

The Little Deer Dispatch



**AMC COLD RIVER CAMP
NORTH CHATHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Winter's greetings from the Chair

What a joy it was to have a full season in the summer of 2023 and to return once more to our historic Conant Lodge, open and renovated so lovingly. Steve Pelletier and his crew continued through the summer adding final touches week by week, and he finished his work in the autumn. The grounds received a thorough restoration at and after Closing 2023, narrowing roads back to Camp width, adding shrubbery, flowers, shade trees, and grading the areas around the roadway and walkways to reduce rain pooling. All the volunteers who served on the committees that designed the Lodge and Kitchen, raised the funds to complete the project, and those who managed the building itself, led by volunteer Jan Irvin deserve one last virtual High Five! Jan continues his good work with the project rep, Andy Chalmers, to create manuals for volunteers and staff to care for the building under all conditions. The solar array is installed now, another project spurred on by volunteers and overseen by Jan and Andy.

Guests made great use of the new space east of the main fireplace as we had some rainy weeks in 2023. The common remark was that it felt like the new dining room had always been there, yet it offered a welcome enlarged space for dining and games and beautiful views from every table. Thanks to Emmy & Hillary, Miranda, and Ellie, for learning on the fly how to manage the staff and crew in the new kitchen, especially under such a time constraint in Prep Week. The Extension group, led by Chris Clyne, enjoyed not only the refurbished Lodge but some of the best weather of the summer.

After such unusual years of construction and covid, Cold River Camp is ready to return to its regular rhythm. The Governance program of five Teams (Facilities, Finance, Recruiting, Marketing & Communications, and Land & Waters) is working well. Volunteers serve on a Team that calls to them, and only Team Leaders need to be on the full CRC Committee, so we can embrace more volunteers with expertise in certain areas. It is gratifying to see how many guests stepped up when asked last summer to join a Team or to become a hike leader or naturalist. We are looking for more members to join the Marketing Team to help us spread the good word about the joys of Cold River Camp.

Please continue to reach out if you feel you have time to share your talents with Cold River or nominate candidates that you think would serve Camp well, since folks rotate off every 2-3 years. Now I would like you to join me in thanking two of our longtime volunteers!

Frank Mastro, Facilities Coordinator for the past 30+ years, has stepped aside to remain a member of the Team. His tireless dedication to CRC deserves our special thanks as he oversaw every aspect of the facility and found appropriate craftspeople to keep Camp running. His instigation to enlarge the dining area spurred us on to build the beautiful new dining hall. He worked on the Greely bathhouse, Women's, Men's, new cabins, cabin refurbishment, designed cubbies and layouts, found the Jotul stoves, and gathered a strong group of talented volunteers to support his endeavors. I cannot

capture the complete list of behind the scenes work that Frank has done, but I applaud his characteristic care to reduce costs to Camp while making guests and staff more comfortable. He has advised many a Chair, collaborated with volunteers and management, and remains a great friend to many, particularly those who come during his favorite time of year at Extension. David Graham will take up the role of Facilities Coordinator.

Another veteran volunteer of 20+ years, Bill Gross, will step aside at the end of the 2024 season. Bill has done his utmost to fill the roster each week with hike leaders and naturalists, keeping tabs on their certification process and their skill set, and setting a standard for what it means to be a CRC leader. He has written formal CRC manuals for hike leaders and paddle leaders, expanding upon the AMC leadership manuals, and he has worked with AMC's risk management team to ensure the best outing experience for CRC guests. Bill has shared his job description for interested volunteers to consider taking on, yet he proposed an option of two people sharing the duties. Amy Grover will shadow Bill this year for the administrative side of the duties while we wait for a hike leader volunteer to emerge to manage the pool of leaders and interns. As a hiking camp, we owe Bill a debt of gratitude for his many years of service.

