



**THE LUCKY DUCK**  
Lake Gaston, NC

# GUEST GUIDE

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Welcome to The Lucky Duck

**Welcome to The Lucky Duck on Lake Gaston!** We're glad you're here, and we're committed to ensuring that you enjoy a wonderful lake vacation experience. As a new vacation rental recently completed in the late summer of 2023, we're especially interested in hearing from you and learning your perspective on how we can improve your (or future guests') stay with us, or improve this Guest Guide. Please see the ["How to Contact Us or Give Us Feedback"](#) section if you'd like to pass along any impressions, suggestions, kudos, or other feedback. We'd love to hear from you!

We designed The Lucky Duck for guests who appreciate an upscale lake vacation experience. **The Lucky Duck can accommodate up to 14 people over the age of 2 (plus up to 3 infants for whom you bring your own portable crib). Your rental includes use of the Main House (with 4 bedrooms and 2 flex rooms as well as the 1-bedroom Guest Cottage, the Boat Dock with 2 Boat and 2 PWC Lifts, and the Beach area.** (It does not include the separate detached garage building near the cul-de-sac, or any locked owner closets or cabinets in the Main House.) You'll find a large main deck with outdoor furniture, 2 private decks attached to upstairs bedrooms, a private patio attached to the 1-bedroom Guest Cottage, an eating porch off the kitchen complete with a gas grill, a modern and fully furnished kitchen, 2 sets of full-size washer/dryers, Wi-Fi, gas fireplace, ping pong table, board games, books, 6 full bathrooms with basic toiletries, and bed linens, bath towels, and beach towels for your use. Your electric vehicle can charge at the JuiceBox charger accessible from the parking pad near the garage. Each of the 5 bedrooms boasts either a Queen or King bed and an en-suite bathroom, and the primary/master bedroom also includes a pull-out Queen sofa-bed and plenty of room to set up one or more portable cribs. In addition, there are 2 small flex rooms, each with a Twin XL bed, that are perfect for housing a child next to parents, while still maintaining privacy for all. For more details, please refer to the ["Overview of Features of The Lucky Duck"](#) or ["Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities"](#) sections of this Guest Guide, or the floor plans on our website.

The Lucky Duck's **ideal location, on a west-facing main lake lot** in the beautiful Ferncliff neighborhood on Lake Gaston, is perfect for enjoying shady neighborhood walks and **miles of open water sunset views**. Our newly constructed **Boat Dock includes a 2 PWC Lifts, 1 ski/wakeboarding/v-hull Boat Lift, and 1 hybrid pontoon/v-hull Boat Lift** that may be used if you are renting or bringing your own watercraft. The Boat Dock has Adirondack chairs, folding LaFuma Zero Gravity recliners, and a collection of ski vests, ski belts, floats, and water toys you can use during your visit. You'll also find **2 kayaks and a paddleboard** (with paddles) for you to enjoy. For more details, please refer to the ["Boat Dock and Beach Amenities"](#) and ["How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs"](#) sections of this Guest Guide

The Lucky Duck is in a quiet residential neighborhood. **It's designed for relaxing family vacations; it's not available for events or loud or rowdy house parties.** For the comfort and safety of you and your guests, and of The Lucky Duck's neighbors (which include its owners on

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one side and their close friends on the other side), please be sure to review and adhere to the ["House Rules"](#) and ["Safety and Security"](#) sections of this Guest Guide.

You and your family can enjoy a fantastic vacation without ever leaving The Lucky Duck, but if you'd like more information on dining and activities nearby, please check out the ["Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston Area"](#) or ["Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston"](#) sections in this Guest Guide, or on our website at [theluckyducknc.com](http://theluckyducknc.com).

**We hope that you and your guests love your time at Lake Gaston as much as we do, and that you have an amazing lake vacation here at The Lucky Duck!**

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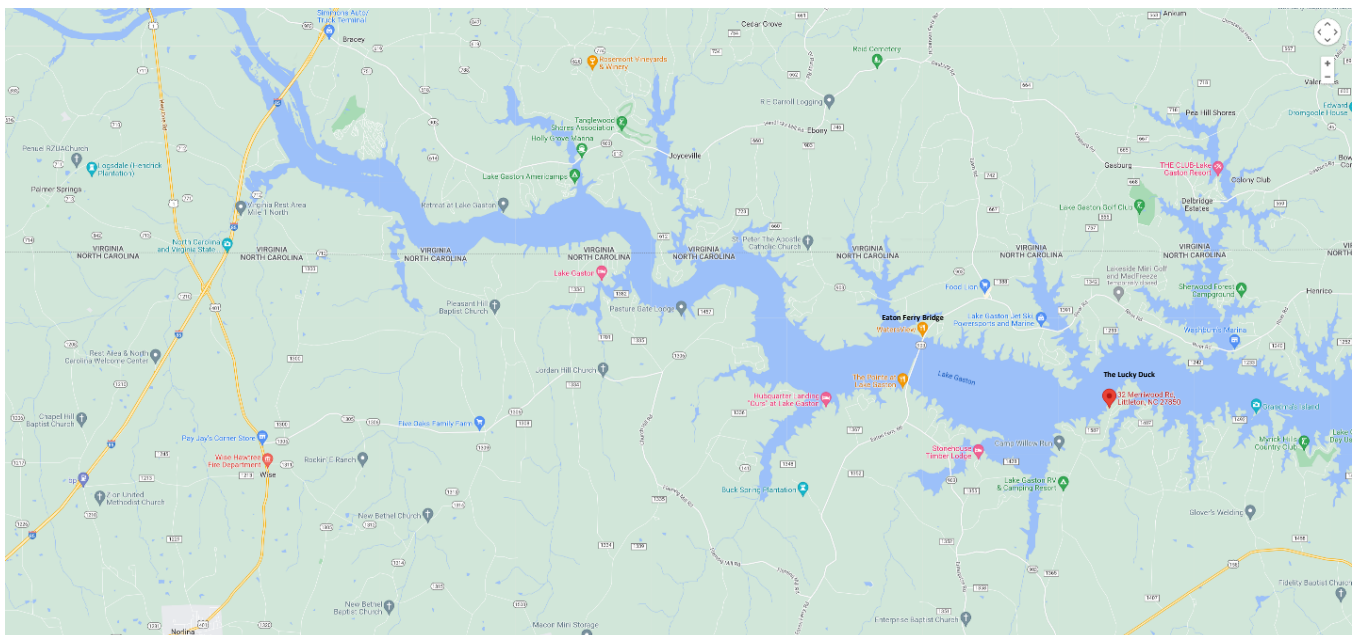
## Overview of Lake Gaston

Spanning the North Carolina and Virginia border between I-85 and I-95, Lake Gaston was created in the early 1960s with a hydroelectric dam that generates electricity for Dominion North Carolina Power. It's a 20,000-acre lake fed by the Roanoke River that is approximately 34 miles long and has 350 miles of shoreline, with borders in the counties of Mecklenburg and Brunswick in Virginia and the counties of Warren, Halifax and Northampton in North Carolina.

Lake Gaston is located below the Kerr Lake Dam, and is managed as a recreational lake. The Army Corps of Engineers allows the upstream Kerr Lake to vary widely in its depth in order to keep Lake Gaston within a few feet its target water level. As a result, the Lake Gaston shoreline and water depth near shore don't vary widely, and most boat docks on Lake Gaston are fixed instead of floating. The lake is widest to the east of Eaton Ferry Bridge (which is the only bridge that spans the lake, and is barely visible in the distance from the front deck and Boat Dock of The Lucky Duck).

The lake is about 1.5 hours from the Triangle Area (Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill) in NC and from the Richmond Area in VA, making it an ideal vacation destination for many families.

Lake Gaston is home to a world champion wakeboarder (Adam Fields) and hosts wakeboarding contests and exhibitions a few weekends a year. It also hosts several fishing tournaments during the year, as it is well-stocked with game fish, which include striped bass or rock fish, largemouth bass, crappie, sunfish and several varieties of catfish.



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## Overview of Ferncliff Neighborhood

Ferncliff is a well-established neighborhood that was originally developed by Betsy Medlin on land that her family owned along the Roanoke River before Lake Gaston was created. The neighborhood is distinguished by its location on a peninsula that juts into the southeast quadrant of Lake Gaston, with one side of the peninsula facing west and bordered by the large Main Lake, and one side facing east and bordered by the Pretty Creek tributary. Because of its strict protection of trees, Ferncliff is a wonderfully shady neighborhood for strolling.

Ferncliff has a small neighborhood access area with boat ramp and small service Dock. For more information, please see the [“How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs”](#) section of this guide.

Between Ferncliff Road and Flower Orchard Road, lies a large park-like tract of neighborhood common area, called “The Orchard.” This unique Ferncliff amenity isn’t hard to find, as Merriwood Rd (the cul-de-sac on which The Lucky Duck is located) starts at one end of the Orchard. The Orchard has wooded areas at each end (where you may see our resident deer herd), and a large grass field in the middle. Near the edge of field there are two fenced and paved courts for pickleball (or badminton), a tetherball court, and a shed with sports equipment. **The pickleball courts and equipment shed are reserved by the Ferncliff Property Owners Association (FPOA) for the use of property owners and their accompanied guests only, and are therefore NOT neighborhood amenities that rental guests can access.** However, the rest of the field is large enough to play tag, throw balls or frisbees, or to play frisbee golf using the goals scattered around the Orchard and its tree line.



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## Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston Area

**The Lucky Duck is set up with a fully furnished kitchen for your use.** It has a refrigerator/freezer with filtered water and ice dispenser in the kitchen and an additional refrigerator/freezer in the garage to provide enough cold storage for its guest capacity. It also has a Jenn-Air gas range, dishwasher, coffee makers (drip and K-cup), and a full set up of small appliances, pots and pans, knives, dishes and utensils and barware. **On the porch outside the kitchen, you'll find an outdoor dining table as well as a large stainless steel Kitchen Aid gas grill** with stove burners on the side. So, if your idea of the perfect get-away is cooking in your vacation rental and never having to drive to restaurants, The Lucky Duck has you covered.

If you're looking for **places to "stock up" food and beverages to enjoy at The Lucky Duck**, some of the local grocery and beverage stores include:

- **[ABC Liquor Store](#)** (5.7 miles) 222 US HWY 158 E, Littleton, NC - This is the closest liquor store to The Lucky Duck.
- **[Food Lion](#)** 2467 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (11.6 miles) - This is the closest large supermarket to The Lucky Duck.
- **[Main Street Wines](#)** 139 E South Main St, Littleton, NC (5.5 miles) - Located adjacent to its sister restaurant, Blue Jay Bistro, this locally-owned wine shop prides itself on presenting tried and true favorites, along with new surprises from wine regions around the globe, with a selection not found elsewhere in the area. It also offers a limited schedule of tasting events.
- **[Piggly Wiggly](#)** 234 HWY 158, Littleton, NC (5.6 miles) - This is the closest grocery store to The Lucky Duck.

