Cabin General Instructions

Opening Up Basics:
As you turn on utilities, locate and make use of items, etc. – pay attention to how you found things; it is important for you to leave the cabin and items the way they were found.

One key unlocks kitchen door into cabin on left side of cabin (same key opens door into garage and annex on other side of garage).

Keys to cellar & boat house locks are on key holder on wall opposite main bathroom (they are marked). Although, side boat-house door is now usually just latched with hook at top of door.

Cellar door at bottom of stairs and boat house door both have additional latch at top of door you’ll need to remove before opening.

Key to pontoon boat is in closet in bedroom closest to screen porch (on hook up high on right side of closet).

Before using water, you need to go to cellar to:
  • Turn water pump on
  • Turn on water heater (open gas line, light pilot, turn up temperature)

Cellar is also where you’ll turn on furnace, if needed.

Wood for fire ring and fire place:
Outside wood to burn in campfire ring is beside lakeside door of screen porch. This is mostly pine and shouldn’t be burned in inside fireplace. You are welcomed to burn any other downed wood around cabin in fire ring, as well as hardwoods from stacked woodpile by shed.

If you want fire in fireplace you can find hardwood (Maple and birch) in tarp-covered wood pile beside outside metal shed. Make sure damper is open before you light indoor fire, if you do. Damper will need to be closed before you leave cabin, at end of stay.

Axe and maul are both inside garage to right side of door from porch. So are hotdog skewers.

Bird Feeders:
You can fill bird feeders, if you want, while you are there. Seed is in garage, just inside door from screen porch, in plastic bin. Suet is either in kitchen freezer or small annex refrigerator. This is certainly not mandatory but should attract some birds. Look at additional documents regarding how to fill feeders. There is also a hummingbird feeder if you want to put that up on wire hanging outside window by kitchen table. You’ll need to make hummingbird food, if you want to feed them. If you do put out hummingbird feeders, be sure to bring them in, empty and clean before you leave. Other feeders can be left out with any remaining food still in them.

Washing Clothes:
If you want to use clothes washer, you need to light water heater in garage; it lights same way as main house water heater.

It is usually best to open window at back of garage if you are using washer and dryer.
**Using Boats:**
Plastic Kayak is in boathouse. Paddle is there, too. Be sure to always have life-jacket in boat with you, in case you get checked by DNR, and for safety.

There are lake floating mattresses in boat house, and reclining chairs, too, for sitting on end of dock.

Pontoon boat has cover on it. If you want to use pontoon boat, be sure to look at how cover is attached so you know how to put it back on before you leave. It is easier if you pull it off in intentional way and fold up. Each of four support poles for cover are marked 1, 2, 3, and 4. The #1 pole is first pole at bow; the rest are installed in order until #4 in back of boat. You’ll have to crawl in under cover to remove poles before removing cover.

When putting cover back on, we put cover on boat before installing poles.

**If you use pontoon boat, be sure to lower shade ceiling frame before cruising. You don’t need to take cover off boat shade-ceiling if you are not going to use it; just lay that part flat while using boat.**

For putting cover back on boat at end of stay, it is best if you can do it when it is dry. So, if rain is expected on last day, but you’ve had nice weather before then, you might want to cover and close up pontoon boat early.

It is okay to have boat-house doors (side and garage-style) open while you are around cabin, but close them (lock garage style overhead door; side door wont lock but just close and hook top latch) if leaving cabin or going out on a cruise.

Make sure boat house is locked up (both doors) and things like kayak, paddles, life-jackets, etc. are put away before leaving cabin at end of stay. Be sure to secure extra latch on side boathouse door. Side door is difficult to get main lock to latch, but engage lock so handle can’t turn and just hook latch near top of door before leaving at end of stay.

**Navigating Lakes:**
There are five lakes on the chain of lakes. None of the lakes is very deep; probably nothing more 20’ deep at most. There are quite a few hidden rocks if you are not out in middle. So you’ll want to navigate very carefully.

