

SEASONAL CAMPERS' GUIDE



RULES AND REGULATIONS



Welcome to Seasonal Camping in Manitoba

If you have a desire to get outside more, you're in the right province.

Many of us know Manitoba only as a Prairie province. While we certainly have vast expanses of prairies, people are sometimes amazed to learn that about 60 per cent of our province is boreal-forested Canadian Shield wilderness. Between prairie and boreal forest are regions of lush, green parkland. Our entire province is dotted with thousands of crystal clear lakes filled with freshwater fish and connected to streams and rivers that eventually find their way north across tundra landscapes to our ocean coast at Hudson Bay.

Manitoba is a province of such diverse and incredible beauty that appreciating the landscapes and abundant wildlife resources really does mean experiencing them in person.

Seasonal camping is a tremendous way to do that. It's something every Manitoban should experience at least once. Once you've experienced this life adventure, you may find yourself compelled to return again and again. You will know Manitoba as the outdoor paradise it really is. You will never forget that you live in a big, diverse and beautiful province where you are free to make your own adventures.

Come and camp with us.

Manitoba's provincial parks offer you the enjoyment of outdoor living and opportunities to be close to nature. Our campgrounds are managed to ensure you have a pleasant stay.

Conservation Officers in our parks work to ensure The Provincial Parks Act and regulations are observed by all park users, so everyone can enjoy a peaceful, safe camping experience.

Not observing laws or park rules and regulations could mean:

- the cancellation of your camping permit without compensation
- an eviction for up to 21 days
- possible charges
- a ban from provincial parks for up to one year
- disqualification from the next seasonal campsite draw

Camping Season

Permit: Seasonal campsites are intended for use by the permit holder and immediate family (which is generally defined as parent(s) and their children under the age of 18 with the possible addition of a grandparent or similar, immediate relative).

Seasonal camping permits grant the right to occupy a specified campsite for the period listed on the enclosed schedule of Seasonal Camping Dates and Prices.

Your seasonal camping fee covers the term of your seasonal camping permit including start and end dates referred to as units-on to units-off dates.

If your camping unit is on site without a valid permit before or after the term of your seasonal camping permit, you are subject to all of the following:

- having your camping unit towed at your expense
- being charged for occupying park land without a valid permit
- paying nightly camping fees for each night the camping unit occupied the site

Transfers and refunds: Seasonal camping permits are neither transferable nor refundable.

Renting, subletting, sharing or switching campsites is not permitted and may result in the cancellation of your camping permit.

At the Beginning of the Season

Siting your camping unit: Camping units must be placed on site within 22 days of campground opening (see enclosed Seasonal Camping Dates and Prices).

If you are unable to site your camping unit by the specified date, you must inform the appropriate district office (see enclosed Department Contact List). Failure to comply could result in cancellation of your camping permit.

Proof of insurance: All camping units (except tents) must be registered with Manitoba Public Insurance (or equivalent) and display a valid licence. **Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks** reserves the right to verify licence plate numbers.

Your Campsite

To be considered occupied, a campsite must contain one of the following camping units:

- tent
- tent-trailer
- camper-truck
- camping trailer
- fifth-wheel trailer
- motor home

ONLY ONE CAMPING UNIT PER CAMPSITE IS PERMITTED.

Please refer to the Equipment and Structures section located at the back of this guide for further information on what is permitted on your campsite. This guide intends to minimize the impact on the environment while providing ample accommodation for your camping experience.

All allowable structures, equipment and a single motor vehicle must fit in the defined campsite. The maximum allowable footprint of all structures on a campsite cannot exceed 460 sq. ft (42.74 square metres). Campsites must not be modified or enlarged in any way by encroaching on green space. Destroying or removing existing natural features or moving curbs, timbers or boulders placed for site definition is prohibited.

Site inspections conducted by regional enforcement staff in early June may identify issues pertaining to allowable structures, equipment or camping footprint. If a campsite is deemed non-compliant, the permit holder must resolve issues within two weeks of inspection to avoid risks including forfeiting the seasonal camping permit without compensation and disqualification from next season's draw.

Temporary Removal of a Camping Unit:

If you are temporarily removing your camping unit for a period of time (ex: for vacation) you must submit a Notification of Removal of Camping Unit from Seasonal Campground form (available at your local district office) to the Campground Office or the District Office.