**If you'd also like to sample some local restaurants or bars, or engage a caterer** to bring in some meals for you and your guests, you can do that as well. We include here a list of local options, and **we encourage you to check their websites for menus as well as current days/hours of operation**, as some change seasonally. Of course, the food scene is ever-evolving, so if you have suggestions for changes to our list, our descriptions, or our **bolded recommendations**, we'd love to hear what you found and what you think!

- **[Blue Jay Bistro](#)** 141 E South Main Street, Littleton, NC 27850 (5.5 miles) - **This is, quite simply, the best restaurant in Littleton and the surrounding area.** Executive Chef Ashleigh Fleming offers approachable contemporary fine dining that honors NC through locally and regionally sourced ingredients, with a menu that rotates based on seasonality and local availability. It has both a bar and covered outdoor seating. Reservations are highly recommended. The setting is upscale, attire is nice/smart casual, the restaurant doesn't cater to small children (e.g., no kids' menu and no highchairs), and its prices are in line with similar fine dining restaurants in larger cities, so it's best suited to a nice night out for couples or groups with adults or older children.

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- [Bragging Rooster Beer and Mead](#) 120 South Main St, Warrenton, NC (20.8 miles) - Serving up beer, wine, mead and cider in both indoor and outdoor seating, this taproom also features board games and trivia nights and occasional live music. It also hosts private events.
- [Casa Mia's](#) 208 E South Main St, Littleton, NC (5.6 miles) - Casual Italian restaurant offering takeout and dine-in options, including pizza, subs, pasta, wings, etc. 252-586-6060
- **Cancun City Mexican Kitchen** 235 North Mosby Avenue, Littleton, NC (5 miles) - This large local eatery recently changed owners and became Littleton's new Mexican restaurant (no website available yet, but phone number is 252-629-2429).
- [Daphne's Coffee Shop](#) 137 E South Main St, Littleton, NC 27850 (5.5 miles) - Located adjacent to its sister restaurant, Blue Jay Bistro, Daphne's Coffee Shop is a welcoming coffee shop named for Littleton matriarch & artist Daphne Fitts. Trained baristas serve gourmet coffee, and complement it with baked goods and desserts, all in a space adorned with Daphne's artwork.
- [Downtown on Main Street](#) 126 E South Main St, Littleton, NC (5.4 miles) - a newly opened sports bar and grill in a historic space with a rustic, industrial vibe (no website available yet, so we include a link to the Facebook page).
- [Grandpa's Kitchen](#) 149 E South Main St, Littleton, NC (5.6 miles) - This is **our favorite local BBQ place**. Jeffery and Jonnell Mills are local area natives who opened this family-owned restaurant over 25 years ago, and it's become a local institution for takeout and catered BBQ meals featuring pork, chicken, and turkey BBQ with all the fixins'.
- [Haggerty's Steakhouse](#) 414 Becker Dr, Roanoke Rapids, NC - This locally owned and operated steakhouse and bar offers a wide menu and daily specials.
- [Hardee's](#) 221 E North Main St, Littleton, NC (5.7 miles) - Closest available fast food chain fare with dine-in or takeout for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- [Hardware Café](#) 106 S Main St, Warrenton, NC (21 miles) - This charming café is located in a restored 1907 hardware store listed in the National Register. Serves lunch and dinner, with specialties that include gourmet sandwiches on freshly baked bread, coffee, and desserts. Also has a small retail shop with local goods. It's a little farther away, but an interesting option if you're taking a drive to explore local towns.
- [Jenny Cakes at the Lake](#) 386 Lizard Creek Rd, Littleton, NC (12.7 miles) - Owned by a Johnson & Wales trained pastry chef, Jenny Cakes offers donuts, breakfast pastries, bagels, and desserts that are baked fresh daily. Call ahead to order a cake.
- [Kennon House Restaurant](#) 7001 Gasburg Rd, Valentines, VA (19.1 miles) - Located on the north side of the lake in a historic landmark built in 1792, the Kennon House offers upscale Southern comfort food, including beef, pork, chicken, seafood and pasta, most of which

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comes with a choice of two sides. Guests are served either in the “red room” with table service and white table cloths, or in a more casual buffet room that’s open on weekends. They offer takeout and a bar area, and also host special buffets on some holidays and offer private dining rooms for groups. They are known for their homemade dinner rolls and for their variety of wines, including from those from the nearby Rosemont Winery.

- [Lake Gaston Coffee Company](#) 104 Wellington Way, Littleton, NC (11.3 miles) – This family-run micro-roastery in the Lake Gaston area offers delicious fresh-roasted coffees and teas from around the world. They also have a coffee shop that serves breakfast and lunch. (We try to include a pound of their locally-roasted Lake House blend coffee in guest gift bags, so you’ll probably get to sample their offerings.)
- [Lake Gaston Pizza & More](#) (11.8 miles) 2463 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC – This casual locally-owned restaurant is located in the Food Lion shopping Center, just north of the Eaton Ferry Bridge. It serves lunch and dinner and offers pizza Southern homestyle cooking, wings, subs, salads, and appetizers, and features Red Oak Brewery craft beer.
- [Locorum Distillery](#) 142 S Main St, Warrenton, NC (20.9 miles) – This small but highly rated community distillery is known for its locally sourced ingredients.
- [Mill Hill Brewery & Taproom](#) 112 Madison St, Warrenton, NC (22 miles) – This locally owned taproom features its own artisan small batch beers, in a building surrounded with a porch designed for hanging out with friends on nice evenings.
- [Number 1 Chinese Restaurant](#) 102 E South Main St, Littleton, NC (5.4 miles) – This small Chinese restaurant doesn’t have a website, so our link is to an online menu posted by someone else (but it does show the phone number). However, despite its low-key marketing, it actually **offers good Chinese takeout**, and has all the dishes you’d find at larger Chinese restaurants.
- [Pea Hill Creek Café aka The Kitchen Table](#) 4111 Gasburg Rd, Gasburg VA (16.3 miles) – Small family-owned café serving homemade breakfast and lunch. The Kitchen Table is a **full-service caterer** that can provide great food (and optionally serve it at your event). We’ve enjoyed working with their catering service for multiple events and family gatherings. (We don’t include a link because they don’t have a website, but you can reach them at 434-577-2023.)
- [Pino’s Pizza](#) 4331 Gasburg Rd, Gasburg, VA (16.5 miles) – Small, family-owned pizza joint on north side of the lake. (However, Casa Mia’s is a closer option.)
- [River Valley Catering & Events](#) 1026 E 10<sup>th</sup> St, Roanoke Rapids, NC (17.7 miles) – Full-service catering, with associated florist (must be arranged in advance via [rivervalley.ce@gmail.com](mailto:rivalley.ce@gmail.com)).
- [Rosemont Vineyards & Winery](#) 1050 Blackridge Rd, La Crosse, VA (23.1 miles) – Rosemont is a vineyard and winery that began operating about 20 years ago on 450 acres

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near the NC / VA border that has been owned and farmed by the Rose family for generations. They produce **many different styles of wine**, from the classic Bordeaux varietals to dry, crisp whites and sweet wines. They don't have a restaurant, but their **tasting room is open daily**; reservations are recommended on weekends or for larger groups. They are available for weddings and private events, and they occasionally host dinners through collaborations with local chefs (check their website for any that may be scheduled during your visit to Lake Gaston).

- [Subway](#) 2377 Eaton Ferry Rd / Highway 903, Littleton, NC (11.2 miles) - Located just north of Eaton Ferry Bridge, this Subway offers its standard chain menu of subs, wraps, bowls, and salads for dine-in or takeout.
- [The Hen & The Hog](#) 16 King St, Halifax, NC (23.7 miles) - This **upscale farm to table restaurant** is locally owned by a native who wanted to provide a community gathering place and revitalize some of the historic buildings in this small town that played an important role in Halifax, the birthplace of the American Revolution. Serving Southern food with local roots on selected days at lunch and dinner. Reservations recommended for dinner.
- [The Hen & The Hound Wood-Fired Pizza and Chef Services](#) (Roving **food truck** & trailer and also a caterer) - Tyler and Mindy DeGroff own and operate a **wood-fired pizza oven on a trailer that serves up handmade wood-fired pizzas**, seasonal appetizers, desserts, and a variety of entrees. They can be booked for private events, also can be found at various addresses around the lake, as shown on a [schedule](#) on their website. The Ferncliff neighborhood and our family have booked them for multiple on-site events, and everyone loves them!
- [The Kitchen Table](#) 4111 Gasburg Rd, Gasburg, VA 23857 (16.3 miles) - They offer full-service catering (which needs to be arranged in advance via [Lkgkitchentable@gmail.com](mailto:Lkgkitchentable@gmail.com) or 434-577-2023). We have used them to support our own large groups, and they do a great job. They also have a locally owned breakfast and lunch café with interesting specials and limited seating.
- [The Pointe at Lake Gaston](#) 1865 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.1 miles) - The Pointe is next to Eaton Ferry Marina and AF Wake on the south end of Eaton Ferry Bridge. It is an extremely casual bar and restaurant, and offers American cuisine, sometimes with live music. There are a limited number of boat slips adjacent to the restaurant, and it's possible to travel there by boat instead of car.
- [Timber Waters Brewery](#) is a new state of the art brewery with a tasting bar and a new production facility that is currently under construction in Littleton. We'll add a link to its website when it opens!

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- [Wakeboard Willie's](#) 2475 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC - This ice cream and milkshake shop is north of the Eaton Ferry Bridge next to the Food Lion shopping center. It's open seasonally.
- [Watersview Restaurant](#) 2107 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (10.1 miles via land, or about 4 miles by water) - Watersview is next to Remaxx on the north edge of Eaton Ferry Bridge, and as the name suggests, it's on the waterfront and offers wide views of the lake. It has a casual atmosphere, and offers American cuisine that generally includes steak and seafood options, as well as others, on its menu. Their claim to fame is a bar and dining with a view, but they also offer takeout and have a private dining area for events. There are a limited number of boat slips adjacent to the restaurant, and it's possible to travel there by boat instead of car.
- [Weldon Mills Distillery](#) 100 Rockfish Dr, Weldon, NC (20.6 miles) - This locally owned small-batch distillery is located in a historic millhouse and uses NC-sourced ingredients to make award-winning bourbons. They offer tours and tastings.

With the exception of the closest 2 fast food joints (Hardees in Littleton and Subway near the Eaton Ferry Bridge), we didn't include chain restaurants in our list, but instead focused on unique restaurants and bars in our area. However, if you're craving a familiar option, you can also find multiple chain restaurants in Roanoke Rapids (near the intersection of Hwy 158 and I-95), including many of the usual suspects, such as: Cracker Barrel, Ruby Tuesday, Applebees, Mayflower, Logan's Roadhouse, Chick-fil-A, Cook Out, Waffle House, Dairy Queen, Wendy's, McDonald's, Popeye's, Pizza Hut, Papa John's, etc.

Did you find another nearby option we missed? Did any of these close or change recently? Do you agree with our **bolded recommendations**? Your feedback is valued and will help us update this list for future guests!

