



The Bulletin

Newsletter of The Prairie Club

Winter 2023/2024



GET YOUR ENVELOPES READY!

Peak season begins on June 14th.

After a weekend of shoveling snow and dealing with frigid temps, I am sure many of you are dreaming of a warm sun, the sound of waves crashing on the beach, and sand between your toes. Now is the time to start making plans for summer!

The office will begin accepting rental requests for 2024 beginning February 15th. Don't forget that requests for peak season must be sent by mail, postmarked no sooner than February 15th, and include a \$50 deposit.

On the next pages, you will find the 2024 rental procedures followed by brief descriptions of each facility and links to the 2024 prices.

We're thrilled to announce that there will be no price increase for rental facilities in 2024.

Please be sure to read over the procedures completely before making your request.



Important Things to Remember When Making PEAK Season Requests

- Be sure to mark "PEAK RENTAL REQUEST" clearly on your envelope.
- Envelopes must be postmarked no sooner than February 15th.
- The rental week returns to seven nights, Friday to Friday.
- Check-in time of 5 pm and check-out time of 11 am are strictly enforced
- Rental deposits must not be combined with other payments to The Prairie Club, please be sure to mail requests in an envelope separate from other Prairie Club mailings.
- There is a one-week rental limit during peak season.
- Late July and early August are the most requested weeks.
- Try to give at least three dates in order of preference to help us accommodate you.

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Don't forget all of our facilities are open year-round. Experience the beauty of our camps when they are covered in snow. Both of our camps are situated near unique and amazing natural areas, perfect for Winter activities.

Contact the office today to make your reservation!

You may reach us by phone at (630) 620-9334 or by e-mail at prairieclub@sbcglobal.net

2024 Prairie Club Rental Procedures

The Prairie Club continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation and the rental procedures specified below are subject to change. The Prairie Club Board of Directors has concluded to return to its normal cleaning services and schedule for rental reservations for the 2024 rental season.

The following is the timetable for rental facility reservations for the 2024 rental season.

January

In January, the Prairie Club office publishes the rental procedures in ***The Bulletin***, our quarterly club newsletter.

February

No reservation requests will be considered before **February 15th**. Active members in good standing who want to rent Club-owned facilities must mail their written requests along with a deposit to the Club office with the dates requested and the preferred rental locations. Envelopes must be postmarked no sooner than February 15th. No faxes, e-mails, or telephone calls for peak season requests will be accepted.

Rental requests will be processed in order of receipt beginning on February 22nd. Listing three rental dates, in order of preference, usually assures a rental during the summer. For your request to be considered, a \$50.00 deposit check payable to The Prairie Club must be included for each rental you wish fulfilled. Your deposit for any unfilled request will be returned. If you do not include a deposit for each rental request, your request will not be considered.

March 1 - 15

Club office confirms rentals with members. Reservations are finalized.

May 1

Final payments for peak season rentals must be made by May 1st. Final payments for all other rentals must be made 30 days prior to the rental stay.

COVID 19 Policy

The Prairie Club is concerned for the safety of its members and guests. Accordingly, the Prairie Club requires that at the time of your rental you have not, and any person known to you who will stay with you on the Property or enter Camp with you, or visit you (each a "Member of Your Party," collectively "Members of Your Party") has not, within the fourteen days prior to the first day of your rental been diagnosed with, demonstrated any symptoms of, or has in any way been exposed to any communicable diseases including but not limited to "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)", "COVID-19" or any mutation or variant thereof, (SARS-CoV-2, COVID -19 or any mutation or variation thereof being referred to herein collectively as "COVID-19").

The Prairie Club requires the Prairie Club renting member(s) to execute the "Prairie Club Rental Properties and Facilities Communicable Disease Related Hold Harmless, Release, Waiver of Liability, and Indemnity Agreement" ("Agreement") and return a signed copy (or an email confirmation of the member's consent to the Agreement) to the Prairie Club office with the balance due on the rental. The renting member(s) must sign the Agreement even if it was signed in a prior year. **You will not obtain access to the rental facility if the Agreement is not received.** The Agreement is available for download on our website: ThePrairieClub.org.