Fifth Lake has lots of rocks around islands. There is a marker out in lake on near side of islands; you don’t want to get between marker and islands, but rather give that area a wide berth. If moving between Island and mainland in Fifth lake, just stay halfway between both.

Movement between lakes, and into/out of channel between our lake (Fourth) and Third Lake is guided by channel markers. When moving through channel markers be sure to move slowly (no wake zones), stay between markers, and raise motor up a bit but still in water.

**Limberlost Labyrinth:**
Labyrinth is at end of road.

**Cabin bikes:**
Bikes are in basement. You can use them but will likely need tires pumped up. Tire pump is in garage.
**Garbage:**
Garbage pick-up is on Thursday, 6am, at end of driveway. You can roll cans of garbage and recyclables out to road in cart that garbage cans are in. Be sure to secure the garbage can lid with strap so “visitors” don’t get into them. It is okay to put out the cans the night before.

All recyclables can be put together in clear bag in metal garbage can.

Paper should be burned; we usually use large paper bag in trash holder under kitchen sink to put only burnables in, and then burn in burn-barrel as needed. To burn paper/cardboard products in burn barrel:
- Take solid cover off burn barrel.
- Take screen off burn barrel.
- Place burnables (paper things) in burn barrel and light, then put screen back on top.
- When burning is complete, put solid cover back on top of burn barrel.

**Cabin Neighbors:**
We told neighbors you’d be up at cabin. But they are good about watching over things and may come to check out who is up there. Just introduce yourself and let them know you’re our friends we invited to use cabin, if they come over. They are good folks and can probably answer general questions if you have them.

**Groceries:**
Grocery Stores in town include
- **Trigs (an IGA, but like a Kroger -** [https://www.trigs.com](https://www.trigs.com), and
- **Walmart**
- **Golden Harvest**

Walmart is cheaper, but Trigs may have better selection.

Trigs also has good liquor store (**including local Wisconsin beer, etc.** - [https://www.trigs.com/discover/departments/cellar-70](https://www.trigs.com/discover/departments/cellar-70)).

One of the traditional Wisconsin pastries you might want to try is a Kringle. Trigs has them in a variety of flavors, found in the bakery section. They go great with coffee/tea for breakfast:

![Kringle](image)

**Golden Harvest** ([http://goldenharvestmarket.com](http://goldenharvestmarket.com)) is the local natural foods store. They have good selection of foods, too, including produce, bakery, etc. Here’s map to Golden Harvest from cabin: [https://tinyurl.com/togoldenharvest](https://tinyurl.com/togoldenharvest)
Food:

NOTE: Due to COVID-related concerns, you should first call ahead for restaurant hours/requirements.

Joe’s Pasty Shop ([https://ilovepasties.com](https://ilovepasties.com)) is a great local institution. Their pastys are made in house, using as local as possible ingredients. Traditionally, a meat pie of European origin made for mine-workers and other laborers, Joe’s has an incredibly wide variety of pastys. From very traditional to vegetarian to things like Pizza pasty, breakfast pasty, and much more there is a pasty for any taste. Betsy and I usually split one for dinner. You can order online and pickup later (even after hours), or go into shop during hours. Their pastys come frozen and are something you take home and bake yourself.

![Joe's Pasty Shop](image)

Birchwood Bar ([http://birchwoodlodge.net](http://birchwoodlodge.net)) is on the chain of lakes and a good place to get already made pizza, burgers, nachos, etc. for dinner. They usually open around 2pm. Clientel has changed in last couple years and there is not really a place to park boat anymore. So, usually, we call-in order and are picking up food to go. They now have a pick-up window on the side, near outside eating area, so no need to even enter the bar. On a nice evening, it might be nice to get a pizza and then slowly cruise lake for dinner. See map at end of document for location from cabin.

There is a Papa Murphy’s ([https://order.papamurphys.com/menu/papa-murphys-lincoln-5](https://order.papamurphys.com/menu/papa-murphys-lincoln-5)) take and bake pizza place in small strip of shops to right of Walmart.