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## Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston

Lake Gaston is best known for fun in and on the water, but it also offers a surprising number of other options to keep you and your guests entertained. An article titled "[A Locals' Guide to Downtown Littleton](#)" in the January 2023 edition of *Our State Magazine* and another article titled "[Homecoming](#)" in the February 2023 edition of *NC State Magazine* both give an overview of recent revitalizations in the nearby town of Littleton. There are also several online sources of information on current events and happenings in the area, including:

- The [Visit Littleton](#) Facebook page or Littleton NC [website](#)
- The [Lake Gaston Community Information](#) Facebook page
- The [Lake Gaston Regional Chamber of Commerce](#) website
- The [Lake Gaston Gazette](#) newspaper (printed copies are also available at the gas station in Littleton)

The following is a list of things to consider trying while you're at the lake - both on and off the water (with recommendations of those we've tried and enjoyed in **bold**). Some may require that you make reservations before your stay, so it can be helpful to review these in advance!

- [Adam Fields Wake](#) 1881 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.2 miles by land, and about 4 miles by water) - Visit Adam Fields Wakeboard School and boardshop on Lake Gaston and meet International World Wakeboarding Champion and Brostock Big Air Champion, Adam Fields and his team of trained professionals, who **provide wakeboarding, wakesurfing, and water skiing lessons for students of all skill levels, as well as kids' camps, a shop with gear for purchase or rent, and seasonal events** like the Big Air Fair and the AF Wake Watersports Championships. Our family and guests look forward to honing their skills with Adam and his team every summer!
- [Blues Brothers Guide Service](#) serves both Lake Gaston and Kerr Lake. This blue catfish guide service provides bait, equipment, and expertise to help you and your group improve your catfishing skills and have a great catfishing experience.
- [Eaton Ferry Marina](#) 1865 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC - this marina near the south end of Eaton Ferry Bridge offers boat ramp and boat rental services, fuel, a shop with gear for boats, and boat storage and repair services. It also hosts The Pointe Restaurant with Tiki Bar (described separately in the "[Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston Area](#)" section of this guide).
- [Ed Fitts Amphitheater](#) 411 Mosby Ave, Littleton, NC (6 miles) - Outdoor music venue located behind the Lakeland Cultural Arts Center that is hosting the FREE Levitt AMP Littleton Concert Series on Saturday evenings during the summer of 2023. Bring your own chair or blanket. Food trucks will be nearby, and you are welcome to bring in outside food or nonalcoholic beverages. For details and current schedule, check the [Lakeland Cultural Arts Center](#) website.

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- [Escape Games Warrenton](#) 130 N Main Street, Suite 4, Warrenton, NC (20.8 miles) is a locally owned and operated escape room that offers multiple exciting, in-person games in which a team of 2-6 players must uncover clues, complete puzzles, and accomplish tasks to achieve a specific goal in 60 minutes or less. Our family of escape room aficionados had a great time here and said it compared well with escape room experiences they'd had in large cities!
- [Fairwood Lanes Bowling Center](#) 201 Old Farm Rd S, Roanoke Rapids, NC (17.9 miles) - This bowling alley also offers an arcade and a bar and grill, and occasionally schedules karaoke or other non-bowling events.
- [Happy Acres Farm](#) 210 Wright Rd. Roanoke Rapids, NC (14 miles) - This farm offers "U-Pick" blueberries, strawberries, and peaches (available on seasonal basis).
- [Isles Farms](#) 12246 NC Hwy 48, Littleton, NC (15.7 miles) - This farm offers multiple crops, some of which are "U-pick" (available on seasonal basis).
- [Knights Ridge Riding Center](#), 1646 Everetts School Rd, Roanoke Rapids, NC (10.6 miles) - This horseback riding center serves riders of all abilities, and also takes in and retrains rescue horses. They invite you to contact them at 252-536-1485 as they do not have a website.
- [Lake Gaston Golf Club](#) 890 Baird Rd, Gasburg, VA (17.7 miles) - This 18-hole public course is located on the north side of the lake, and offers a schedule of tournaments and events each season.
- [Lake Gaston Outfitters](#) 2401 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (11.2 miles) - Our friends Dave and Heidi Blodgett started Lake Gaston Outfitters to share their own enthusiasm for the outdoors, and to expand the vibrant outdoor community at Lake Gaston with a focus on "human-powered" fun activities. **If you're interested in paddling, hiking, or cycling, Lake Gaston Outfitters is THE place to go** for equipment and gear, kayak or paddleboard or bike rentals, specialized apparel, and recommendations for "the best kept secrets" on where to paddle, hike, and ride.
- [Lake Gaston Sailing](#) 1881 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.2 miles by land, and about 4 miles by water) - This locally owned and operated business is co-located with AF Wake and provides comprehensive, personalized instruction, camps, and Sunfish rentals.
- [Lake Gaston Summer Rentals](#) 1881 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.2 miles by land, and about 4 miles by water) - This locally owned and operated business is co-located with AF Wake, and rents pontoon boats and PWCs (jetskis).
- [Lakeland Cultural Arts Center](#) 411 Mosby Ave, Littleton, NC (6 miles) - This non-profit organization exists to enrich, educate, and entertain the local community, and provides many opportunities for volunteer involvement. In its recently renovated home, LCAC stages plays, movies, and concerts throughout the year. Check out their [online schedule](#)

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston

[of available tickets](#) to see if there might be a production you'd enjoy during your stay at Lake Gaston.

- [Lakeside Mini Golf](#) 3358 River Rd, Henrico NC (14.5 miles) - This mini-golf course on the north side of the lake is open seasonally, so check the website before you go.
- [Littleton Lake Gaston Festival](#) East South Main Street, Littleton, NC - This annual festival is held over Labor Day weekend and has small town charm with attractions like carnival rides, car show, craft fair, BBQ and other food vendors, and live entertainment. (Link is to VisitHalifax.com website, which has updates for current year's events.)
- [Medoc Mountain State Park](#) (22.5 miles) - This NC State Park stands on the 325-foot remnant of a once-mighty mountain range from 350 million years ago. Instead of a typical "mountain" adventure, visitors can enjoy picnicking in the park's open meadow, fishing on Little Fishing Creek, camping, and traversing the trails on foot, bike, or horse.
- [Norton's At the Lake Art Studio](#) 3358 River Rd, Henrico NC (14.5 miles) - This studio offers art classes and studio time, and also hosts group outings featuring hands-on fun with art projects.
- [Pickleball Courts at Warren County Recreation Complex](#) 840 US Highway 158<sup>th</sup> BYP, Warrenton, NC 27589 (16.1 miles) - Warren County Recreation Complex is a place to play pickleball in Warrenton, NC. There are 2 outdoor hard courts. These are dedicated courts with permanent lines and nets. The courts are free. The facility includes amenities like restrooms.
- [RCE Theater](#), 1722 East 10<sup>th</sup> St, Roanoke Rapids, NC (17.4 miles) - With 2 movie theaters, this local cinema shows a couple of different films on any given day, and is the closest place to go to see a new release movie on a big screen.
- [Roanoke Canal Museum & Trail](#) 15 Jackson St, Roanoke Rapids, NC (18.2 miles) - This museum with trail enables guests to learn about the 200-year-old Roanoke Canal and browse through permanent exhibits detailing its construction. There's a picnic area that's open to the public, and you can hike through the Canal Trail and enjoy camera-worthy views. Despite being only minutes from downtown Roanoke Rapids, you might encounter a deer or fox along the trail since the area is populated by local wildlife.
- [Roanoke Valley Veterans Museum](#) 102 E North Main St, Littleton, NC (5.4 miles) - This community museum honors US veterans and their heritage with displays of memorabilia, primarily from World War II but also from the Vietnam War and other conflicts.
- [Rockin' E Ranch](#) 2193 Warren Plains Rd, Warrenton, NC (23.7 miles) - This local horse center provides lessons and trail rides. They invite you to contact them at [velcrotrainer2006@msn.com](mailto:velcrotrainer2006@msn.com) as they do not have a website.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston

- [Ridgeway Opry House](#) 704 Hwy 1 S, Ridgeway, NC 27570 (24.9 miles) - This community venue showcases local musicians on most Saturday nights, and some Friday nights.
- [Rosemont Vineyards & Winery](#) 1050 Blackridge Rd, La Crosse, VA (23.1 miles) - Rosemont is a vineyard and winery that began operating about 20 years ago on 450 acres near the NC / VA border that has been owned and farmed by the Rose family for generations. They produce **many different styles of wine**, from the classic Bordeaux varietals to dry, crisp whites and sweet wines. They don't have a restaurant, but their **tasting room is open daily**; reservations are recommended on weekends or for tours or larger groups. They are available for weddings and private events, and they occasionally host dinners through collaborations with local chefs (check website for any that may be scheduled during your visit to Lake Gaston).
- [Sand Dollar Seaplanes](#) (pick up at your Dock) - Steve Harris, a Local Lake Gaston resident and retired Naval Aviator and professional pilot, provides private sightseeing flights over beautiful Lake Gaston in a seaplane that picks you up at your Dock before beginning your tour with a water takeoff.
- [Stonehouse Timber Lodge Marina](#) 154 Stonehouse Lodge Dr, Littleton, NC - this local business offers small rustic rental cabins, as well as boat fuel, a bait and tackle shop, and pontoon and fishing boat rental services. They provide Dockside service and this is where we go to fill up our boat and PWCs.
- [Sylvan Heights Bird Park](#) 500 Sylvan Heights Park Way, Scotland Neck, NC (43.6 miles) - Sylvan Heights is designed to give visitors an up-close experience with **over 2,500 waterfowl, parrots, toucans, flamingos, and other exotic birds** from around the world. The 18-acre facility features spacious, **walk-through aviaries** displaying birds from South America, North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia. The aviaries are surrounded by tranquil gardens and lush natural areas, which enhance the beauty of the birds on exhibit and immerse visitors in native North Carolina wildlife habitat.
- ["The Crossing"](#) convenes at The Pointe 1865 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.1 miles) - O'SAIL (Organization to Support the Arts, Infrastructure, and Learning on Lake Gaston) holds an annual fundraising event on the morning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in August. With help from the Coast Guard and others, they close the lake to boat traffic for 2 hours near Eaton Ferry Bridge so that swimmers (serious swimmers doing timed swims and "just for fun" swimmers with or without floats), kayak or paddleboard paddlers, and people in creative, non-powered craft can cross 1 mile of open water between The Pointe / Morningstar Marina on the south side of the lake and the Watersview on the north side of the lake. Our family has participated in this event multiple times over the years. If you happen to be here that weekend, it is a lot of fun!
- [The Pointe at Lake Gaston](#) 1865 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (9.1 miles) - Located on the southern end of the Eaton Ferry Bridge that crosses Lake Gaston, The Pointe offers year-

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston

round very casual waterfront dining, a bar, and live music on some nights. It has limited parking for boats, and many patrons in flip flops in the summer. It's also the launching point for other events, such as The Crossing and several fishing tournaments.