Since I took on the responsibility of CRC Chair in 2020, and the major projects are complete, it is time for me to step aside for new leadership for the 2024 season. MaryStarr Hope and Oz Osborne have agreed to take on the Chair and Vice Chair positions, while I will serve another

year as Immediate Past Chair. The five Team Leaders who are among the thirteen voting CRCC members will organize their Teams of volunteers to address projects ahead of us concerning infrastructure and grounds, but also aim for higher guest attendance and raise the number of volunteers in all areas.

Some infrastructure projects include ongoing cabin and roof upgrades, the Mabel Chester Dam restoration, view protection and wood management, water supply, garden restoration, and a few ADA projects. We always need more volunteer leadership, whether on Committee, a Team, or as a leader at Camp. The heart of Cold River Camp lies in its volunteer nature, where the CRCC and guest feedback make Cold River what it is. Please consider being a part of the team that makes CRC run. We are the second of the historic Volunteer Camps & Cabins (VCCs) to Three Mile Island, with Echo Lake shortly behind us. We are a part of the AMC, yet our volunteer board runs the Camp, makes financial decisions, and sets the tone for our weekly experience. In my many years as hike leader, committee member, ad hoc committee member, and volunteer at Closing, and now Chair, I have met many friends and found people with a passion for the outdoors that includes a desire to share that joy with others. In each role, my CRC volunteer service made me fonder of all that Cold River Camp means.

Thank you for your support over these tumultuous four years! I hope to see you on the Porch or on the trails in 2024.

Sally Morris,
CRC Committee Chair 2020-23

The latest on the Conant Lodge renovation project—and solar panel installation

Since our last *Little Deer Dispatch* Update, the dedication ceremony for the newly renovated Conant Lodge was held on August 19, 2023. The celebration was attended by more than 50 volunteers, donors, AMC dignitaries, and guests, as well as the local project managers, architects, and builders who renovated the building for its next 100 years serving outdoors enthusiasts of all ages.

Jan Lyle Irvin, AIA, shared his insights as one of the concept design architects. He was also the recipient of the 2022 AMC Volunteer Leadership Award for being a leader who demonstrated the desire to share his time and expertise in the pursuit of AMC's mission to foster the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the outdoors.

As a part of the Lodge renovation, the Camp has also taken a huge step to work towards AMC's goal of net-zero greenhouse emissions and a reduction in carbon emissions by adding two solar arrays (with potential for an additional array) next to the south service road. By year end, Conant Lodge will use solar energy

to power a portion of its operations and reduce its overall carbon footprint.

In February 2024, similar to AMC's Annual Trail Sign Auction, CRC will be holding an eBay auction in support of the Conant Lodge Capital Campaign. One-of-a-kind signs from cabins that were recently renamed, as well as many of the camp's much-loved kerosene lanterns will be available for you to bid on. In the coming weeks, we will be sending out information on how to bid in this one-week only auction. Complete descriptions of the cabin signs and the number of lanterns available will be sent out via email as well as posted on CRC's web page, Facebook, and Instagram accounts.

Over 100 donors have given to the Campaign, and are helping to build for our future. There is still time for you to make a lasting commitment to Camp by donating and joining those who have already stepped up to help. We cannot thank you enough for helping to sustain the spirit of the Camp for future generations.

Please send any additional contributions to the AMC, or email Stephanie Schiele (sschiele@outdoors.org). Be sure to specify that your gift is intended for the Conant Lodge Capital Campaign.

Appalachian Mountain Club
Attn: CRC Conant Lodge Capital Campaign
10 City Square, Suite 2
Boston, MA 02129

Summer Reservations

Rates

	AMC member rates		Non-AMC member rates	
	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Daily</u>
Adult (ages 17+)	\$870/wk	\$174/day	\$1,044/wk	\$208.80/day
Youth (ages 12 to 16)	\$655/wk	\$131/day	\$786/wk	\$157.20/day
Child (ages 2 to 11)*	\$435/wk	\$87/day	\$522/wk	\$104.40/day
Infant (under 2)	Free	Free	Free	Free

**During weeks two and four of the summer season, up to 2 children under the age of 12, per paying adult, can stay for free.*

- The summer season is nine weeks.
- There is no minimum age for children.
- All-inclusive summer and extension rates include lodging, three meals a day, activities (excluding river trips), cabin firewood, ice, and support of AMC programs.
- Rates include AMC surcharge. A New Hampshire lodging tax of 5.1% is not included in rates. Non-member rates are +20 percent of AMC member rates.
- The summer season daily rate is 1/5 of the applicable weekly rate.

