



Cottage Rentals Frequently Asked Questions:

Is our credit card billed in advance of our stay?

Shores does not take an advanced deposit. You may pay by whatever method you choose while here. If you would like to make a payment in advance of your stay please contact us.

Reservations cancelled within 15 - 60 days of scheduled arrival will incur two nights lodging, camping and/or dock charges. Nights cancelled within 14-days will be billed as originally reserved.

What time is check-in and check-out?

Check in is 3:30 PM or anytime thereafter. If you will be arriving after 7 PM please let us know so we can have you set to proceed directly to your cottage. Check out is 11 AM.

Will the beds be made? What about towels?

You'll find your cottage ready to use. Beds will be made and there will be enough towels for one-time use at full cottage occupancy. You may want to bring additional towels; depending on the number of people you have in the cottage, the length of your stay, if you'll be swimming, etc.

Does every cottage have a full kitchen?

Yes and kitchens are fully stocked with pots, pans, servingware, a coffee maker, etc.

Outside, near the cottages are portable propane burners. The burners are provided so fish can be fried outdoors.

Tip: The propane burners bring water to a boil quickly for sweet corn, spaghetti, or heating a big pot of chili, etc.

Is there a safe place to tie our boat? What about electricity at the dock?

The property includes two harbors; a small harbor near cottages 1 and 2 and a large marina harbor. There is water and electricity at every dock in the marina harbor. Mooring in the harbor at the cottages is on a first-come basis only. Your boat at Shores of Leech Lake is \$20/night. With advanced notice a covered slip in the marina will be assigned to you.

May we tie our boat to the swimming/fishing dock in front of our cottage?

No. These docks are merely sitting on the lake bottom, a boat bumping the dock, as caused by a boat wake, moves the dock.

Loading and unloading your boat at the dock in front of your cottage is fine. Just please don't tie your boat to one of these docks and leave it unattended.

Are rates based on a certain number of people in a cottage?

Rates do not increase based on the number of people you have. However, do not put more people in a cottage than the maximum occupancy stated on a particular cottage web page. Exceeding a cottage maximum occupancy may jeopardize your stay and will prevent future reservations. If you will have a boat trailer(s) or more than two vehicles, upon your arrival, talk to us about where to park the trailers and vehicles.

Are dogs allowed in the cottage?

Dogs are allowed only in Cottages 1 – 3. The fee for a dog in a cottage is \$20 per night. They must be kept quiet, on a leash and picked-up after.

Dogs are not allowed at the swimming beach. However, there is a small beach area near the lighthouse, just west of the harbor channel entrance where dogs are allowed.

Shores has Canoes & Kayaks Free for Customer Use:

If your party uses our canoes or kayaks, please put them back on the rack, even if you did not find them on the rack when you took them out.

May we bring our own firewood?

Shores has no rule against guests bringing in firewood. However, by Minnesota Law, it is illegal to transport hardwood firewood out of Minnesota quarantined counties unless it is MDA certified firewood. Moving uncertified hardwood firewood out of **quarantine counties of Hennepin, Ramsey, Houston and Winona is illegal and is punishable up to a \$7,500 fine per violation per day:**

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement/firewood.aspx> If you bring firewood, be sure it is treated or from an area free of Emerald Ash Borers. You may buy firewood at Shores.

Smoking is not allowed in any cottage.

What items should we bring?

Shores does not sell fishing licenses. Shores has limited bait. In the spring, Shores has shiner minnows, leeches and night crawlers. Through the summer months Shores has just leeches and night crawlers. After Labor Day, Shores may not have any bait available, please inquire. There are bait stores in Walker, just 3 miles from Shores.

Things you might not think about are:

- Bicycles! Bicycling here is fantastic. Both the Heartland and Paul Bunyan trails are paved and both trails pass adjacent to Shores. Bicycling into Walker is fun and easy. By trail it's just slightly more than 2 miles into town. Shores has a limited number of bicycles free for use by guests.
- Charcoal and lighter fluid. Your cottage has a charcoal grill and a lakeside fire ring. You can buy these items here also.
- Coffee; you'll find enough coffee in your cottage to make a pot or two and the lodge has the coffee on every morning at 7 AM (summer only). If you like to start every morning by making a pot of coffee, you'll want to bring some.
- Life jackets, especially for children. Shores is on a point; we have lots of shoreline, dozens of docks and two harbors. We also have water toys free for customer use such as kayaks, canoes and paddle boats. Our beach includes a slide in the water and swim rafts. Please always supervise children.
- Fishing rods – even if you don't have a boat and, again, especially for kids. All summer long, perch, rock bass and sunfish are easy to catch from shore and in the marina harbor. Early season crappie fishing can be terrific in the marina harbor. Walleye fishing is occasionally good from shore, especially in the early season from the docks in front of the cottages. Fishing licenses and tackle - Shores has bait, gas, ice, etc. but no fishing licenses or tackle. Children under age 16 don't need a fishing license.

Don't worry too much about what you may forget. One the best things about Shores is the proximity to the small town of Walker. Walker is just 2 miles by trail and 2 ½ miles by car.

Popular items in the lodge:

Free coffee is on every morning (summer only). WIFI works great in the lodge. The lodge has locally brewed beers on tap. The lodge serves pizza – not homemade but they taste great. The lodge sells wine by the bottle, ice, firewood, snacks, soft drinks, bait, charcoal, lighter fluid, Hershey bars, marshmallows, graham crackers, convenience items.

Popular resort amenities:

Lakeside fire rings, every cottage is lakeside and has one. All cottages have air conditioning, flat panel TVs, cable. Swimming – the lake bottom here is all sand. Much of the shoreline is natural riprap (rocks). Cottages have swimming docks, jump in (feet first, water under the docks is shallow) and you'll find a sandy bottom. The swimming beach area is all sand with a slide in the water, roped-off shallow water, and a swimming raft. (Dogs are not allowed at the beach!) Protected boat docking; Shores marina is a completely worry-free place to tie your boat. Blacktopped access directly from your cottage door to the blacktopped State Trails. Beautiful sights; Shores marina is well-maintained with more than 60 cruising sailboats moored here.

Is Shores open in the wintertime?

Yes! The cottages are available for rent year-round and the owners are on-site to assist guests. The lodge store, marina and RV Park are open from May 1 till the second Sunday in October.

How can we access the lake in the wintertime?

There is a plowed public access just ½ mile north of Shores. Cross over the channel between Kabekona Bay and Walker Bay, then immediately turn right. Shores boat ramp works great for snowmobiles and, when there is not too much snow, ATVs. Please do not access the lake from private property!

You can access the State Trails directly from Shores road. You'll cross the State Trail when you drive into Shores.

Still Have Questions? Email us at loomis@shoresofleechlake.com [Or, click here to send an email inquiry](#)