

# Enchanted Forest Yurt procedures

## Welcome

Thank you for choosing Enchanted Forest for all your yurting needs. We have done everything we can think of to make your yurt stay a pleasurable one. That said, there might be a few things we have forgotten, so please help us out and let us know what you would like from our yurts and these instructions.

Our yurt has been designed for a pleasant winter stay. The floor, walls and roof are insulated. There is a wood stove for heat and to melt snow for water, and the beds are warm and comfortable, but this is still **Winter Camping**. Bring warm clothing and sleeping gear for your stay in the yurt. (See gear list below)

## Safety

**EMERGENCY NUMBER 575-770-2431.**

This is my cell phone, and I leave it on all the time. And no, I will not bring you coffee in the morning ☺

You may ski the trails or snowshoe the snowshoe trails at night. Remember, you are alone in the ski area and there is no ski patrol at night. Be extremely cautious!

## Fire Safety

Big fires make big heat! Keep them small and comfortable. If the fire gets too big:

**DO NOT REMOVE LOGS FROM FIRE!**

Use a cup of water or snow to quench fire.

Many homes in Red River have caught fire because of people trying to remove logs from a big fire, **do not use the fire extinguisher to put out the fire in the stove**. This will make it impossible to get the fire going again and this is your heat source.

For more information on the wood stove, see instructions at the end of this document..

## Provided Gear

We have provided quite a few amenities to help make your stay comfortable and to limit the amount of gear you need to bring to the yurt.

- Wood stove, fire starter and firewood
- Gas Lantern
- Gas cook stove (**Please do not use gas for melting snow. See snow melting below**)
- Pots and pans
- Cooking utensils
- Recycled paper plates, cups, cutlery and paper towels (**Please burn when used for added heat.**)

- A selection of spices
- Cutting board and knives
- Melitta filter cone, carafe and filters
- Trash bags (trash disposal is at trailhead, please pack trash out with you)
- Table and chairs
- Outhouse
- Beds. Long John; 4 twin and 2 double. Little John; 3 twin and 1 double
- Games
- Gear pulk (sled) provided for moving extra gear to yurt
- Other items that previous guests may have left for you to use.

## You Bring

There are of course things you will need to bring to make your stay more like home.

- Bring a cell phone, there is service at the yurt and they are very helpful in an emergency and to brag to friends (Hey, guess where I am!)
- Skis or snowshoes **REQUIRED**, you may not “hike” in boots to yurt in winter. (Rentals available at EFXC)
- Backpacks for gear that won’t fit in the pulk (sled)
- Sleeping bags (20° or colder rating **HIGHLY** recommended)
- Pillows
- Winter sports appropriate clothing:

This may include: Hats, gloves or mittens, long underwear (no cotton), wool or synthetic socks (no cotton), insulated over pants and jacket/coat (no cotton, No jeans), wicking shirts, fleece or sweater (no cotton). It is very important that you wear layers of clothing. Wicking layers against skin (no cotton), thin to thick insulation layer, water resistant breathable outer layer. This way you can take off and put on as needed. It is better to start warm than to try and get warm, and you can’t put it on if you left it at the trailhead. Bring extra clothing even if you don’t think you’ll need it, weather can change rapidly in the mountains.

- Sunglasses
- Sunblock
- Day packs for trips from yurt
- Trail map
- First aid kit
- All your food and drinks
- Slippers
- Flashlight or headlamp**
- Toiletries
- Water. There is a pot for melting snow on the wood stove, but 1 gallon jugs of water cost \$1 at most stores.

## Check in

**Check in time is by 1pm.**

The yurts are located at the junction of “Little John” and “Linda’s Leg” for the Little John Yurt, and the end of “Long John” and “Northwest Passage” for the Long John yurt. We will show you on the map where your yurt is and how to get there when you arrive.

Your key is in the lockbox to the right of the door. If you don't have the code, we will give it to you.

If you have paid for gear delivery, please let us know and we will bring the gear sled to your vehicle for loading.