Additional details

A deposit of \$200 per person (summer) and \$125 (extension) is required with your reservation request. Full payment is due at the end of your stay. We accept checks and cash only, no credit cards.

A valid AMC member number for each camper must be provided with registration or at checkout to receive the lower AMC member rate, otherwise campers will be billed at the non-member rate. Family Memberships include up to two adults and any children under 21 living in your household. The membership does not include family members living outside of your household.

To change or cancel a reservation between January 1 and June 18, you must notify the registrar, Lois Winkler, at (914) 747-3194 (please call before 9pm). After June 18, contact the summer manager, Emmy Holt, at crcmanagers@gmail.com or (603) 694-3291. You may substitute different named individuals with advance notice. Cancellations in whole or in part are subject to the following payment terms:

- Cancellations received prior to April 1st will receive a refund of 50% of your applicable deposit.
- Deposits will not be refunded after April 1st.
- In fairness to those denied space, payment in full is required if cancellation requests are not received at least 30 days prior to scheduled date of arrival.

Please consider purchasing trip insurance in case you need to cancel your reservation.

Online registrations

- Payment in full is required for all reservations at the time of submission.
- We use Square, which accepts credit cards.
- Cancellations received prior to April 1 will receive a refund of 50% of your applicable deposit.
- If in the rare case your reservation cannot be accommodated, the full amount will be refunded.
- In fairness to those denied space, payment in full is required if cancellation requests are not received at least 30 days prior to scheduled date of arrival.

Standard reservations during the July-August summer season are full-week, Saturday to Saturday. However, partial week stays are also an option. After April 1st, partial week reservation requests are accepted. This is a 3-night minimum reservation with a Saturday arrival or departure. Additionally, in weeks two and four, up to two children under the age of 12, per paying adult, can stay for free.

Cold River Camp abides by state and local COVID-19 restrictions. Visit www.coldrivercamp.org for the latest updates including COVID-19 vaccine or testing requirements.

Reservations timeline

- January 1 Guest full week reservations lottery opens
- January 31 Full week lottery closes
- February 1 Full week reservations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis
- April 1 Partial week reservations accepted, pending availability; online reservations requests open, pending availability

Lottery and mailed reservation information

For those applying to the reservation lottery beginning in January, all applications clearly postmarked in January 2024 will receive equal consideration. The lottery closes on January 31st. Reservations submitted after this point will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis.

How to submit your reservation request via mail

To submit a reservation application, please mail Lois Winkler, Camp Registrar, the registration form found on page 8, a check for your deposit, the AMC release form and confidential health questionnaire enclosed in this edition of *The Little Deer Dispatch*. Make checks payable to **AMC - Cold River Camp**. Please provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope for confirmation and reply mail. Please note: without AMC form and health questionnaire, your application cannot be processed.

Where to mail reservation requests:

Prior to the start of the summer season:
Lois Winkler, Registrar
17 Southview St.
Pleasantville, NY 10570

During the summer season:
Cold River Camp Managers
32 AMC Rd.
Chatham, NH 03813

Top three dates:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Top three cabins:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Guests included in application

<i>Name</i>	<i>AMC membership</i>	<i>Child's age & gender</i>
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1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Home/mobile: _____

Email: _____

Car license plate: _____ Registration deposit enclosed: \$ _____

Emergency contact: _____

Make checks payable to AMC-Cold River Camp. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with the application. Each individual or family must submit a signed copy of the AMC release form.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please list the number of vegetarian or vegan guests in your party. If none, N/A:

Vegetarian: _____ Vegan: _____

Extension and Off-Season

Our 9-week summer full-service season is not the only way to enjoy Camp. Late summer and early autumn in Evans Notch bring their own rewards.

