

THE LOST VILLAGES HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM **OUTDOOR EVENTS – BOOKING & PROCEDURES**

Revised August 26, 2022

It is important to note that regulations pertaining to the Covid19 Pandemic may change at any time. They are established by the Province of Ontario and the Township of South Stormont. The Lost Villages Historical Society and Museum are required to follow and to enforce these regulations as applicable on the date of any event at our museum site.

To inquire about booking an OUTDOOR EVENT at the Lost Villages Museum Site at Ault Park, contact the LVHS at info@lostvillages.ca or call LVHS Events Coordinator Tim Gault, at 613-534-2519.

There is no charge for use of the outdoor areas of Ault Park for group events such as picnics, photo sessions, or weddings, BUT there are restrictions, as outlined below:

The Lost Villages Museum consists of 11 Heritage Buildings, a washroom building, plus a WWI/II Cenotaph, and a Memorial to the Canadians who participated in the American Civil War. All of these are situated throughout Ault Park. Ault Park itself is a relocated Heritage Site from the Pre-St Lawrence Seaway Sheek's Island. There are modern washrooms on site during museum open hours, and parking is free.

The Lost Villages Museum is visited annually by thousands of people from all around the world. It also hosts many events, such as Canada Day on July 1st, group picnics, craft sales, and Remembrance Day Ceremonies. In addition, the Lost Villages Sandtown Advent Christian Church is booked for weddings on most weekends from May through October.

Taking all of the above into consideration, it is necessary to have some guidelines in place to ensure that outdoor events on the site do not interfere with the operations of the Lost Villages Museum, or any booked events within Ault Park:

- 1) Bookings for outdoor events may not be available on certain days and times due to possible interference with other already planned events or rental bookings.
- 2) The area between the Church and Fran Laflamme Drive is not to be used for outdoor events. The same applies to the area west of the Church, in front of the School House, Log Cabin, General Store, Barber Shop and Train Station. This is to not interfere with visitor access to these buildings, or with any paid rental bookings.
- 3) On days that the Church is booked for a wedding or other event, parking in the area in front of the Church is reserved for the wedding party. Please respect this as a courtesy.
- 4) On days that the Church is booked, outdoor groups are requested to keep a suitable perimeter distance from around the Church, again as a courtesy to the wedding party.

- 5) If a booking party wants to have an outdoor event near the Church, it is recommended to reserve the Church, even if not planning to use it, or to have it as a backup in case of bad weather, or for photographs.
- 6) The Church, and other Museum Buildings may be available to rent for photographs. A separate document, "Church Rental Agreement and Rental Rules" outlines the costs and rules for this. These building rentals must be pre-booked and pre-paid.
- 7) The Lost Villages Museum does not rent or loan furniture. If chairs, etc. are desired, this must be arranged by the booking party from an outside source. No furniture may be removed from the Church or other Museum buildings.
- 8) If a large tent or portable structure is desired, the booking party must contact the Township of South Stormont to determine if any permits and/or fees are required.
- 9) Anyone attending an outdoor event is welcome to browse through the Museum's heritage buildings and displays, but the booking group is not permitted to use the interiors of the museum buildings for photos, etc. without being pre-reserved. See item 6 above.
- 10) It is the responsibility of the booking party to ensure that any decorations, furniture, tents, debris, etc. are removed from Ault Park and the Museum Buildings in a timely manner.

The Lost Villages Museum is open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm from mid-May through Labour Day. In September, the museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Church may be booked for weddings, including evenings, daily from May through October. Outside of these dates and times, there will be few or no restrictions on the use of Ault Park.

It is an almost daily occurrence, year-round, to have family groups, wedding parties, and tourists visiting the Lost Villages Museum Site for photographs. The Lost Villages Historical Society encourages and welcomes everyone to take advantage of our Heritage Buildings and the beauty of Ault Park as a backdrop for photos. During the warmer months, family picnics are also a regular occurrence.

Tim Gault
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Lost Villages Historical Society
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