

Northwest Camp Rules

RESERVATIONS Northwest Camp is open all year long only to those who register. Reservations are required for cabin and tent platform together and are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Occupants must have a reservation card placed on dashboard and posted in front cabin window during their entire stay. To request a reservation, e-mail the AMC Northwest Camp Registrar, Craig Kennedy at nwregistrar@ct-amc.org. A maximum of 10 people are allowed per reserved night, 6 in cabin (for fire safety) and 4 on platform. Tent setup is allowed only on tent platform. Camping at NW Camp is a privilege. Abuse of these rules may result in loss of that privilege. AMC Ridge Runners and NW Camp Committee Monitor's check in on camp and surrounding area on a regular basis.

Member rental fees throughout the year are \$100 per weekend and \$40 per night weekdays (Sunday through Thursday). Holiday weekends for three nights are \$150 for members.

Non-member fees are \$120 per weekend and \$50 per night weekdays (Sunday through Thursday). Holiday weekends for three nights are \$180 for non-members.

Holiday weekends, Friday and Saturday nights must be booked together throughout the year. These rates are effective June 1, 2022. Third weeknight is FREE Monday thru Thursday if available June 1 - September 30. Payment must be received within two weeks after reservation is accepted or risk losing reservation. Sorry, NO REFUNDS.

SUPPLIES TO BRING Bring your own sleeping bag, sleeping pad, matches, food, utensils, backpacking stove/fuel for cooking, LED lantern (only), dye-free toilet paper, garbage bags, and padlock (optional) for loft stairway door. Side door locks from inside and must be locked before leaving. No saws needed. Use cordwood for all fires—split with maul located next to side door. Do not place live ashes in ash bucket. No candles or smoking allowed.

WATER Reliable water is located at the stream adjacent to the cabin. Because you never know what's in the water, all water from backcountry sources should be considered unsafe. Boiling, filtering and/or treating is recommended before consumption.

CHECK IN, CLEANUP & CHECK OUT Campers must sign in log book (on table) with arrival/ departure times. Prior to leaving, clean the cabin and sweep floors. Dump waste water in the posted wash pit. Carry out all trash and waste. Refill three wood bins with cordwood and re-stock kindling for next party. Do not leave anything behind, especially water containers, paper products, food or cooking fuel. Pack out what you pack in! Ridgerunners and Committee Monitors will report any trash left behind. Please report any problems to NW Camp Committee Registrar. Any damage from occupancy will be responsibility of person who registered. The NW Camp Committee is not responsible for lost or stolen personal property. Checkout time is NOON.

WINTER USE & ACCESS Hiking to cabin in wintertime is encouraged by parking at Undermountain Trail parking area, 3.2 miles north of Rt. 44 on Rt. 41 in Salisbury, CT. A small blue oval sign marks the entrance. See map. If driving to cabin, limited parking is available at the AMC parking lot in Connecticut at Massachusetts border on 99 Mt. Washington Road, Salisbury, CT. Access from the north depends on road conditions, check with Registrar first. A four-wheel or all-wheel drive vehicle is recommended to gain access to this lot. Do Not Block Gate and/or Park On Town Roads!

Revised by RP 05 2022



Caretaker, Don Klein at Tent Platform



Northwest Camp



Now celebrating over 70 years of successful lodging, preservation, recreation and stewardship!



Leave No Trace Ethics

Utilizing Leave No Trace ethics at NW Camp and the surrounding area can help minimize cumulative negative effects of human activity on the environment. The Taconic plateau core area surrounding Northwest Camp is biologically rich and abounds in flora and fauna, some endangered. It also has one of the largest, healthiest and most diverse remaining blocks of forest in southern New England.

The cabin, constructed with chestnut logs in 1951 sits on the northwest shoulder of Bear Mt. (2316') within the 14,000-acre Schenob Brook (Sages Ravine) watershed basin. This watershed supports more than 40 imperiled species making it one of the most biologically fragile regions in MA.

Also known as a Bioserve, this watershed owes its uniqueness to the presence of calcareous bedrock, which neutralizes groundwater as it reacts with calcium. This process delivers alkaline-rich wetlands and mineral-rich groundwater supporting a very diverse assemblage of rare plants, animals and natural communities (among the highest concentrations in the Northeast, according to the Nature Conservancy).

The following guidelines and recommendations are designed to help prevent damage to sensitive areas by reducing impact to NW Camp and the surrounding watershed. To ensure that this area is protected for the future, we must learn how to minimize our environmental impact today.

CARRY IN CARRY OUT—Under NO circumstances should trash, plastic, glass, or metals be burned in the fire pit or stove. **They can be recycled!** Burning certain types of trash may create a toxic heavy-metal and carcinogen-laden ash residue.

If you packed it in, PLEASE pack it out!
SITE UPKEEP: Keep the cabin and trailhead clean. Pick up rubbish in and outside of cabin and on trails. Cabin users must leave absolutely nothing behind in cabin. Leave the cabin and area around cabin better than you found it. A last-minute check is always appreciated and will help ensure that you **leave no trace (LNT)**.

