

# Welcome to the Canadian Ecology Centre!

\*\*\*Please read the following information package to help prepare for your stay.
Please share with everyone in your cabin.

# About the Canadian Ecology Centre (the CEC)

The CEC is a **non-profit** outdoor and environmental education and conference facility with charitable status. Our main business is overnight school trips throughout the school year as well as summer residential high school credit courses. The CEC is open all year round, offering hands-on educational programs for schools, youth and adults as well as many other programs/events throughout the year. Please visit our website at <u>www.canadianecology.ca</u> for more information.

## DIRECTIONS TO THE CEC

We are located on Highway 17, approximately 40 minutes east of North Bay and 15 minutes west of Mattawa. Follow the signs for Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park; then once you are in the park, follow the signs to the Ecology Centre. We are located about a 2.5km drive in from the highway. The entrance to the CEC/Park is on the peak of a hill, please pay close attention, and look for the blue highway signs indicating Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park is coming up.

Please be aware that some GPS units provide incorrect directions when you enter our street address (and will lead you down old logging roads), so make sure you double-check that the directions make sense. Don't be fooled by your GPS...stay on Hwy 17 and watch for those Provincial Park signs.

Please drive carefully to the CEC and while driving within the park as there are many park guests who may be travelling on the roadways (driving, walking, biking, etc...)

## Checking in at the CEC (Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>)

Our CEC staff is looking forward to meeting your group upon arrival around 12:00pm on Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>. Please drive up to the main building where you will be greeted and cabin assignments will be provided. Please ensure you complete a COVID-19 self-screening prior to arriving and stay home if you are experiencing any symptoms.

## Checking out of the CEC (Monday August 22<sup>nd</sup>)

- We ask that all cabin guests check-out BEFORE 1pm on Monday.
- Please turn off all lights, close all windows and the door when leaving.
- Please ensure that garbage and recycling are separated in appropriate bins in cabin.
- Please leave towels on the bathroom floor and place dirty bed linens on one bed (if you are comfortable/able to strip the bed yourself)
- Provincial Park Passes and any keys can be left on the small table inside your cabin room.

#### **CEC Catered Meals**

The Canadian Ecology Centre will be providing SOME meals during your stay. CEC meals will be served in **Franks Dining Hall** (near the main building), with covered outdoor patio seating available.

Saturday Lunch -12pm	Sunday Lunch – 1pm	Monday Lunch – 1pm
Saturday Dinner – 6pm		

\*please check with your group lead contact for information on times/location for Sunday/Monday Breakfast as well as Sunday dinner which are not provided by the CEC. These will likely be prepared and served from the Shared Use Dining Cabin (Cabin #33/34). Groups will need to provide their own cooking supplies and dishes (included plates, bowls, cups and utensils).

There is a fridge, microwave, stove, toaster, coffee maker and kettle available in this space.

## **CEC Office Hours and Contact Information:**

The CEC main office building will open during the following times. Saturday: 11am-6pm, Sunday: CLOSED, Monday: 9am-4pm

Please **email: education@canadianecology.ca** or if it is urgent contact our on-call staff listed below via call/text. Please leave a message if you do not receive a response with you name, cabin # and what information you require.

- Bill Steer (705) 840-0848
- Laura (705) 845-1150
- Maintenance Needs Court (705) 218-0814

The CEC NO LONGER has land-line phones in the cabins. Please use personal cell phones for all calling requirements and emergencies.

For **Medical/Fire emergencies... please call 911**. Our address is 6905 Hwy 17 (Canadian Ecology Centre, located in Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park). Don't forget to state which cabin you are staying in.

The Mattawa Hospital is located approximately 10-15 min away if medical assistance is required.

## **CEC Site Rules**

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in your group being asked to leave the premises with no refund.

- Quiet hours are at 10:00PM... please respect others and always keep your noise levels to a minimum.
- Alcohol is only permitted in your personal cabin. Open alcohol is prohibited outside, including the campfire pit.
- Smoking is NOT permitted in cabins or any buildings. Please place all butts in a can or garbage and ensure that it is completely out before you toss in the garbage or request a can from our main office. DO NOT TOSS cigarette butts on the ground nature thanks you! A smoking station is also located beside our main building side parking lot.
- Cannabis is prohibited anywhere on the CEC site as we are designated an educational facility. Please enjoy responsibly off of CEC property.
- Picnic tables are NOT TO BE MOVED from their current locations.

