



2024 Seasonal Camper Letter

www.pittockconservationarea.ca



The staff at Pittock Conservation Area (PCA) would like to welcome our seasonal campers back for 2024! The campground will open at 8:00 am on Wednesday, May 1st.

There is a lot of information in this letter with many changes; please take a few minutes to read it through. You can also visit www.pittockconservationarea.ca for more information. Please bookmark our website and stay up to date with Pittock CA information.

Registration, Payment, and Winter Storage

Seasonal camper registration is now available online or by booking an appointment with our Park Clerk at 519-539-5088 ext 6423

How to Register

Online: All seasonal campers should have received an email with instructions and a "group hold" code to complete online registration and payment. If you did not receive an email and would like to utilize this service, or are having difficulty with the online process, please contact us at 519-539-5088 ext 6423. Online payment is only available until April 14th.

New - Additional Swipe Card Promotion

Between April 15th and May 5th, seasonal campers can purchase one additional swipe card per site for \$125 including HST. This offer expires May 5th at 4:00 pm. This promotion is available to seasonal campers who paid their site fees online.

By Appointment: Appointments are limited and only available on April 5th - 6th and April 12th - 13th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Please bring the following to your appointment:

A copy of the Seasonal Camper Registered Guest form (attached to this email). Please print, complete, and bring it with you. If you cannot print it off, please make your own list and bring it with you.

Photo ID, Trailer Registration, and Insurance – Only new campers are required to show photo ID with current address, trailer registration (matching the address of the permit holder), and proof of liability insurance (minimum \$1 million). Unfortunately, we will not accept emailed copies.

Payment can be made via Visa, Mastercard, debit card, certified cheque, or money order. Please be sure to check your card's daily limit so that the funds are available at the time of payment. Please note that only campers coming in for appointments need to sign paperwork, and that your swipe card will not be activated and camping will not be permitted until all the paperwork has been signed and staff has viewed the required information.

Campsite Access

Seasonal campers can drive onto their campsites as of April 15th through to opening on May 1st. Campground vehicle access will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. No overnight camping is permitted until May 1st.

Late Payment Procedure

Payment must be made by 4:00 pm on April 14th. Campers with outstanding fees after this date will not be granted use of Pittock Campground until payment is made in full.

After April 14th, any outstanding payment will be subject to a \$100 late fee. The fee will increase by \$100 for every week that payment is not received. Payment including late fees must be received by April 28th or the site will be forfeited.

Winter Storage

Winter storage is due by 12:00 pm (noon) on September 30th. Pay for Trailer Storage before August 31st to be entered into a draw for free 2024 Trailer Storage (\$475 value). The campground will close for the season at 12:00 pm (noon) on Sunday, October 20th.

Policy Changes and Updates

The full list of operational policies related to seasonal camping can be viewed at: www.pittockconservationarea.ca/camping

Highlights to note:

Property affixed to trees and on/around site posts will no longer be permitted. Notice was given to remove items by campground closing in 2023.

Throughout the winter, staff have been removing any remaining items. Temporarily affixing items such as bird feeders is permitted. Obstructions can grow into trees causing harm to the tree itself or to the equipment operator who is removing or trimming the tree.

Satellite dishes must be located within the boundary of the campsite.

Fire pit size is restricted to 30 inches in diameter and flame height cannot exceed 1 meter.

This past fall, we started our Maple Crest waterfront revamp project. We were able to control water erosion along the shoreline that was causing damage to seasonal campsites and our waterfront pavilion. As part of this project, we added new landscaped stairs to the pavilion and new canoe/beach stairs going into the lake. This spring, we also plan to add a new community fire pit with two Adirondack chairs to enjoy the vista that is Gordon Pittock Reservoir.

Last summer, many campers let us know that vehicle speeding is still a concern within the campground. To address this, we have reduced the speed limits within the park to 10 km on all roads within the campground. We will be posting new signs and road stanchions to improve speed limit visibility.

