

HOUSE MANUAL

Please Review Thoroughly

WELCOME TO MASON CABIN

Our Cabinscape is all yours to unwind, relax and adventure. Hunker down, cozy up or explore the 10km of trails on the property, have a campfire under the stars, and enjoy the expansive stargazing vistas!

Please review this House Manual before settling in. It should fully prepare you for the days ahead.

Enjoy your getaway! John & Laura, *Cabinscape Owners* www.cabinscape.com

PS: Please share your photos with us on FB & Instagram @Cabscape #Cabinscape

If you need help or have questions while on site, we have a central support number. It's best to text us, as reception can often be spotty. Text messages are dispatched to multiple people so you are more likely to get a speedy response rather than calling.

Support Number: (289) 206-1193

If you have an urgent matter (and we have not responded within 1 hour), please call Paul over at the Sumac Centre Lodge: 613-335-3417

CHECK OUT is 11am sharp LOCK BOX CODE is 1516

We recommended leaving the key in the lock-box so you'll easily find it when locking up. Upon your departure, you can leave the key inside the lock-box where you found it. Emergency Services In the event of an emergency please dial 911.

Sumac Centre Address: 1140 Derven Lane RR1, Mountain Grove ON, K0H 2E0

OFF-GRID BASICS / CABIN OVERVIEW

Mason cabin is a low-impact, off-grid, solar-powered tiny cabin. The cabin has been designed to offer you comfort and basic amenities in a rugged, camping-like setting.

Off-grid living requires a little more work and care than a traditional cottage (especially in the winter months). Feel good knowing that you've invested in a low- carbon, eco-friendly getaway.

EXTRA STORAGE

Outside storage: There are hooks outside the front door for you to store your snow-shoes, poles/outdoors gear. (Please avoid walking on the deck with your snow-shoes).

Inside storage: Pull out the big drawer underneath the bed to find extra storage inside for your bags, gear, etc. There is also an extra shelf above the bed/kitchen and in the bathroom for smaller items. The best way to enjoy a tiny cabin is to keep it neat and tidy; tiny spaces can get messy fast.

POWER CONSUMPTION

At Mason cabin, energy conservation is key. Drawing too much energy may cause power loss, so please be mindful of your consumption. A stretch of cloudy and rainy days will also mean less harvested solar power, so it's a good idea to check your power level often (we recommend checking each evening). If you're running low, not to worry! There is a generator outside you'll need to run to recharge the solar batteries.

You should only run the generator if your power is showing 12.4 or lower. Run the generator for 3-4 hours to charge solar battery back to full.

NOTE: The battery panel in the bathroom does not indicate when the battery is full. The numbers will fluctuate throughout the day depending on the amount of sunlight and the amount of energy being consumed in the cabin. All you need to know is that

when the battery is lower than 12.4, you'll need to run the generator for 3-4 hours to charge back up.

The generator is behind the cabin in a wood generator box. Use the smaller key in the lockbox to open the door to run the generator and close and lock the door when not in use.

Please review "Instructions" section at the back of the manual on how to operate the generator if needed.

CHECKING THE CABIN'S POWER LEVEL

To check cabin's power level, go into the bathroom and check the battery indicator on the wall. If below 12.4 it is best to run the generator 3-4 hours to recharge the batteries to full.

Energy Conservation Tips

- Turn off lights when not in use (especially when you are outside of the cabin).
- During the day, keep the lights in the cabin off if there's enough natural light.
- At night, consider using candles for light (just make sure to blow out before bed).
- Use the power outlet sparingly. There is one outlet in the kitchen for charging your phone and laptop but charging multiple phones / laptops will drain the cabin's battery quickly.

Do NOT use the outlet for unnecessary items like hairdryers, electric coffee makers, etc. This will drain the cabin's battery very quickly and will trip the breaker.

HEAT

The cabin's heat is controlled by a furnace and thermostat. To control the temperature you can adjust the thermostat by turning clockwise or counter-clockwise. If you experience any problems with the heater, please notify us right away.

There is a back-up electric heater that you can use in this case. This electric heater is run off the generator which will need to be running in order for the heater to function.

Start up the generator outside and then turn on the electric heater. You can set the timer on the heater to run for a certain period of time and turn off automatically.

Please do not plug the heater into outlets in the kitchen. This will drain the cabin's battery very quickly.

