



# Blue Jay Overnight Lodge Facility Use Guidelines

**Any organized group may rent and stay in the Lodge on the condition that all participants engage in hands-on, site-specific, environmental education activities while in overnight residence.**

## Many Groups, One Purpose

- Any organized group may rent and stay in the Lodge on the condition that all participants engage in hands-on, site-specific **environmental education** while in overnight residence. There is no “day use” of the Lodge permitted—groups must spend each night reserved.
- **Each Lodge participant is required to complete six environmental education activities for each night that they stay in the lodge.** These activities may include, however are not limited to:
  - Discovery Boxes—self-contained loaner activities boxes consisting of a lesson plan, background information, and all the equipment/supplies needed for a group leader and participants to complete hands-on learning activities about nature/the environment.
  - Educational programs led by the Blue Jay staff.
  - Guest presenters on environmental areas of interest (arranged for by the group leader)
  - Outdoor learning experiences such as focused hikes, field ID/skill-building sessions etc. initiated by the group leader.
- Complete information and a tour of the Lodge will be provided during a **required 3-hour Leader Orientation Workshop**, or **LOW**, conducted once a month by Blue Jay staff.
  - At least one Group Leader staying in the Lodge **MUST** attend a **LOW at least 2 months before** the reservation date, and that Group Leader must be present with the group throughout their stay. If the LOW certified leader is unable to attend the Lodge stay for any reason, the group may not stay on site and no refund will be given outside of the usual cancellation policy.
  - A schedule of upcoming LOWs will be provided when a lodge stay is booked. This schedule is also available on our website.
  - A LOW certification is valid for a period of three years and then the Group Leader must attend a new LOW in order to renew their certification.

## Lodge Amenities

- The Lodge has a modern kitchen stocked with an abundance of pots, pans, and utensils, place settings, microwave oven, electric range and oven, coffee maker, toaster, ice maker, large refrigerator, and automatic dishwasher. **Do not bring throw away plates and utensils.**
- The climate-controlled Lodge has a great room furnished with tables and chairs for activities and eating. There are two seating alcoves, one with a gas fireplace.
- Sleeping quarters are divided into men's and women's, each with its own restroom and showers. Total sleeping capacity is 36. Guests will need to provide their own twin size linens or sleeping bags. No inflatable mattresses or sleeping on the upholstered furniture is permitted.
- Use of the Lodge includes a multi-level deck, outdoor grill, amphitheater and a campfire area.
- Equipment available at no fee: dry erase board, Discovery Boxes (with a reservation), TV/DVD player, and local telephone. There is no cable or internet access provided.
- All groups are required to carry out clean-up activities prior to vacating the Lodge:
  - **Stacking** tables and chairs in the Great Room
  - **Sweeping** entire building, including porch/deck areas (we will mop after you leave)
  - **Cleaning counters** in kitchen, bath and bunk areas
  - **Loading and running dishwasher** (unloading is preferred, but optional)

- **Cleaning** and putting away pots & pans, etc.
- **Removing** all group belongings from the Lodge, including food from the refrigerator
- **Pulling all trash and recyclables** (bunk room, great room, kitchen, bathrooms) and putting them on the back porch.

#### All Regular Park Rules and Regulations Apply

- Pets must remain on a 6-foot (max.) leash within the park.
- No pets allowed in or around the Lodge—certified assistance animals only.
- Fires allowed **ONLY** in campfire area and grill.
- No collection or release of any plant, animal or mineral material
- **NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**, firearms, hunting, boat launching or landing, swimming, wading, amplified music.

#### Logistical Matters

- **Reservations** may be made up to one year in advance.
- **Fees:**
  - Private groups \$150.00/night
  - Government/non-profit organizations \$ 75.00 /night
  - Public/private schools \$ 50.00/night
  - Payment is due within 2 weeks of making your reservation unless you are covered under our Master Level Service Agreement with Wake County Public Schools.
  - **Payment of your reservation fee implies compliance with these guidelines.**
  - **The group using the Lodge is financially responsible for any and all damages to the facility during the group's stay.**
- **Cancellations** must be submitted in writing at least one month prior to scheduled stay for a refund.
- **Arrival & Departure**
  - **CHECK-IN: 1:00 p.m.** on day of arrival—This includes your access to refrigeration. Bring coolers to keep your food cold until you check in!
  - **CHECK-OUT:10:00 a.m.** on day of departure
- **Evening Use**
  - The park itself closes at sunset. Call Blue Jay Point for exact times.
  - You will be provided with keys to the front gate and Lodge, and park staff will be “on-call” during your stay. You will be responsible for the gates and members of your group entering and leaving the park after closing. *Please plan accordingly.*
  - Park in marked parking places near the Lodge—Do not park on the grass or outside the park gates.
  - Evening use of the park should be limited to the Lodge area, unless proper scouting has been done in advance during daylight hours to check for hazards.
- **Accessibility**
  - All Lodge guests must be **at least 5 years of age.**
  - The Lodge and the Amphitheater/Firepit area are ADA accessible.
  - No pets are allowed in/around the Lodge environs, certified assistance animals only.

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#### Blue Jay Point County Park

3200 Pleasant Union Church Road Raleigh, NC 27614 (919) 870-4330  
[www.wake.gov/parks/bluejay](http://www.wake.gov/parks/bluejay) [bluejaypoint@wake.gov](mailto:bluejaypoint@wake.gov)