

# Hidden Lake Site Orientation

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Hidden Lake Camp is nestled on 400 acres in the southern portion of the Adirondack Park, approximately 3 miles from Lake George Village. The camp includes a small private lake, streams, low mountains, and woodlands. There are platform tents and lean-to units, a modern dining hall, health lodge, and shower house buildings for activities/programs. There's a large playfield, swimming, and boating area great for canoeing and kayaking. There are low ropes and high ropes courses and amazing hiking trails. Hidden Lake has several outdoor units for summer use. Each outdoor unit has a covered shelter area for cooking and activities during inclement weather, with drinking water and an outhouse.

## Important Information

### Contact & Maintenance Information:

For emergencies contact 911. For non-immediate issues call 518-489-8110 and leave a voicemail at ext. 151. For all maintenance requests like water leaks, gas leaks, and lack of heat contact 518-489-8110 ext 151. If calling after hours please leave a message with a phone number so we may return the call as soon as possible. This voicemail box is being monitored.

### Check-in/out:

Check-in is 4:00pm and Check-out is 3:00pm. (fellow campers may be using the grounds)

### Parking:

Cars should be parked in the lot directly off Route 9N near the entrance to camp facing out. Only 1 vehicle may remain parked near each unit/lodge facing out for emergency use only. The camp roads are only wide enough for 1 vehicle and must be kept open for emergency vehicles. The vehicle that will be parked by the unit/lodge can transport food and heavy gear.

### Winter:

In winter we do not provide towing service. We encourage you to drive a vehicle that has an All Wheel for 4 Wheel Drive into camp. We do our best to keep the roads sanded and maintained during the winter at camp. These roads are still icy underneath. All campers are encouraged to travel around camp with a buddy, including adults. Winter boots are strongly recommended. Yak Trak or microspikes are also recommended.

### Cancellation/Refund Policy:

- Refunds will be made IF GSNENY must cancel a reservation
- Cancellation made less than days 10 prior to the camping trip forfeit their full payment

**Trash:**

Papers may be burned using extreme caution. ALL OTHER TRASH MUST BE TAKEN HOME unless the dumpster fee is paid (\$25 per day). In outdoor units, trash bags should be kept sealed and placed in a vehicle each night, out of the reach of animals. Grease must be placed in cans until cool and stored with other trash in the vehicle.

**Gate:**

For the security of all concerned, the camp gate is to be closed before dark and kept closed until early morning. \*\*In the girls' best interest, we advise that the gate be kept closed at all times. \*\*

**Telephone: Dial 911 for emergency services.**

Not many areas of the camp have cell phone service. Land-line telephones are located in the Winter Lodge, Health Lodge, Wright Cottage, Boat House, and Dining Hall. Emergency procedures are posted near all phones. All other calls must be made through the operator (collect or credit card). Camp phone number is (518) 696-2244.

**Firewood:**

Plenty of fallen wood is available at the camps. A supply of tinder, kindling and fuel (enough for two small fires) needs to be left, undercover, for the next group's use. For winter use only, a limited amount of cut wood is available outside of the Winter Lodge. New York State has a regulation prohibiting the transport of firewood more than 50 miles from its source. Please keep this in mind when transporting firewood.

**Campfires:**

Fires must be built in fire circles or fireplaces only. A full pail of water must be nearby before the fire is lit. Campers with long hair need to tie back their hair when near the fire. Also, use caution with loose clothing around fires.

**Animals:**

**No pets are allowed at camp.** Never touch or try to feed a wild animal.

**Health Forms:**

Leaders taking girls camping should have with them a current Health Examination form. It is recommended that adults also have a completed Health Examination Form. A camping troop also needs a First Aider, as well as a First Aid Kit.

**1:1 Adult to Child Ratios:**

We advise rental groups to discuss/ train Adults on 1:1 Adult to child ratios. This is to ensure that no adult is alone with a child with whom they are not a parent/ guardian of. We encourage 1 Adult to 2+ Children or 2 Adults to 1 child.

**Illness:**

Notify the parent and request they pick up their child. If a parent is unavailable, contact the emergency number given for the child. If neither parent nor emergency contact is available, isolate the child from the group and keep comfortable until contact is made. First Aider should record the date, time, symptoms, and any action taken.

