

Private Camping



Welcome to this unique place and space!

Please familiarize yourself with these instructions to help ensure your stay is enjoyable, comfortable and safe.



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Safety

Be familiar with the emergency instructions on the next page. Never leave the campfire, or any open flame, unattended. Do not use candles, or any other combustive devices, inside tents. Located at the workstation in screen tent there is a fire extinguisher, air horn signalling device, and a basic first aid kit... if you use it please let host know so supplies can be replenished. Bears have not been seen here for decades but there is a variety of wildlife on the property, which should not be dangerous if observed at a distance and not made to feel threatened. This is a natural woodland area. Use common sense. Children must be under direct adult supervision all of the time.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED, INDOORS OR OUTDOORS, ANYWHERE ON THE PROPERTY.

Tents

The **screen tent** is convenient for food preparation, storage, and hanging out in case of rain (or if the bugs are bugging you!). It has flaps which roll down to keep out rain, or up for a full view of the forest. The flaps have corner ties to secure them down. If desired, benches and chairs may be moved into screen tent.



The **dome tent** has a rain fly, which may be removed for better ventilation. Roll it up when not in place on the tent. Please use care when opening and closing zippers—go slowly! **If setting-up your own tents do so only in the 2 marked sites.**

Privy

The privy is outfitted with a modern flush-action portable toilet; please follow the operating instructions in the privy. Guests are welcome to use the full washroom (incl. shower) on ground floor of main house anytime between ½ hour prior to breakfast time and 9:30PM. If house is locked, the front door will usually have been programmed with the last 4 digits of the phone number on your Airbnb account. Key in those 4 digits then press the  button. To re-lock, press .

UPSTAIRS AND BASEMENT OF MAIN HOUSE ARE PRIVATE SPACES.

Breakfast

A plentiful breakfast, including local products and organic home-baking, awaits you each morning of your stay. You are warmly invited to join breakfast at the large Mennonite table in the main house. Alternatively, a light breakfast can be brought to the camp area (sorry this option only available for 1-2 people). In either case, the time is totally up to you... whatever is most convenient & relaxing... **please be sure you have let your host know what time you would like breakfast.**

Comfort & Convenience

Workstation

The screen tent contains a small workstation which includes a couple drawers, a storage shelf, and an upper surface usable for food preparation, etc.

Water & Ice

Drinking water is supplied in glass jugs. Water for cleaning, etc, is supplied in large plastic containers. Let host know if your supplies need to be replenished.

Discard waste water in the forest, away from the camping area, trying to avoid reusing the same location.

Ice cubes and blocks are usually available, free, in reasonable quantities... ask host at the main house.

Equipment

Other than the supplied tents, guests are responsible for bringing all personal supplies & camping equipment. Suggested packing list is on back page. If you have forgotten things and it would help make your stay more pleasant, your host may be able to loan you some items. This is offered as a courtesy, at no cost but you must be responsible to pay for anything broken or not returned.

Electricity

If you need to recharge devices, an outdoor outlet at front porch of the main house may be used anytime. The host may also be able to supply a portable power box at the camp area, which provides a small amount of power for chargers, etc.

Cleanliness & Courtesy

Please ensure waste and belongings are contained and do not end up blowing around. Keep the forest here pristine 😊. To avoid unexpected visits from wildlife, store food and smelly trash securely; bring it back to the main house if you wish.

A critter-proof waste bin is provided at the camp area but since there is limited refuse pickup here please take your trash & recycling with you when you depart.

As you pack up to leave, please have an eye to leaving the area as clean as it was when you arrived.

Though this is a large property, sound can travel especially at night. Please respect your host and neighbouring property owners and be conscious of your noise level at all times.

“Plan B” Accommodations

If the weather is a wash-out, or if you find that tent camping is not your thing, you may be able to switch over to staying in the cordwood cabin (has woodstove, wash stand, double bed futon, accommodates two adults), located 100m west of the main house. The extra cost is \$100/night (regular Airbnb rate is \$149-\$169).

Campfire

Safety

Before starting a fire, fill the tin bucket with water from blue barrel and keep it close by. Use water to fully extinguish the fire when you are done.

Do not have a campfire in windy conditions. In rare circumstances, the Township may have a fire ban during dry spells; guests must abide by this.

Do not use accelerant (e.g., gasoline, etc.) on the campfire at any time. Give children a safety briefing beforehand and ensure they stay safely back from the fire at all times.

Never leave a live fire unattended—as the saying goes with forest fires: LARGE FIRES START SMALL.

