

## HOUSE MANUAL

\*Please Review Thoroughly\*

### WELCOME TO MICA CABIN

Our Cabinscape is all yours to unwind, relax and adventure. Hunker down or get out and enjoy the nearby hiking trails or explore an historic mica mine at Murphy's Point Provincial Park.

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](http://www.cabinscape.com)

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

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If you need help or have questions, we have a central support number. It is 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 by calling.

Support Number: (289) 206-1193

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CHECK IN is 3pm | CHECK OUT is 11am sharp  
LOCK BOX CODE is 0721

\*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.

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Emergency Services  
In the event of an emergency please dial 911.

IMPORTANT: The cabin is NOT accessible to emergency vehicles. This is a back country environment. You will need to make your way to Long Lake Road for emergency assistance.

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PROPERTY ADDRESS: 824 Long Lake Road, Perth, Ontario

## OFF-GRID BASICS / CABIN OVERVIEW

Mica 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**

There's hooks, empty shelves around the cabin, and an empty drawer under the bed for you to store your things. The best way to enjoy a tiny cabin is to keep it neat and tidy; tiny spaces can get messy fast. When you arrive, store your cold food in the fridge.

### **POWER CONSUMPTION**

At Mica 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 below 12.4. Run the generator for 3-4 hours to charge solar battery back to full.

NOTE: The battery panel next to the bed does not indicate when the battery is accurately 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. If the battery level does not go up when the generator is running please text us, as this means it is not charging properly.

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 Cabin's Power Level

The cabin's power level is displayed on a display at the foot of the bottom bunk bed under the kitchen counter. Please keep an eye on this as low batteries can cause

multiple issues including power loss. If below 12.4, 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 high voltage items like hairdryers, coffee makers, kitchen appliances, etc. This is a low voltage outlet and power outages will result.***

#### **HEAT**

The cabin's heat is controlled by a furnace and thermostat. To control the temperature you can adjust the thermostat on the wall.

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 emergency 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.

***Do not plug the heater into outlets in the kitchen. This will result in power loss.***

#### **DRINKING & WASHING WATER**

Our running water (which is pumped from the lake) is turned off when temps dip below freezing. DO NOT DRINK TAP WATER! Guests are supplied with 20 litres of potable drinking water in blue jugs. When running water is turned off for the season, guests are supplied with 40 litres of drinking and dish washing water. If you run out of water during your stay, you can purchase more in town.

#### **\*Water Conservation Tips when Running Water is OFF\***

- 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. Please do not plug in household appliances such as coffee makers as they draw too much power.

### **Gas Stove Instructions**

To use the 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.

## **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 flape). 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 else down the toilet.

### **\*Tip\***

Keep the toilet lid closed when not in use.

## LOFT / BED

There are two beds with clean fitted sheets. In response to Covid-19, we have removed ALL BEDDING and towels from our cabin. You'll need to outfit the beds with your own flat sheets, pillows, pillow cases and blankets. You will also need to bring your own towels.

## LED LIGHTS

The cabin is outfitted with energy efficient, LED lights. Enjoy controlling the lighting, mood and ambiance of the cabin by adjusting the light levels using the "M" to increase the light intensity or slide your finger on the circle gradient to adjust the light level. Press the power icon to turn lights on and off.

## 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 in the area 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.

## WIFI/CELL RECEPTION

There is NO WIFI access at the cabin. There is decent cell reception for Rogers and Bell customers. It may be stronger if you walk out on the trail.

## HOUSE RULES

NOISE LEVELS: Please keep your evening noise levels to within reason. Our cabin is located inside a conservation area. Please respect our natural surroundings.

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. Please follow the check-out list on the kitchen wall before checking out.

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

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

## THINGS TO DO

### CANOE (weather permitting)

There is a canoe, lifejackets and paddles available for use down by the water. Enjoy exploring Mills Lake and its abundant wildlife. To access the main lake, head towards the right shore until you see the beaver's house and keep following the white markers staked in the ground. Always make sure to bring along your lifejackets when out paddling.

### SWIM

Take the canoe and head out to our swimming dock in the middle of the lake for clear, clean deep swimming!

### FISH

Take our canoe out and explore the lake. You'll find mostly perch, bass and pike.

### HIKE

#### On-Site Trails

Explore the trails around the cabin and surrounding conservation property. These trails have not been officially marked yet so please be mindful of your navigation and keep to the existing pathways.

#### Murphy's Point Provincial Park (8 minute drive)

This 1,239-hectare park is part of the historic Rideau Waterway (named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007), and boasts many features that tie in with the area's rich past. One of these is the popular Silver Queen Mica Mine. The park offers easy to moderate-level hiking trails and a public beach. You'll also find 20 km of groomed trails for skiing, including 4 km for skate-skiing, 14 km for classic skiing and 8 km for backcountry skiing.

#### Hike the Rideau Valley Trail system

The Rideau Trail is a 387 km network of hiking trails between the City of Kingston and the City of Ottawa located in the general area of the Rideau Canal and its tributary waters. The nearest direct trail access point is just off Long Lake Road approximately 1km west of the cabin parking lot. There are two access points to the trail off Long Lake Road. Heading North off of Long Lake Road follow the markers over a fence line. Heading South off of long lake road follow the markers along a private lane onto the trail. Please follow the markers and stay on the trail.

#### Frontenac Provincial Park (1 hour drive)

For a more challenging hiking experience consider the drive to Frontenac Provincial Park. There are over 100km of great trails in this park all year round.

## DAY TRIPS

- **Visit historic Perth village (15 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, local events, LCBO, gas , grocery, pharmacy, etc.

- **Visit Westport village (25 minute drive)**

The Village of Westport sits quietly along the Rideau Canal at the west end of Big Rideau Lake. Its quaint downtown core has been preserved as it was in the 19th century. There are several lovely shops and cafes along the main strip.

- **Tour the Silver Queen Mine at Murphy's Point Provincial Park (8 minute drive)**

This early 1900s mica mine plunges 20 metres deep to a subterranean tunnel of jagged, glistening mica minerals. Tours are offered twice/week in July and August. You'll need to pre-register at the registration gatehouse or call ahead for this 1-1.5 hour guided hike down the trail and into an early 1900s mica mine. Call the park at 613-267-5060 for specific dates/times.

Silver Queen Mine Open Houses: Sunday mornings, 10 a.m. – Noon throughout the summer. Hardhats supplied for this 1 km walk along the trail and into the restored Silver Queen Mine and miner's bunkhouse. Venture back in time to the early 1900s when the small-scale mica mining business was booming in eastern Ontario.

## GROCERY, GAS, RESTAURANTS, LCBO

Perth is your closest (and largest) town with all the amenities you may need.

## 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 can 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 under the kitchen counter. This may go off if there is a propane leak or if you've left the stove on 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.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

In an emergency call 911

Nearest Hospital : 33 Drummond St W, Perth, ON K7H 2K1

## **BEFORE YOU CHECK-OUT!**

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

- Tidy up / wash dishes.

- Pack up / take home garbage and recyclables.

(Guests will be charged a \$50 fee if garbage, etc, is left behind.)

- Close windows

- Turn heat down to 10 degrees celsius (in the winter months)

- Make sure keys are in lock-box

Thank you for visiting :)