**Medications**

NO medication is to be given to a child without written parental permission. All keep medications need to be kept under lock and key unless they are being administered by a trained individual.

Note: Exceptions would be for a limited amount of medication for life-threatening conditions carried by a camper or staff person (e.g., Epinephrine auto-injectors or inhalers) or limited medications approved for storage in first aid kits.

# Buildings

## **Building etiquette:**

When camping in a building, shoes, and boots should be wiped upon entering. Boots need to be left near the door and not worn indoors.

## **Temperature:**

Thermostats should be kept no higher than 65 degrees for daytime, 60 degrees at night. Doors and windows should be kept closed when the furnace is on, and the thermostat should be turned down when there is a fire in the fireplace. When leaving camp be sure the thermostat is turned down to 60 degrees and the bathroom doors are closed.

## **Smoking, Alcohol, and Drugs:**

Smoking is not permitted on the camp property or in the presence of children. There is no consumption of alcohol or use of illegal drugs on any GSNENY property or at any GirlScout function where girls are present.

## **Lodges:**

All lodges have heat, electricity, running water, bathroom facilities (toilets, sinks, showers), a full kitchen (oven, stove, sink, fridge/freezer). Most lodges are equipped with pots and pans, dishes, a coffee maker, mattresses, tables, chairs, and some have fireplaces.

## **Lanterns and Cookstoves:**

Lanterns and cookstoves may be used in kitchen shelters if desired. If propane fuel or “Coleman” fuel is used, adult supervision must be maintained. Lanterns and stoves should never be left burning without supervision.

# Year-long Units



## **Dining Hall:**

Capacity 125 (sleeps 45), situated right on the lake, the dining hall is your first building on your left as you drive in. It has a large porch with a gorgeous view of the surrounding low mountains, it's perfect for large group programs or meals with high ceilings and a large kitchen. Special training is needed to use the commercial kitchen facilities; however, groups may use the stove, fridge, freezer, microwave, oven, and coffee maker. Griddle top requires special permission and training. The Dining Hall is one large room with tables and chairs that can be set up for eating and taken down to make an area for sleeping. Mattresses are kept in the storage room. There are 2 bathrooms with several stalls. There are no showers.



## **Health Lodge:**

Sleeps 15, this modern lodge has a large front porch and all of the amenities including a large kitchen. A dining/program room with fireplace, as well as a smaller room for sleeping/program. The first bedroom has 2 cots, a sink, and a toilet. The second bedroom has 2 bunks. The large living area also has 2 bunks.



**Mohawk:**

Sleeps 15, this building is large and spacious. Large full kitchen with peninsula. Large living room with a back deck and outside seating. 3 separate sleeping areas. The 1st has 3 bunks with 2 large closets. The 2nd has 2 bunks, a small couch, and a large closet. The 3rd has 2 bunks, a beanbag chair, and a large closet with an attached full bathroom.

**Winter Lodge:**

Sleeps 29, this beautiful lakeside lodge has a dining/program room with 4 tables and benches and a gorgeous lake view. Fireplace on the main floor near the kitchen, as well as a large sleeping/ program space on the second floor with 11 bunks. There is a covered patio with 4 picnic tables. Outside is a large fire circle with log seating.

**Wrights Cottage:**

Sleeps 12, this welcoming modern cottage has an open kitchen with living room, new flooring, and two cozy bedrooms, near the Dining Hall, across the street from Totem Inn. The first bedroom has 1 bunk and the second bedroom has 2 bunks.

# Outdoor Seasonal Units

Each outdoor unit has a covered shelter area for cooking and activities during inclement weather, drinking water, and an outhouse; equipped with brooms, fire pails, plastic (john) pail, dustpan, shovel, rake, garbage can, and fire extinguisher. Renters need to bring their own supplies for everything else in outdoor units (cooking, serving, eating, housekeeping, etc.) including an airtight container for food storage.

**Seasonal Availability:**

Opens May 30th - closes October 15th

**Latrines:**

Outdoor units have latrines. Single-ply white toilet paper should be used in all latrines. Small plastic bags need to be available for disposal of sanitary napkins, tampons, etc. which must not be dropped into latrines or toilets. In outdoor units, hand washing should be done under running water whenever possible.