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2024 Prairie Club Rental Procedures

(Continued from page 2)

Cleaning Policy

Each and every renter is expected to help keep our facilities clean and in good condition. Please consult the guidelines for clean-up procedures that are posted in each facility. All guests are required to leave the cottage clean and in good condition before departure. Sheets and pillowcases should be stripped from beds and placed in hampers in each closet. Trash and recycling should be taken out and placed in the proper receptacles. Dishes should be washed and put away before the arrival of the cleaning service. We recognize the earlier check-out time may make it difficult to wash and put away dishes prior to the 11:00 a.m. departure time. If time does not permit, dishes should be placed in the dishwasher and the dishwasher should be started. **If it is determined after the cleaning service inspection that the facility is in need of additional cleaning, dishwashing, or repair/replacement, the renting member will be charged a minimum of \$100 for these services. Additionally, failure to comply with the requirements to leave the facility by the 11 a.m. departure deadline will result in the assessment of a minimum of \$100 to the renting member.**

Cancellation policy

Cancellations must be made by May 1st for peak season rentals or thirty (30) days prior to rental for all other rental seasons. If you must cancel after May 1st for peak season rentals or less than 30 days prior to the rental in other rental seasons, there will be no refund or credit given.

Other notes

- Any Prairie Club member in good standing can rent one facility at Hazelhurst Camp during peak season (June 14th – September 2nd). The renting member is responsible for all guests and must be present in the camp for the duration of the rental. The member will be held responsible for any damage or charges incurred and will not be allowed to rent again until all charges are paid in full. All facilities will be inspected after check-out by the cleaning crew and the Caretaker, who will arrange for any emergency repairs. Our facility chair(s) will be notified immediately of any loss or damage. As indicated above, failure to comply with the requirements to leave the facility by the 11 a.m. departure deadline or in good condition will result in the assessment of a minimum of \$100 to the renting member.
- Details of The Prairie Club's rental facilities may be found on our website: ThePrairieClub.org.
- During the initial reservation fulfillment process, priority will be given to exclusives at Buena Vista and the Farmhouse. The Family Cottage does not offer exclusives during the peak season.
- A waiting list will be established for rentals that cannot be immediately accommodated.
- Off season rental requests may be made throughout the entire year.
- Please contact the Prairie Club office directly for information regarding renting for large groups.

Private Cottage Rentals

Siteholders may rent their private cottages to active Prairie Club members only.

The Prairie Club is not responsible for any aspect of private cottage rentals, including defaults on rental agreements. Siteholders must provide renters with the Hazelhurst Camp Rules and may be held responsible for any violations by their renters. The Prairie Club office no longer keeps a list of private cottages available for rental.



Hazelhurst has a collection of sailboats, kayaks, and paddleboards available to Club members and their guests free of charge.

Detailed information about using these boats is available on our website under "Hazelhurst Boat Program".

Available Rental Facilities

Below and on the next page are brief descriptions & 2024 rates of The Prairie Club's rental facilities. All four facilities are available year round. Check-in is 5 pm and check-out is 11 am.

Farmhouse -
7 private bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, a large fully-equipped kitchen which includes 2 refrigerators, 2 gas stoves and ovens, 2 microwaves, a dishwasher, 2 dining rooms, and a large common area. Available for Exclusives and individual room rentals.

Linens and towels are provided. There is no cleaning service.