Across Lincoln St. from Walmart area, just in front of Ala Mode Ice Cream/Coffee shop, and next to road, is where you’ll likely find Tom’s Corn. Tom is a retired teacher who sells local corn, in season, during summer. You can usually also get cucumbers, tomatoes, melons and such from him, as well. He is sells out of his truck and is worth going in sometimes to get good corn. You probably need to do this mid-morning, before he sells out.

Northern Grounds Coffee House ([https://northern-grounds-coffeeshouse.business.site](https://northern-grounds-coffeeshouse.business.site)) is about ¾ of a mile beyond Walmart, on other side of Lincoln St. (just beyond, but across from Kohls).

Less than a half a mile further down Lincoln St., on left side of road (same side as Northern Grounds), is Crimson Café ([https://www.crimsoncurrycafe.com/home](https://www.crimsoncurrycafe.com/home)). It’s a nice boutique-like place for lunch. They also sell espresso drinks. Parking is in back.
There is a **Farmers Market** on Saturday in Pioneer Park in Rhinelander. I’m not sure of hours. Here’s their Website: [http://www.hodagfarmersmarket.com/index.html](http://www.hodagfarmersmarket.com/index.html)

There are a few other nice local places to get lunch on the main street (*Brown St.*) through Rhinelander’s downtown corridor. Some of these include:

- **Tilleys** ([https://www.tillys-rhinelander.com](https://www.tillys-rhinelander.com)) - also espresso drinks
- **CT’s Deli** ([http://cheftomsdeli.com](http://cheftomsdeli.com)) – fairly decent selection of bourbons behind bar
- **Rhinelander Brewing Company** ([https://www.rhinelanderbrewery.com](https://www.rhinelanderbrewery.com)) for tastings and growlers. There are a couple empty growlers behind bath towels in closet in bunk room.

**Friday Night Fish Fry** is a Northwoods tradition that has been happening for generations. One of our preferred location for fish fry is **The Fireside Supper Club** ([https://explorewisconsin.com/home/eat/the-fireside-supper-club/](https://explorewisconsin.com/home/eat/the-fireside-supper-club/)) is a relatively smaller venue and can be crowded. It is best to get there early, be willing to spend a bit of time at their bar in middle of dining room, and enjoy the company of friends while you wait. The Fireside is about 10 miles from cabin, on the other side of Rhinelander. It’ll take about 20 minutes to get there. Their menu can be found here: [https://tinyurl.com/firesidemenu](https://tinyurl.com/firesidemenu)

**Other Things to Do & Places to Visit:**

**Minocqua**, about 35 miles (45 to 50 minutes) away, is a nice tourist town to visit if you want an afternoon away from the cabin. There are lots of downtown shops to peruse, and a variety of restaurants. A few of the Minocqua venues include:

- **Northern Waters Distillery** ([http://www.northernwatersdistillery.com/home](http://www.northernwatersdistillery.com/home)) – This is a nice micro-distillery, with tasting room, tucked into a small town in the Northwoods. Besides the usual vodka, moonshine, gin and bourbons – you’ll find some flavored-spirits that make use of northern Wisconsin products.
  
o  For instance, if you dig deep into the botanicals of their gin, you’ll find and taste the subtle influence of the wild wintergreen that grows in local forests.
  
o  There is also cranberry vodka, white pine vodka, honey cranberry moonshine, cinnamon maple moonshine and more.

- **Minocqua Brewing Company** ([https://minocquabrewingcompany.com](https://minocquabrewingcompany.com)) – In addition to their own craft ales, their restaurant has a variety of tasty options. We especially like their creamy chicken, mushroom and wild rice soup. In the past, they’ve also had amazing truffle-oiled French fries.

- **Rocky Reef Brewing Company** ([http://www.rockyreefbrewing.com](http://www.rockyreefbrewing.com)) – makes some great beer. It has been a kinda bare bones tasting room, but worth a pint or two to visit.