To make your stay the most comfortable, there are a few things you need to do to get the yurt ready for the night's stay:

- If it has snowed, shovel the deck and steps, and shovel a path to the outhouse and wood crib.
- Water is from snowmelt or water you have brought with you from the store or home. (See water snow melting instructions below) For this reason:
  - PLEASE ONLY USE THE OUTHOUSE TO PEE.** No urinating off of the porch (or anywhere near the yurt except in the outhouse).
- Get the fire going if it's cold. There is amazing solar gain in the afternoon in the yurt so a fire may not be needed right away. Fire starter, newspaper and lighters are located near the wood stove. Cut logs and a hatchet are at the wood crib. Be cautious with the splitter.
- Use the wood stove to melt snow for water. See instructions below.**
- Small fires go a long way in the yurt.** Too big and you will find yourself opening the front door to cool off. Instructions for the stove are at the end of this document.
- The cook stove and lantern use propane. The propane tanks are alongside the deck and you must turn on the valve to get gas to the stove inside. There is a gas control knob on the front of the stove and on the lantern. Turn off propane tank when not in use during day or overnight, and again when you leave.
- The lantern is lit by turning gas knob on halfway then lighting with a match.
- Fire extinguisher is located on the side of the door.
- Please burn paper trash in fire. This helps keep you warm, and reduces the amount of trash you must carry out. **Please no metal or plastic in the wood stove.**

## Melting Snow

To melt snow for drinking water, you must start with water in the pot. 2-4 inches works well. Heat the water to a light steam, and then **slowly** add snow slowly to melt. Do not add enough to absorb the water, just enough to melt into the water. If there is no water in the bottom of the pot, the melting will just steam away, and the heat will scorch the pot. Please use the wood stove to melt snow.

## Check Out

**-Check out time is 11:30am. If you have arranged for gear delivery and pick up, this is when we will be there.**

- Please leave the yurt how you found it, or better, and have your gear ready for pickup if you purchased gear delivery and pick up.
- Leave yurt clean and tidy for the next visitor. There is a broom and dustpan in the yurt, and shake out the rug outside.
- Be sure to turn off all gas appliances and propane tanks.
- Split and stock a load of firewood for the next group, especially if some was waiting for you.
- Make one final sweep to check for left belongings behind.
- Be sure to **pack out any trash** you have created during your stay.
- Return key to the lock box.**



## Instructions for airtight wood stove

To light stove: Build fire directly on stove bottom. You may need to remove a bit of ash with the shovel if there is more than an inch or so. Shovel ashes into ash can provided, leave big coals in stove, this helps get the new fire going. Stove will accept up to 16" length wood.

Use newspaper and kindling or fire starter and kindling. Kindling can be made from split wood with the hatchet near the wood crib. **Do not split wood inside yurt!** Fire starter and kindling must be completely engulfed with flame before adding big wood. **Do not use fire starter as firewood.**

Once kindling is burning, add larger pieces of wood. Small fires go a long way toward heating the yurt, don't add too much at first.

Once fire catches, close door partially and make sure damper on stove is OPEN, in inward position.

Stove will take approximately 30 minutes to start producing good heat. Once fire is burning well and stove is hot, close door fully and move damper half way out.\*

Once desired heat level is reached, close down damper by moving lever forward. The damper will not close completely so that fire will continue to burn. If room temp cools down, move damper control forward to increase air to fire. You can unlatch the door to add even more air and make a bigger fire. Adjust to keep a comfortable heat level in the yurt. **REMEMBER**, this is still a tent... in winter... it will **NEVER** stay at 70° all night and still have a good fire left in the morning unless someone gets up and adds wood in the middle of the night.

Before bed: Stir coals and bits of wood down to a level layer on bottom of stove. Load the stove and fill as much as possible without forcing wood in. Let fire build up to a roar, then close door and close damper by pulling full forward. Fire should last most of the night, but you will still need to stoke the fire in the early morning. If it gets too cold in the yurt, bring damper control forward to increase heat of fire.

**\*WARNING!** If the stovepipe or other parts of stove begin to smoke, your fire is **TOO BIG!** Do not try to remove logs or use fire extinguisher to put out fire. Throw a cup of water or snow into fire. If you use the fire extinguisher to put out fire your primary heat source is now unusable until cleaned.