Late Summer Extension

The two weeks of summer extension feature a relaxed pace and some of the best hiking, biking and kayaking weather of the year. You choose the schedule that fits your needs, from two nights to two weeks. Guests bring their own bedding and towels but otherwise enjoy the usual Camp amenities, including three wholesome meals a day, served mornings and evenings, cafeteria-style. Led hikes are offered daily. 2024 rates are listed below. To reserve, use the reservation form enclosed in the *Little Deer Dispatch* and specify dates of arrival and departure.

More information can be found on the Cold River Camp website:
www.coldrivercamp.org

Extension Reservations

	Daily rates	
	<u>AMC member rates</u>	<u>Non-AMC member rates</u>
Adult (ages 17+)	\$125/day	\$150/day
Youth (ages 12 to 16)	\$94/day	\$112.80/day
Child (ages 2 to 11)*	\$63/day	\$75.60/day
Infant (under 2)	Free	Free

*A deposit of \$125 per person is requested during registration.

Fall Off-Season

Once extension ends Camp is open for weekend group use on weekends, Friday through Sunday until mid-October. It's an ideal spot for AMC Chapter outings, hiking clubs, family reunions, weddings and celebrations. Camp cooks provide all meals cafeteria-style, in consultation with group leaders. Camp is staffed with a weekend manager or host and a volunteer crew. All facilities are open for use. Advance group reservation and deposit is required. Camp in the off-season is a popular venue and is already fully booked for 2024. We invite you to think ahead to 2025!

To reserve, contact ccline@outdoors.org

Visiting Camp in its changing seasons

Interested in cross-country skiing, hiking and snowshoeing in peaceful Evans Notch in the winter months? CRC's charming Evergreen cabin offers a cozy retreat for these activities from November until early May. While the cabin books up quickly, some winter weeknights and early spring weekends are still available.

The cabin features a six-bed bunkroom, with floor space for additional guests, and a multipurpose area equipped with a small kitchen area and wood stove. There is a small refrigerator, a microwave, a coffee maker, a toaster, and a hot water kettle in the kitchen. Plates, mugs, bowls and cookware are also provided. Evergreen is winterized and has electricity, but please note: there is no running water. Guests must bring

their own water, food, bedding and linens. Blankets, pillows and wood for the stove are provided. A heated outhouse is near the cabin.

2023-24 seasons rates are \$154.40/night. Payment in advance is requested and can be made online. If interested, please contact the Evergreen cabin registrar for information and reservations. Please check the online reservation calendar for availability. This, and the online payment platform, can be found at: www.coldrivercamp.org/wintercabin. With confirmation of reservation guests receive information about using the cabin.

To reserve Evergreen, contact the cabin registrar at: CRCEvergreenCabin@outdoors.org



Additional ways to support Cold River Camp

There are many ways to give back to Camp, first and foremost by dedicating your time and expertise as a volunteer. We are extremely fortunate to have a wonderful group of thoughtful citizens as our volunteer community. Volunteering has been a treasured tradition since Camp's early days in the 1920s. There is room for our community to grow in many ways. All that is required is a simple willingness to help! We are especially seeking to expand our marketing and communications team. We would also welcome new summer trip leaders to our existing roster.

Please visit the CRC website (see the "Volunteer" tab at the top of the homepage) to learn more about the wide variety of volunteer opportunities and/or to fill out the online volunteer form. Alternatively, contact our volunteer coordinator, Amy Grover, directly via email at crcvolunteers@outdoors.org.

If you do not have time to volunteer but wish to support Camp in other ways, consider giving to other important causes at Camp to help improve the camp experience for everyone. We maintain an annual "wishlist" to support the purchase of smaller but no less important items. If you like to see where your money goes, donating directly to one or more of the items on the wish list could be for you!

