

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the rental fee include?

Your rental fee includes the room(s) during your rental time slot, a River Bend staff member for your event, daytime hiking trail use, photography locations, and parking.

We are interested in renting all 3 buildings. Is there room for negotiation in the pricing of rental as we would like all buildings for more than 4 hours?

If you rent more than 2 buildings for the same time period, you will receive a 10% discount – plus if you become River Bend members (family membership is \$50) you'll receive an additional 10% discount.

Will there be a staff member on the premises during our reception? If so, what is their role? Will they be available to help?

We will have one staff or volunteer here during your event. Primarily they are here to open & close the facilities, answer questions, restock as needed & provide help in case of emergencies.

Will we have a security guard?

If you want a security guard, that will have to be arranged with the Caledonia Police Department. You will have to contact them directly to set this up. River Bend may require a security guard depending upon the event—you are responsible for all expenses.

Do I have to use specific caterers?

No—you're free to use any catering service, or bring in your own food.

Is alcohol allowed?

Alcohol is allowed in the building you are renting; however, alcohol is not allowed on the trails and grounds. River Bend does not have a liquor license, and we are a county park – no alcohol sales are allowed on property – open bar is fine.

May I have music at our event?

Yes, you may have a band or DJ—all music must be over by 11pm.

Where are my guests allowed to park & how many spaces are available?

Parking is free. We have 53 spots in our upper lot, and 8 parking spots in our lower lot. During evening events, guests may also park along the entrance road.

What time may I access the room(s)?

Access to the building(s) for event set-up is limited to 30 minutes before event start time. If more set-up time is needed, the cost is \$50 for each additional ½ hour. Set up time must be reserved.

Can we clean up the next day?

Because of wildlife, ALL clean up in the pavilion must be done that evening—including garbage / recycling in dumpsters, etc.

We ask that indoor cleanup is completed that evening as well. However, you are welcome to rent the facility for \$50 per ½ hour the next morning to do the final cleanup & take any decorations/etc. you still have here. That must be arranged at time of rental to guarantee the space is not rented out by another party the next morning.

Can I have my rehearsal at River Bend?

You are welcome to come in prior to the ceremony to rehearse. Space must be reserved and the cost is \$50 per ½ hour. Rehearsal receptions or dinners are subject to regular rental fees.

Is there sound equipment available such as microphone, projector or speakers we could use for the ceremony and music?

No – we don't have speakers or a microphone. However, the pavilion & buildings are equipped with standard electrical service – so if you do want to bring in something, you'll have access to that.

Do you have any outdoor tables and chairs or do we need to rent these from a rental company?

All outdoor tables/chairs must be rented – we only have indoor furniture available for use in the main lodge and Em's cabin.

Do you have linens, plates, glasses, or utensils?

We do not offer place settings or linens, they must be brought in or rented.

Do you have garbage cans we can set around for the event?

Yes – we have both regular garbage & recycling receptacles and liners that can be used for the event.

What do you allow for decorations?

Staples are not permitted—nothing that can cause damage to the facility is allowed. Other weddings have used the 3M removable hooks. We do not have a ladder that can reach the ceiling, please take that into consideration when planning your décor. Balloons, beads and confetti (except paper) are not permitted—they have a very negative impact on wildlife and the environment.

Can the fire pits be used during the event?

You're welcome to use our stacked wood for your campfire during your event—there is stacked wood by the pavilion fire pit, as well by the Main Building.