**Food:**

In outdoor units, food should be cleared away immediately after meals and stored in airtight containers, out of the reach of animals (preferably in a car). Toothpaste and perfumed toiletries should also be stored in airtight containers. There should be no food left in tents or lean-tos.



**Boat House:**

Sleeps 18, a cozy building with electricity, a stove, refrigerator, and wood stove right on the waterfront.

**Totem Inn:**

Totem is our oldest and most rustic unit located across from Wright Cottage. Sleeps 5, a small building with electricity, refrigerator, wood stove, sink, and toilet.

**Picture  
Coming  
Soon**

**Hemlock Hill (Platform Tents):**

Sleeps 30, seven platform tents are located between the Dining Hall and the waterfront. Just off the parking lot to the left of Mohawk

**Red Oak (Platform Tents):**

Sleeps 24, six platform tents sit on the hill above the Boathouse and are closest to the waterfront and Shower House. Access is through the gate just beyond the parking lot.

**Tuscarora (Mini Cabins):**

Sleeps 24, 7 (4 person) cabins with bunk beds are grouped together in an open area closest to the playfield and Challenge on Ropes (COR) course. Each cabin has a small porch with 2 small benches.

**Picture  
Coming  
Soon**

**Mohican (Lean-tos):**

Sleep 16, four screened lean-tos located on the lake with the kitchen shelter above on the hill from the Lean-tos on the backside of the lake.

**Nature Shack (Lean-tos):**

Sleeps 17, four screened lean-tos between rock ledges and the Health Lodge. Outdoor stone oven.

**Pine Top (Lean-tos):**

Sleeps 26, 6 screened lean-tos located across the lake from the swimming area near Rock Ledges and hiking trails. Just up the hill from the Health Lodge. Lots of space to spread out.

**Pioneer (Lean-tos):**

Sleeps 29, six screened lean-tos overlook the lake closest to the Challenge on Ropes (COR) course on the opposite side of the lake from the Dining Hall.

## Other Areas of Camp

**Activity Area (Kemp Stage):**

Located across from the Dining Hall. It has a large fire Circle to the side, a Gaga Pit, 9-Square, and a small play area.

**Ropes Course:**

COR (Challenge on Ropes) elements are located between Mohican and the Playing Field. These are part of the Project Adventure program and include both high and low elements. They may be used only with the guidance of qualified, trained personnel. Contact [rentals@girlscoutsny.org](mailto:rentals@girlscoutsny.org) for more information.

**Playfield:**

Located behind Tuscarora and is great for large group games.

**Waterfront:**

Located in front of the Boathouse. There's a small beach, canoes, kayaks, and a fire circle with bench seating located nearby. Lifejackets are provided and are required for all watercraft. You are also welcome to bring your own lifejackets.

**Hiking Trails:**

are available up Rock Ledges and Mt. Kenyon. Snowshoeing on trails, off-trail, and around the main camp road is available. Snowshoes can be found in the Dining Hall.

**Ice Skating:**

Ice skating is permitted in the designated skating area only. The Director of Properties and Facilities will deem if the ice is safe to use. Any other use of the ice is prohibited. No skating is permitted on the body of water known as “Badger Ocean.” Both the lake and Badger Ocean are spring-fed and can be unstable, especially the areas around the inlets and outlets. Adult supervision and the presence of a currently certified First Aider are required at all times when the ice is being used.

**Sledding:**

While Sledding is allowed at camp, please note that the trails are narrow. It is recommended for girls who know how to steer a sled. Girls that do not know how to steer should use the winder road path, just up past the Health Lodge. Supervision is required.

**Snow Shoes:**

Shoe shoes are for use, what there is will be found onsite usually in Dining Hall.



# Evacuating Units/Lodges

If you discover a fire (or hear a siren from another unit), SOUND YOUR FIRE ALARM (if you have one nearby) and:

1. Quickly and quietly assemble campers, count them, and proceed to the pre-arranged meeting place. One adult should lead. Use the buddy system.
2. At Hidden Lake Camp, everyone meets in the parking lot or at the Red Oak gate, using all available roads and exits as indicated on the maps in each unit.
3. Stay on established roads and trails. Remember to keep campers out of the way of emergency vehicles.
4. One adult should stay behind to be sure all campers are out of tents/lean-tos, latrines, and doors are closed from a lodge, etc. That adult “brings up the rear” as the group exits camp.
5. Once campers are assembled outside of camp, count heads again. Send one adult from your meeting place to report any missing campers to the firefighters, rangers, or camp director. (Know who they are so the searchers will know for whom to look).
6. The first adult out should call the fire department.

