

Romantic Streamside Cottage - 41, Pine Grove Street

Thursday April 28 - Sat May 7 (Sunday departure)

Welcome! We hope you enjoy your stay in Woodstock. We've worked hard to make our house a relaxing, artful and easy place to be, and we're excited to share it with you!

Check-in time is 6 pm on Thursday, but you are welcome to leave your luggage earlier. Check-out is 12 noon.

Directions from the bus stop on the Village Green (5 min walk):

After the bus drops you off, turn and walk back in the direction the bus came from. Cross the main street at the zebra crossing. You'll be in front of Houst Hardware. Walk in the same direction past Pegasus Shoes and Candlestock. At the road just before Bread Alone Bakery, turn right. When you get to The Tea Shop, turn left. At the end of that road, by Woodstock Yoga, turn right and walk down to the end of the road. Our house (#41 Pine Grove Street) will be right in front of you. It's cream colored with green trim.

Instructions:

TO GET INTO THE HOUSE:

There is a lockbox on the front door handle. The code is 1379. To open it, push the number buttons in (to help you, it is the top left button, then the third left, then the second and fourth right buttons), then slide the middle slider down to open the box. To close the box, push the buttons in sequence again, slide the slider down and replace the front panel. The box can be a bit hard to operate; sorry about that. There is also a backup lockbox with the same code on the green corner beam to the left of the energy meter, which is to the left of the front door. Finally, there is an emergency key located in a pouch under to the eaves to the right of the front door, just around the corner of the house. The pouch is attached to the eaves by velcro.

The lockboxes each contain one key. Another key is inside the house, in a dish on the small marble table in the kitchen. *Please replace all keys after use.*

To open the front door, give the key a half turn to the left. The door is a bit stiff: you might need to give it a good push to open it.

The house will be ready for your arrival with bed linens and towels in the bathrooms. Please don't use bath towels for swimming. There are some swim towels on top of the shoe shelf you can use, and/or bring your own swimming towels.

You'll find a black binder on the kitchen counter that has detailed information about the house and information on local shopping, restaurants, swimming, etc. There are some guidebooks and brochures on the table by the kitchen counter that will tell you about local hiking, music festivals, etc.

Please feel free to use anything that's around (food staples, detergent, paper products, etc.) Just as a courtesy to the next guests, if you use up a staple such as sugar or oil, a small replacement would be appreciated.

We don't have cable TV, but there's a very comprehensive collection of movie DVDs in the black case under the television. They are arranged alphabetically, and you'll also find a list of movies in the black binder. For instructions on how to hook your iPod up to the speakers for music, please look in the black binder.

The WiFi in the house is password protected. The network is called 'dpwe41pg' and the password is '41pinegrovest.' This is noted by the television and front door.

ONCE INSIDE:

The house has some quirks and frailties, so please read and take care with the following:

- 1) Don't use more than 2 high-power appliances in the kitchen simultaneously (e.g. toaster, microwave and kettle), or you may blow a fuse.
- 2) The shower door in the master bathroom is a little fragile; please don't slam it. If it's not closing fully, just apply pressure at the top of the glass. Also, do not leave it open for more than an hour or so after showering, as it once fell off its hinges when we did that!
- 3) The shower door in the small bathroom tends to leak a little. Please be mindful of this and mop the floor after use to avoid mold growing on the floor.
- 4) The septic system is a little delicate, so please don't flush anything down the toilets other than what they are designed for.
- 5) The back door in the master bedroom can be hard to close and lock. Give it a bit of a slam if necessary (not too hard) and you should be able to turn the top lock.
- 6) This is the country and it comes complete with country critters, so please bag up your trash carefully and make sure the lid is closed on the garbage can in the driveway. We have mouse-proofed the house but just in case, please don't leave food on the counter overnight. Fruit is ok in the bowl on the counter near the coffee maker.

7) The smoke alarm in the living room/loft might sound if you fry food on the stove. You turn it off by pushing down one of the transparent buttons on the face of the alarm (one is a 'test' button, the other is the silencer).

8) Please wipe down the wooden countertop in the small bathroom so that water doesn't sit on top of the wood for a long time and damage the finish.

9) The freezer drawer sometimes sticks a little. Please make sure it is fully closed. If it is left even a tiny bit open, it ices up very quickly.

What to do before you leave:

1. Please put all used bedding and towels in a pile on the yellow table or on the bed in the master bedroom. If you didn't use a bed, leave it made up.
2. Bag up all trash and put the bags in the County Waste trash container in the driveway. Put all recycling materials (paper, metal, glass, etc.) in the green recycling container in the driveway. Roll the trash and recycling containers to the front of the driveway, with the lid openings facing the street. *Trash and recycling are both picked up **early** on Wednesday mornings. If you're staying longer than a week, put the trash/recycling out on Tuesday night. If you stay over a weekend, put everything out on Sunday night.* (New trash can liners are in the kitchen closet, under the drawer with scissors, tape, etc.)
3. Please double check that all downstairs windows are closed, all doors locked, and all lights turned off, including the outdoor lights. The wiring in the house is Woodstock-funky and sometimes it's possible to turn on an outdoor light without realizing, so please check carefully, as we hate to waste energy. Likewise, if you adjusted either of the thermostats in the two bedrooms, **please turn them back down to 50 degrees** so that no energy is wasted.
4. If you used them, please put patio chair cushions inside and furl up the patio umbrella. Likewise, if you used the outdoor lounge chairs, please fold them and stack them upright against the back of the house, with the backs facing out so that the seats don't collect rain.
5. Please lock all doors. Replace all keys where you found them.