STAY ON ESTABLISHED TRAILS: Please use established blazed trails only. The land that trails cross must be respected and treated with care. Some vegetation above tree line is so small and fragile that one hiking boot footprint could destroy it. Only careful use will preserve the natural beauty of the trail environment and ensure its integrity for future generations to enjoy. **Step carefully.**

CORDWOOD FOR FIRES ONLY: Gather dead and fallen wood no larger than the size of your forearm for kindling. Use pre-cut cord wood for the stove and fire ring. Never cut live branches or trees for firewood. A campfire is a privilege and only permitted at the fire ring. **Use fire and firewood responsibly.**

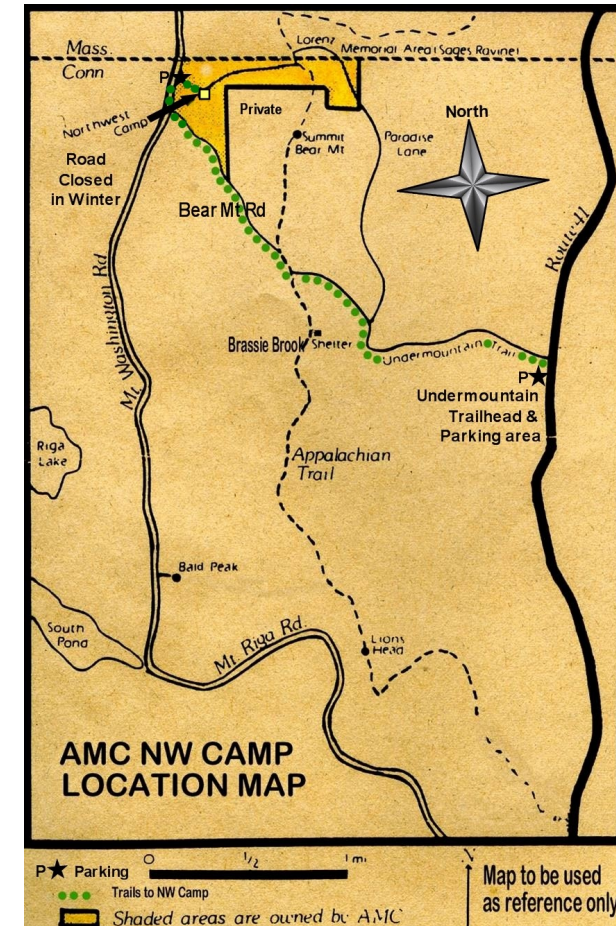
WATER & WASHING: Wash, clean, and rinse cookware in wash pit area only. This includes dishes and brushing your teeth. Any soap or toothpaste, even biodegradable, can pollute lakes and streams. Dump all wastewater in wash pit, too. Scrape food scraps from screen and pack it out in leftover bag. **Remember, we all live downstream.**

KEEP WILDLIFE WILD: Black Bears are making a comeback in the area. Observe all wildlife from a distance and never approach, feed or follow them. Human food is unhealthy for wildlife and feeding them starts bad habits. Protect wildlife and your food by securely storing your meals and trash. **Wild Should Wild Remain!**

HUMAN WASTE: Use the Moldering Toilet (Privy) or Outhouse near the tent platform. Do not use either one for garbage disposal. Peeing in the Privy helps maintain the necessary moisture balance to aid in decomposition. After using Privy, cover your deposit with a handful of wood shavings from container provided or duff (leaves) from the forest floor. Close the lid to help keep odors and flies down in summer. Close door with all hooks. Liquid human waste should be dispersed 200' from stream/cabin, and 50' from trail. Restock Privy with dye-free toilet paper.

PLEASE KEEP YOURSELF UPDATED: Read kiosk in front of cabin for latest LNT techniques and NW Camp information. Additional ideas on how to reduce our impact can be sent to Rod Parlee, Chair, AMC NW Camp Committee, nwcamp@ct-amc.org

**Enjoy a
Wilderness Experience
in a Rustic Setting!**



To access NW Camp by foot, begin at Undermountain Trail parking lot on Rt 41 in Salisbury, CT. Follow blue-blazed Undermountain trail, a feeder trail to the AT (steeply at times), up east slope of Bear Mt. At one mile, continue past Paradise Lane trail on right. At two miles, turn right at Riga Junction and AT. Follow AT north for 1/4 mile. At 2.25 miles take first left onto Bear Mt road. Follow unmarked Bear Mt Rd. for approximately one mile to Mt Washington Rd (dirt road). Take right on Mt Washington Rd. for 1/4 mile to NW Rd. and NW Camp parking area on right. Go right for 1/4 mile on NW Rd (dirt road) beyond gate to stream crossing on right up short rocky incline to cabin (approx. 3.8 miles total). Hikers should always carry a GPS, USGS map or compass.