Do Not return to the camp until the okay is given by the firefighters (or person in charge of the drill). When you return, shut off the fire alarm if it is still sounding.



# Waterfront Procedures



## **Ratios:**

### Swimming

- 1-25: 1 adult Lifeguard + 2 watchers
- 25-35: 1 adult Lifeguard + 1 lifeguard + 3 watchers
- 35-60: 1 Adult Lifeguard + 1 Lifeguard + 4 watchers

### Boating

- 1-12 people can boat at one time with 1 Small Craft Safety instructor
- Certified Lifeguard must be present following same guidelines regarding numbers as under swimming

## **Lifeguards:**

Adult lifeguards certified in Waterfront Lifeguarding (or Lifeguard Certification plus Waterfront Lifeguard Module) are required for all swimming activities on GSNENY property: one lifeguard for every 25 swimmers, plus two watchers. Lifeguards may only supervise boating activities if they hold Small Craft Safety Certification or the equivalent.

## **Watchers:**

Watchers are adults helping to supervise swimming activities. Watchers must assist the lifeguards with swimmer surveillance and assist in emergency situations as instructed by the lifeguards. American RedCross Basic Water Rescue Training is recommended for all watchers.

## **Boating Supervisors:**

Adults certified in Small Craft Safety, or with documented experience supervising boating activities, are required for boating on GSNENY property: one supervisor is needed for every 12 people on the water in boats. Boating Supervisors do not need to be certified in lifeguarding, and must not supervise any swimming activities nor conduct swim tests.

## **Boaters:**

Youth and adults who wish to boat should be comfortable in the water and must practice boating skills on land prior to entering the water. Swim tests are not required, though boaters should be confident in the water. It is always best for the adult in charge to know the swimming abilities of all boaters. All boaters, youth, and adults must wear a life jacket at all times on the water regardless of swimming ability. One adult, who is a deep-water swimmer and who is experienced in handling a boat, must be in the boat with non-swimmers or novice swimmers. When the weather permits and a lifeguard is available, participants should practice putting on a life jacket, entering the water, righting themselves, and coming to the surface; as well as practicing floating with a life jacket on.

Troops and Service Units are able to find qualified volunteers to run these activities for them, or are able to request certified individuals from [rentals@girlscoutsneny.org](mailto:rentals@girlscoutsneny.org) but this is not guaranteed. Copies of the appropriate certifications must be on file with Council for a volunteer to be eligible to supervise waterfront activities on GSNENY properties.

Regardless of whether some individual volunteers their time or receives a fee, all individuals supervising waterfront activities on a GSNENY property must be or become registered members of the Girl Scout movement.

Swimming and boating equipment are expensive to maintain in good condition. Everyone can help by:

- Not sitting or hanging on the swimming area ropes.
- Using dock ladders rather than pulling themselves up onto the docks.
- Returning all boats/canoes to the small craft area after each use and properly tying or racking them.
- Returning all oars, paddles, and life preservers to where you found them and storing them carefully.



BUILDING KEY	
A	Storage Shed
B	Work Shop
C	Labyrinth
D	Storage Barn
E	Manager's House
F	Kemp Stage
G	Office
H	Dining Hall
I	Wright Cottage
J	Tellam Inn
M	Winter Lodge
N	Trading Post
O	Tin Shop
P	Health Center
Q	Green Cathedral
R	Ropes Course
T	Play Field
U	Shower House
V	Boat House

# TENTS, LEAN-TOS & KITCHENS

Hemlock Hill Tents  
 Nature Area Lean-To  
 Rock Lodges Kitchen  
 Pine Top Lean-To  
 Mohican Lean-To  
 Frontier Kitchen  
 Pioneer Lean-To  
 Tuscarora Tents  
 Red Oak Tents

K Kitchen  
 L Latrine  
 S Shed

