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

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

September 8, 2026

Rachel Straughen
Grand Traverse Conservation District
1450 Cass Road
Traverse City, MI 49685

RE: Application #: CD280420525
Hickory Hills Day Camp
2000 Randolph Street
Traverse City, MI 49686

Dear Rachel Straughen

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 children's day camp been issued.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the licensing unit at 833-665-8116.

Sincerely,

Camp Licensing Unit
105 W. Allegan St. 2nd Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
MiLEAP-Camps@Michigan.gov

CAMP ORIGINAL LICENSING STUDY REPORT

Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

PROGRAM License Number	PROGRAM (Camp) Name		Application Date		
CD280420525	Hickory Hills Day Camp		4/14/2026		
PROGRAM Phone Number	**PROGRAM Applicant Address**		**City**	**State**	**Zip**
231-941-0960	Grand Traverse Conservation District, 1450 Cass Road		Traverse City	MI	4985
SITE License Number	**SITE Name**	**Camp SITE Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip**
SD280420488	Hickory Hills Day Camp	2000 Randolph St.	Traverse City	MI	49686
Camp SITE Telephone	**Applicant/Licensee Designee Name**		**E-Mail**		
231-342-7121	Rachel Straughen		rstraghen@gtcd.org		

PROGRAM Type	SITE Type	Licensee
Day Camp	Existing Day Campsite	Camp Only

METHODOLOGY

04/14/2026	Enrollment
03/31/2026	PSOR on Address Completed
05/05/2026	Policies/Procedures Approved
12/01/2025	Pre-operational Onsite Completed (as applicable)

DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

OUTDOOR	INDOOR	HIGH ADVENTURE
Acreage: 200 Water Supply: Private System Sewage: Private Sewer System Bodies of Water:None Closest Hospital: 1-5 miles Other:	Sleeping: None Dining:Outdoor Health Area:Medical Isolation Area Bathrooms: Indoor QFI: Not Applicable EHI:Approved	High Adventure Activities Offered:

Findings: This day campsite is at Hickory Hills Recreation Area in Grand Traverse County. The site features a modern Hickory Hills Lodge with multipurpose rooms and indoor bathrooms. The facility property includes 200 acres of forested terrain, hills, trails, and ski lift (winter use). The closest medical facility is Munson Medical Center, located in Traverse City. The facility is conducive for hosting a children's day camp.

B. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Staff Training Plan	AGE GROUP	CAPACITY	GENDER	OPERATIONAL SEASON
Approved	From:5 To: 13	40	BOTH	SUMMER ONLY

Findings: This day camp operated by Grand Traverse Conservation District, is located at the Hickory Hills Recreation Area. The day camp has the expressed purpose to lead, facilitate, and inspire exploration, appreciation, conservation, and restoration of the natural world. The program provides hands-on outdoor learning experiences that encourage environmental stewardship, nature-based play, and meaningful connections with the natural world. Camp activities include wildlife investigations, outdoor survival skills such as shelter building and fire building, hiking, trail games, disco golf, STEAM-based learning, nature crafts, and team building. The camp meets applicable licensing rules.

C. RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS

The children's day camp were found to be in substantial compliance with statute and administrative rules.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend issuance of original day camp license.

Approval:	Signature	Printed Name	Date
Consultant:	James VandenHeuvel	James Vanden Heuvel	6/22/2026

Manager:	D S Ramsey	Deondra S. Ramsey	06/22/2026

MiLEAP is an equal opportunity employer/program.