Before Starting a Fire

Have sufficient supplies of newspaper, twigs and kindling on hand *before* starting the fire. Dry twigs and small branches from the forest floor make great starter. **Do not cut or remove any wood attached to standing trees. Do not burn garbage.**

Let the host know if your firewood supply is getting low.



Fire Tips

Starting and sustaining a campfire is both an art and science. Here's a few tips to minimize frustration (& swearing ☺), and help you impress your children, spouse or camping partner:

- Tightly crumple 6-10 pieces of newspaper and top it with *lots* of small dead *dry* twigs (finger thickness or smaller) broken into pieces.
- On top of that, place starter pieces (e.g., small branches) 1-2" diameter in either tee-pee or criss-cross pattern. Piece length should be such it all stays within the fire pit.
- Light the newspaper, *at multiple locations*, and as low down as possible.
- Once the burn is well underway, add small size firewood pieces and gradually increase size as they take.
- Fire burns upwards, and fire needs air, so arrange wood to take advantage of this. For instance, when adding firewood position it so it slants upward.

The best time to roast marshmallows, or to make popcorn or roast nuts, is to let it go down to red coals, not over flames. It's a campfire, not a bonfire or witch burning, so keep it small.

*Questions? Need assistance or supplies?
Please feel welcome to come to house at any
time, call by phone or text to mobile #.*

House 519-794-0129

Neil mobile 905-875-8607

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Depending on the nature of the situation, do one or both of the following:

- Call 911 - Emergency locator # is **821717 Sideroad 1 Chatsworth**. Your location, at the camp site, is **along a trail 200 metres east of the main house**.
- Contact the house by telephone 519-794-0129 or use the air horn, located in the screen tent, to make **several** series of **three long blasts**; this is an emergency signal to alert host to immediately attend the camp site. Do not use the air horn for any other purpose.

Mobile reception can be variable depending on your phone and carrier. If you are not getting a signal try changing location or holding phone in different orientation.

If you hear emergency services arrive, use air horn (3 blasts) to signify your location on the property.

If you need to use the fire extinguisher, **aim at base of the fire not the flames** and keep in mind it will likely run out sooner than you expect.

Prep & Packing Suggestions

Coming equipped with what you need helps to make for an enjoyable camping experience. You may not need everything listed below (for example if you're bringing prepared foods or eating out). Some equipment (marked *) may be available to borrow from host, but inquire in advance to ensure what you need will be available. The list is not exhaustive so space has been added for you to add to the list.

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| <p><u>General/Camping</u></p> <p>Notes: Firewood is supplied. Convertible bench/tables by the campfire seat 4 people at one time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> flashlights and/or lanterns* (don't rely on smartphone flashlight apps)<input type="checkbox"/> spare batteries<input type="checkbox"/> additional seating, if needed (folding chairs etc)<input type="checkbox"/> campfire supplies (marshmallows, s'mores, popcorn, etc)<input type="checkbox"/> cards/games* diversions<input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/> | <p><u>Sleeping/Personal Maintenance</u></p> <p>Notes: There are two spots for sleeping tents. A dome tent (3-4 adults) will be set-up in one of them unless you inform us you're bringing your own tent(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> sleeping bags & pillows<input type="checkbox"/> underpads or air mattresses* (not a necessity but you'll be happy you brought it)<input type="checkbox"/> towels<input type="checkbox"/> clothing for expected weather conditions + spares<input type="checkbox"/> toiletries<input type="checkbox"/> sunscreen<input type="checkbox"/> insect repellent (Jun-Aug)<input type="checkbox"/> hats (esp. those with brims can help minimize insect nuisance)<input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p><u>Cooking/Eating/Drinking</u></p> <p>Notes: Drinking water, and cooler ice cubes/blocks are supplied. Guests may also store food in the fridge and freezer in the main house.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> coolers/food/drinks<input type="checkbox"/> plates/bowls/cups/etc*<input type="checkbox"/> cutlery*<input type="checkbox"/> paper towels<input type="checkbox"/> plastic wrap/zip-loc bags/etc.<input type="checkbox"/> camp stove* and/or portable BBQ<input type="checkbox"/> camp stove fuel<input type="checkbox"/> pots/pans/etc<input type="checkbox"/> cooking utensils*<input type="checkbox"/> eco-friendly dish soap*<input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/> | <p><u>Hiking/Nature Appreciation</u></p> <p>Notes: There are 4km of trails on the property, through varied forest woodlands, for your private use... you are the only guests! "It's like having the whole park to yourself" 😊</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> nature guidebooks*<input type="checkbox"/> binoculars (also good for night-time skywatching)<input type="checkbox"/> water bottles<input type="checkbox"/> bug hats or bug shirts, if you get bugged by bugs<input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/><input type="checkbox"/> |