

Sun Valley Mountain Huts

Bench Hut User Information

As a hut renter, it is your responsibility to read, understand and share this information with your group. Any damage due to carelessness or not following these guidelines will result in charges made to your reservation to fix. Please reference the "Hut Rental Binder" for more detail upon arrival at the hut.

Arrival: Welcome to the Hut! We have stocked the hut with everything you need for a comfortable stay. Please have a look around and notice where everything is located (including fire extinguishers) and be sure to return them to where they belong before your departure.

Wood Stoves: There are 3 woodstoves (2 inside the hut and 1 in the sauna). Before starting the stoves, please remove the stove ash using the shovel and ash bucket and deposit in the outhouse. This will greatly improve the stove heating the hut. All stoves should be started by crumpling a small amount of newspaper (found in the "fire paper box" under the counter) and placing finely cut kindling (teepee or log cabin style) on top. Keep draft (on door) and damper (on pipe) wide open. Continually feed small pieces to the fire until a bed of coals is formed. DO NOT OVEHEAT THE STOVES! Glowing or "chugging" stoves mean there is too much fuel in the stove and can cause major damage to the stove and burn down the hut. Adjust the draft and the damper to turn the stove heat up or down. Smaller pieces of firewood will burn faster/hotter and larger pieces slower and less hot (good for sleeping). Please avoid getting water or snow directly on the stove top-it will warp the stove.

Firewood: Upon arrival, you should find split firewood and kindling inside the hut to begin your fires. It is your responsibility to split additional wood during your stay and to leave fresh cut wood/kindling for the next party upon departure. Please conserve the firewood by only burning what you need while in residence (not out skiing)-it is difficult to supply wood for these huts-THANK YOU. Please DONOT CHOP WOOD INSIDE the Hut! Outside fires are strictly prohibited!

Melting Snow for Water: Collect snow from the designated (look for the sign) snow collection area. Use the metal buckets for collecting snow and pack tight with snow using the designated shovel. Do not put the buckets on the stove top (they have toxic glue that will be released into your water if heated)! Place a small amount of water from your bottle in the bottom of the stainless steel Snow Melt Pots and add snow to the pots. Please take snowmelt pots off the stove when filling with snow to avoid water on the stovetop. Please do not use these Snow Melt Pots for anything but snowmelt. Use the dipper cup (hanging by the stove or in the cabinet) to scoop water from the pots into the water coolers. You can use the clean water strainer to filter out any pine needles- don't use the dish water strainer!

Snow Removal: It is your responsibility to keep the roofs clear of snow. Too much accumulated snow will result in the collapse of the hut! First remove snow from the back wall about 2' down and 2' out from the eave. Then carefully shovel or rake snow from the base of the roof and deposit away from the hut. Friends inside can carefully push the roof

material up from inside the hut with hands to get the snow to slide down the roof. This is best accomplished as a team and should result in a nicely cleared roof with a gutter behind the hut to allow new snow to slide off. Keep areas around the door clear of snow and shovel steps into entry as required to avoid the old beaver side.

Outhouses and Pissoir: There are 2 open outhouses for use at this hut. Please do not place any paper in the pit! Line the toilet paper bin with the plastic grocery bag (found in the hut supply containers) and deposit used paper and other products in this bag. Upon departure or when full, burn the bag in a hot fire or pack out. Pee only at the designated Pee Tree or in the outhouse. Please do not enlarge the pee area but rather pee directly down the hole- thank you!

Food Storage: Keep all food inside sealed food storage containers (coolers and Tupperware bins). Mice and the dreaded Pine martens will harass you in the night time if food is not properly stored.

Garbage: You can burn any paper or organic material directly in the stoves. All other garbage should be placed in the lined garbage can and packed out. Do not place any leftover food in the outhouses or slop areas- it will bring in unwanted critters!

Dishwashing: We use the 3 bin dish wash system at the huts. Place 3 bins on the counters and fill the 1st with hot soapy water, 2nd with hot rise water and 3rd with cold water with a capful of bleach. Allow dishes to drip dry in racks and put away with open ends down in cabinets and on shelves to keep any wandering mice from entering. Wipe down counters/tables with bleach water after meals to keep everything clean and sparkling! Empty dishwater into "slop bucket" and dump at the slop water area (next to the Pee Tree) using dish water strainer

Solar Power: All lights run off the batteries that are charged by the panels outside the hut. Lights can be turned on individually and your widgets can be charged via USB cords. Please refer to the solar power information in the binder for more information.

Sauna: Please don't burn the sauna down! Heat the stove slowly and check on the fire frequently. Do Not Place Snow directly on the stove-you can use a blackened pot on stovetop for same steamy effect.

Departure: Check out time is no later than 11 am. Please have all of your departure chores finished before this time. Follow the hut departure checklist found posted inside the hut and in the Hut Rental Binder. In the time of a pandemic- it is extremely important that you wipe down all commonly used surfaces with disinfectant wipes or bleach water. If you desire to ski during your last day, please take care of the chore list and pack all of your personal belongings and food up and leave in the wood shed or sauna to allow the next group space to move in. Please leave the hut neat, tidy, super clean and even better than you found it. DO NOT LEAVE ANY FOOD AT THE HUT!

It is only through our combined efforts that we can provide this awesome resource to skiers- we and the next users really appreciate your care and efforts!

Thank you and Have a Wonderful Adventure!