom environment includes a classroom shelter for warming, small group activity, and shelter. The 20-acre property includes woodlands, open fields, creeks, and trails. The immersive outdoor environment includes outdoor circle learning areas, tables, nature play, farm animals, and open space for activity. Campers have access to porta johns, hand washing stations, and commercial water for hydration. The nearest medical facility is Trinity Health IHA urgent Care-South Lyon. The campsite facility is conducive to host this children's day camp.

B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Operation Schedule Period (days, times, season)	school year

Staffing (Adult Staff to Camper Ratio)	2 adults to 6 campers.
Training (Staff Training Content and Time)	☒ proper supervision ☒ behavior management ☒ program development for age groups ☒ child protection ☒ plans for emergencies, rain, and regular camp operations. Proposed Staff Training Hours (3 hours per week of service): ☒Yes ☐No

Findings: This children's day camp operates during the school year as a forest school for children between the ages of three and five years old. The program is rooted in curiosity, creativity, resilience, and environmental stewardship. Guided by Reggio-Emilia inspired educational philosophy, this program offers opportunities for children to engage with farm animals, explore woodlands, outdoor play, and hands-on learning. The staff have experience in early childhood education, social-emotional development, and forest conservation. The camp has policies and procedures in place for emergencies, behavior management, and health. This day camp meets applicable camp administrative rules.

C. RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS

The camp PROGRAM and SITE were found to be in substantial compliance with statute and administrative rules.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend issuance of an original SITE and PROGRAM licenses to this day children's camp.

James Vanden Heuvel	James Vanden Heuvel	9/9/2025
Consultant's Signature	Printed Name/Licensing Consultant	Date
D S Ramsey	Deondra S. Ramsey	9/12/2025
Approved By:	Printed Name/ Manager	Date

Commented [JV1]: @Ramsey, Deondra (MiLEAP) please review and sign. Thank you.

Commented [DR2R1]: Signed

MiLEAP is an equal opportunity employer/program.