



**Wildwood Conservation Area 2023  
Seasonal Camper Newsletter  
www.wildwoodconservationarea.ca**

The staff at Wildwood Conservation Area (CA) would like to welcome our seasonal campers back for 2023! The campground will open at 8 am on Monday, May 1st and close at 12 pm (noon) on Sunday, October 15th.

### **Registration, Payment, & Winter Storage**

Seasonal camper registration is now available online or by appointment at the Wildwood Registration Office.

### **How to Register**

**Online:** Emails were sent to all Seasonal Campers in February with instructions and a “group hold” code in order to complete online registration and payment. If you did not receive an email and would like to utilize this new service, please contact us. Online payment is only available until April 30th.

**By appointment:** Appointments are available starting Monday April 17th. Book your appointment on [Calendly – Wildwood Seasonal Camping Registration](#).

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 your swipe card will not be activated and camping will not be permitted until all the paperwork has been signed and staff have viewed the required information.

## **Campsite Access**

**Seasonal campers will be permitted to drive into their campsites starting April 17th through to opening on May 1st. Campground vehicle access will be from 9 am to 3 pm. No overnight camping is permitted until May 1st. Late Payment**

### **Procedure**

**Payment must be made by 4 pm on April 30th, 2023. Campers with outstanding fees after this date will not be granted use of the CA until payment is made in full.**

**After April 30th, 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 May 14th or the site will be forfeited.

## **Winter Storage**

Winter storage is due by 12 pm (noon) on September 30th, 2023. Pay for Trailer Storage before August 30th, 2023 to be entered into a draw for free 2023 Trailer Storage (\$375 value).

## **Policy Changes and Updates**

The full list of operational policies related to seasonal camping can be viewed at [www.wildwoodconservationarea.ca/seasonal-camping](http://www.wildwoodconservationarea.ca/seasonal-camping).

### **Highlights to note:**

- **Karaoke Machines:** The use of karaoke machines will be carefully monitored by staff this season due to complaints regarding noise levels. Excessive noise will result in sites and/or individuals no longer being permitted to use these devices.
- **Wading pools** of any size are no longer permitted in the CA.
- **Bicycle helmets** are required for all visitors age 16 and under on the roadways. On the trails, helmets are required at all times regardless of age.
- **A 6 ft road easement** is required for all structures.
- **Rodent deterrents and poison:** Rodent deterrent devices are often ineffective for long-term use and can cause audible noise levels that can irritate users in the area. Please consider your neighbours when using these devices. Rodent poison should not be used. Rodents can transfer this poison to other animals such as birds of prey, causing mortality.
- **Property affixed to trees on/around site posts** will no longer be permitted. Items such as satellite dishes and flag poles must be removed by campground closing 2023. 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.

- A new three-way stop will be installed on the main road in A Section in an attempt to encourage traffic to slow down. Please be mindful of your speed and pedestrian traffic while travelling throughout the CA.

## **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 bin if any of these items are placed in or around the bin. This has the potential to leave the CA with full bins leading up to a busy weekend.

A sign outlining acceptable materials is located in the waste management area. The area is monitored by video surveillance and staff will follow up with anyone leaving materials that are not acceptable.

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

Leaves and other plant material can be dropped off in the area beside the waste bins. Please use a compostable paper bag and do not leave your plastic bags or containers in these bins. Plant material should not be left in any other location. Putting it at the backs of campsites can introduce non-native species as well prevent native species from growing in those areas. Help us keep Wildwood CA healthy.

## **Mail and Packages**

Please remember that we do not accept mail or packages delivered to the CA. 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 the 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? These sites can be a great way to get the latest information about Wildwood CA, especially during the operating season.

Facebook: [@WildwoodCA](#)

Twitter: [@WildwoodCA](#)

Instagram: [@wildwoodconservationarea](#)

Tag us using [#wildwoodconservationarea](#)

For more information, please visit our website at [www.wildwoodconservationarea.ca](http://www.wildwoodconservationarea.ca). You'll find information on fees, special events, rules and regulations, guides, available sites, and lots more!

If you have any questions, please contact us.

**Paul Switzer**

Superintendent

[switzerp@thamesriver.on.ca](mailto:switzerp@thamesriver.on.ca)

(519) 284-2931 ext. 1431

**Dave Griffin**

Assistant Superintendent

[griffind@thamesriver.on.ca](mailto:griffind@thamesriver.on.ca)

(519) 284-2931 ext. 1424

**Ryan Mullin**

Assistant Superintendent

[mullinr@thamesriver.on.ca](mailto:mullinr@thamesriver.on.ca)

(519) 284-2931 ext. 1428