



Pitman Research Station Guide

Pitman Research Station (PRS)

The Pitman Research Station (PRS) located at NCC's Gravelly Bay property, Long Point, is available for researchers and volunteers working on NCC properties. In order to make use of this facility, potential researchers and volunteers must provide a brief work plan detailing the activities they wish to undertake, the properties involved, and how long they expect these activities to take. For researchers, this is covered by the NCC Research Permit.

NCC is extremely grateful to volunteers providing assistance with stewardship actions. However, we are unable to provide access to the Pitman Research Station beyond the time required to conduct the proposed work.

Rates are: \$20/night, \$80/week, or \$300/month per person, or 4 hrs of volunteering per day for volunteers.

Facilities

The PRS has electricity and running water (6 months of the year), though the water is **NOT** drinkable. Electricity is provided via solar panels mounted on the cabin. Propane for the fridge and stove is provided by two tanks located at the rear of the cabin. There is a BBQ outside. The

indoor fireplace is functional with fire wood located in the main living area of the Cabin and underneath the cabin (accessed from outside).

Travel plans to PRS can be arranged with NCC staff. Visitors should be aware that travel is weather dependant. When planning trips visitors are encouraged to plan extra time into the trip in case of weather delays.

Emergency information for the cabin, including an [evacuation plan](#), is available on the bulletin board in the main room.

Visitors should be aware that cell phone signal is not reliable and should plan accordingly.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a communications device which does not rely on cell signal for emergencies, such as [SPOT device](#) or satellite phone.

Kitchen	Bedrooms	Washroom
1 propane fridge with freezer Propane oven with stovetop microwave Coffeemaker (french press) kettle dishes, cutlery and misc. cookware (pots, pans etc)	1 room with double bed 1 room with 1 set single bunkbeds Blankets and pillows sheets/pillowcases are available	toilet, sink and shower

Operating utilities

Electricity:

Electricity is provided via solar panels mounted on the roof of the PRS (batteries and inverter located under PRS). **Batteries and inverter located underneath the PRS should never be touched or altered from their current setup.**

To turn on power to the PRS find the black control panel located to the left of the bathroom door. On the left of the panel there are two buttons labeled “On/Off” and “Inverting”. Press the on button then press and hold the inverting button until the display screen illuminates, it will say “inverting.” The PRS will now have power through out.

*Power is sufficient to operate lights and tools for extended periods of time in good weather; however, during periods of low light power should be used sparingly and appliances/light fixtures never left on through the night.

Propane:

Propane is supplied by two tanks located at the rear of the PRS. Please ensure that the valves located on each tank are turned on before operating any of the propane appliances.

Water:

Water is left on from 1 May – 15 Oct and shut off through the remaining months. Note that the water system will not operate without first turning on power to the PRS.

A propane water heater is provided at the PRS. Once both the electricity and propane are turned on (see above) the heater can be operated by the control panel located to the right of the bathroom door. To turn on the water heater hold the “On/Off” button on the control panel, the screen will illuminate indicating the set temperature. Temperature can be adjusted using the “up and down” arrows on the control panel.

Note: ideal shower temperature is 98C and dish washing temperature is 114C.

Operating appliances

Stove:

Once the propane is turned on (see above) the stove pilot may be lit. Ignitors can be found on top of the wood box right of the fridge. To lite the pilot; remove the burner guards and white stove top. Once removed use the stove controls to turn on the desired burner you wish to ignite. It may take time for the propane to move from the tank to the stove. With the propane on place the ignitor near the pilot and lite it. This will result in the burner turning on. Shut the burner off and turn it back on to ensure the pilot is properly lit. Repeat this process for each burner.

Fridge:

Similar to the stove the fridge must also be lit once the propane is turned on. To lite the fridge, open the gray base plate under the fridge door. Inside you will see a small square hole (window), a button with a flame beside it (left most), a button with a lightning bolt symbol (center) and a dial to set the temperature (right most). First turn the temperature dial to the highest setting. Next depress the leftmost button all the way and hold the center button to

ignite the fridge. With the leftmost button still depressed a flame should appear in the window hole. Keep the leftmost button depressed approximately 60sec and slowly release it making sure that the flame does not go out. If the flame remains visible the fridge is lit. Check the flame again in 30min to ensure it is still lit.

NB – Directions for igniting the fridge are located on the back of the gray base plate.

House Rules

Outside:

1. Camping is not allowed on the property.
2. Small fires are NOT allowed. Firewood should NOT be collected from the property.

Inside:

3. Any breakages of cookware, utensils, plates, glasses, mugs etc are to be replaced by the tenant at the tenant's expense, unless the item can be shown to have been defective or unnecessary.
4. Stores of food left by NCC should not be used except in an emergency, and then should be replaced by the tenant at the tenant's expense.
5. The tap water is not guaranteed to be safe for drinking. Drinking water is stored in the kitchen pantry. Tenants should ensure that drinking water is brought with them and the supply at PRS is maintained.
6. All parts of the PRS used by the tenant should be kept clean. Upon departure, the tenant should conduct a thorough clean of all areas used, including the kitchen, bathrooms, living room and bedroom. Cleaning agents and utensils are provided.
7. No smoking inside or within 5 m of the PRS. Cigarette butts should be disposed of in the garbage.
8. Please recycle as much waste as possible. Empty food containers should be rinsed. Removal of waste by users is required so please plan for transport and storage of garbage and recycles.
9. Keep all food items in sealed containers at all times to discourage rodents and insects.

10. Conserve water as much as possible: our septic tank is small and has no overflow. Please minimise your waste water production as much as possible! Use of the outhouse over that of the indoor washroom is preferred. Dish water may be dumped down the kitchen sink.

NCC would be grateful if tenants can remove any garbage detected on the property, including on the beach, as time permits.

Please notify the southwestern Ontario Conservation Biologist if you notice things which need to be repaired, replaced or have any suggestions.

Brett Norman, Coordinator-Conservation Biology, Southwestern Ontario

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Financial donations towards the upkeep of the PRS are always welcome!

Please visit www.natureconservancy.ca or contact:

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