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## **Bliss On Buckhorn Cottage Information Package**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our cottage and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable vacation. In order to make your stay more pleasant, the following pages include valuable information regarding the cottage itself, instructions on the operation of the equipment, garbage disposal, and some general notes on how to find cleaning supplies and that sort of thing. Also included in the Household Rules are general notes on the cottage community that you might find useful. In the event of an emergency, or if you encounter a problem, emergency contact numbers are provided below.

The Household Rules are a further addition to the Terms and Conditions of Renting attached to your Cottage Rental Application. Please review both documents carefully and ensure that all members of your party are familiar with the contents, particularly the conditions of rental and cleanliness guidelines. Just as you appreciated the clean and well maintained state in which you found the cottage, we ask that you leave the cottage clean and tidy for the next guests.

Entertaining guests is very much part of cottage life; however the maximum number of persons determined for this cottage is based on the capacity of the septic system, and the number of beds. Remember that the cottage is occupied on an ongoing basis throughout the summer by other clients and our family and friends in addition to your party. Please do not exceed the maximum number of persons allowed with regard to guests. Your thoughtful consideration of your cottage neighbours' need for quiet and privacy will be appreciated.

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### **KEY MANAGEMENT**

- There are two separate keys: one for the main house and one for the quest house.
- Either someone will meet you to let you in and give you the keys, or you will be given instructions on how to retrieve them.
- When leaving please leave the keys on the kitchen counter. Lock all the doors from the inside. Exit via the garage door into the garage. Lock this door from the inside using only the handle lock. Close the garage main doors using the buttons on the wall next to the door. Exit the garage from the rear door, locking first from the inside.

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### **SECURITY SYSTEM**

- You will be given your own personal security code that no one else knows or uses. This way the system tracks everyone entering and exiting. Your code will be disabled the next time the owners are at the cottage. The system is monitored with the local Trent Security service.
- When entering the house the system will beep about 10 seconds during which you must enter your personal security code.

- To Arm the system first all the doors must be closed. All main floor doors, second floor sliding door, inside door to guest house, garage door to crawl space.
- Press and hold the “Away” button until prompted for your personal security number.
- You now have about 10 seconds to exit and lock the door behind you.

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## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Call **911** and quote fire number **1355 Gail Park Drive, Ennismore.**

**POWER/HEAT SOURCE:** Most cottages are located in rural areas and the electrical power may be interrupted from time to time, and it may stay off a little longer than it would in the city. We suggest you bring a few flashlights for emergencies. Also, if the power does go out, remember that the water system operates on an electric pump. **DO NOT RUN THE WATER WHEN THE ELECTRICITY IS OFF.**

Location of fuse box/electrical panel is inside the main house in the storage room next to the kitchen, and the power panel stays on permanently.

**FIREPIT:** Unless otherwise specified, the firewood provided should be more than adequate for your needs and we ask that you take care not to burn excessive amounts of wood unnecessarily. (If needed, firewood may be purchased at stores in Bridgenorth) **PLEASE CHECK FIRE RATING BEFORE STARTING ANY FIRES!**

**SMOKING:** You are welcome to smoke outside. Please do not smoke inside the cottage. Please dispose of your cigarette butts appropriately. Please do not flick your butts onto the lawn, as this will be a \$30.00 per butt charge onto your security deposit.

**WASTE DISPOSAL:** Never leave garbage outside the cottage unless it is in a tightly covered wood or metal garbage container. Country critters (raccoons, bears, skunks...) love garbage. Unless you wish to be visited by these friendly and hungry animals, please follow the garbage disposal instructions below. Land fill site is located about a 10 minute drive away. See directions and hours of operations below. You may leave a bag or two in the garage, before making the trip to the landfill site or taking it home for disposal. Please be sure to close the garage, especially at nightfall. Garbage day is Wednesday morning and you are limited to 2 regular size bags. Do not put garbage bags out overnight. You must put them out in the morning before 8am. Recycle day is Thursday morning early and you are welcome to add cans or bottles to the recycling bins at the end of the driveway. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE A \$20.00 PER BAG DISPOSAL CHARGE FOR ANY GARBAGE LEFT AT THE PROPERTY.**

**#1480 – 8'th Line Dump: Open Tuesday thru Saturday: 9 – 5pm**

See the second map on your directions: From the juncture of Listowel Line and Robinson Road:

- Go south on Robinson Road to the end, at Yankee Line.

- Go east (turn right) on Yankee Line
  - Past the “Sip N Dip”
  - Over the James Gifford Causeway to the end.
- At the (only) lights in Bridgenorth, go north/east (turn left) onto 8’th Line (County Rd 18).
- Follow 8’th Line (around the “big bend” to the right) to the dump at #1480.
  - Past Centre Line Road
  - It’s on the north side (left)
  - Just past Ron Dunford Excavating

**WATER PUMP:** As noted above in "power/heat source", the cottage uses an electric pump to provide water inside the cottage. The pump will go off and on as the system requires water. Please note that normally it should not run for more than ten minutes or so when there is no water being run.

**COTTAGE WATER SOURCE:** Our water source is a dug well which has tested as drinkable. It is filtered through a water softener. However we do recommend that you bring in drinking water. There is a natural spring water source nearby on the front lawn of a private home with a large pile of rocks on the lawn from which the water comes out. The owner allows anyone to take the water. From Bridgenorth, take Ward street south, past the big curve to the left. It then turns into Chemong Road. Look on the right just past the big curve. It is a smallish house with a large pile of rocks on the front lawn usually with water running on them.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The outside hoses and sprinklers draw water directly from the lake. DO NOT DRINK.