If a request to temporarily remove your unit is not on file, the site may be deemed vacant, your permit cancelled and the site redistributed.

Campground Etiquette

Quiet time: Campground quiet time is between 11 p.m. and 9 a.m. Use of loud equipment such as chainsaws, radios, and generators during this time is prohibited.

Noise and Disturbances: Permit holders must ensure that they and others occupying the site do not interfere with quiet, peaceful use and enjoyment of provincial park lands by other campers. Excessive noise or disturbance, as determined by an officer, is not permitted at any time. This includes fighting, yelling, playing loud music, using insulting or obscene language, drunkenness and damaging property. Not complying with the rules may result in enforcement actions by Conservation Officers. You could be charged with creating a public disturbance under the Park Activities Regulation (set fine of \$673.65). You could also be evicted from all provincial parks for a period of up to 21 days. More serious disturbances could mean being charged with breach of peace under the Criminal Code, being banned for a year from all provincial parks or both.

Generators: Except under the authority of an officer, generators may not be used during quiet time of 11 p.m. to 9 a.m. or if the site is unattended. Continuous or prolonged generator use during the day can disturb neighbours and is not allowed.

Alcohol consumption: Alcoholic beverages may only be consumed on a permitted campsite.

Cannabis and Provincial Parks: The smoking or vaping of medical and non-medical cannabis is prohibited at all government operated campsites, yurts and family vacation cabins. Other restrictions also apply. For more information on cannabis use in provincial parks, go to: www.gov.mb.ca/sd/pubs/parks-protected-spaces/cannabis_pp.pdf.

Pets: All pets must be kept leashed, tied up or caged, and under physical control at all times. Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets.

Entering the campground after 11 p.m.:

Only permit holders returning to their designated campsites are allowed into campgrounds after 11 p.m. Vehicles entering campgrounds after 11 p.m. may be restricted.

Guests: Guests are allowed after 11 p.m. on an occasional basis as long as the maximum number of adults, including the permit holder, does not exceed six. Everyone including guests must be accommodated within the allowable equipment and structures. The permit holder is responsible for the conduct of all people using the site, whether they have permit holder's permission to use the site or not. Visitors to campsites must leave their vehicles in the designated parking areas.

Only one vehicle is permitted on each campsite unless approved by an officer.

Campground Safety

Children at play: Please use caution when driving your vehicle or moving your camping unit.

Maximum speed of 20 kilometres per hour (km/h): The speed limit in campgrounds is 20 km/h. All motor vehicles operated in campgrounds must meet the requirements of The Highway Traffic Act (except for specialized park maintenance vehicles). Motor vehicles not defined by the act (such as trail bikes and all-terrain vehicles) are prohibited or are restricted to designated areas or trails.

Do not feed wildlife: Feeding wildlife is not allowed because it can be harmful to both the animals and people who come into contact with them.

Bears can cause serious injury and property damage. No matter how tame they appear, they are wild animals. Do not harass them or leave food or garbage out. Report a nuisance bear to an officer or the campground office. Please clean all cooking surfaces (barbeques, stoves, picnic tables, etc.) regularly. Leftover food will also attract wildlife. Bird feeders are not permitted in seasonal campgrounds because they encourage visits by bears and other problem wildlife.

Emergency removal of equipment:

All structures and equipment must be maintained in a moveable state in case an evacuation is necessary. **Manitoba Environment, Climate and Parks** reserves the right to evacuate all campers in an emergency.

Campfires: Campfires are only permitted in designated fire pits and must be extinguished when the site is unoccupied. Burning elm or ash, plastics, metal, glass and leftover food that includes bones is not permitted.

Firearms: Discharging a firearm or possession of a loaded firearm within 300 metres of any developed area, including campgrounds is prohibited at all times. Please contact your local district office for any park-specific restrictions.

Fireworks: The use of fireworks and sky lanterns are prohibited in Manitoba's provincial parks.

Campground Environment

All seasonal campers share responsibility to protect nature in our provincial park campgrounds. The permit holder is responsible for the following:

Campsite maintenance: The site must be maintained by the permit holder and kept in a clean and sanitary condition at all times, including the cutting of grass with your own equipment.

Wastewater disposal: Dispose of wastewater only in dump stations or sewer drains provided. Wastewater disposal on the campsite or surrounding areas is not permitted.

Help make our Campgrounds Power Wise: Unplug patio lanterns when you retire for the night and when you're gone; or use solar lighting.