- **Northwoods Wildlife (rehabilitation) Center** ([https://northwoodswildlifecenter.org](https://northwoodswildlifecenter.org)) -- Tours may be reduced during COVID pandemic, but this is an organization that works to care for wildlife in need and provide a home for unreleasable animals.

- **Ages Past Antiques** ([https://www.agespastantiques.net](https://www.agespastantiques.net)) – If you are in to Antique shopping, this is a nice store, from where we’ve picked up a few pieces for cabin decor.

- **World’s Largest Penny** ([http://drkatemuseum.org/world-s-largest-penny](http://drkatemuseum.org/world-s-largest-penny)) --
Mini Golf (in Rhinelander):

Pirate Falls Mini Golf (https://tinyurl.com/PirateFallsGolf) is a nice miniature golf course about 8 miles (10 to 15 minutes) from the cabin. (Also, see under go-kart track below.)

Dahlia Garden (in Rhinelander):

Located in Rhineland at this location (https://goo.gl/maps/Pb9wzmswjflrQS4q7) is a modest private residence, at which the front yard has been planted entirely in dahlias for many years. If visiting area in late summer, it is worth a drive-by to see if the dahlias are in bloom. If they are blooming, you’ll likely want to stop and get a closer view; they are gorgeous! (Here’s some photos: https://tinyurl.com/rhinelanderdahlias)

Go-Kart Track:

30 miles north of the cabin, through the Northwoods, is Elmers Fun Park (https://elmersfunpark.com). Two nice Go-Kart tracks, 18-hole miniature golf, bumper boats and more. And, when your done, the Red Canoe Coffee shop and Cathy’s Ice Cream/Candy shop are side by side (https://goo.gl/maps/K2eS1g7ux1horGPr8), less than two and a half miles up the road. Since, Elmers Fun Park is just over six miles (ten minutes) north of Lake Nokomis Cranberry farm, you could combine both into one day trip from cabin.

Cranberry Farm:

Did you know more cranberries are grown in Wisconsin than in any other U.S. state? About 30 miles (40 minutes) from the cabin is Lake Nokomis Cranberries (https://www.lakenokomiscranberries.com). In the Fall, LNC is a great place watch cranberry harvesting. But the farm can be visited any time of the year to learn more about how cranberries grow. They have a gift shop and offer wine tasting, as well. During harvest season, you can also buy your holiday cranberries straight from the grower.

Wittenberg is about an hour and a half south of the cabin. Depending upon what route you are taking up to the cabin, you may pass right through Wittenberg on your way to/from Rhinelander. A small, but nationally renowned smokehouse, located in Wittenberg is Nueske’s Applewood Smoked Meats (https://www.nueskes.com). If meat is part of your diet, Nueske’s bacon and pork chops are amazing. But they also have a variety of other meats, charcuterie, cheese, preserves and more. Or, you could find a Lutheran church and nail something to their door (just kidding).

International Crane Foundation (https://www.savingcranes.org) is about three hours south of the cabin, in Baraboo, Wisconsin. Thus, it may be a better idea to visit on your way to/from the cabin. But ICF is the only place you can view all the cranes of the world in natural environments. If you are especially interested in viewing the very rare, Whooping Crane, ICF may be your answer. (Note: Due to COVID pandemic, ICF is temporarily closed to public until Spring of 2021)
Door at bottom of cellar stairs

Water pump in cellar
furnace gas

furnace power
Boat cover

Boat cover snaps

Boat cover poles

(we now have new boat cover and the poles are a bit different, but work in similar way)
motor out of water

(motor should be out of water when not in use)

battery area & boat roof
(positive red) battery wires will need to be hooked up in order to use boat. Disconnect red wires before covering boat and leaving cabin)

(see separate boat-starting instruction file)
motor position
(Using up/down button on throttle to raise/lower motor during operation, and also to completely raise motor out of water after returning to dock and turning off engine.)