## **Cabins**

Please remember to **take your boots/shoes off when entering the cabin** to help keep our hardwood floors clean and dry (reducing damage and repair costs)! **Our floors thank you!** 

Parking is available at each cabin or park anywhere nearby. Additional parking areas are also available at the main building. Click on the following link for cabin pictures and information: <u>http://www.canadianecology.ca/cabin-rentals</u>

#### What<u>IS</u> included in the Cabin:

- Face/Hand/Bath towels
- Bedding (sheets and blankets)/pillows
- Shower, sink, washroom facilities

- Small bar fridge (check and adjust temperature as needed)
- Small square table and chairs

The small fridge is turned off and unplugged to save energy costs/consumption. Please check and adjust the temperature frequently after turning on to avoid freezing food. Many guests also bring coolers to store food.

**Wi-Fi** is available **near** our main buildings. Cell signal for most providers is available throughout the site. You will not get a Wi-Fi signal at your cabin. The **wifi passwords** are Summ3r2021(for "cec guest" network) or CECwifi10 (for "cec ent" network)

**Housekeeping service** will not be in during your stay to clean/replenish supplies. Please make sure you are self-sufficient for your stay. If you require anything in an emergency, please contact the numbers above.

**Consider your environmental impact.** Please take home your recyclables rather than disposing in garbage, turn off lights when you are leaving, and ensure the doors/windows are closed to prevent heat loss (during winter) and pests.

To avoid attracting animals (ie. raccoons, bears, etc...) please ensure that attractants are not left out in the open (ie. don't leave garbage outside, dump food/liquid waste outside, etc...)

## The Site and Campfire Fit

Trails (including up to cabins) and roadways are unpaved and may be rocky and uneven in sections. Not all areas are fully lit, so it's **recommended to bring a flashlight** with you, especially when walking back to cabins at dark. The path to cabins can be dark and rocky. Please tread carefully, walk slowly, and stay on trails. Please use the identified paths to cabins.

**Fire Pit** - The main fire pit is located in the turn-around area beside cabin #1/2. A reminder that there is NO OPEN ALCOHOL permitted at the campfire pit! **Take all your belongings and garbage with you after you have left the fire pit.** 

**Aaniin Building** – your group will have access to this indoor space for the duration of your stay. Please note that there is no running water or washrooms in this space. You will need to access your personal cabins for washroom facilities.

**Main Building** – this space will only be open on Saturday from 11am to 6pm and again on Monday from 9am to 5pm. The main building will be closed on Sunday.

Tuck Shop/Store – We have a small store on site in our main building with snacks and some souvenir items.

\*Water is potable from any tap on site.

The Provincial Park - Although we are not affiliated with the Provincial Park, we share this beautiful natural landscape with them

**Using the park:** Each cabin will be provided with 1 Provincial Park Vehicle Permit. Please ensure that this is placed on your car windshield if driving around the park and utilizing the park amenities (ie. beaches, trails, etc...). At the end of your stay please ensure you leave this permit in your cabin or a \$100 replacement fee will be charge to your cabin reservation.

\*Any Day Guests (not staying overnight) will be required to pre-purchase their own Daily Vehicle Permit from Ontario Parks (\$18/day) to have access to the CEC site and Park Amenities. Failure to do so could result in significant fines from Ontario Parks.

**Trails:** It's good safety practice to let someone know what trail you are going on and your anticipated time of return. Having some water/snacks is helpful to remain well hydrated and when you need a little energy boost. Proper closed-toed footwear is recommended when walking any trails on site as most trails have some rugged terrain and may also have some steep inclines/declines. Don't forget your camera or cell phone to take photos! There are many beautiful spots to capture nature. Stay on the trails and please do not pick/harm any vegetation.

Although it may seem like a good idea to see a "critter" up close by enticing them with food... it's not a good idea! We want our wildlife to remain "wild" and not rely on humans to provide them with food to survive or become a nuisance/hazard to us.

As a guest of the CEC, you are subject to the rules/regulations of Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park.