Garbage disposal: Place garbage in park provided refuse containers on a daily basis and keep your site free of litter at all times to avoid problem wildlife. Garbage must not be stored on site.

Recycle: Help reduce waste by recycling glass, paper and plastic products. Recycling items should be disposed of daily and must not be stored on site.

Glass containers: Limit use of glass containers. Broken glass can be dangerous to visitors, staff, pets and wildlife.

Take care of the trees: Damaged trees are more likely to be destroyed by fungus or disease. Please do not strip bark, use nails or attach wire on trees or shrubs. Ropes around trees are permitted, but must be removed at end of season.

Safe campfires: Ensure campfires are extinguished before you retire for the night or leave the site. Dispose of matches and cigarettes in the fire pit.

Firewood: Firewood, where provided, is for campsite permit holder use only. Stockpiling provided wood on the campsite is not allowed.

Removal of wood from a provincial park and unauthorized collection of any living or dead vegetation is prohibited in Manitoba provincial parks.

Do not transport firewood. Firewood brought in from another area may harbour harmful pests and carry diseases that will destroy forests. Buy firewood locally and burn it locally.

End of Camping Season

At season end, the permit holder is responsible for removing all personal property and restoring the campsite to the condition it was in at the start of the season.

If permanently removing your camping unit prior to the end of the season, you must submit a Notification of Removal of Camping Unit from Seasonal Campground form (available at your local district office) to the Campground Office or District Office. If notification of early departure is not on file, the site may be deemed vacant, your permit cancelled and the site redistributed.

Some campgrounds offer winter storage for camping units. Check with the campground's district office for storage availability. Winter storage permits are offered starting in early June until the campground's units-off date.

Storage is for camping units and associated items that were present on the seasonal site during the current year only.

Seasonal Campers' Guide

Conditions of Application and Site Selection

Eligibility and Application

Only Manitoba residents may participate in draws for seasonal campsites. Participants must be able to produce a Manitoba Health Registration Card or a Manitoba Driver's Licence as identification in order to verify residency. A Manitoba resident is a citizen of the province whose primary residence is located in Manitoba and who is present at the primary residence 183 days of the year.

Only one application per family is permitted. Family is generally defined as parent(s) and children under 18 years of age.

NOTE: Submitting multiple applications under different names, applying on behalf of someone else, or completing an application for site occupants other than themselves will result in forfeiture of the site and seasonal camping fees as well as disqualification from the next season's draw.

Proof of registration with Manitoba Public Insurance (or equivalent) must be provided at the time of application in the form of:

- a copy of your registration (with licence plate number)

or

- a Notice of Registration and/or Insurance Coverage in Force (available from Manitoba Public Insurance)

Exceptions would include tents or if a camping unit is not owned at the time of application.

- Although lapsed registrations are accepted at the time of application, a copy of valid registration must be presented to the District Office no later than seven days after siting the trailer on the campsite.

- If a tent is declared on the application, only a tent may be used unless proof of purchase and a new registration for a camping unit (ex: RV or trailer) is provided before moving the unit onto the permitted site. **Use of another applicant's camping unit is not permitted.** Use of a tent cannot be listed on a full service site application.
- If a camping unit is not owned at the time of application, proof of tent or proof of purchase and registration of a camping unit must be provided before siting the unit. The use of another applicant's camping unit will not be permitted.
- Additionally, a camping unit purchased from an unsuccessful applicant may not be used in the current year, except under certain conditions and as approved by Parks Branch.
- An applicant may use a camping unit owned by another individual, but its licence and registration must be provided at the time of application.
- A camping unit licence and registration may be used only once during the application process. Duplicates will be disqualified from the draw process.
- If a camper-truck is declared on the application, the vehicle licence number must be provided.
- Applications that do not include a unit's licence number and copy of the appropriate registration will not be accepted unless they indicate that a tent will be used or that a camping unit has not yet been purchased.

Payment

Full payment must accompany an application by the required deadline. Applications without the required payment or paperwork will not be accepted. Payment or paperwork will not be accepted.

On-line applications must be paid by Visa or MasterCard. Payment options for those who choose to mail their application include:

certified cheque, bank draft, money order (payable to the Minister of Finance of Manitoba), Visa and MasterCard. **Cash and debit payments are available for walk-in applicants at 1181 Portage Ave. only.**

Personal cheque, telephone, fax or email credit card payments will not be accepted. Please ensure that your payment is for the full amount of the appropriate seasonal camping fee.