- [Time Out Sports Bar](#) 114 N. Main St., Warrenton, NC (20.8 miles) - A locally owned sports bar that seats 90 and is known for its wings, collection of large-screen TVs, and of course, its drinks.
- [Wake Surf NC](#) 381 Cross Creek Ct, Littleton, NC (4 miles) - Our family has always worked with Adam Fields at AF Wake (see above) for wakeboarding, wakesurfing, water skiing lessons, and related equipment needs, but if you and your group are not able to get an open time on AF Wake's schedule, and your interests are limited to wakesurfing, Wake Surf NC may be an alternative to try.
- [Weldon Mills Distillery](#) 100 Rockfish Dr, Weldon, NC (20.6 miles) - This locally owned small-batch distillery is located in a historic millhouse and uses NC-sourced ingredients to make award-winning bourbons. They offer tours and tastings.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Access The Lucky Duck

### **DOOR LOCKS:**

The Lucky Duck provides a contactless and keyless check-in. It uses an electronic access control system to manage its remotely controlled combination door locks. When your reservation is confirmed, you will be given a randomly generated security code. Your code will be activated from the check-in time of your reservation through the check-out time of your reservation.

**Your security code, FOLLOWED BY THE ✓ KEY, can be entered on combination door lock keypads to:**

- **Open the front door, the door from the garage to the inside hallway, and side door to the garage**
- **Open the French door to the separate Guest Cottage**
- **Open the door to the storage room on the Boat Dock**

**Please DO NOT SHARE YOUR CODE WITH ANYONE ELSE WHO IS NOT A GUEST REGISTERED TO BE IN THE LUCKY DUCK DURING YOUR STAY, and do not allow anyone else to see you enter your security code.**

Please note that the sliding doors do not have combination locks. Those must be unlocked from inside once you have accessed the house via "regular" doors with combination locks.

We advise that you exercise normal precautions and keep doors closed and locked when you are asleep or away from the residence. Please note you will be held fully liable for actions or damages caused by any unauthorized or unregistered guests who you allow in, or who enter using your code or via a door you left unlocked.

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Unfortunately, as is the case with many private homes, The Lucky Duck has limited accessibility for those with mobility limitations. Please be aware that although one bedroom and two bathrooms are on the main level of the house, and Guest Cottage is a one-level structure, there are steps to navigate at all entrances to the house and Guest Cottage, and there are also steps on the walkway to the Dock and beach. Additionally, The Lucky Duck's bathrooms and door clearances do not meet the standards for accessibility. We regret any inconvenience caused by these limitations in the house's original structure that we were not able to remove in our renovations.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Overview of Features of The Lucky Duck

The original home was one of the earliest built in Ferncliff, and was enjoyed by a single owner until 2020. After she sold it, it underwent **a complete renovation and expansion in 2021 - 2023**. In addition, the current owners added the Main House garage space and upstairs primary bedroom suite, the separate Guest Cottage, and a **new Boat Dock**, along with paved driveway and stone walkways and new landscaping, to the property. So, as a guest at The Lucky Duck, you are staying in a home that has been loved for years, but which **now has completely new features, floorplan, appliances, and décor**.

The Lucky Duck's owners have paid attention to all the details that make guests feel comfortable and at home, and that allow them to have fun while also staying safe.

**The separate Guest Cottage is a charming and private get-away**, with French doors flanked by round porthole windows, timber frame construction, and a lovely view of the lake and the woods. It has 1 bedroom **with a Queen bed, an en-suite bathroom, and its own patio** with rocking chairs facing the lake. It has a ceiling fan and its own separate HVAC system, a Wi-Fi access point to provide connectivity, and is easily accessed via a stone sidewalk that connects it to the driveway, Main House and Boat House.

**The Main House has a contemporary open floor plan in the main living space, with a soaring vaulted ceiling, 2 walls of windows facing the lake, a gas fireplace, a large sectional sofa, dining table, small breakfast bar, and a spacious wrap-around deck with rocking chairs that connects to an eating porch with dining table and gas grill.** The upstairs landing overlooking the living area has a reading nook with a commanding view of miles of open water. **In addition to the Queen bedroom in the Guest Cottage, the Main House has 4 additional bedrooms (2 Queens and 2 Kings, plus 1 pull-out Queen sofa-bed) and 2 small Flex rooms (each with a Twin XL).** Two of the three upstairs bedrooms have private decks. All bedrooms have separate HVAC zones and thermostats.

**All 5 bedrooms in The Lucky Duck have their own en-suite bathrooms; the 6<sup>th</sup> bathroom is a full bathroom off the first-floor hallway** that serves as the primary bathroom for those in the Flex rooms and a shared bath for the first floor living area.

The kitchen table seats 8, the bar seats 3, and the outdoor eating porch seats 10.

**The Lucky Duck has a maximum capacity of 14 guests over the age of 2, plus up to 3 infants or small toddlers who sleep in guest-provided portable cribs.** The guest capacity of individual rooms is as follows:

- 2 in Guest Cottage bedroom with Queen bed and private patio.
- 2 in Main House downstairs bedroom with Queen bed.
- 2 in Main House upstairs bedroom with Queen bed and private deck.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Overview of Features of The Lucky Duck

- 1 in Flex Room A with Twin XL bed (connecting to upstairs Queen bedroom and to hallway).
- 2 in Main House upstairs bedroom with King bed.
- 1 in Flex Room B with Twin XL bed (connecting to upstairs King bedroom and to hallway).
- 4 in Main House Primary/Master bedroom with King bed, pull-out Queen sofa-bed and private deck. (This large room also has enough space for up to three guest-provided portable cribs for babies.)

**The Lucky Duck was designed with resilience and reliability in mind. It's connected to the Halifax county water system and outfitted with a new whole-house emergency generator and a new septic system sized for its 6 bathrooms**, so your vacation at The Lucky Duck won't be affected by a private well running dry and is unlikely to be interrupted by power or septic outages.

You'll find **The Lucky Duck is completely outfitted** with: updated furniture sourced from Room & Board, Design Within Reach, and similar vendors; smart TVs (in living rooms and upstairs Primary/Master bedroom); appliances (including 2 sets of washer / dryers, iron and small ironing board, 2 refrigerator / freezers, microwave, gas range and oven, dishwasher, toaster oven, drip and Keurig coffee makers, blender, and hand mixer), pots and pans, cooking utensils, dinnerware, flatware, barware, and serving utensils. It has 2 bookcases full of games, puzzles and books. The home also provides a broom, small vacuum, utility ladder, and 2 sizes of pet bowls. There are also step stools and tableware sized for toddlers, and a highchair and a toddler booster seat with a tray, as a convenience for guests with young families. All bathrooms also have hair dryers, magnifying mirrors, and enough basic toiletries (e.g., shampoo, conditioner, hand soap and shower gel) in permanent dispensers for a week-long stay. There is also a scale in the shared hall bathroom. Each bedroom has a combination alarm clock and charging station, its own separate HVAC zone and thermostat, and a fan. The rental comes with beds already made up with sheets, blankets, pillows, and coverlets. It also provides a set of 16 clean bath towels and 16 beach towels for your use during your stay.

The property boasts a sandy Beach area, and has a Boat House and Dock with 1 hybrid Pontoon / v-hull Boat Lift, 1 Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift and 2 PWC Lifts for watercraft you bring or rent. It also provides kayaks, a paddleboard, ski vests, ski belts, floats, lounge chairs and other amenities to help you and your guests make the most of the beautiful waterfront.

**For more details on the many features of The Lucky Duck, please refer to the ["Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities"](#) and the ["Boat Dock and Beach Amenities"](#) sections of this Guest Guide.**

We expect that guests will bring or go shopping for their preferred provisions in the quantities they need for the length of their stay. (Please see the ["Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston"](#)

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Overview of Features of The Lucky Duck

**Area** section for shopping locations). However, we do provide enough selected consumable items beyond the provided bathroom toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, handsoap and shower gel) to enable you to get through your first day or so in case you want to shop after you arrive instead of carting everything with you. You'll find enough coffee and tea, sweeteners, paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, facial tissues, etc.), and kitchen basics like garbage bags, dish soap, and dishwasher and laundry detergent to get you started (and perhaps through your entire stay for some of those items, depending on your usage).

The Lucky Duck has Wi-fi with internet access via CenturyLink, and you will receive an email in advance of your arrival that provides the Wi-fi login instructions. (Please see the **"Wi-fi Access"** section for more information.) You'll also find a selection of books and games, with options for all ages, to enjoy during your stay. Please take care if you have small children, as some books are not appropriate for young readers, and puzzles and games, including some for older children, are not "child-proof" and may contain small pieces.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Wi-Fi Access

The Lucky Duck has Wi-Fi with business-class internet access, but keep in mind that Lake Gaston is a rural area and access speeds can be slower than those to which some guests from larger cities are accustomed. A fiber network and wireless access points provide Wi-Fi access in the Main House, the Guest Cottage, and on the Boat Dock.

The current password for the Wi-Fi is \_\_\_\_\_.

*(Note: For security reasons, this information is in your reservation confirmation email and/or the Guest Portal accessed via that email, and in the printed Guest Guide at The Lucky Duck, but it is not included in the online version of the Guest Guide on our website.)*

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

The Lucky Duck prides itself on providing many amenities that provide the comfort of “home away from home” for its guests (and limit the packing they must do to enjoy an extended stay).

**With the exception of the beach towels and the plastic tumblers, the amenities you find in the Main House and Guest Cottage should be enjoyed there; please do not take them to the Boat Dock or Beach.** The following long list of amenities in the Main House and Guest Cottage (with descriptions of how to find and use them) is organized alphabetically to help you find what you want to know, and includes links to online user manuals for more detailed instructions on selected items (*please see the electronic version of this document on our website to use those links*):

- **Alarm clock and charging cube** - You'll need to bring the correct charging cables/charging blocks/attachments for your particular devices, but we've made it easy to find a place to plug it in. Every bedroom has ample outlets and an integrated [Cubie Time](#) or [Cubie Trio](#) alarm clock and charging cube with 2 built-in extra outlets and 2 USB-A charging ports, pass-through plug, display dimmer, surge protection, and simple instructions printed on the top. You'll find it on one of the nightstands.

To change the brightness of the DISPLAY:

- When in standby mode, press SNOOZE/DIMMER button to change brightness (off, dimmest, medium, brightest).
- When the display is turned off, you can also press or rotate the knob to turn display on.

To reset the DATE/TIME:

- Press and hold the SNOOZE/DIMMER button for 6 seconds
- The YEAR will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating the knob on top, then press knob to select year.
- The MONTH will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating the knob on top, then press knob to select month.
- The DAY will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating the knob on top, then press knob to select day.
- The HOUR will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating the knob on top, then press knob to select hour.
- The MINUTES will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating the knob on top, then press knob to select minutes.

To use the ALARM:

- Press rotating knob on top to turn ON Alarm.
- ALARM time will begin to flash. Adjust by rotating knob, and then press knob to select. (If you do not press knob to select a new time, alarm will automatically set to last selected alarm time after 6 seconds).
- When alarm is sounding, Press SNOOZE/DIMMER button to go to snooze status; alarm will resound in 9 minutes.
- Press knob on top to turn OFF alarm.

