

April 7, 2015

Dear Friends,

What a winter this has been for so many! As we shovel out and enjoy the extra hour of daylight, we look toward another summer on MacMahan and about how to enhance the MacMahan experience, especially for our children and teen-agers. As always, thanks to the volunteer efforts of many, we expect that there will be square dances, movie nights, field day and other special events for our young islanders. We are fortunate to have the Playhouse as a wonderful place for rainy (or not so rainy) day activities like Bingo and a gathering place for teens in the evenings.

Traditionally, there was a volunteer "Playhouse Mother" - usually a parent who was on island all summer. This person monitored the use of the playhouse, scheduled occasional activities, coordinated schedules, assured that those who used the Playhouse left it clean and closed all doors and windows, etc. This person on occasion dealt, also, with any concerns or complaints about noise, mis-use of the facility, etc. and, in general, assured that the Playhouse rules were followed.

For the past several years, there has not been anyone in this capacity, primarily because there has not been a parent in residence for most of the summer. As an alternative, we are looking for parents who would volunteer to assume this responsibility for the time they are on island - a week, two weeks, etc. Ideally, since overseeing Playhouse use by young children and teens is substantially different in a lot of ways, it would be good to have two people: parent(s) of younger children and parent(s) of teens serving concurrently.

Please consider volunteering as "Playhouse Parent" during your stay on MacMahan. It would not be an especially time consuming responsibility and should not interfere with enjoyment of your time on island. It will, however, help assure that everyone -- children teen-agers and adults -- continue to enjoy the open use of the Playhouse.

If you would like to help or would like more information, please contact Gerry Welch at ggwelch@verizon.net. A copy of the Playhouse Rules from the MacMahan Information Booklet follows for your information.

Looking forward to another wonderful MacMahan summer!

The Recreation Committee

PLAYHOUSE RULES (from MacMahan Information Booklet)

PLAYHOUSE RULES

- The Playhouse is open for use by all Islanders. Please follow these rules so that everyone may enjoy the building. It belongs to all of us!
- Please keep the Playhouse clean. It is not for the use of raccoons and ants.
- When leaving, please make sure all doors are shut and all lights are off. Also, please do not prop doors open because of mosquitoes.
- Please put away anything that you took out or used. No one wants to clean up after someone else if they happen to forget! Remember to allow enough time to clean up if you have to be home at a certain time.
- Remember that people come to MacMahan for quiet vacations and that sound travels easily over water and in the evenings. Many cottages hear all that goes on at the Playhouse! Please keep the noise level down.
- In the evening, it is suggested that a parent or babysitter supervise any children younger than middle school/junior high age. Older children are responsible for their own behavior. As long as there are no complaints the door will remain unlocked. If the need arises, one person will be allowed to sign out the key and accept responsibility for The Playhouse on that occasion.
- If there are complaints or concerns it is suggested that all parents and children involved meet to come to a consensus on solutions and rules. Please resolve all problems immediately!
- There will be no climbing on or hanging from the rafters, or sitting on the ping-pong table! This behavior will cause an immediate locked door policy. **The Playhouse is NOT to be used for the following: storage of boating equipment or personal items (including during the winter) or trash drop-off.**
- Any cottager may reserve The Playhouse for a particular event (wedding reception, etc.) by making arrangements with the Recreation Committee. At such time, a notice will be posted and a fee will be charged.
- If you have a suggestion for The Playhouse or a request for a game, please tell the Recreation Committee. Used games in good condition are welcome donations at any time. Games are kept in the benches on the sidewalls as one is facing the river. Please keep pets out of The Playhouse.