In the day-use area, we also removed non-native vegetation along the shoreline. This was mainly done around the splash pad, playground, and bluegrass areas. This will allow visitors better access to the water for fishing and park enjoyment.

In January and February, George was in our washroom facilities repairing waterline leaks, installing new flush valves, and doing minor carpentry and painting repairs. We hope to continue with more accessibility and facility improvements over the camping season.

Electrical Safety

Site Inspections

Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) staff will return this year to ensure that the campground is free from electrical hazards. Many of you received letters from the ESA last season outlining deficiencies with your campsite's electrical system. Please retain a licensed electrical contractor and obtain a permit before having any electrical work done on your site.

Buried RV Trailer Cords

The ESA requires all RV electrical cords to be above ground. They cannot be buried or placed underground in any way (e.g., in a plastic drainage pipe). These cords are not rated for direct burial and can create a shock hazard if the wire coating is compromised. Placing these cords in plastic drainage pipe often leads to the cords being submerged in water, also creating a shock hazard. Additionally, buried cords cannot be inspected for damage or improper connections. Staff will continue to inspect all sites to ensure compliance when completing monthly risk management inspections.

Electricity to Sheds

Campers who wish to install electricity to their sheds are not permitted to excavate or attach wiring to the receptacle post. Extension cords will not be permitted as a source of temporary or permanent wiring to a shed. Wiring will only be permitted if the shed is located directly next to the trailer and the conduit is securely attached to the shed from the trailer receptacle. Staff will continue to evaluate options for future seasons to minimize risks from buried cable, faulty wiring inside sheds, and appliances being kept in less than ideal situations.

Extension Cords

Extensions cords used outdoors (e.g., lighting), must be disconnected and stored indoors when not in use.

Working On Your Site?

If you plan on doing work to your campsite, talk to a Superintendent before starting. Before any work begins, such as building a shed, deck, fire pit area, etc., please refer to the "Typical Site Layout" drawing. Approval is required to ensure the proposed work falls within our CA policies and regulations. Building permission forms can be picked up at the gatehouse and registration buildings. This process also maintains consistency with what is being done on other campsites and reduces risks associated with buried lines.

Waste Management Area

Please remember that the waste management area is for regular household garbage and recycling only. It is not intended for large items or hazardous materials. Large items such as furniture, mattresses, BBQs, scrap metal, lumber, etc. are not accepted. The waste removal company will not pick up the garbage molok if any of these items are placed in or around the container. This has the potential to leave the park with full containers leading up to a busy weekend.

Cardboard boxes should be flattened before placing them in the recycling container to ensure adequate space is available during peak times.

New Leaves and Plant Material Containers

Leaves and other plant material can be dropped off in the waste bin at the "Old leaves pile" (near the Rec. Center). Please use a compostable paper bag and do not leave your plastic bags or containers. Plant material should not be left in any other location. Putting it at the backs of campsites or other natural areas can introduce non-native species as well as prevent native species from growing in those areas. Help us keep Pittock CA healthy.

Mail and Packages

Please remember that we do not accept mail or packages delivered to the park. Make sure that all personal mail is appropriately addressed to your residence or PO box.

Parking on Overnight Sites

We ask that seasonal campers either park on their own site or in the additional designated parking areas. Please do not park on overnight sites. This practice can be quite frustrating for our other visitors when they arrive at their sites.

Follow Us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram

Have you checked out our social media pages? They can be a great way to get the latest information about Pittock CA, especially during the operating season.

Facebook: @PittockCA

X (Formally Twitter): @PittockCA

Instagram: @pittockconservationarea

Tag us using #pittockconservationarea

For more information, please visit our website at www.pittockconservationarea.ca. You will find information on fees, special events, rules and regulations, guides, available sites, and lots more!

We are all looking forward to a safe, fun, and enjoyable season. If you have any questions, please contact us. Done in bold like the other CA's.

Steven Musclow

Superintendent

musclows@thamesriver.on.ca

(519) 539-5088 ext 6421

Elijah Wilson

Assistant Superintendent

wilsone@thamesriver.on.ca

(519) 539-5088 ext 6425