- **Baking Pans, Bowls and Casseroles** - You'll find mixing bowls, covered and uncovered casserole dishes, a pie dish, baking sheets, mini muffin tins, cake pans, and similar bakeware, all of which is generally kept in the lower cabinets. Please keep all bowls and bakeware in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- **Bar Tools** - The Lucky Duck has a bottle opener, wine opener, and a complete set of cocktail mixing tools for your enjoyment. Check the kitchen counter and drawers to find the individual items. Please keep them in the kitchen or on the eating porch and do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach. Bottoms up!
- **Barware** - We've stocked the units with a complete set of barware for your enjoyment, including stemmed and stemless wine glasses, tall and short beverage glasses, and plastic tumblers with lids, all of which you can find in the upper cabinets. Cheers!
- **Bathroom Scale** - There is a scale in one of the bathrooms. While we don't necessarily condone weighing yourself during a vacation, if you're determined to do it, the scale is generally found in the downstairs hallway bathroom.
- **Beach Towels** - The Lucky Duck provides 16 beach towels for your use during your stay, so there is enough to cover you and your guests without having to lug any from home. You'll find the beach towels on the shelves in the laundry closet. Please use these colorful towels outside on the Dock or Beach, instead of taking any white bath towels outside. If you need to refresh your beach towels during your stay, there are two sets of washer/dryers (one in the laundry closet and one in the garage) that you are welcome to use for towels, linens, or personal laundry.
- **Blender and Mixer** - Like to start the day with a homemade smoothie, or blend up some frozen cocktails? No problem. The Lucky Duck has a Vitamix blender with both carafes and personal cups and adapter (PCAs) for smoothies, as well as a hand mixer. The Vitamix blender is usually on the counter, and its attachments are the top cabinet near the coffee bar. The hand mixer is generally in the rotating shelf in the lower cabinet corner. Additionally, a manual egg beater is in one of the cooking utensil drawers.
- **Books** - On the bookshelves in the downstairs Queen bedroom in the Main House, there's a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction books for readers of all ages to enjoy during their stay. Some books may not be appropriate for young readers, so parents should exercise their own judgment in reading selections for their children. Please leave the books for our next guests to enjoy also. (But if you're in the middle of a page-turner you really want to finish, please just contact our Rental Manager to let them know you'd like to borrow it and then mail it back.)
- **Broom and Mop** - Spills happen, and if you need a broom and dustpan, small vacuum, or a mop, those are generally found in the garage.
- **Chef's Knives** - There is a set of chefs' and steak knives on the kitchen counter. Use them with care - the self-sharpening knife block keeps them as sharp as they look. Please help

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

us maintain their edge and finish by handwashing them vs. putting them in the dishwasher.

- **Coasters** - There are plenty of coasters in every bedroom and in the living room, so that you can avoid costly damage to wood surfaces. We've got you covered so you can keep the wood tabletops covered. Please use them when you need them!
- **Cocktail Tool Set, Corkscrew, Foil Cutter and Bottle Opener** - All that barware won't fill itself! Check the countertop or kitchen drawers to find the corkscrew, foil cutter, bottle opener, and a full cocktail tool set.
- **Coffee Makers** - As coffee lovers ourselves, we give you a couple of options. The coffee bar area (cabinets on kitchen wall next to hall bathroom) has both a Keurig coffee maker machine and a Cuisinart 10-Cup Programmable Thermal Carafe Drip Coffeemaker. A starting selection of K-pods are in the metal drawer of the Keurig coffee stand. A pound of fresh, locally-roasted *Lake House Blend* ground coffee from [Lake Gaston Coffee Company](#) will be in your gift bag, and you'll find some filters, sweeteners and creamers in the cabinets near the coffee makers. We provide enough coffee supplies to get you through your first day or so, but if your crew drinks as much as ours, you'll want to replenish that stock for the rest of your stay (see [Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston Area](#) for sources).
- **Colander** (Strainer) - There's a steel colander or strainer in one of the kitchen cabinets (usually the lower cabinet in the corner with the rotating shelves).
- **Condiments** - Containers with packages of sugar and artificial sweetener, along with creamers, are stashed in a cabinet flanking the coffee bar. Other basic condiments, such as salt and pepper, hot sauce, a small selection of spices, etc. that you may find in the cabinets near the stove, or in the refrigerator, are available to use during your stay. But if you plan some serious cooking while on vacation, you may want to bring or shop for a larger selection of condiments.
- **Cooking utensils** - Cooking utensils are stored in a cannister on the kitchen counter and in the kitchen drawers near the stove, and include: solid and slotted spoons, spatulas, tongs, whisk, ice cream scoop, swivel peeler, can opener, ladle, avocado slicer, etc. Please keep all cooking utensils in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach.
- **Cooktop and Oven** - The Lucky Duck has a Jenn Air gas range with downdraft fan and oven. There are hot pads in the narrow cabinet next to the sink, and trivets there or in a cabinet near the stove, to protect you and the countertops and table. If you use the cooktop or stove, please be sure to turn it OFF before you leave the residence. Also, please make use of the downdraft fan when cooking things that give off odors.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- **Crock-Pot** - In the kitchen you will find a 6.5-Quart, programmable touchscreen slow cooker with a removeable stoneware crock.
- **Cutting Boards** - When you need to wield one of our sharp knives, please use it on one of the plastic cutting boards you'll find in the narrow cabinet near the kitchen sink.
- **Dining Tables** - The Lucky Duck offers plenty of seating for mealtimes, and most of it has amazing views! The indoor dining table seats 8, the kitchen bar seats 3, and the outdoor dining table on the covered eating porch seats 10.
- **Dishes** - The Lucky Duck has a full set of 16+ dishes, including dinner plates, salad plates, bowls, and mugs, plus serving pieces such as serving bowls, serving platters, sugar bowl and cream pitcher. Dishes are generally stored in cabinets over countertop on each side of the sink. Please keep all dishes and serving pieces in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach.
- **Dish Rack** - For items that you may need to handwash, there is a foldable OXO dish-drying rack stored under the kitchen sink, which can be set up with its draining spout over the edge of the kitchen sink. Or, you can grab a dish drying towel from the narrow cabinet next to the kitchen sink.
- **Dish Soap** - There is soap for washing dishes (or hands) in a dispenser on the countertop next to the kitchen sink.
- **Dishwasher** - No one wants to spend much time on handwashing dishes during vacation, so you'll find an automatic dishwasher under the countertop, with some dishwasher detergent pods stored under the kitchen sink.
- **Dog Bowls** - We can help you feed your fur baby. The Lucky Duck has 2 sets of dog bowls: one set for larger dogs, and one set for smaller dogs, both with a plastic holder to keep water and food spills off the tile floor. The dog bowls are generally stowed on top of the extra refrigerator in the garage, but may be in the laundry closet or may be already set up in the kitchen for you based on your registration of a pet. (Please see the ["Pets and Service Animals"](#) section for more information on dogs in the unit.)
- **Dog Crate** - The Lucky Duck has a large dog crate in the garage, and guests are welcome to use it in place or in the common areas on the first floor, but to avoid snagging carpet or scratching doorway woodwork, we ask that you do not move the large crate into bedrooms or upstairs. Please return it to the garage if you move it.
- **Dog Leash** - In case you forgot to pack a dog leash, you can borrow ours during your stay to allow you to comply with the pet policy and keep your dog safely confined and away

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

from neighbors' homes and dogs. You'll find a dog leash in either the garage or the laundry closet or the downstairs hall closet.

- **Drying Rack** - There's a large, folding wooden drying rack in the garage that you can use for drying delicate laundry items or spreading out a few wet beach towels (although most guests at our house like to use the deck railings for drying out their beach towels in the sun - it's faster!).
- **Entry Doors** - The Lucky Duck uses an electronic access control system to manage its remotely controlled combination door locks. When your reservation is confirmed, you will be given a randomly generated security code. Your code will be activated from the check-in time of your reservation through the check-out time of your reservation. **Your security code, FOLLOWED BY THE ✓ KEY, can be entered on combination door lock keypads to:**
  - **Open the front door or any hinged side door to the Main House**
  - **Open the French door to the separate Guest Cottage**
  - **Open the door to the storage room on the Boat Dock**
- **EV Car Charger** - For the convenience of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle owners (who we cheer!), The Lucky Duck provides a JuiceBox EV car charger on the exterior wall of the garage, next to the side door (on the side closest to the Guest Cottage). Its cable fits most non-Tesla brands as-is, and works with a Tesla using a common adapter that most Tesla owners carry with them. It is an electric appliance that should not be handled by children, but adult guests are welcome to use it during their stay.
- **Firepit** - The Lucky Duck has an outdoor firepit with a stone patio surround, Adirondack chairs, and a fabulous view of the main lake. **ADULTS MUST SUPERVISE THE USE OF THE FIREPIT, AND ENSURE THAT THE FIRE IS COMPLETELY OUT BEFORE LEAVING IT UNATTENDED.** To use the firepit:
  - **Make sure the weather conditions are favorable.** High winds can blow sparks or embers onto the yard or nearby roofs, or burn the people sitting near the firepit or cause them to inhale too much smoke. If the day is too windy, please play it safe and don't use the firepit.
  - **Locate the large metal fire extinguisher cannister** that is filled with water under pressure in the boat house, and ensure you can grab it quickly in case of emergency.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- Arrange firewood in walled, circular, brick-lined fire enclosure. **Use only dried and split hardwood that is properly cut for fireplace use and that does not extend above or beyond the fire enclosure** - no paper, trash, long branches, green wood, pine wood, or other combustible material. If you find some of our extra firewood in a storage pile near the beach you are welcome to use it. If not, you can find cut firewood for sale at the Piggly Wiggly or another store in Littleton.
- **Do not add lighter fluid, gasoline, or other accelerants.**
- **Ensure that your guests, and particularly children, stay a safe distance back from the fire enclosure, flames, smoke, and hot embers.** Remind children that the stones on the rim will get hot, sparks and small pieces of burning debris can be emitted from the fire or blown in the breeze, and that the embers will remain hot even after the flames are no longer visible.
- **When you are ready to leave the firepit area, first ensure that the fire is completely out.** Please do not use our emergency fire extinguisher for this purpose, but instead use the bucket in the boat house to scoop water and douse the embers.
- **Fireplace** - Winter doesn't stop the fun at Lake Gaston, so The Lucky Duck has a gas fireplace to make the living room cozy when it's cold outside. The fireplace is not just ornamental; it heats up the room when it's on, so please do not turn on the fireplace when you are running the air conditioning. **PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, AND DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ADJUST ANY OF THE GAS OR SETTINGS INSIDE THE FIREPLACE.**
  - **To Start Gas Logs** - Look to the right of the fireplace to find a panel of switches. The top switch is labeled FIREPLACE. Pressing this button will turn on the gas logs.
  - **During Operation** - Once the fireplace reaches a sufficient temperature, the blower fan will automatically turn on to circulate the heat to the room. The fan will continue to run as long as the logs are turned on and for a few minutes after logs have been turned off. **IF THE FAN DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY TURN ON AFTER A MINUTE OF THE GAS LOGS COMING ON, PLEASE TURN THE FIREPLACE OFF TO AVOID AN UNSAFE SITUATION.** The gas logs and fan will run for 60 minutes and will then automatically turn off. If you would like to keep the logs going for another hour, simply press the FIREPLACE button again.
  - **To Turn Off Gas Logs** - To turn off gas logs, press the OFF button which is located directly under the FIREPLACE button. The fan will continue to run automatically as long as the fireplace is hot. This is normal and the fan will turn itself off automatically.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

**The fireplace can put out a lot of heat and doesn't immediately cool down after you turn it OFF. Do not open the screen, touch it, allow pets or children to touch it, or put chairs, pillows, ottomans, throws, clothing, or any combustible materials within 2-3 feet of it when it is ON (or still hot after being ON). Please be sure to turn OFF the fireplace when you leave the room.**

- **Flatware** - The Lucky Duck has a complete set of stainless-steel flatware, including 14+ place settings and 5 serving pieces. Please keep all flatware and serving pieces in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach.
- **FloLogic Plumbing Leak Detection and Automatic Shutoff System** - The Lucky Duck is equipped with a FloLogic system that detects plumbing leaks (or faucets left running for long periods of time) and detects when the water hasn't been used for 24 hours, and in either case, it automatically turns off the flow of water to the house to prevent damage. This part of our infrastructure makes it less likely that your booked vacation will be impacted by water damage caused by your group or by previous guests.