		Peak Season	Mid-Season	Off Season	
		Apr. 26 – June 13; Sep. 3 – Nov. 7			
	Capacity	June 14 – Sep. 2	Sep. 3 – Nov. 7	Nov. 8 – Apr. 25	
Exclusive	14 -18	\$4300	\$3552	\$2573	Week
		\$1376	\$1235	\$839	Weekend
		\$726	\$655	\$491	Night
First Floor					
Farmhouse Suite (1 Queen/1 Twin)	3	\$804	\$676	\$506	Week
		\$263	\$240	\$216	Weekend
		\$142	\$130	\$118	Night
Second Floor					
Room #1 (1 Queen/2 Twin)	4	\$658	\$508	\$360	Week
		\$218	\$184	\$157	Weekend
		\$119	\$102	\$89	Night
Room #2 (2 Twins)	2	\$531	\$429	\$355	Week
		\$180	\$157	\$155	Weekend
		\$99	\$89	\$87	Night
Room #3 (1 Queen)	2	\$611	\$501	\$355	Week
		\$204	\$182	\$155	Weekend
		\$112	\$101	\$87	Night
Room #4 (3 Twin)	3	\$571	\$502	\$355	Week
		\$193	\$180	\$155	Weekend
		\$107	\$99	\$87	Night
Room #5 (1 Queen)	2	\$571	\$502	\$355	Week
		\$193	\$180	\$155	Weekend
		\$107	\$99	\$87	Night
Room #6 (2 Twin)	2	\$554	\$502	\$355	Week
		\$186	\$180	\$155	Weekend
		\$103	\$99	\$87	Night

Buena Vista - Each side of this spacious two-story duplex has 3 bedrooms, a living room with a wood-burning fireplace, a fully equipped kitchen, and a shared screened porch. The older side sleeps 8—10 and the newer side sleeps 6—8. Each side can be rented individually or both sides as an exclusive. Linens, towels, and cleaning service are provided year-round.

Exclusive Rental

Sleeps 14 - 18 people

- \$ 4018.00 per week in our peak season: June 14th – September 2nd 1-week limit!
- \$ 1986.00 per week in mid-season: April 26th – June 13th & September 3rd – November 7th
- \$ 1205.00 per week in off season: November 8th – April 25th
- \$ 504.00 per night in mid-season (2 night minimum)
- \$ 404.00 per night in off season (2 night minimum)

Per Side

- \$ 2011.00 per week in our peak season: June 14th – September 2nd 1-week limit!
- \$ 994.00 per week in mid-season: April 26th – June 13th & September 3rd – November 7th
- \$ 603.00 per week in off season: November 8th – April 25th
- \$ 252.00 per night in mid-season (2 night minimum)
- \$ 202.00 per night in off season (2 night minimum)

Family Cottage -

Choose between Ravinia or Windsong. Each side of this duplex features a bedroom with a queen bed, a loft with beds to sleep 4, a living room, a gas fireplace, a private screened porch, and a fully equipped kitchen. Linens, towels, and cleaning service are provided year-round.

Per Side

- \$1,269.00 per week in our peak season: June 14th – September 2nd 1-week limit!
- \$ 711.00 per week in mid-season: April 26th – June 13th & September 3rd – November 7th
- \$ 443.00 per week in off season: November 8th – April 25th
- \$ 158.00 per night in mid-season (2 night minimum)
- \$ 127.00 per night in off season (2 night minimum)

Spring Grove -

Just 60 miles north of Chicago, Spring Grove Lodge has seven bedrooms, each sleeping 4 - 5 people. Spring Grove lodge has a large fully equipped kitchen. Each of the common areas have a wood burning fireplace and beautiful views of the woods and pond. Perfect for a group get-a-way near home!

Exclusive Lodge Overnight Rates

- \$378 (1 night stay)
- \$536 (2 night stay)
- \$651 (3 night stay)

Offseason special November through March

- \$431 (2 night stay)

Exclusive Lodge Day Rates

- \$110 (Monday - Friday)
- \$221 (Saturday - Sunday)

Single Room Rates

- \$50.00 per night

Buena Vista gets an update

Buena Vista is getting a much-deserved update to the kitchens. The facility will need to close while new cabinets and dishwashers are installed. The tentative dates for the closure are Feb. 16 - March 31, but we are working hard to have the work finished earlier so you can enjoy this beautiful facility with its new upgrades.