**BATHROOM/SEPTIC SYSTEM:** Like most cottages this cottage operates on a septic system. The septic system is a very sensitive, and integral, part of cottage life. When the house is full of guests it is very easy to overload or clog the system.

**The basic rule is: Do not put anything down the toilet other than natural waste and toilet paper (and be conservative with the paper). Use only 1 ply paper. No paper towels, Kleenex, tampons, sanitary pads, matches, hair, grease, strong chemicals, etc. These are guaranteed to back up the system and believe me, you do not want that to happen. It is a very, very, smelly, nasty situation to be in, and you will have to pay to fix it. Also, when the house is at it’s full capacity for a few days it is easier on the system if you flush only when absolutely necessary. Consider flushing every other time as necessary. Also use the whirlpools sparingly – less than once every three days. Use showers sparingly – be quick. Use dishwashers, washing machines very sparingly. Wash only full loads.**

If the power goes out for a period of time, if you need to flush the toilet more than once, **fill the tank up with water from the lake.** See note under power/heat source.

**SEPTIC BED:** Identified outdoor, next to the storage shed, as the large flat/level open section of sand and grass, can be easily damaged by excessive weight. Do not drive over or park any vehicles in this area. Septic systems have a maximum capacity with regard to use (i.e. number of persons, washrooms, laundry, etc.) Please observe the maximum number of persons determined for this cottage and indicated on your rental agreement.

**BARBECUE:** Please do not burn any foreign materials (eg. wood) in the barbecue. Barbecue grill should be cleaned after each use. Cleanliness of the BBQ has been a problem in the past. Please ensure you clean up the BBQ both in and out before you leave. Make sure that when lighting the barbecue that you have the lid open before you turn on the gas on the barbecue. After each use, turn off both the barbecue "On/OFF" valve and the wall natural gas valve.

**TELEVISION and HIGH SPEED INTERNET** service is a luxury usually restricted to urban areas, but we are lucky enough to have both. Please refer to the TV/Stereo instructions. Nearest DVD and video rental is at Emerald Isle Marina or Bridgenorth.

**RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT:** Use of the canoe and kayak is included in your rental. Please bring your own life jackets that fit properly. When boating, remember that one approved life jacket or personal flotation device for each person on board is required by law. All recreational equipment can be used only at your own risk.

**LAKE REMINDERS:** Our shoreline is rocky; therefore we strongly recommend that you wear water shoes before entering the water. Zebra mussels are now in all the lakes, including Buckhorn. Zebra Mussel shells are very sharp and will cut feet easily. Also be careful when reaching for things on the bottom of the lake as they have been known to cut hands as well. The lake is fairly shallow at the shore and gradually increasing in depth the further you walk out. We recommend entering the water from the point or the dock. Be aware of the boat lift and give it some distance when swimming. NEVER SWIM ALONE. It is dangerous and every year someone dies in Ontario doing that very thing. Stay safe!

**INDOOR and OUTDOOR FURNITURE:** Please do not move the furniture around – IT SCRATHES THE FLOORS. If you do move some small items please ensure you return them to their original places.

**PATIO FURNITURE ON COTTAGE DECK:** Please fold up patio umbrellas when not in use or over night. Tie a rope around the umbrella so the wind doesn't catch it and rip it.

**MARINA LOCATION:** Emerald Isle Marina has a boat launch, gas and a small convenience store. They also rent small boats and motors. See my web site under "Things To Do" for more marina options.

**COMMUNITY NOTES:** Cottage communities have become very inter-dependent. Everyone knows everyone else and keeps an eye on their property for them. Don't be

surprised if someone asks who you are. Explain that you are guests of ours. Your due consideration the community will be appreciated - **no loud parties or noise after 10:00 P.M.**, and observe normal boating and water guidelines, etc.

**TELEPHONE:** Our number is 705-292-0567. Local calls are permitted. But the phone line has been blocked for long distance calls. Please use cell phones for long distance calls or have your party call the cottage.

**OTHER NOTES:** You are welcome to supplies if you need to, but we ask that you replace any supplies that become depleted during your stay.

**PETS:** Pets are not allowed. In some special cases a small pet maybe allowed if they are caged when in the house. All pets at the cottage must be pre approved and recorded on the rental contract. Please keep your pet on a leash or near you at all times. Remember that sound carries over water, do not allow your pet to disturb the neighbours.

All dog poop must be scooped from the cottage lawn and driveway area. **Failure to do so will result in a \$30 clean up fee per offence.** We take this matter very seriously.

**CHECK OUT TIME:** Your adherence to the check out time of 11:00 a.m. unless otherwise indicated on your booking confirmation form, will be appreciated, in order to allow time for cottage maintenance and preparation for the next cottage guests.

**NOTES ON INSECTS, LOCAL WILDLIFE:** Insects and mice are very much part of cottage country. To discourage these pests endeavour to keep exterior screen doors closed at all times.

**UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED, CHECK OUT TIME IS 11:00 A.M.**

*Thank you for choosing our cottage for your vacation time. Please contribute to the cottage memory book. We will appreciate hearing about your own experiences in this place we've built with love and care.*