**The FloLogic control panel is located inside the hall closet on the first floor of the Main House. Please check the FloLogic panel:**

- **If you hear an audible alarm coming from the hall closet, and/or**
- **If water stops flowing from the faucets and taps**

If the FloLogic panel shows AWAY, then the system has shut off the water because it recognized that water has not been used in 18 hours. If the FloLogic panel shows LEAK, then the system has shut off the water because it recognized that water has been running at a constant rate for an unexpected length of time, which may be a sign of a plumbing leak or a tap accidentally left running.

**To stop the alarm:**

- **Press the button marked DISABLE.**

**To re-start the water:**

- **Press the button marked HOME.**

If the system was in a LEAK state, (i.e., unless you just arrived and found the system in the AWAY state), it's important to walk around and inspect the plumbing fixtures (including sink faucets, toilets showers, tub, washers, refrigerator, and outdoor spigots) to ensure that there isn't a leaking fixture and that no one left any water running. **If you find a leak, please attempt to turn off the water supply to the fixture (sinks and toilets have a hand valve on the water supply line that you can turn to cut off the flow of water) and please notify our Rental Manager using the instructions for Maintenance Emergency in the "[In Case of Emergency](#)" section** of this guide.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- **Food Storage Containers** - The kitchen has a set of food storage containers with lids, so you can easily keep leftovers and takeout options to enjoy on another day of your stay. Please keep all food storage containers in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach. Please buy or bring your own food storage containers for any leftovers you want to take home at the end of your stay; please do not remove our food storage containers.
- **Games and Puzzles** - You'll find playing cards and a variety of board games and some puzzles for children and adults on the bookcases in the first floor Queen bedroom. They may have small parts, and parents should exercise their own judgment in deciding which are appropriate for their children. Please reorganize all the pieces and put them away if you use them, for the enjoyment of our next guests.
- **Garbage and recycling bags** - A supply of garbage can liners are kept under the kitchen sink in each unit, so that you can replace the liner if you need to empty your under-counter kitchen trash can during your stay.
- **Gas Grill** - Most guests consider a cookout to be a quintessential lake vacation meal, and The Lucky Duck is set up to make yours memorable. You'll find a large, stainless steel Kitchen Aid gas grill with side burners and cabinet at one end of the eating porch off the kitchen. It is connected to the propane supply for the house, so you don't need to mess with removable propane tanks. However, **each time you use it, you need to turn on the gas supply line valve before turning on the grill burners, and turn off the gas supply line after turning off the grill burners.**
- **Generator** - The Lucky Duck has a generator sized to serve the entire property, so your vacation is unlikely to be marred by an electric power utility outage. The generator fires up and runs briefly every Saturday around mid-day to keep itself in working order, so don't assume there is a neighborhood wide power issue unless you hear it running at another time. If you notice it is running for more than a few hours, we may need to check on the reason, so please notify the Rental Manager using the [How to Contact Us, Give Us Feedback, or Book Another Stay](#) section of this Guest Guide.
- **Hairdryers** - Wet hair is never out of style on the lake, but just in case you want to spiff up after your swimming time, you'll find a hairdryer with concentrator and diffuser attachments in the vanity of every bathroom.
- **Iron and Ironing Board** - The Lake Gaston vibe and dress code is pretty relaxed, and you probably won't feel the need to press too many of your outfits. But if you do, you can find an iron and a small ironing board in the laundry closet.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

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- **Ladder** - If you need a small step ladder to reach items on top shelves, you can find a folding, multi-step stool in the garage.
- **Lights** - Light switches in rooms are labeled for your convenience, and many are dimmable. The Lucky Duck uses LED lights for energy efficiency, and Lutron switches to enable dimming and easy "ALL OFF" functionality. Please help us conserve energy by turning off lamps and lights when you are not in a room. Table and floor lamps must be switched off individually, but all wall and ceiling lights throughout the home can be switched off using the "ALL OFF" switch near the front door.
- **Linens and Towels** - You're on vacation, and The Lucky Duck provides linens so you don't have to. Beds are made up before you arrive with sheets, a blanket, and a coverlet. Most bedrooms have extra pillows. Extra blankets are stored in bedroom closets. Bathrooms are stocked with bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, and bathmats. There are 16 beach towels in the laundry closet on the main floor. You are welcome to use the laundry detergent and either of the two full-size sets of washer/dryers (in the laundry closet and in the garage) if you want to refresh your linens or towels during your stay.
- **Make-up Removal Cloths** - To protect the white bath towels and washcloths, while avoiding the waste of disposable make-up removable toiles, each of the 6 bathrooms is stocked with a supply of re-usable black microfiber make-up removal cloths. Please wash off make-up with these to avoid staining the white washcloths. Used make-up remover cloths, like used white washcloths and towels, can be simply left on the tiled bathroom floors for laundering by our cleaning crew.
- **Measuring Cups and Spoons** - A full set of measuring cups and spoons can be found in one of the kitchen drawers.
- **Meat Thermometer** - A meat thermometer is in one of the kitchen drawers (or sometimes moved to the grill cabinet).
- **Microwave Oven** - There's a microwave in an undercounter shelf. You'll find a plastic microwave dish cover on the rotating shelf of the lower cabinet next to it, to allow you to heat food without splattering.
- **Mirror** - In addition to the vanity mirrors (all of which are well-lit and some of which have heater/defogger switches), every bathroom vanity has a drawer or shelf containing a hand mirror with magnification on one side.
- **Outdoor Seating** - The Lucky Duck faces miles of beautiful open water, which lures guests to find an outdoor spot to enjoy the amazing view. You'll have plenty of choices with: 2 Adirondack chairs on the Beach, 2 Adirondack chairs with ottomans and 4 folding LaFuma

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

Zero Gravity recliners on the Dock, 8 rocking chairs on the main deck, 2 rocking chairs on the Guest Cottage patio, and 2 chairs on each of the 2 private balconies off upstairs bedrooms. You can try different vantage points for different sunsets!

- **Paper Products** - You'll find extra rolls of toilet paper and extra facial tissue boxes in the vanity in each bathroom. There is a paper towel holder on the kitchen countertop, and on the stainless-steel countertop in the garage, and an extra roll of paper towels either under the kitchen sink or on a garage shelf. You may want to bring or purchase additional rolls depending on the length of your stay and the size of your crew.
- **Placemats** - There is a set of placemats in one of the drawers or lower cabinets in the kitchen, or the shelves in the laundry closet. (Please use them if your plates are hot enough to damage the wood table.)
- **Pots and Pans** - There is a complete set of cookware, including frying pans, stock pots, lidded pots, etc. stored in the cabinets under the counter (near the stove). Please keep all pots and pans in the house or on the eating porch; do not take them to the Boat Dock or beach.
- **Refrigerator/Freezer** - The Lucky Duck has 2 refrigerator/freezers for your use: one in the kitchen, and one in the garage. The kitchen refrigerator has an ice and chilled water dispenser in the door. However, if you want lots of ice for coolers or a large crew, you may want to supplement by using the ice trays you'll find in the freezer, or buying bags of ice from one of the local stores in Littleton (see [Food and Dining in the Lake Gaston Area](#) for sources.) Please remember to check both refrigerator/freezers and take or dispose of all of your food and beverages before you check out.
- **Scissors** - There is a pair of utility scissors and a utility razor knife in one of the drawers in the kitchen. These are provided for your convenience, but please keep these safely stowed away from access by children.
- **Showers** - All five bedrooms have en-suite bathrooms with walk-in tile showers and glass doors. The small flex rooms with Twin beds do not have en-suite bathrooms, but there is another full bathroom in the hallway near the kitchen that has a 6<sup>th</sup> shower. All showers have both fixed and hand-held shower heads, and all have **Beekman 102 Fresh Air** (Made in USA and "Kind to Skin, Kind to Animals, Kind to Planet, and Kind to Community") shampoo, conditioner, and body wash shower toiletries provided in permanent, environmentally responsible (i.e., not disposable) dispensers. A non-slip shower mat is available for each shower, and you'll find it either in or next to the shower or in the vanity. Please use it if you feel you need it to avoid slipping.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- **Tea Kettle** - The kitchen has a tea kettle in addition to the coffee makers. It will generally be found in the large undercounter cabinet drawers.
- **Thermostats** - Each bedroom, as well as the main living area, has individually controlled heating and air conditioning. **Thermostats can control multiple rooms, so it's important to note which Zone the thermostat is in (labelled on each), and to select that Zone before making adjustments** (otherwise you may adjust the temperature in a different room and then wonder why your room's temperature didn't change). For optimal operation (and energy efficiency), all thermostats should be set to either heat or cool (i.e., please don't set one to heat and another to cool). Also, to help us avoid wasting energy, please do not run heat or air conditioning when windows are open.
- **Toaster Oven** - There is a toaster oven on the countertop near the stove. Please don't set anything on top of it, to avoid the risk of fire or melted plastic when it is used.
- **Toddler Equipment** - We hope that families will enjoy The Lucky Duck. To make that easier, there is a step stool to help little ones reach the sink under the vanity in the hallway bathroom near the kitchen. There is also a highchair in the garage, and a toddler booster seat with a tray that can be strapped onto a dining chair with a back, which can usually be found in the garage, or on a shelf over the refrigerator. The Lucky Duck also has some plastic dishes and sippy cups for toddlers, which are generally stored in the higher kitchen cabinets. Toddler size cutlery can also be found in the kitchen drawers. Documentation for the high chair and booster seat can be found on the Laundry Closet shelves. Please only use those only if you are familiar with their operation. Any use of them is AT YOUR OWN RISK.
- **Toilet Brush and Plunger** - All 6 bathrooms have both a toilet brush and a plunger conveniently located beside the toilet. To avoid needing the plunger (or causing an even bigger issue that may result in costly and time-consuming plumbing repairs that interrupt your vacation) **do not flush anything other than human waste or toilet paper**. Feminine hygiene products (including all pads and tampons), diapers, diaper wipes (whether or not they claim to be "flushable"), or other trash or debris will clog the pumps that feed our septic system, rendering the entire system inoperable.
- **Toiletries** - The Lucky Duck provides selected toiletries in permanent, environmentally responsible (i.e., not disposable) dispensers at sinks and in showers. **Beekman 102 Fresh Air** (Made in USA and "Kind to Skin, Kind to Animals, Kind to Planet, and Kind to Community") hand soap, shampoo, conditioner, and body wash are provided in dispensers. Guests need to bring other personal toiletry items, such as their own preferred lotions, sunscreens, toothpaste, etc.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