All contributions are tax deductible and all donors are recognized on the Camp website and in *The Little Deer Dispatch*. Or, if you wish, you can choose to remain anonymous. You do not have to fund an entire item. The AMC Cold River Camp Committee is deeply appreciative of those who do give that extra support to our beloved Camp with generous gifts of time, money or goods. This year's wishlist includes funding for:

- Supporting the ongoing Lodge garden restoration project,
- A whiteboard and table to establish a naturalist corner in the Lodge to raise awareness about what's going on in the natural world at Cold River Camp,
- Furniture repair and replacement,
- Mattresses for our ongoing mattress replacement program,
- New art supplies for the Rec Hall,
- Solar Luci lanterns,
- Boot dryers for the dry room,
- Kitchen fans and kitchen knives,
- A small pressure washer, to be used to clean moss off the porch steps and decks, and
- A 20 foot pole saw for trimming limbs around structures.

The AMC Development Office will process your donation. Please make out checks to the Appalachian Mountain Club, and specify that your gift is intended for Cold River Camp. Checks can be mailed to:

Appalachian Mountain Club
Attn: Cold River Camp
10 City Square, Suite 2
Boston, MA 02129

Thank you to our generous donors!

A heartfelt thank you from the AMC Cold River Camp Committee to our 2022 and 2023 donors on behalf of the camp community and the Appalachian Mountain Club. We greatly appreciate your generosity in monetary or material donations and recognize your commitment to the present enjoyment and future good of Cold River Camp. Our sincere apologies if we missed someone!

2022 Donors:

Carol Irving Foundation, Joseph Brevard and Janet Wineman, William and Anne Rehm, Steve Fink and Maria Palmisano.

2023 Donors:

David and Connie Beattie, Edna Moody, Maggan Arbasetti, Ezra and Erica Rutt Gale, Ira Greenburg, Alexandra Duncan, Steve Fink and Maria Palmisano, Lisa McClellan, Amy Valentino, Phyllis C. Kline, John F. Langhans and Derek Smith, Richard and Marilyn Golembeski, Tim and Ann Prindle, Amy Damon Grover, Ozzie Osbourne, James and Angela Liptak, Norm and Kate Thibeault, David and Mary Graham, David and Marianne Curren, Daniel Kaufman and Barbara Frailey, Mary Caplin, Ross and Mary Lanius, John and Elizabeth Dean, Leslie and Linda Clark, Eric and Kari Anderson, Caren and Scott Jesseman, Lynn Christensen, Paul Mahan, Stuart (Steve) and Sheri Saginor, Analog Devices Foundation, Joanne Sylvester and Roberta Sweet.



CRC policy information

Smoking and vaping

Smoking and vaping are not allowed in Camp or on group activities outside Camp.

Aerial drones

Use of drones in/above Camp or on led trips is generally not permitted. Special exceptions may be considered with the consent of the Camp manager/assistant manager/event manager in Camp, or trip leader for the led trip out of Camp.

Use of personal electronic devices

The Cold River Camp experience centers on enjoyment of nature and guest interactions, away from the routine of everyday life. Accordingly, our personal electronic devices policy is:

- Device use in the lodge, on the lodge porch, or in the lodge vicinity is limited to reading/viewing of information. Devices are to be put away during meals.
- Any form of device communication (voice/text/email/video, etc., incoming or outgoing) should be done discreetly, away from other guests, and away

from the lodge and its vicinity.

- Device use for personal entertainment (e.g., watching videos or playing video games) is limited to the guest cabins.
- Cords and device charging are to be kept within the confines of the charging station area in the Rec Hall.

Recognizing the occasional need of some guests to communicate with the outside world or to do personal work, Wi-Fi access is available solely for those purposes, as a courtesy, in the area outside the camp office and, to the extent there is signal, in the Rec Hall and Library.