Air conditioning instructions:

The remote control for the living room air conditioning unit is located on the wall next to the thermostat, on the staircase between the kitchen and living room.

There is a red power button to turn the unit on and off, and there are arrow buttons to adjust the temperature.

Before turning on the AC, please close the upstairs and downstairs windows, and the doors to the bathroom and bedrooms. This will cool the living space more efficiently and will save energy.

Please do not overuse the AC.

Please consult the manual in the small drawer to the right of the oven if you want to do anything more complicated, like setting the timer for the AC.

The AC for the master bedroom has similar controls to the living room AC, and can also be remotely controlled.

Heating system instructions:

There is a control panel on the wall above the steps between the kitchen and the living room. It is a NEST Smart Thermostat, which means that it should react to your presence and put the heating on. If this doesn't happen, go to the thermostat and push the center button in. This should turn the heating on, but if you want to be sure, press the 'Home' button (it looks like a house). Should the house not be warm enough, you can turn the dial on the thermostat to increase the temperature. Other than that, you shouldn't have to do anything in the main area of the house.

The two bedrooms are on different circuits and have their own thermostats. Usually we don't bother to change the thermostat in the master bedroom because the boiler room is right there, and the heat from the boiler heats the bedroom (especially if you leave the door to the boiler room open). However, in the kids' bedroom you'll need to move the thermostat from 50 to 70 in order to get it warm. The thermostat is on the same wall as the light switch.

The most important thing is to remember to turn the bedroom thermostats back down to 50 degrees when you leave. If you forget, it will waste a lot of heating fuel so please be vigilant.

If there's any problem with the NEST, you can use the living room AC unit, which also does heat, as a backup. Turn it on by using the red button on the remote control (see above), then use the arrow buttons to set the temperature.

WOODSTOCK – Host's Suggestions

IN SUMMER:

SWIMMING HOLES

There are two swimming holes you can walk to. A map in the black binder shows you where they are. To get there, turn left on Pine Grove Street and walk to the end, where it meets Tannery Brook Road. Turn left again and cross a small bridge over the stream. Walk past Streamside Terrace and the Inn on the Millstream. Right after the inn, there's a bridge and if you look to the right, you'll see the first swimming hole. To get to it, you need to clamber down the bank from the road (only inn guests can access it from the inn side), which is a bit difficult -- that's why we prefer to turn left after the bridge and walk another few hundred yards to the second swimming hole, which is just after the bend in the road where there is a house with baskets of geraniums. If it's a nice day you'll see cars parked on the side of the road, and if you look through the trees you'll see the swimming hole. It has flat rocks on one side and a small pebble beach on the other side.

WOODSTOCK FARM FESTIVAL

This takes place over the summer every Wednesday from about 4 p.m. to dusk. It's a sort of glorified farmer's market with live music, hot food and flea market stalls, and it's just around the corner from our house (walk up Deming Street, then turn left after Woodstock Yoga and you'll hit it).

FLEA MARKET

Every Saturday (and some Sundays), in the same place as the farm festival, until late October. Good vintage clothing and other fun stuff.

COMEAU PROPERTY HIKE

This is a sweet, manageable hike that's accessible on foot from our house (though you can also drive to the trailhead and park in the parking lot). To get there, go west on route 212 from the Village Green and turn left just after the Village Apothecary (Hardware store is on the right). Go up the hill for less than a 1/2 mile until you come to the house that contains the Town of Woodstock offices. Turn right and follow the path through the field until you get to the trailhead.

ANY TIME:

FIBERFLAME

This is a new place a few miles outside Woodstock where you can make everything from picture frames to pottery to jewelry. It's a great place to go with kids on a rainy day, or even on a sunny day. The two local women who own it are great. Take Route 212 in the direction of Saugerties (east) for 2 miles and you'll see a new, grey building on the left.

BEARSVILLE COMPLEX

Bearsville is a tiny village 2 miles west of Woodstock on route 212. The Bearsville complex has the Bear Cafe (a really nice, high-end restaurant with streamside dining), the Little Bear (an okay Chinese restaurant in a fantastic location), the Bearsville Theater (live music, a great bar and some outdoor events), Utopia Studios, WDST radio station, and other stuff. Look in the Woodstock Times to find out what's on.

PHOENICIA AND SWEET SUE'S

Phoenicia is a really pretty village about 15 miles west of Woodstock. There's hiking nearby and you can also go tubing down the Esopus creek (kids have to be 14). It also has one of the best local cafés, Sweet Sue's, where the pancakes are truly amazing and everything else is good too. Sweet Sue's can get crowded on weekends (shades of NYC brunch, with the same crowd) but it's worth the wait. They don't take reservations. (n.b. Sweet Sue's is currently closed, scheduled to reopen in May 2016.)

WOODSTOCK DRUMMING CIRCLE

This is one of the many events where the village of Woodstock lets its freak flag fly. It takes place every Sunday at about 4 p.m. on the Village Green. Anyone can pick up a drum and join in. It's fun for the kids and will definitely give you some local flavor.

There's always a lot of other stuff going on; look in the Woodstock Times Almanac section to find out what's happening.