

Overnight Camping Policies and Procedures

Please review all information carefully, and provide copies to ALL adult chaperones prior to your campout.

Prior To Your Arrival:

- Campsite reservations are limited to nationally recognized youth groups (i.e., BSA, GSA, AWANA, Indian Guides, etc.). All campers must abide by the Boy /Girl Scout or specific organization child to adult ratio guidelines. All Boy/Girl scouts and leaders are encouraged to be in uniform or group t-shirts. Camping is year round, except the month of January when the park is closed and during select special event weekends. There is no cost.
- All scout groups reservations are required no less than two weeks and no more than 12 months in advance by submitting a Camping Request form via Cantigny.org or calling 630 260 8162. Boy Scouts are required to obtain a **TOUR PERMIT** from their local council to camp at Cantigny. Upon arrival, please present the tour permit to Cantigny Park Security. (Girl Scouts and other organizations are not required to have a tour permit.)
- It is necessary for all groups to provide us with a **CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE** (to be sent back with your signed confirmation/agreement). Certificates are generally available through your council or organization. Camping will NOT be allowed if a current Certificate of Insurance is not provided.
- Overnight camping is allowed on Friday and Saturday nights only. (No camping during holiday weekends or special event weekends) Only Scouts/youth group members and their leaders/chaperones may camp. Family camping is not permitted.
- We have three campsites, located on the east side of Cantigny Park. Each site holds up to 75 people. If your group will require more than one site, please call 630 260 8162.
- Cantigny Park is able to accommodate tent camping only (no campers or trailers). Cantigny Park has a small number of tents available to borrow. An equipment list and reservation request form can be found at Cantigny.org.
- Check in on Friday and Saturday is open until 9:00 pm. Please keep vehicle traffic to a minimum by carpooling to Cantigny Park. Friday night groups who are not also camping Saturday night must pack up their gear and vacate the campsite by 12:00 pm Saturday. All exits from the park must occur via Shaffner Road. Saturday night groups who did not camp Friday night may not set up camp until after 12:00 pm Saturday, unless there was no group in the site the previous night. If there was no group in the site the previous night, check in may be available as early as 7:00 am. Contact Brett Olson/Security at 630 260 8164 to inquire about early check-in.
- **PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL please designate one contact person/leader who will arrive at Cantigny Park FIRST.** This person will be responsible for the initial check-in at Security and will be the point person for everyone in your group. This person will be responsible for welcoming group members to the camp site area, communicating policies, pointing out restrooms and emergency shelter locations, and assisting with trailer unloading etc. This person will need to schedule their arrival time with Security, by contacting Brett Olson at 630 260 8164. Please ensure that we have the contact person's name and cell phone number, especially if they are not the contact we have on file (the individual who made the reservation).

Upon Your Arrival:

- **Main Contact Entrance:** Please do not enter the park via the main gates. Please enter through the private drive (small driveway entrance just North of the main gate) on Winfield Road. The gate will open after you pull into the driveway. Cantigny Security staff will greet you; brief you on park policy then escort you to the designated campsite. Before departing, Cantigny Security staff will make periodic visits to the campsites as group members arrive, to ensure there are no questions or concerns .
- **Group Entrance (all group members):** Please do not enter the park via the main gates or the private drive on Winfield Road. Please enter through gates at the rear of the park– off Shaffner/Mack Road. (1S050 Shaffner Road). Green signs will indicate where to park and direct you to the campsites. No personal vehicles will be allowed to enter the roadway by the campsites. Please be prepared to carry your gear from the parking lot.
- **Unloading:** A strict limit of one trailer per campsite is allowed to unload on the roadway. Trailers must unload and move to the designated parking lots within one hour of arriving. NO personal cars are allowed on the roadway. Parking for cars and trailers is limited to the greenhouse and administration building parking lots. Everyone with a vehicle will be asked to complete a temporary parking ID card, sign a disclaimer and display the top portion on their rear view mirror.

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During Your Campout:

- **Supervision:** Leaders must accompany their campers at all times throughout the grounds and museums. For general park activity suggestions for Scouts, including scavenger hunts, geo-caching, Recreation Packs and Discovery Backpacks, please email Scouts@Cantigny.org or call 630 260 8162.
- **Guests:** Should your group desire to have additional non-camping family members or friends join your group to participate in activities or ceremonies, please note that all non-camping individuals **MUST** leave Cantigny Park by sunset. For clarification on this policy, or to arrange for guests to join your group, please contact Brett Olson/Security at 630 260 8164.
- **After Dark:** For the safety of the campers after dark, we ask that they stay in the campsite area. No one is permitted out of the campsite after dark, except to use the restrooms at the Education Center or go to the Security Operations building. Please escort campers– with flashlights- to restrooms at night.
- **Washrooms:** The restrooms in the Education Center are left open at night for the campers' convenience. Please make sure that the restrooms are left in the condition that you found them. Please notify Security of any maintenance needs. The restroom sinks are **NOT** to be used for dishwashing or cleaning gear.
- **Showers:** Handicap accessible showers are available for use by the adult leaders only (1 in men's restroom, 1 in women's restroom) . Keys will be offered to the main contact upon check-in. Please be sure to return any borrowed keys upon check-out. Please make sure that the showers are left in the condition that you found them and shower is firmly shut off.
- **Water:** A water spigot is located on the south side of the Education Center. Please be sure the spigot is turned off completely after use. Please use this spigot to fill buckets for dishwashing. All dishwashing **MUST** be done in the campsites. Buckets may be borrowed from Security.
- **Trash:** Trash containers are located throughout the campsite area . All additional garbage should be bagged up and placed by the side of the road so that Security can pick up it. Security can provide additional garbage bags if necessary. A blue lidded recycling bin is located outside the Education Center– please use this bin for disposing of glass, plastic, paper and aluminum.
- **Fires:** Established fire pits are located in each campsite. Campfires are not permitted anywhere else. Please do not leave your fire unattended, and extinguish your fire completely upon departure. Bonfire size fires are not permitted.
- **Firewood:** We provide ample firewood– stacked in each campsite- free of charge to all campers. All unused firewood must be restacked before leaving the campsite.
- **Cooking Equipment:** You may bring whatever cooking equipment you choose. Please dispose of barbeque coal ash by mixing it into your fire pit ash.
- **Hiking Trail :** A basic hiking trail map is located in the inside page of the Visitors Guide– it is the red line along the perimeter of the park map. Please ask Security if clarification on directions are required. Hiking Trail/Tree Identification Guides are also available for your group. Please let Security know if you would like copies of this guide or pick up copies at the Information Desk in the Visitors Center.
- **Emergencies:** In case of an emergency, contact our 24-hour Security staff. Call 630 260 8207 or go to the Security Operations building. Emergency phone calls can be made in the Security Operations building if need be.
- **Severe Weather:** Cantigny Security closely monitors the weather and will alert your group to any severe conditions approaching. During lightning warnings, Security will open the main room of the Education Center for shelter until the warning is lifted. During tornado watches and warnings, Security will escort everyone to the basement of the Administration Building.
- **Departing:** When you are prepared to leave, please have the main contact person go to the Security Operations building or call 630 260 8207 and let them know you are ready to depart and they will check you out. Please be sure to return the shower keys. Please leave the campsite in as good a shape, or better, than you found it. “Leave No Trace”

Questions?

Please email Scouts@Cantigny.org
or call 630 260 8162 (during business hours)
630 260 8207 (after business hours)



Cantigny Park Map