REMEMBER:

- Cheques will be accepted only if they are certified.
- You are responsible for ensuring that your payment reaches us before the deadline date to ensure your application is included in the draw.
- Payment must be exact and consistent with the required fee of the campground for which you are applying (see Seasonal Camping Dates and Prices) or it will not be accepted.

Mailing Your Application

If you send your application by mail or courier and it is not physically delivered by the deadline date specified in this package, it will not be accepted. Applications submitted using the on-line portal will not be accepted after 4:30 p.m. (CST) of the application deadline date.

Accessible Sites

If you wish to apply for a campsite that is designated accessible for persons with physical disabilities, you must make a declaration on the application and provide a completed Physician Certificate (attached). Seasonal accessible sites for persons with physical disabilities are now

offered at Assinippi, Big Whiteshell (South Shore), Black Lake, Campers Cove, Falcon Lakeshore, Hecla, Moose Lake, Paint Lake, Rainbow Beach and Stephenfield.

Draw Process

Public site selections will determine specific site assignments:

- A computerized draw taking place approximately two weeks after the application deadline will determine who participates in the site selection draw and in what order.
- All applicants will be advised by email or direct mail whether or not they must attend the site selection draw. This advice will not be provided by phone.
- Applicants invited to participate in site selection must attend personally or via proxy, or forfeit all fees.
- Applicants not selected to participate in a site selection draw will automatically be placed on the standby list for that campground in draw order.

Withdrawals

Applicants cannot withdraw at site selection unless:

- A site of adequate size or featuring the service level applied for is unavailable.
- Authorization is given under exceptional circumstances by the Special Programs Coordinator prior to the site selection night.

Note: Applicants who withdraw for other reasons will forfeit their seasonal camping fees.

Site Selection (modified COVID protocol)

Park staff will contact all successful applicants by phone in draw order to select their campsite. The applicant must be available at the phone number(s) provided at the time of application at the site selection or risk forfeiture of the seasonal camping fee.

- a) When called to select a site, please have

your record ID number provided to you in your site selection invitation letter.

- b) (i) Applicants for locations that are not assigned a specific date for the site selection, will be contacted by district office staff during regular office hours (**see Site Selection Dates and Times**). Applicants who are not available when called, will have up to the end of the next business day to return the call and make their selection, or risk losing their place in draw order. They must then select a site once all other site selections for that campground have taken place.

(ii) Applicants for locations that have an assigned site selection date, must make themselves available that evening (**see Site Selection Dates and Times**). If they cannot be reached at the telephone number(s) provided, they will lose their place in draw order and must select a site after all other site selections for that campground have taken place.

- c) Applicants who cannot be contacted in a timely manner will be considered absent from the site selection and will lose their place in the draw order and may risk forfeiture of fees paid. Absent applicants may not withdraw without loss of fees except if remaining site sizes will not accommodate the camping unit or withdrawal is approved for compassionate reasons. Unallocated sites as the result of absent applicants will not be offered to standby list applicants unless a withdrawal is approved.
- d) Once all higher service level sites have been allocated, any remaining applicants for higher level service sites may select a lower level service site where available, withdraw or be added to the standby list. Selection of a higher level of service than applied for is not allowed. Only standby list applicants will be permitted to select a higher level of service than originally applied for.
- e) Applicants with disabilities, who have de-

clared a requirement for an accessible site, may select any available seasonal site. If such an applicant selects a site not designated as accessible, no further site accommodation will be made.

- f) Once an applicant selects a site, that selection is final. No transfers are permitted.

Unsuccessful at Site Selection:

If the applicant is successful in the computerized draw, but unsuccessful at site selection, one of two options is available:

1) STANDBY LIST

(for sites vacated throughout the season)

If an applicant is unsuccessful at the site selection, they may opt to be added to the standby list for that campground in draw order. A full refund will be issued to those placed on the standby list and should a site become available it will be offered to standby list applicants in the original draw order. There is no obligation to accept sites that may become available.

NOTE: Once an applicant has selected a site, they are not eligible to be placed on a standby list.

2) WITHDRAW

Following the site selection, unsuccessful applicants may withdraw and receive a full refund.

