

RIVER'S EDGE

Welcome to River's Edge, a vacation rental located on the Dry Fork River in Hendricks, West Virginia.

Directions:

Take Route 219 north from Parsons about two miles to Route 72. Turn right onto Route 72 and drive about two additional miles, through the towns of Hambleton and Hendricks. After crossing the bridge over the Blackwater River, River's Edge is the third house on the right. The first house is a huge place located on about 20 acres and somewhat in the distance, so it is easy to miss. The driveway for River's Edge peels off to the right from Route 72 just before the highway makes a sharp left turn up the mountain. River's Edge is a frame house with white siding and a row of tall junipers that screen the front.

If you arrive at night: after crossing the bridge, note a split rail fence along the right, then three self-storage sheds. Shortly afterwards, Route 72 turns sharply to the right. Ahead you will see a street light that illuminates the place where Route 72 turns sharply to the left. The driveway to River's Edge is to the right about 150 feet prior to the turn. Lights over the front entrance and garage/parking apron are timer-controlled and should be on.

Facilities:

River's Edge provides three bedrooms, two with queen-size beds and one with a captain's bed and a rollaway which provide, in essence, two singles. There is also a futon sofa in the family room downstairs. The futon sofa folds out to form a full-size bed. Bedding is located on the top shelf of the closet at the top of the split-foyer stairs. There are three baths, a fully equipped kitchen and living and dining areas.

We provide bedding, towels and bath and hand soap. You must provide your own shampoo and other toiletries and hair dryer.

River's Edge is a work in progress: still pending are an upgraded hot water system, furnishing the lower level kitchen and family room areas, painting the exterior and other planned improvements.

Check in time is 4:00 p.m. Check out time is 11:00 a.m. You may call Stevens Realty at 478-2141 to arrange for a later check out if no other visitors are arriving that afternoon.

Heating and cooling:

The residence was built in the 1970's when summers in Tucker County remained temperate, so a central heating ductwork system was not installed. Rooms are heated by electric baseboard heaters, most of which are individually controlled by wall-mounted thermostats. Two of the heaters, one in the upstairs dining room and one in the downstairs family room, are controlled by knobs at one end of the heaters.

For cooling, we have provided a whole-house fan in the upper level hallway. The fan has two speeds and is controlled by a pull-chain. For cooling on hot summer days, close the windows on the upper level, open the windows in the lower level and turn on the whole-house fan. The fan will bring up cooler air from the lower level. Summer evenings in

Hendricks are cool. In the evenings, open the living room and bedroom windows on the upper level and turn on the fan to draw in cool evening air. For security reasons, we suggest closing the lower level windows at night.

Radio/TV:

A portable radio is provided. For news and weather, tune in West Virginia Public Radio. You can pick up the signal from several of the affiliate stations between 88.5 FM and 91.00 FM, and may have to try more than one of them to see which has the strongest signal at the time you are trying.

At this point we do not have a TV signal provider. The TV can only play back videocassettes. To play a videocassette:

- Turn on both the Toshiba TV and the Panasonic videocassette player;
- Select channel 3 on the TV set;
- Press the TV/Video button on the Toshiba remote;
- Insert a video cassette into the Panasonic player and press the start button.

We have provided a limited selection of videocassettes in the living room TV cabinet; more are located in the downstairs family room video cabinet.

Hot Water

The hot water heater is located in a service area which is reached through a door in the lower level bath. If hot water is insufficient, you may raise the temperature by turning up the red knob at the base of the hot water heater. Be careful: if you turn the knob to 'hot,' the water will come out scalding.

For reasons mysterious, the water supply piping installed in this residence, along with many others in the area, is only one-half inch. For that reason, there is insufficient pressure available in the system to open more than one water source at a time without a drop in pressure. That means, unfortunately, that even though there are three bathrooms, not more than one person can shower at a time.

Telephone

We have provided a telephone with free service in the Tucker and Randolph Counties (Elkins regional) area. The phone number is 304-478-4988. If you wish to make a toll call outside of the free calling area, you may use a pre-paid phone card or credit card which uses a 1-800 access number.

Grilling

We have provided a Weber grill which is located in the garage. You must provide your own charcoal, matches and starter. If you use the grill:

- Do not, in the event of rain, grill in the garage. In addition to the obvious fire danger, burning charcoal produces toxic gases which could be harmful in an enclosed space.
- For the convenience of the next user, please clean the grill and dispose of the ashes in the trash bin.

The grounds

The River's Edge grounds are shaped like an upside down shoe: Route 72 shapes the top and north edge of the property and the back edge to the east. On the southern edge, the Dry Fork River forms the sole. In the southeast corner is a metal tower supporting a cable mechanism used by the U.S. Geological Survey to measure the river depth: that point would be the heel. To the far right, facing the river, you can walk along to the toe which is located at an old barn. As you walk towards the barn, there is an embankment to the right. Over 100 years ago a lumber railroad ran along the river and through the property at this point.

While you may walk about the grounds, we urge you to stay on the mowed areas. Poison ivy is rampant. We believe we have been successful in controlling the poison ivy near the house with herbicide, but in the brushy areas along the river bank it is particularly rampant and we cannot get it all. Be forewarned. Also, the river bank drops sharply off and is hazardous. Keep small children from approaching too near to it.

Finally, a natural swale runs through the center of the property and drains the runoff from properties to the north of Route 72. This area is muddy and marshy and, obviously, to be avoided.

Swimming

There are two natural swimming holes in the Dry Fork River. One is at the heel of the property: if you walk under the USGS cable, as you leave the property a short path descends to the right to some rocks over the river. The flood of 1985 gouged out an area here which is fairly deep. It is also risky. The water is deep and there is a current. Under no circumstances should you try to dive in unless you have determined the water depth and strength of the current, which changes with the amount of rainfall, and the location of rocks, tree trunks or other hazards below the surface.

You can find the second swimming hole by walking past the first one, past the USGS survey shed on the left and, on the right, a shed housing the pump for the town water supply. You can continue along a path that follows the old lumber railroad bed for about a quarter of a mile until the roadbed gradually slopes down a rock shelf that disappears into the river. This is a popular swimming area with local kids.

At both locales, you swim at your own risk. We are not recommending them for swimming but pointing out that they are popular with local kids.

Smoking

Please do not smoke in the house. You may smoke in the garage, preferably with the doors open. Patio furniture and an ashtray have been provided in the garage for that purpose.

Shopping

There is a Shop 'n Save grocery, a pharmacy and a general merchandise discount store in downtown Parsons. Take Route 219 to the traffic light and turn left.

Restaurants in Parsons

Two restaurants advertise 'family-style' cooking:

- Tucker Country Inn. Take 219 to the light, turn right and follow Route 72 about 0.7 miles. The inn is on the left, opposite Adkins Hardware.
- City Café. Take 219 to the light and turn left. City Cafe is next to the Sheetz gas station.

There are also two pizza restaurants:

- CJ's, which in addition to pizza offers hoagies and other sandwiches, some Italian dishes and good salads. You will pass it on the right after you cross the bridge going into Parsons.
- Fox's Pizza. Take 219 to the light, turn right and follow Route 72 about 0.5 miles. Fox's is on the right.

Subway is now located in Parsons. You will pass it on the right after you cross the bridge going into Parsons and after C J's pizzeria and Performance Chevrolet.

When you leave...

- Please close all windows and lock the doors.
- Please place towels in the washing machine and fill it with cold water. Turn the washer off before the agitation cycle starts. Soaking will keep towels from getting mildewed.

We hope you enjoy your stay.

Gene, Tina and Tom Nojek