

Algoma Highlands Conservancy Norm's Cabin Use Policy

General Background

The mission of the Algoma Highlands Conservancy (AHC) is to conserve and protect the unique beauty and ecological integrity of key areas within the Algoma Highlands region. Our mission is based on four core principles - Conservation, Environmental Education and Research, Silent Sport Recreation and Sustainable Land Management. The AHC has rebuilt Norm's cabin on the northeast shore of Bone Lake as a key infrastructural element which can be used to help realize our mission and promote all four of our core principles. The cabin and the small lot on which it is built are wholly owned by the Algoma Highlands Conservancy. However, it is our intent to allow public use of the main floor of the cabin, particularly as a refuge for silent sport recreationalists involved in cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, canoeing, kayaking, mountain-biking and hiking in the area or in emergency situations. The upper floor of the cabin is intended for use by paying guests who wish to stay overnight at the cabin and thus more fully appreciate the beautiful natural environment in which it is located. Ecotourism revenue generated in this manner will be used to support and maintain the facility over the long term.

We expect anyone using the cabin to do so in a manner consistent with our four core principles noted above. We also expect that anyone using our cabin will treat it with utmost care to ensure its longevity and benefits to many future users. Users of the cabin or the property are required to minimize any potential negative impacts to the structure, the environment or to others, and to read and follow all protocols pertaining to the safe and appropriate use of the cabin and associated appliances.

We recognize that the cabin cannot be all things to all people. The use policies noted below have been established with a view to optimizing the experience of the majority, to ensure safe and environmentally appropriate use of the cabin and to minimize potential conflicts among users. Failure to adhere to these policies could ultimately result in the cabin being closed to the public.

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Policies Pertaining to All Users of Norms Cabin:

- 1. General public use of Norm's cabin is restricted to the main floor of the cabin and the outhouses.
- 2. Guests staying overnight at the cabin must pay for this privilege in accordance with rates posted on our website. Not more than six overnight guests are allowed at the cabin without written permission from the AHC.
- 3. Motorized vehicles (including ATVs, dirt bikes, side-by-sides, motorboats, snowmobiles) are not allowed to be used while staying at Norm's cabin.
- 4. Camping on the property is not permitted without prior written consent from the Algoma Highlands Conservancy. If you have been granted permission to camp, valid camping permits must be carried with you and prominently displayed on your tent.
- 5. Smoking is prohibited in the cabin, on the deck or on the balcony.
- 6. Candles or other sources of open flame, other than those associated with provided appliances, are prohibited.
- 7. Firearms, bows and other weapons are prohibited in the cabin or on the property.
- 8. Pets are prohibited in the cabin or on the property.
- 9. Where necessary for comfort or safety, use of the propane heater is allowed, providing that the protocol for its safe operation is strictly followed. Please be judicious in the use of propane as it is expensive and difficult to supply to the cabin. Ensure that the thermostat is turned off when you leave. During warmer months, the propane tank will be locked out and available only for overnight paying guests who will be provided with the key.
- 10. Where necessary for comfort or safety, use of the woodstove is allowed, providing that the protocol for its safe operation is strictly followed. Please be judicious with the use of firewood as it is costly and difficult to maintain supplies.
- 11. The fridge, cook stove and propane lights are off-limits to day users. These will be operational only if there are paying guests staying overnight in the cabin and use of these appliances is restricted to their needs.
- 12. All users must clean up after themselves, including washing dishes, wiping down tables and sweeping floors as necessary to ensure the cabin is kept neat and tidy at all times.
- 13. Pack out all materials that you pack in. Do not leave cans, bottles, food wastes or unwanted food items at the cabin.
- 14. Small controlled warming and cooking fires are permitted outdoors only within the designated fire pit. Fires must not be left unattended at any time and must be thoroughly doused with lake water before you leave the site.
- 15. Food must be kept in sealed containers within the cabin to avoid attracting rodents, bears or other wildlife to the cabin and property.

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- 16. Garbage and food scraps must be kept in the sealed garbage bin within the cabin. Do not dispose of garbage or food scraps in the outhouse.
- 17. Use the sink plugs to filter food scraps from dishwater when draining the sink and dispose of the filtered material in the garbage. In winter, dispose of dishwater in an inconspicuous spot away from the back door.
- 18. Follow "no trace" practices when travelling to and fro and while staying at the cabin. Do not litter and do not place any non-combustibles in the woodstove or fire pit.

Policies Pertaining to Use by Guests Staying Overnight

- 1. Overnight stays must be booked and paid for in advance in accordance with the established fee structure posted on the AHC website. Please see our website for instructions on booking the cabin for overnight stays.
- 2. Keys and emergency communications equipment must be picked up and returned to the AHC office at Stokely Creek Lodge, during regular business hours on the days scheduled for going into or coming out of the cabin.
- 3. Overnight guests are required to report any accidental damages that may occur to the cabin or the property during their stay.
- 4. Overnight guests must accept that day users have the right to responsible use of the ground floor area in accordance with policy statements noted above.
- 5. Personal gear of overnight guests must be stored in your locked room for security and to limit congestion in the main floor living area.
- 6. Overnight guests are required to read and understand all protocols and materials sent to them at the time of booking, including in particular those associated with safe use of the woodstove, propane appliances and emergency communications.
- 7. Double bag all garbage and wastes and tie the bags securely, leaving them in the sealed garbage bin inside the cabin for pickup by AHC staff.
- 8. Overnight guests are required to provide their own sleeping bag liners or sheets, sleeping bags, food and drinks. The AHC will supply bulk drinking water and transport both drinking water and gear to the cabin for you as part of our regular service to paying guests. There is a functional limit to how much gear we can transport which we will provide you at booking, any excess gear you require to be transported will result in an additional transport fee.
- 9. A supply of firewood and fire starting materials will be provided to you, cutting of live trees or peeling of bark from live trees is prohibited.

Board Approved: May 5, 2015

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