- **Tub** - The Primary/Master bathroom has a soaking tub in addition to a separate walk-in shower. **Please do not leave the room while filling the tub**, to avoid an overflow that creates a flood. Please supervise young children while they're in the tub. Please take care if using the hand-held rinsing showerhead next to the tub, to avoid making the bathroom tile floor wet and slippery.
- **TVs** - The Primary/Master bedroom and Living Room have Roku TVs. The Roku TVs are in Guest Mode, and you can access your streaming accounts by following the prompts on the screen. We do our best to remove the personal credentials you enter to access your own streaming accounts when the TVs are reset by the cleaning crew, but as an added precaution please remove your own credentials prior to check out.
- **Vacuum Cleaner** - The Lucky Duck has a vacuum cleaner (usually found in the downstairs hall closet or garage near the broom and dustpan). We don't expect you will need it, but it's there just in case you want to spiff up an area during the week.
- **Washers and Dryers** - Please feel free to use the 2 sets of washer/dryers and detergent in the laundry closet and garage for your personal laundry or for freshening towels or linens. Please leave any remaining detergent for our cleaners or the next guest.
- **Wi-Fi** - The Lucky Duck has Wi-Fi with internet access provided by CenturyLink. A fiber network and wireless access points provide Wi-Fi access in the Main House, the Guest Cottage, and on the Boat Dock.

The current password for the Wi-Fi is \_\_\_\_\_.

(Note: For security reasons, this information is in your reservation confirmation email and the printed Guest Guide in each unit, but it is not included in the online version of the Guest Guide on our website.)

- **Windows** - To open the casement windows, flip the lock levers on both sides of the window trim to unlock the windows, and then flip up and rotate the handle at the bottom of the sill. To open sliding glass doors, turn locks from inside. Please close and re-lock the windows and sliding glass doors when you leave the house.
- **Window Shades** - The Lucky Duck is outfitted with window shades for privacy and light control. In the Living/Dining room and in the Master/Primary bathroom, where it would be hard to reach manual shade pulls, you'll find round white disks on the walls with control buttons to raise or lower individual or all shades. In the Living/Dining room, that control is in the corner of the Dining area. In the Master/Primary bathroom, that control is near the light switches next to the door. The 2 upstairs bedrooms with sliding doors to private decks have vertical shade panels that can be partially opened

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities

with pull rods, to allow access to the decks. All other windows have manual blind cord pull loops, which should be moved slowly and carefully to avoid damage.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Boat Dock and Beach Amenities

The Lucky Duck's waterfront area has been thoughtfully outfitted to help you truly enjoy vacationing next to the lake, and to help you keep yourself, your family and your guests safe.

**Please see the ["Boat House, Dock and Beach Rules"](#) and ["How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs"](#) sections of this guide for rules and procedures for using the waterfront amenities described below. It's important to put waterfront items away at the end of each day, as storms can (and indeed have) caused items to blow into the water and sink or float away, and you will be responsible for any that are lost or damaged.**

### **GUESTS ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR USE OF BOAT DOCK AND BEACH AMENITIES:**

**THE LUCKY DUCK AND ITS OWNERS EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY RELATED TO THE USE OR MISUSE OF THE BOAT DOCK, BEACH, WATERFRONT OR ANY EQUIPMENT OR AMENITY ON THOSE. GUESTS ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY USE OR MISUSE OF BOAT DOCK, WATERFRONT AND BEACH AMENITIES.**

The following list of amenities on the Boat House, Dock, and Beach (with descriptions of how to find and use them) is organized alphabetically to help you find what you want to know, and includes links to online user manuals for more detailed instructions on selected items (*please see the electronic version of this document on our website to use those links*):

- **Adirondack Chair Set on Swim and Sun Platform** – You'll find a set of Adirondack Chairs, complete with retractable ottomans and a small table, either in the Boat House or secured via clips on the Sun and Swim Platform of the Dock. You're welcome to move them to where you want them in the sun, or shade, or facing your favorite angle of the fabulous view, but please re-secure them at the end of the day so that they are not blown or washed into the lake.
- **Adirondack Chair Set on Beach** – There's another set of Adirondack Chairs on the Beach, forming a nice sitting area if you're watching over small children at the water's edge. Please keep the furniture a safe distance from the water line, as the lake level can vary by 1-2 feet over a 24-hour period, and you may awake to find it higher than the previous day.
- **Beach** – The Lucky Duck owns approximately half of the sandy beach area you can access from the stairs at the end of the pathway next to the water. (Please avoid encroaching onto our neighbor's half of the Beach.) The Lucky Duck's part of the Beach includes an Adirondack chair set for your use, and also contains the rack where The Lucky Duck's paddleboard and kayaks are stored. It's the perfect spot to hang out with small children at the water's edge, or to launch the kayaks or paddleboards.
- **Bucket and Sand Toys** – We keep a mesh bag in the Boat House with a plastic pail, shovel, watering can, and other sand toys for little ones to enjoy on the Beach. Please use these for outdoor play on the Beach instead of our kitchen amenities!

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Boat Dock and Beach Amenities

- **Foam Noodles** - You'll find some foam noodles in the Boat House. Please note that they are just water toys, not life preservers!
- **Kayaks and Paddles** - The Lucky Duck keeps four single-rider ["Tribe" sit-on-top kayaks](#) on a rack at the Beach, each with a comfortable, high-frame seat back. **For your safety, the kayaks can only be launched from the beach - never from the dock.** The paddles are stored in the Boat House. (The paddles for the kayaks are the ones with blades on both ends.) **Ski Vests (the ones with arm holes, not the slim Belts) are required when using kayaks or paddleboard.** If you are interested in having the use of additional kayaks during your stay, you may want to contact [Lake Gaston Outfitters](#), who sold us these kayaks and who rent similar equipment. There are additional sources listed in the ["Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston"](#) section.
- **LaFuma Zero Gravity Folding Recliner Chairs** - You'll find 4 comfy [LaFuma Zero Gravity](#) reclining lounge chairs folded up in the Boat House. Please feel free to enjoy them while you're on the Swim Platform, but please put them away when you leave the Dock each day, as storms can definitely blow these lightweight chairs across the Dock and into the water! (Don't ask us how we know...)
- **Paddleboard and Paddle** - The Lucky Duck has a paddleboard that is stored on the rack at the beach. **For your safety, the paddleboard should only be launched from the beach - never from the dock.** There is an adjustable-height paddle for it that is stored in the Boat House. (The paddle for the paddleboard is the one with a single blade on one end, and a handle on the other end.) Take care to avoid breaking off the fin on the bottom of the paddleboard, by laying the paddleboard on its side or upside down on the Beach, and by not putting weight on it when the fin is in shallow water and touching the bottom. **Ski Vests (the ones with arm holes, not the slim Belts) are required when using kayaks or paddleboard.** If you are interested in having the use of additional paddleboards during your stay, you may want to contact [Lake Gaston Outfitters](#), who rent similar equipment. There are additional sources listed in the ["Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston"](#) section.
- **Pontoon Boat Electric Lift** - If you plan to rent or bring your own pontoon boat, you're in luck! The Lucky Duck provides a large rectangular boat slip with a electric lift with a hybrid cradle designed to lift either a Pontoon Boat or v-hull boat weighing **up to 4,000 lbs. and up to 25 feet** in length. **Before using it, please carefully read the instructions in the ["Boat House, Dock and Beach Rules"](#) and ["How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs"](#) sections.**
- **PWC Electric Lifts** - Whether you're renting a couple of PWCs or bringing your own, there's no need to beach or anchor them; The Lucky Duck can help you store them safely and in style. The Boat Dock has two PWC electric lifts that can each lift **up to 1,500 lbs.**, with surround

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Boat Dock and Beach Amenities

platforms for the convenience of the driver. **Before using the PWC Lift(s), please carefully read the instructions in the [“Boat House, Dock and Beach Rules”](#) and [“How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs”](#) sections.**

- **Ski Belts** - We strongly recommend swimming with either a ski belt (for strong swimmers) or a ski vest (for smaller children, less skilled or confident swimmers, or anyone who'd rather just float effortlessly). Ski Belts made with flotation foam, in multiple sizes to fit a wide range of children and adults, can be found on the shelves in the Boat House.
- **Ski/Flotation Vests** - **Ski/Flotation/Life Vests are required by NC law when boating, kayaking or paddleboarding.** Additionally, we strongly recommend swimming with either a ski belt (for strong swimmers) or a ski vest (for smaller children, less skilled or confident swimmers, or anyone who'd rather just float effortlessly). Ski/Flotation Vests, in a wide range of sizes to fit infants, children and adults, can be found on coat hangers in the Boat House.
- **Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Electric Boat Lift** - If you want to rent or bring your own ski/wakeboarding/runabout (i.e., “regular” v-hull boat), The Lucky Duck has you covered! Our Boat Dock has a pointed boat slip with an electric lift designed specifically for this style of boat that can lift a boat **up to 8,000 lbs. and up to 25 feet** in length. It also has another rectangular boat slip with an electric lift with a hybrid cradle designed to lift either a Pontoon Boat or v-hull boat weighing **up to 4,000 lbs. and up to 25 feet** in length. **Before using either one, please carefully read the instructions in the [“Boat House, Dock and Beach Rules”](#) and [“How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs”](#) sections.**
- **Swim Ladder** - The Lucky Duck has a metal swim ladder at the end of the Sun and Swim Platform on the Boat Dock. It can be tilted up out of the water when it's not in use, so that it doesn't become slimy with algae. Please help us keep it clean by tilting it up at the end of the day!
- **Swim Saddle Floats** - You'll find multiple swim saddle foam floats in the Boat House. They're very comfortable to sit on while wearing a Ski Belt if you prefer to relax and not expend much effort while floating in the lake.
- **Throw Ring and Life-Line** - There is a white throw ring with rope handles, and an orange throw rope that can be tossed to a swimmer who is struggling to stay afloat in the water. **These are life-saving tools, not toys, and are for emergency use only.** Please do not use them unless you need to rescue a swimmer.
- **Water Toys** - In addition to foam noodles, there are generally a few other miscellaneous water toys (goggles, water squirters, beach toys, etc.) on the shelves in the Boat House.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

