



AT BIRCHWOOD, WE WANT YOU TO FEEL AT HOME!

"Sometimes you will never know the true value of a moment, until it becomes a memory." We hope you've made many at Birchwood this year!

From water skiing, hiking the Chester Challenge and visiting our local Farmer's Markets, we hope you've enjoyed what our sweet little town has to offer!

If you haven't already checked out some of our favorite local spots like The Hub in Brant Lake (who serves the best Strawberry Balsamic ice cream), or the Adirondack Extreme Adventure Course in Bolton Landing (that is open through November), then it might be time to put it on your to-do list for on or off-season fun! The summer may be in the rear-view mirror now, but the wonderful winter blanket over this town is waiting to warm families as they enjoy the area one last time!

As fall has come and gone at camp, it was a time to reflect on the summer and to start planning for the next year and beyond!

We'd love to host your family in another season on the Lake; if you haven't seen our leaves during peak season in October – you must, it's amazing at the lake! The Thurman Fall Farm tour boasts free admission, and many local farms offer a variety of foods and activities. Nothing beats a scenic Gondola ride at Gore Mountain Harvest Fest in North Creek.

Your home should tell the story of who you are and be a collection of what you love. –Nate Berkus. Birchwood may not be where we live full time, but we certainly consider it our home away from home! As the years go on, we have so enjoyed putting our stamp on the property. We are fortunate to know so much of Birchwood's history, and we continue to unearth more as we renovate. As we know, many of you have enjoyed the slant of the Lodge front yard / fire pit; but decided to change it anyway! With some new boulders, crushed shoulder stone, hand-crafted Adirondack ski chairs and a cozy new fire pit for stargazing, we hope you enjoyed it even more than years past!

We've already been so busy this off season, and there might even be some "mountain views" inside the Lodge now! Maybe you enjoyed the spruced-up rec room floor and ping pong table, or the newly stained fencing (yeah, we were surprised at the difference it made, too), or our freshened-up Lodge Balcony Bedroom!

As we finished the fall months before the snow fell, by filling a 20-yard dumpster from the clean-up of a cabin renovation; we reflect on the plans we have set out to accomplish in the new few months. While ambitious, we are excited to complete our current projects. It's always a good day to have a good day at Birchwood!

Birchwood Cottages

On Loon Lake

December 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

Loon Preferred Pricing!

For 2019, we'd like to extend return guest pricing in our off season for our Birchwood Family, and we're already looking forward to welcoming some of you back this winter!



Contract Highlights

"You can't fix it, if you don't know it's broken". Something you will be seeing consistently upon check-in now, is a cleaning and repair 'check off' list. It's important to us to have our guests quickly fill these out *when they arrive*, so we have the opportunity to take care of any issues around cleanliness or broken and damaged items that may have been missed prior to arrival. We want to be able to address any concerns there may be promptly to make sure standards are kept high and your stay is enjoyable. We ask that you please drop off your sheet with Gene and Erica after arrival and check-in on Saturday. Thank you in advance for your support in this new effort!

The early birch catches the worm...!

As in years past, we are going to offer an early payment discount for our weekly summer renters, and we want to thank you all for respecting our pricing timeline and policies. As a reminder, payment IN FULL is due 90 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR CHECK-IN DATE. If you need to discuss special circumstances, please reach, and I'm sure we can work something out.

We will provide a discount of \$25 per unit per week (\$50 per week for the Lodge) if your contract is signed and payment is received in full prior to February 1, 2019. We will be sending out updated 2019 contracts via email as soon as I can get my act together (by end of year)! If you want a printed and mailed contract sent to you, *please let me know!*

The Most Important Things!

Now, it's on to the important stuff, the people! We would like to introduce our newest member of the Birchwood Family if you didn't get to meet him this summer – Harrison! He is a stately 8 month old now, that is crawling, getting into everything, and loving life (and keeping us on our toes)! I'm sure you'll be seeing him more around camp in 2019, and soaking up the Lake Life!



Once again, Gene and Erica were a big part of our summer success, and I know they made some great memories as well. We want to Thank them for their efforts and helping us live the Birchwood vision! They also wanted to say a few words to our wonderful guests!

A note from our Caretakers:

What an awesome summer, it was filled with almost perfect weather the entire season. Thank-you so much for letting my family become a part of your memories this year. My kids thoroughly enjoyed their stay at Birchwood, thank-you for all the help. We



are so glad that we got to share every week with you. Gene did get one pumpkin to grow and had a watermelon that started to grow too late in the season. We are very excited for you to see what we have in store for next year. Again, Thank-you for all the compliments on the new cottage signs, hope you all enjoy looking at them as much as Erica did making them. Those of you who came back for a repeat stay it was great to see you again! While the bears go into hibernation there will be no hibernating for us. We will continue to care for Birchwood during the long winter months and would be happy to see you all during this time (It's just as beautiful in the winter!) until then we will think about all the fantastic times and hospitality by all the Birchwood Guests. Again Thank-you all for another great summer!!

Sincerely,

Your Birchwood Caretakers, Erica & Gene



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or comments!

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Website: www.ADKBirchwood.com

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2019 CHECK-IN PROCEDURE REMINDER

- **Firm** Check-in of 4pm is necessary to prepare for your arrival! We cannot offer early check-in
- Check-out is 11am
- Key Codes and entrance instructions will be provided within 1 week of check-in, once payment is received in full.
- All trash and food must be taken with you upon check-out and dishes must be cleaned
- Please filling out the check-in form and give to Gene and Erica after you are settled on Saturday

We'll see ya real soon...

It almost feels a though we've had Birchwood for more than 3 seasons, and that's because of how quickly each of you have become a part of our everyday summer lives! It is the happiest part of our summer, to watch families come together and enjoy this little piece of ADK heaven, and it's the sharing of those moments that make this worth it!

Love – The McGowan's and The Hazelton's