DRINKING & WASHING WATER

Our running water (which is pumped from the lake) is turned off in the winter months. We supply our guests with 40 litres of drinking and washing water when our water is turned off. One jug of water will be left by the sink for easy dish washing, the other will be left under the counter.

If you run out of water during your stay, you are welcome to fill up your jugs at the Sumac Centre lodge. Paul, the owner, is super friendly. Go through the front door off the parking lot. There is a bathroom on the right side with a large sink. If you see Paul, say hello!

Water Conservation Tips

- Consider limiting the amount of dishes you use (the less you use, the less to clean)
- Consider saving your dirty dishes and doing one large wash at the end of the day
- Consider soaping all your dishes first and then rinsing clean
- Consider soaking any tough, dirty dishes in hot (i.e. boiled), soapy water before rinsing

KITCHEN

Our kitchen comes equipped with a four-burner stove and mini fridge/freezer. There is a propane bbq outside. The kitchen is stocked with cutlery, cups, plates, wine glasses, pots and pans. You are welcome to use our kitchen essentials (sugar, flour, tea, coffee and spices). We provide dish soap, sponges and tea towels. Do not leave food sitting outside, especially over night, as this may attract unwanted pests. Please empty your grease in our labelled grease bucket. Throw any coffee grounds in the garbage.

Small Appliances

You'll notice we don't have a coffee maker, microwave, toaster or oven. These appliances draw a lot of energy. You'll find a french press for your morning coffee and a stove-top camping toaster for your toast.

Gas Stove Instructions

To use stovetop, press and hold down knob (you'll hear a clicking sound) and turn to your desired heat level. If the burner does not "catch" flame, use the BBQ lighter to assist. In this case, hold down knob, ignite the BBQ lighter and carefully place flame under burner until the stove catches the flame. If the BBQ lighter is empty, refill the lighter with the butane canister.

BATHROOM

Composting Toilet

Our water-less composting toilet uses the natural processes of decomposition and evaporation to recycle human waste. (The toilet is emptied and cleaned before your arrival).

Toilet Instructions

- Urine goes down the front chute; Human waste and toilet paper goes down the back chute (under the waste flap). No flush required.
- When you sit on the toilet, the waste flap will open. Do your business. When you stand up, the waste flap will close. Do NOT urinate in the back chute.
- There is a fan in the toilet constantly blowing air to keep any smells at bay.
- Do not throw tampons, food, organics or anything down the toilet.

Tip Keep the toilet lid closed when not in use.

BUGS

Encounters with bugs, critters and animals are a reality of being in the wilderness. Use bug spray and wear proper attire when outside.

Ticks: If you plan to hike the property it's always important to do a thorough scan of

your body (and your pets) for ticks. Ticks have been a major issue across Southern Ontario. Please do your research ahead of time and learn how to properly check yourself for ticks.

Tip Before bed, we recommend killing any mosquitoes or flying bugs that may have found their way into the cabin from open doors and windows.

HOUSE RULES

NOISE LEVELS: Please keep your evening noise levels to within reason. Help us to promote a quiet and tranquil setting for our friends at the Sumac Centre.

GARBAGE: All garbage and recycling must be packed up and taken home on your departure. A \$50 garbage fee will be charged to guests who break this rule.

TIDY UP: We ask that our guests please clean up after themselves before departure. Clean/wash all your dishes and leave the cabin as you found it. There are a few winter maintenance tasks you'll need to complete before checking out. (See list on kitchen wall or back of binder).

PETS: Please, please keep your furry friends off the bed, blankets and cushions and pick-up any waste left on the property. Before you leave, please sweep up any shedding fur around the cabin.

FIREPITS: Please manage your fires responsibly and ensure they will not spread before turning in.

DRONES: The use of drones is not permitted on our property or near the Sumac Centre.

SMOKING: Smoking is prohibited inside the cabin. Please dispose of your butts in the fire pit or in the garbage.

THINGS TO DO

HIKE/SHOW-SHOE, BACK-COUNTRY SKIING

Enjoy the 10km of meandering trails our property has to offer. Check the back of our manual for a detailed trail map.

Note: We share our 576 pristine acres with the good folks at the Sumac Centre (a family-owned lodge) and their friendly golden lab Maya. All trails on the property are shared between our cabin and the lodge. You may encounter other guests on the trails.