The Rec Hall is available, shared with other uses, between the hours of 7:30 AM and 9:30 PM and outside of scheduled activities there. The camp office and porch are off-limits. In any case, noise from PEDs must not intrude on other guests' or staff enjoyment of natural sounds or stillness or human conversation or ability to sleep, or the tranquility of the Library.

Dining policy

CRC serves guests two hearty, hot meals and one trail lunch daily. All meals are homemade with fresh, seasonal ingredients and served family style or buffet. A vegan/vegetarian option will always be available to those who have requested vegetarian meals during registration. Life-threatening allergens (ie., tree nuts and shellfish) are kept separate from the main food prep and communal serving areas, but CRC cannot guarantee there will not be some chance of cross-contamination and exposure; campers are advised of this risk. CRC will provide plant-based milk and gluten-free wraps or bread. Because of kitchen limitations, CRC is unable to accommodate special diets or preferences. We encourage guests to bring what they need to manage personal dietary choices when packing for camp. Be mindful, however, of attracting mice and other animals to cabins, so please bring containers to seal your food items and store them in your car. Dispose of trash and recycling at the Housekeeping shed.



Committee, personnel and key volunteers

CRC committee (as of 1/2024):

MaryStarr Hope,
CRCC chair, '25
crcchair@outdoors.org

Oz Osborne,
Vice chair
crcvicechair@outdoors.org

Sally Morris, Immediate
past chair

Bob Tucker, Treasurer
crc treasurer@outdoors.org

David Graham
Facilities manager
crcfacilities@gmail.com

General CRC committee members:

Emma Crane
Miranda Grover
Emma Huse
Jon Ordway
Ann Prindle
Mark Weston

Summer Managers:
**Emmy Holt and
Hillary Wood Turnan**
crcmanagers@gmail.com

Extension and Fall Manager:

Chris Clyne
ccline@outdoors.org

Winter/Evergreen Cabin:

Emma Huse
CRCEvergreenCabin@outdoors.org

AMC Contacts:

Jess Wilson
Director, White Mountain
Lodges and Camps

Nicky Pizzo
Volunteer-Led Camps and
Cabins Director

Key Volunteers:

Lois Winkler,
Registrar
H: (914) 747-3194

Bill Gross, Outgoing hike
leader coordinator

Jim Greaney, Hike leader
& naturalist

coordinator
Mark Weston,
Website coordinator

Amy Grover
Interim volunteer
coordinator

Kate Morris, Editor
*The Little Deer
Dispatch*

Bill Waste
Opening weekend
Bill Fuchs

Camp closing
weekend

Jim Kenyon
Work weekend

Chatham Trails Association:

Karl Uggerholt
CTA president
karlugger@gmail.com

Cold River Camp:
AMC Cold River Camp
32 AMC Road
Chatham, NH 03813-
5201
Office: (603) 694-3291

2024 Schedule

January 1	Guest full week registration lottery opens
January 31	Guest full week registration lottery closes
February 1	Guest full week reservations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis
April 1	Guest partial week reservations open, online reservations are accepted
May 5	Evergreen cabin closes to guest use
May 10-12	Camp opening
May 24-27	CTA trail work weekend #1
May 27	Memorial Day
June 7-9	CTA trail work weekend #2
June 15-22	CRC summer season prep week

Summer

June 22-29	CRC Guest Week 1
June 29-July 6	CRC Guest Week 2 (Kids free*)
July 6-13	CRC Guest Week 3
July 13-20	CRC Guest Week 4 (Kids free*)
July 20-27	CRC Guest Week 5
July 27-Aug 3	CRC Guest Week 6
August 3-10	CRC Guest Week 7
August 10-17	CRC Guest Week 8
August 17-24	CRC Guest Week 9
August 24	End of Regular Summer Season

**Up to 2 children under the age of 12, per paying adult, can stay for free during weeks 2 and 4.*

Extension and beyond

Aug 24-Sept 8	CRC extension season
September 2	Labor Day
September 28	Evergreen cabin opens for registration
Oct 11-14	CTA trail work weekend #3
October 18-20	Camp closing