Unallocated Sites:

On Tuesday, **March 28, 2023**, after the completion of the Central & Eastern Region site selections, all unallocated sites are made available on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 8:30 a.m. **Due to office moves, please check the website for locations, one week prior.** Out-of-province residents may also apply at this time. Inquiries about available sites and how to acquire a site for the season can be made by emailing seasoncamp@gov.mb.ca or by calling 204-945-3934.

Unallocated sites in the Western & Northern

Region site selections will be made available through the local district office. Contact your local district office directly for more information.

If an applicant or a proxy representative contravenes any site selection rule or regulation, the seasonal camping fee will be forfeited and the applicant or representative will be ineligible to choose a site.

NOTE FOR CAMPERS ENTITLED TO REFUNDS:

Refunds will be issued to unsuccessful applicants once all computerized draw records have been reconciled, generally in mid-March.

Refunds for those who withdraw due to exceptional circumstances, select a lower level of service or choose to be listed on standby will be processed two to three weeks after site selections. All refunds are returned by cheque via Canada Post.

Seasonal Campers' Guide

Permitted Equipment and Structures

The combination of any of the following permitted equipment and structures may not exceed the allowable footprint of 460 sq. ft. (42.74 square metres). No equipment or structures may exceed the allowable measurements, even if the total footprint is less than 460 sq. ft. (42.74 square metres)

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- **one camping unit**
 - tent, tent-trailer, camper-truck, camping trailer, fifth-wheel or motor home, not to exceed the size of the campsite
 - **one additional sleeping tent**
 - **one screened dining tent**
 - must not exceed 144 sq. ft. (13.37 square metres)
 - may not be used for storage of garbage, recyclables or any combustible material
 - **one ground level deck or patio**
 - must not exceed 144 sq. ft. (13.37 square metres) or the footprint of the camping unit, whichever is less
 - must fit within the site and not encroach on green space or other sites
 - made of wood, carpet or other material
 - raised deck structures are not allowed unless the site prevents a ground level deck and is authorized by an officer
 - **one add-a-room**
 - must not exceed 144 sq. ft. (13.37 square metres) or the footprint of the camping unit, whichever is less
 - canvas or vinyl and screened material product, commonly sold with trailers, which attaches to the trailer or recreational vehicle
 - **one horizontal tarp**
 - must not exceed 144 sq. ft. (13.37 square metres) or the footprint of the camping unit, whichever is less
 - allowed for shelter only if an add-a-room or roll-out awning does not exist
 - **portable shower**
 - only allowed in campgrounds with approval from an officer, where shower facilities do not exist
 - catch basin is required to collect grey water for appropriate dumping facility
 - **holding tanks**
 - allowed only if they are part of the camping unit or are a recognized portable wastewater receptacle
 - examples of recognized portable wastewater receptacles allowed: Smart Totes or Tote-Along
 - **CSA approved wood, oil or propane heat sources** with chimneys permitted if part of a trailer or recreational vehicle
 - **refrigerators**
 - permitted if they are contained within one of the allowable structures on the campsite. They must be locked or housed within a locked structure.
 - **satellite television dishes** permitted only on designated site
 - telephone or cable installations not permitted

In addition to the above structures, the following equipment is permitted on a campsite **if space allows** and is not considered part of the footprint:

- **one motor vehicle** (only one vehicle permitted in each campsite unless approved by an officer)
- **one boat and trailer combination or utility trailer** (valid registration must be maintained)

Equipment or structures other than those listed above are not permitted.

WHITESHELL AND NOPIMING ONLY

The following equipment and structures are allowed, with limitations, and must fit within the 460 sq. ft. (42.74 square metres) footprint:

- **one cabana or fixed roof shelter**
 - allowed only if add-a-room, roll-out awning or tarp is not present
 - not to exceed footprint of camping unit and not to exceed 144 sq. ft. (13.37 square metres), whichever is less (ex: If the camping unit is only 120 sq. ft. (11.15 square metres), cabana cannot exceed 120 sq. ft. (11.15 square metres).
 - attached to or immediately adjacent to door of camping unit
 - stand-alone cabanas not allowed
 - fixed roof shelters not to exceed height of camping unit
 - may only cover ground level deck or patio area
- **one freestanding, hard-sided, storage shed**
 - not to exceed 100 sq. ft. (9.29 square metres)
 - shed cannot be canvas, fabric or similar material
 - must be lockable
 - no garbage or recyclables to be stored in shed