CANOE

There is a canoe down by the lake. Lifejackets and paddles can be found under the deck. Our lake is small but it's a nice, relaxing paddle. Always bring along your lifejackets and boat bailer with you.

TOBOGGAN

Take the sled we provided you out for a spin on our toboggan hill, located just behind the cabin! The hill is marked on the trail map at the back of the manual.

DAY TRIPS

- **Visit Long Lake Beach (14 minute drive)** Long Lake beach is a public sandy beach stretching 130 metres across Long Lake with picnic tables, swimming dock and boat launch. You can access the beach from Public Beach Road just off of Long Lake Road. 1066 Public Beach Rd
- **Visit Sharbot Lake village (26 minute drive)** A 26-minute drive to the quaint village of Sharbot Lake is where you'll find anything you might need: groceries, LCBO, Beer Store, cafe, restaurants, a sandy public beach with playground, Saturday farmers' markets, local events, concerts and activities, and trail heads.
- **Visit historic Perth village (50 minute drive)** Perth is a beautiful, historic military settlement named after the town of Perth in Scotland, nestled along the Tay River. Here you'll find great shopping, restaurants, cafes, and local events.

Local Restaurants

Sharbot Lake Country Inn & The Crossing Pub (26 minutes away)
A wholesome mix of hearty pub fare

The Maples (27 minutes away)
A solid breakfast joint

Coffee/Bar

Cardinal Cafe (26 minutes away)
Beautiful cafe and patio in a converted church selling yummy baked goods, sandwiches and beer. Highly recommended!

Grocery

Mike Dean's Super Food Store (28 minutes away)
Great little grocery store in Sharbot Village with everything you need

Gas/Convenient Store

Petro Canada (22 minutes away)
Gas station/convenient/general/hardware store just off Hwy 7 before Sharbot Lake village

INSTRUCTIONS:



POWER LOSS

If power level in the cabin is low, the battery will go into a "safe" mode and shut off power to the cabin. Take the following steps:

- 1) Don't panic.
- 2) Start the generator. (It will need to run for about 15 seconds before you restore power to the cabin).

To run the generator:

- 1) Check the gas level and ensure it is full (up to red line) There is a red fuel tank beside the generator. If you need to purchase more fuel please buy "premium" fuel and let us know the cost. We will refund you.
- 2) Turn the "choke" lever to the right to the "on" position / ensure the engine switch is turned to "on". Ensure the air flow lever on the cap is turned to "on".

3) Pull the start pull. It should start easily but may take two or three pulls to get going.

4) Slowly turn the choke back off. If you are having trouble starting the engine try starting it with the choke off.

You can let the generator run while you are out enjoying the day, 3-4 Hours should charge your battery to full. To turn the generator "off" turn the engine switch to the off position.

Conserve your power after a power loss to let the battery get charged up before plugging in your laptops/phones. Using a large amount of power immediately after a power loss could result in a subsequent power loss.

TROUBLESHOOTING:

No heat? The stove isn't working?

If the stove is not lighting flame or if the furnace is blowing air but not heating, you are likely out of propane.

At the front of the trailer there are two propane tanks and a switch in between. If you are out of propane the switch will show red. Simply turn the switch 180 degrees to change over to the second propane cylinder. The red colour should pop back to green, ensure that the tank valve is in the "open" position. Please notify us that the first tank is empty and we will switch it with a new tank before our next guest arrives.

Propane Alarm Sounding?

There is a propane alarm in the bathroom. This may go off if there is a propane leak or if you've left the stove on a long time. Our propane alarm is very sensitive due to the cabin's small size and sometimes the alarm will falsely sound after a long cooking session. If the alarm sounds you can turn of the alarm sound by pressing the button on the alarm.

DO NOT SMOKE OR USE A LIGHTER ANYWHERE NEAR THE CABIN DURING AN ALARM!

-First ensure that all of the stovetop elements are off and open a window. -If the stovetop was not the issue, turn off the propane tanks at the back of the cabin and contact us immediately. -If you smell gas (propane smells like rotten eggs) you should open a window and stay out of the cabin until it airs out.

BEFORE YOU CHECK-OUT!

Please do the following important tasks before you check-out of the cabin:

- Tidy up.
- Pack up / take home garbage and recyclables. (Guests will be charged a \$50 fee if garbage, etc, is left behind.)
- Turn heat down to 10 degrees celsius.
- Make sure key is in lock-box

Thank you for visiting :)