

Camp Reservation Procedures

The Seneca Lake Camp is enjoyed by many kinds of groups who come to bask in the camp's many beauties and quiet spirit, and to visit adjacent Church historical sites such as the Peter Whitmer Farm, The Hill Cumorah, the Smith Farm, the Sacred Grove, and Grandin Press. The camp's facilities are divided in various ways to accommodate as many of these kinds of groups as possible. These divisions are explained below:

Seneca Lake Young Women Camp

Young Women Camp – Reserved primarily for young women camps during an eight-week period running from late June through early August. Other groups may also reserve the camp during this period, but must rent the entire area designated for young women camps. The camp cannot be subdivided during this period. This camp is staffed with certified supervision and managed according to measures and County oversight required by the laws of New York.

Restoration Haven – Reserved for large groups such as youth conferences to use in the ten weeks surrounding the young women camps. Restoration Haven reservation does not include an apartment for priesthood support of young women camps called "The Priesthood Quarters," and does not include certified supervision and county oversight.

Cradle of the Restoration

Includes every facility of the camp, including those used by the Seneca Lake Young Women Camp. Young Women Camp facilities, such as cabins, are available only in the weeks surrounding the Young Women Camp period of use. The Lake House is available for rental throughout the year. RV and small-group tenting are available for reservation throughout the camping season, as is The Priesthood Quarters except during the young women camps. All facilities in the Cradle of the Restoration are rented on an individual site basis. Any group camping in the Cradle of the Restoration must reserve enough space to accommodate the entire group.

Camp Description

Background

The Seneca Lake Camp was created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to serve the needs of Young Women, families, and Church groups in the Northeastern United States. This beautiful camp is located on the eastern shore of Seneca Lake in Upstate New York. As a dedicated Church property, Seneca Lake Camp provides a comfortable environment away from the world in which campers may experience the Spirit of the Lord and engage in a broad range of activities.

The forested areas of camp have much the same look and feel as the Sacred Grove in nearby Palmyra,

New York. The combination of superb modern facilities, beautiful waterfront, forested wilderness, and proximity to Church historic sites provides a unique setting for Young Women Camp, Wards, Stakes and Families to enjoy time together away from the distractions of the world. We look forward to your visit.

Dining Hall

The Dining Hall is a large enclosed building with seating for 200+ for dining, conferencing, and other activities. Fold-up tables and chairs are provided by the camp. Ten roll-up doors open up onto a full-length covered patio with a lakeside view of the camp. On the opposite side are windows that run the length of the building giving guests a view of the camp's more wooded areas. At the north end of the hall is a large wood-burning fireplace with wood furnished by the camp. The dining hall is equipped with an ice machine, two pianos, an organ, a sound system and a video projector with various electronic connectivity ports.

A commercially-equipped stainless steel kitchen supports the dining area, with walk-in refrigerator and freezer, commercial dishwasher, toaster, meat slicer, large gas stove with griddle, four large ovens, and two warming ovens. Cooking and serving utensils, tableware, dish soaps, dish cloths, and other clean-up items are furnished by the camp.

Outside the Dining Hall to the west is a large bricked fire ring with seating capacity of 30 to 40. To the east is a central camp flagpole and assembly area with benches.

Guest Camp Director and Medical Facilities

In the south end of the Dining Hall is a Guest Camp Director's office with three single beds, a nurse's office and Infirmary with a small refrigerator and lockable cabinets for medicines. There is an ADA accessible restroom with shower, and a washer and dryer. The infirmary has five twin beds with mattresses. The dining hall, kitchen, guest director's quarters, and nurse's office are heated by propane heaters and cooled with portable electric fans.

Cabins

A total of ten identical cabins in two separate clusters are available in the camp, with four cabins in the upper camp area and six cabins in the lower. Cabins sleep sixteen, with eight bunk beds including a partitioned area for adult leaders, overhead florescent lights, two electric outlets and a ceiling fan. Cabin campers should bring their own pillow, bedding, or bedroll. Each group of cabins has two covered pavilions and two fire rings. The covered pavilions have picnic tables and a charcoal grill, and electric outlet. These pavilions do not have overhead lights.

Each cluster of cabins has a restroom facility. Restrooms are ADA accessible with hot water showers, flush toilets, and sinks. Bathrooms are heated and have overhead lights. Campers furnish their own personal toiletries and towels. The camp provides toilet paper, liquid hand soap, and paper towels.

Amphitheater

A large outdoor amphitheater with benches seating about 180 can be used for large group programs

and gatherings. The amphitheater has two fire rings and a pulpit with electrical power. A portable PA system is available for use at the amphitheater.

Large Group Tenting

Tent camping for large groups is provided in a ten-acre grassy area located near the upper cabins. A large fire ring is located in the center of the camping area, and ten steel BBQ grills line two sides of the perimeter. This tenting area is adjacent to the amphitheater, and is bordered on two sides by hardwood forest. The large group tenting area is available only on special arrangement with the camp director. Piped drinking water is available in this area. Toilet and shower facilities are shared with the upper cabins.

Small Group and Family Camping Area

Small group and family camping is available by reservation. This grassy area is supported by a pavilion with electrical, water, propane, flush toilets, warm showers, and a small kitchen-like cooking area. This pavilion is shared with the adjacent RV area. Three fire rings and two steel barbeque grills are located in the grassy area.

Primitive Camping

There are two hardwood groves for primitive group camping. Each is located a short hike (15-20 minutes) from the rest of the camping area. Each has a fire ring, but the groves are not supported by drinking water or restrooms.

Lake House

A spacious 5-bedroom house (4,000 square feet) is available for rental. It has 4 bedrooms and 2 baths upstairs and 1 bedroom and 1.5 baths downstairs. The house contains laundry facilities, a full kitchen, deck, and lake access. It is perfect for family reunions, Relief Society retreats and other such gatherings. It has its own large front and back lawns for family games and sports activities, and includes picnic tables, a fire ring, and a supplemental refrigerator unit.

RV Sites

The camp has 4 RV sites with full hookups located adjacent to the camp's small tenting area. RV'ers share a small pavilion with tenters.

Flexibility

Groups are will be assigned enough space to carry out their activities by the camp director, and may be expected to share some of the camp's amenities with other groups.

Transportation and Parking

Large groups coming to camp are encouraged to secure commercial bus transportation. All other groups may arrive in private vehicles. All vehicles should be parked in the designated camp parking area, which may be located some distance from your campsite. Those coming to camp are strongly encouraged to carpool in order to minimize the number of vehicles.

Waterfront

The camp has 800 feet of waterfront on Seneca Lake. Canoes and kayaks are available to the campers with life jackets and paddles provided by the camp. Swimming and boating are allowed only with the proper water safety procedures and times approved by the camp director. No lifeguards are on duty except during young women camps from assigned stakes.

Craft and Volleyball Barn

The camp has a covered volleyball court with sand base with electric lighting and outlets. A large covered craft area is also furnished with electric lighting, electric outlets, and picnic tables for a work area.

Hiking Trails

The camp has about 5 miles of hiking trails in and out of the wood and along the water front.

Equipment Rental

The camp has two Camp Chef three-burner stoves for rent. Two griddles (2 burners or 3 burners) and a barbecue unit can be rented and used on the stoves. These items should be reserved on arrangement with the camp director at the time of campsite reservation.