If you are interested in renting Buena Vista during that time, contact the office. A waitlist will be established should Buena Vista open earlier.



Donations

Thank you for the continued support of our Members. **Please remember that donations to the Prairie Club are not tax deductible.**

In addition to their day fees, the following members kindly donated to Spring Grove Camp. **Gary Edwards, Steve Ciesla, Colton Fink, and John Leane.**

In memory of Barb Pratt, a generous donation to the Club was made by **Charles & Arlene Manthey.**

An openhearted donation to the Club was made by **Nancy & Richard Baum** to honor Dorothy Simmons.

Ray & Dineen Ebert generously made a donation to the Club in memory of Frank Calkins.

Prospective Prairie Club member, **Ashley Nelson**, made a kind donation towards the Club's conservation efforts.

Join Us for a Winter Wildlife Trolley tour and Hike

Join The Prairie Club of Chicagoland and Women Outdoors on **February 17th** for a fun event at Starved Rock State Park.

We will meet at 11:15 am for an (optional) hour of hiking (about a 1 1/2 mile slow hike with steps, trail conditions permitting. Hang out by the fireplace in the lodge, if you choose not to hike. At 1:00, we will board a heated trolley for a guided tour to see resident area bison and majestic bald eagles. Afterward, there will be an option for a short hike to the nearby council Overhang, if there is interest. The tour may touch on the local Native American history of the area, as well, and it includes a souvenir back sack with a sandwich, chips, and drink.

****You must register for this event (the 1:00 tour) through the Starved Rock website below or you can contact Terry Riban to register for you and pay with Venmo, QuickPay, or PayPal.

****There are multiple spots open now, but the tour could fill up closer to the date, so don't delay!

Message Terry Riban with questions. Also, let her know if you make your own reservation, so you can be included in the number of participants. This is always an awesome and rewarding experience!

Again we will meet in front of the lodge in the parking lot at 11:15 am and begin our hike from there. Dress warmly and wear boots. Although not mandatory, you may want to consider bringing walking sticks and/or metal boot cleats, as it may be icy on the trail.

Information can be found on the Starved Rock Lodge website: starvedrocklodge.com

HOME / EVENTS / GUIDED ACTIVITIES / TROLLEY TOURS / WINTER WILDLIFE TROLLEY TOURS /
[WINTER WILDLIFE TROLLEY TOUR 1 PM DEPARTURE](#)

For more info contact Terry Riban: terryriban@yahoo.com or 630-886-2308

Join us on hikes, kayaking, and other activities!
Be sure to follow the Prairie Club on [meetup.com](#)
Search for "Prairie Club of Chicagoland Activities Group"

Our Departed Members and Friends

The following members and friends have passed away since our Bulletin's last publishing. Please keep them and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

John F. McKee II

passed away on October 28, 2023

Lawrence Reinhardt

passed away on October 30, 2023

New Applicants for Membership

The following candidates have applied for membership since our last Bulletin was published. If you know of any reason why an applicant should not be admitted to the Club, please write to the Membership Committee, via the Club office address: 12 E. Willow St., Unit A, Lombard, IL 60148

Ken & Mindy Bratz

Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Sponsors: Steve Ciesla, Cindy Hamilton

