

Domain Camping Policy

Purpose

The Domain camping policy describes the rules, expectations, and opportunities for camping on the undeveloped portions of the Domain. This policy ensures that safe recreational opportunities to camp are afforded for the Sewanee community as part of the resource management program of the undeveloped portions of Domain.

Scope

This Policy applies to the Sewanee community, general public, partner institutions, and recreational users.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Camping	This is an elective outdoor recreational activity on the designated areas of the Domain. To be regarded as "camping," a minimum of one night is spent outdoors. Camping may involve sheltering in the open air, a tent, or primitive structure for a temporary length of time, defined as less than one week for the Domain.
Campfire	Fire fully contained within constructed fire receptacles at designated locations listed below.
Dispersed Camping	Camping, as defined above, in locations other than designated camping areas or cabins.
Partner Institutions	Outside entities (Federal, State, Non-Governmental Organization, Educational) that request access to the Domain.
Public	Any individual who is not directly related to employees, students, alumni, or leaseholders on the Domain. Public does not include short-term guests of employees, students, leaseholders, and alumni.
Recreational Users	All users of the recreational amenities on the Domain.

Sewanee Community	This group includes faculty, staff, students, alumni, their guests, as well as residents of the Domain.
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Policy Statements

Who may camp on the Domain

1. Sewanee community members, as defined above. Spouses and children of employees are also allowed to camp.
2. Non-students under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is approved to camp under this policy.
3. Up to 5 short-term guests accompanied by any person otherwise approved to camp pursuant to this policy.
4. Use by partner institutions is made available by permission only through request to the Domain Manager at domain@sewanee.edu. Seven days advance notice is required.
5. Camping by the public is not allowed on the Domain.
6. Dispersed camping is limited to current students, faculty, and staff only.

Where to camp on the Domain

1. There are 12 designated camping areas on the Domain ([map](#)) with fire rings. (Campfires are only permitted within fire rings, in designated camping areas, or in fire places for registered cabin and pavilion campers.) The Cheston Cabin, Forestry Cabin, and Gavin Moore Pavilion are available for overnight camping with a reservation. Reservations are accepted for all designated camping areas and preference is given to campers with a reservation. Alumni are required to reserve camping areas.
2. General dispersed camping without campfires is allowed across the Domain outside of areas designated as special natural areas. See [camping map](#) for prohibited locations. Dispersed camping is not allowed within 50 yards of a trail or fire lane.
3. No camping is allowed within 100 yards of residential leases.
4. The Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability (OESS) may close the Domain to camping at any time. Closures will be communicated with the entire community through email and signage.

General camping regulations

1. All recreational users must have a current waiver of [liability](#) prior to using the recreational amenities of the Domain.
2. No permanent or semi-permanent structures may be built on the Domain.
3. The maximum group size allowed is 10 people without explicit permission of

- OESS. Smaller groups are encouraged, with exceptions for the Sewanee Outing Program during special programs.
4. Camping is limited to seven consecutive days/six nights.
 5. Gates may not be blocked or obstructed in any way. Campers desiring vehicular access to Breakfield Road must reserve their camping location online on the OESS website [camping section](#).
 6. All garbage must be removed and properly disposed of, and campers must leave a clean campsite with no evidence of their stay. Note: Burning trash in fire rings is prohibited.
 7. When disposing of human waste, the use of a “cat hole” (6-8 inches deep) 200 feet from water is required.
 8. Camping equipment may not be left unattended for more than 24 hours.
 9. No living trees, timber, herbs, or vegetation, or artifacts of any kind may be cut and/or removed from the Domain.
 10. Sewanee Community Members must notify the OESS of their intent to camp by reserving one of the designated camping areas in the camping section of the OESS website.

Special considerations: campfires on the Domain

1. Campfires are only permitted within fire rings in designated camping areas or in fire places for registered cabin campers. All other fires are prohibited. These sites include:
 - Campsite south of the Cross
 - Cedar Hollow Lake
 - Dotson’s Point
 - The Forestry Cabin
 - Cheston Cabin
 - King’s Farm
 - The end of firelane behind gates five and six
 - Lake Dimmick camping point
 - Audubon Lake
 - Chestnut Lake
 - Gavin Moore Pavilion
 - Lake Cheston (no overnight camping)
2. Only dead and down wood may be used as firewood. Cutting live trees is prohibited.
3. Do not bring firewood from other areas, firewood must come Franklin and Marion Counties.
4. All firewood must be small enough to fit in the respective ring.
5. All campfires must be completely extinguished before leaving the campsite.
6. All campfires must be monitored at all times and supervision should include appropriate resources to extinguish the fire.
7. Campfires are prohibited in any area when a burn ban is in effect.

Camping in cabins and pavilion on the Domain

1. Use of cabins and pavilion is permitted only for registered, approved users.
2. The cabin and the grounds around it must be left clean when campers depart. Pack out all trash.
3. The person reserving the cabin must be onsite when others are present.
4. Hike-in or bike-in use of the Cheston Cabin and Gavin Moore Pavilion is mandatory. No motorized vehicles are allowed.
5. Parking for the Forestry Cabin is only allowed in the parking area above the dam. No motor vehicles are allowed on the dam or around the cabin. Temporary 24 hour vehicular access to Breakfield Road is provided through the online reservation system.
6. Maximum group size for overnight use of the Forestry and Cheston Cabin is 10, with exceptions for the Sewanee Outing Program during special programs.
7. All food and supplies must be carried to and from the cabin.

Additional considerations

1. All relevant University policies apply to campers on the Domain.

Consequences

1. Any campers found to be non-compliant with this policy will be removed from the site. Non-student campers will have camping rights revoked for one calendar year.
2. Campers found to be out of compliance with other University policies while camping will be subject to discipline rules of the applicable University policy, or for students, may be subject to sanction by the Dean of Students in addition to having privileges revoked.
3. Repeat offenders will be banned from overnight camping opportunities on the Domain.

Responsibilities

1. The camper is responsible for checking the Domain website to ensure camping areas are available and are not temporarily closed. During inclement weather, required site maintenance, or other purposes that require temporary closure of an area, an updated map and notification will be provided on the Domain website.
2. Please report any maintenance issues with the cabin, pavilion, outhouse, or surrounding area to domain@sewanee.edu.
3. The camper is responsible for packing in all food and supplies for their use on the Domain.
4. The camper is responsible for cleaning up all waste and packing out all trash.
5. It is the camper's responsibility to know if they are in a permitted campfire area and whether burn bans are in effect, and to comply with University expectations.
6. The person reserving a cabin or pavilion is responsible for its care, and should be onsite when others are present.
7. The Domain Ranger and/or Sewanee Police Department will be responsible for

monitoring compliance with this policy.

8. The Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability is responsible for repairs to cabins and maintenance of designated campsites.
9. All wildfires should be reported immediately to the fire department through emergency dispatch.

Procedures

1. All cabin, pavilion and designated camping reservations are available on the OESS website [here](#).

Promulgation

The procedure will be promulgated through:

1. The Sewanee OESS [website](#).
2. New student orientation
3. Domain access kiosks
4. Sewanee Outing Program

Implementation

Implementation of this procedure will be through the Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, specifically the Domain Manager and Domain Ranger. The Sewanee Outing Program in Student Life will enforce this policy on all its sponsored events. The Domain Manager is responsible for communicating temporary closures of camping areas through the Domain website and campus email.

Record Keeping of Policy Additions or Revisions

Previous policies, the updated policy (or new policy) and the rationale for changes will be retained by the Director of the Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability and in the Provost's office for one year.

Effective Date/Approval

Effective date: October 6, 2020