Interviewed by: Paula Kiehm

Brad Buschick

Grayslake, IL 60030

Sponsors: Marlene Guth, Mickey Hanson

Interviewed by: Paula Kiehm

Christopher Brum-Lyford

& Willis Hughes Lyford

San Diego, CA 92115

Sponsors: John McKee, Timothy Farley

Interviewed by: Frances Kirby

Robert Kopp

Batavia, IL 60510

Sponsors: Peter Lesnik, Mark Maloney

Interviewed by: Barb Burton

Grace Notary

Chicago, IL 60622

Sponsors: Susan Favorite May, Anna Lemler

Interviewed by: Terese Clancy

Susan Valentine

La Grange, IL 60525

Sponsors: Sarah Craig Pratt, Penny Longo

Interviewed by: Barb Burton

Membership Update

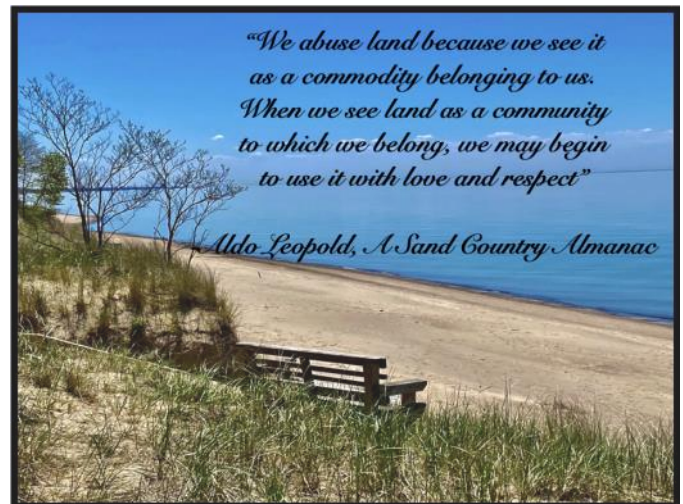
Our application and Sponsorship forms are going online! Please check the website for updates.

Prices for membership dues will remain the same for 2024!

Membership dues renewal notices will be sent out February 1st by email. Check your inbox! Please contact the office if you need to update your email/contact information, or need a renewal sent to your home address instead.

There are two Membership policy changes from 2023, and are as follows:

- Sponsors must be an active member for one year before being able to sponsor a prospective member.
- Applicants must wait until notification by the office of final Board Approval to access/use any amenities of the Prairie Club, such as rentals and access to Hazelhurst (Spring Grove excepted).



The Chair is Available!

WANTED: WATERFRONT DIRECTOR 2024

Harbert, Michigan

The Prairie Club's Camp Hazelhurst seeks a Waterfront Director / Swimming Instructor for its beautiful Lake Michigan beach in Harbert, MI, 49115, for summer 2024!

Duties: Watch over swimmers and other beach users to promote safety and compliance with beach rules. Respond appropriately to any emergency situations. Provide swimming lessons to small groups. Manage equipment and supplies.

Competitive pay: 400 hours over 10 straight weeks, June-August. Start date negotiable.

Requirements:

- Valid lifeguarding certificate
- Red Cross (or equivalent) First Aid, CPR & AED
- High School diploma
- Ability to work with large groups of people

Lifeguarding experience preferred. Great Lakes beach experience also preferred.

Visit our website to view the full Job Description

Apply / inquire with the Beach Chair, Randy Lutter: (240)271-8430 or rwlutter@gmail.com

Prairie Club Officers 2024

President	Mike Maloney
1st Vice President	Sarah Craig Pratt
2nd Vice President	Carolyn Edison
Treasurer	Mark Sever
Recording Secretary	Wendy Lyford
Hazelhurst Camp Vice President	Barb Burton-Halfpenny
Spring Grove Camp Vice President	Erin Kiehm

Standing Committees 2024

Audit	Kevin Oravec
Elections	Terry Riban
Finance	Charles Manthey
Historical	OPEN
Membership	Jo Burda Smith
Nominating	Dan Gapen

Activity Committees 2024

Activities/Walkers	Terry Riban
Annual Meeting	Hope Little
Buena Vista	Linsey Crowninshield
Conservation	Penny Longo
Family Cottage	Laurel Salvador
Farm House	Deb McGrath, Barbara Wittersheim
Promotional	Barb Burton-Halfpenny
Publications	Natalie Brennan
Hazelhurst	Barb Burton-Halfpenny
Spring Grove	Erin Kiehm, Brian Reed
Spring Grove Lodge	Mickey Hanson
Website	Natalie Brennan

Return Service Requested

The Prairie Club
12 E. Willow St., Unit A
Lombard, IL 60148
(630) 620-9334 Phone
(630) 620-9335 Fax
E-mail: prairieclub@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.theprairieclub.org