### **Pre-Requisites for Using The Lucky Duck's Boat Dock:**

**The Boat House has 2 boat slips with electric Lifts (one for a V-Hull Runabout or Ski/Wakeboarding Boat and another one with a hybrid cradle that can be used for a 2<sup>nd</sup> V-Hull Boat or a Pontoon Boat) and 2 electric Personal Watercraft (PWC) Lifts.** These make it much easier and safer for you to park watercraft that you rent or bring to Lake Gaston. However, these **boat and PWC Lifts are to be used ONLY by guests who have done ALL of the following:**

1. **Carefully read and agreed to follow our written instructions on use of our Boat Lifts, and also**
2. **Earned a Boater Education certification card from NC, VA, or another state recognized by NC Wildlife Resources Commission.** (If you need to complete an instructor-led or online course to obtain your Boater Education certification card, you can find information on how to do that at in advance of your stay at <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Boating/Marina-Resources/Boating-Education-Courses.>)
3. **Confirmed with all boat and PWC operators our STRICT House Rule that Boats or PWCs shall NOT be operated within 100 feet of any neighboring boathouse or beach or within 100 feet of any swimmer, and shall NOT be driven above idle speed within 100 feet of The Lucky Duck beach or boathouse.**

### **Lifts are not toys:**

PWC and Boat Lifts are powerful electrical equipment. If overloaded, their cables can snap without warning, leading to severe injury. Please note that our electric Lifts have different weight capacities; you need to know your crafts' weight and confirm that our Lifts can accommodate them before you bring them! Cables should not be grasped, as they can cause metal splinters. Please do not allow children to touch motor boxes, touch switches, touch cables, operate Lifts, sit or walk on Lift cradles or surrounds, ride on Lifts, jump off of Lifts or swim under or near Lifts.

### **GUESTS ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR USE OF BOAT AND PWC LIFTS:**

Lifts are provided as conveniences to allow guests to have easy access to boats and PWCs. The instructions in this Guest Guide are meant to assist guests in using the Lifts safely. However, **THE LUCKY DUCK AND ITS OWNERS EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY RELATED TO THE USE OR MISUSE OF THE BOAT AND PWC LIFTS. GUESTS ASSUME ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY USE OR MISUSE OF BOAT AND PWC LIFTS.**

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

### **Boats or PWCs MUST be raised on Lifts and may NOT be left tied to the Dock:**

**Boats and PWCs may NOT be left floating and tied to the Dock**, even if floating inside boat slips over submerged Boat Lifts, because wind, waves, and wakes from passing boats will cause watercraft to be slammed against the Dock, which may damage the Dock and/or the watercraft. **Boats and PWCs MUST BE RAISED ON A LIFT when parked at the Dock.**

**This means that guests can have no more than the following 4 watercraft parked at The Lucky Duck:**

- **One (1) Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout (i.e., "Regular" NON-Pontoon or solid/V-hull) boat up to 25 feet** in length and weighing **up to 7500 lbs.**
- **One (1) Pontoon or v-hull boat up to 25 feet** in length and weighing **up to 3000 lbs.**
- **Up to Two (2) Personal Watercraft (PWCs)** weighing **up to 1500 lbs each**

### **Boat and PWC Rentals and Fuel:**

If you choose to bring or rent a boat or PWC at Lake Gaston, please see the ["Things to Do In and Around Lake Gaston"](#) section of this guide for local businesses that provide rentals and fuel.

### **Access Area with Boat Ramp:**

If you bring your own boat or PWC to Lake Gaston on a trailer, you will need an access area with a boat ramp to launch it. The neighborhood ramp is on an unmarked driveway located adjacent to 544 Ferncliff Rd. The driveway may be locked with a chain and padlock, but if it is, it can be accessed with a lock code that will be provided in the confirmation email that will be sent after you book and pay for a stay. The driveway down to the ramp is a bit narrow, curves over some tree roots, and may be tricky to use if you have a large trailer or aren't experienced in backing a trailer. This ramp may not accommodate all boats or trailers. **We make no representation that this ramp is appropriate to launch your boat from your trailer using your vehicle, and neither The Lucky Duck nor the Ferncliff Property Owners Association shall be liable for injury or damage to your boat or vehicle if you use this boat ramp.**

If you use the neighborhood ramp, please do not leave a trailer parked on the ramp lot, and please replace the lock if it was locked when you arrived. If you prefer using a larger commercial boat ramp (some of which allow trailer parking for a fee), some nearby options include:

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

- Salmon Landing Boat Ramp, 129 Salmon Landing Rd, Littleton, NC (near Stonehouse Timber Lodge, 7.4 miles by land but about half that by water)
- Eaton Ferry Marina, 1865 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (near south end of Eaton Ferry Bridge, 9.1 miles by land but about half that by water)
- Southpoint Marina, 1835 Eaton Ferry Rd, Littleton, NC (near south end of Eaton Ferry Bridge, 9.2 miles by land but about half that by water)

**Before going by land to an access area to put your trailered boat or PWC(s) into the water, or to pick up a rental boat or PWC(s), please follow the procedures in this section to lower the boat or PWC Lift(s) that you will need to use to park the boat or PWC(s) when you return by water.**

**Please carefully review and adhere to the following specific procedures for using the electric Lifts for Pontoon Boats, Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout (i.e., “regular” or v-hull) Boats, and PWCs.** The procedures are similar but vary a little for each type of Lift, so please review all procedures that apply to the type(s) of watercraft you want to park at The Lucky Duck.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

### **BOAT LIFT PROCEDURES FOR PONTOON BOATS (OR PUTTING V-HULL BOAT ON HYBRID CRADLE LIFT):**

**The Lucky Duck's electric Pontoon Boat Lift has a hybrid cradle that can also accommodate a V-Hull Boat, and it is rated to handle up to 4,000 lbs.** Be sure to check the total combined hull weight of your boat (its own weight, not its weight capacity for loading it with people), plus its outboard motor, full fuel tanks (gas weighs a little over 6 lbs per gallon, so 30 gallons of gas = 180lbs, for example), and any gear on board. **If the total combined weight of your Boat is heavier than our hybrid Pontoon Lift rating, then:**

- **If it's a Pontoon boat, you cannot Lift (or park) it at The Lucky Duck.**
- **If it's a V-Hull boat, it must be parked on the other Lift that has two motors instead of one, which is specifically designed for heavier Ski/Wakeboard/Runabout V-Hulls** (please see separate instructions in this section for that Lift).

**To LOWER a Pontoon Boat or V-Hull Boat on the hybrid Pontoon Boat cradle** (OR to LOWER that hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time):

1. **Locate the hybrid Pontoon Boat slip;** it's the one farthest from the swim ladder and Dock Storage Closet (and closest to the PWC Lifts and Beach). It is large and rectangular in shape, labelled with a sign, and has a hybrid Boat Lift cradle that can handle a boat with either 2 pontoons or a V-Hull.
2. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the Boat slip or Dock, and that no one (and nothing) is under the Boat Lift to be lowered.
3. **Check to confirm that the red "Kill Switch" lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won't have power, so put the "Kill Switch" into the ON position before proceeding.)
4. **Move the hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift switch to the DOWN position to submerge the Boat Lift** far enough into the water so that the boat can freely float over the hybrid boat cradle of the Lift. **WATCH to see that the cables are lowering the Lift;** if the cables are raising it, move the switch to the other position. If nothing is moving, check the "Kill Switch" position to be sure the Lift should have power, and then try pressing the GCFI reset button on the power cord above the switch. **WATCH to see when the Lift is low enough; STOP lowering the Lift as soon as the metal cradle is**

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

**submerged and Boat can freely float over the cradle in the middle of the Lift** (with a little extra room to allow the boat to sink slightly lower into the water as people enter and cargo is put on); **Do NOT allow the cables to fully unwind on the Lift rods.**

5. Assist passengers to safely enter the Boat once it is floating, and ensure you have enough Coast Guard approved life preservers for the number of people onboard.
6. Instruct passengers to sit down and keep hands, heads, and all items safely inside the boat while you exit the Dock.
7. Turn on the Boat, and check to be sure there no other watercraft or swimmers have moved in behind or near you.
8. **SLOWLY and carefully reverse the Boat out of the boat slip.**
9. **Maintain an idle/no wake speed until fully clear of and at least 100 feet away from The Lucky Duck's Dock (and neighbors' Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.

### **To LIFT a Pontoon Boat (or raise a V-Hull Boat on the hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift):**

1. **Drop to an idle/no wake speed BEFORE you are within 100 feet of The Lucky Duck's Dock (or any neighbors' Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.
2. **Locate the hybrid Pontoon Boat slip;** it's the one farthest from the swim ladder and Dock Storage Closet (and closest to the PWC Lifts and Beach). It is rectangular in shape, labelled with a sign, and has a hybrid Boat Lift cradle that can handle a boat with either 2 pontoons or a V-Hull.
3. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the hybrid Pontoon Boat slip.
4. **IF the Lift is not already lowered,** communicate with someone on the Dock to lower the hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift using the separate (immediately preceding) instructions for Lowering a Pontoon Boat (OR Lowering the hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time).

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

5. **SLOWLY and carefully drive the Boat into the boat slip over the submerged hybrid Pontoon Boat Lift**, centering the boat over the part of the cradle that align with your Boat's Pontoons or V-Hull, and reversing gently and briefly once when inside to avoid damaging the Dock or boat. (Boats don't have brakes - you will need to use the reverse gear to stop your forward momentum.)
6. **Turn OFF the boat.**
7. **Empty ALL people and cargo out of the boat before attempting to raise the Lift.** This is very important, because a full boat can have thousands of additional pounds of weight, and this additional weight may damage the Lift or cables, or even cause the Lift cables to snap, which could cause severe injuries to nearby people and damage to the Dock, Lift, or Boat.
8. Leaning over carefully from the Dock, use your hands (and those of someone helping you) to **re-center the emptied boat over the Lift** as needed.
9. **Check to confirm that the red "Kill Switch" lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won't have power, so put the "Kill Switch" into the ON position before proceeding.)
10. **Use the UP switch on the column near the slip to raise the Boat** out of the water. **WATCH** to see if the Boat is correctly centered on the cradle structure. If not, lower it and return to step 8 above. **WATCH the height of the boat** (and any shade covering on it) **and stop the Lift with several feet to spare between the tallest part of the boat and the ceiling of the Dock.** Over-raising the boat could damage the Lift, the Dock or the boat. You only need to get the bottom of the Lift cradle a few feet out of the water so the boat isn't slammed into the Dock by waves; you don't need to raise the Boat very high.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

### **BOAT LIFT PROCEDURES FOR SKI/WAKEBOARDING/RUNABOUT** (i.e., "Regular NON-Pontoon, Solid/V-Hull) **BOATS:**

**The Lucky Duck's specialized electric Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift is rated to handle a V-Hull Boat up to 8,000 lbs.** Be sure to check the total combined hull weight of your boat (its own weight, not its weight capacity for loading it with people), plus its outboard motor (if applicable), full fuel tanks (gas weighs a little over 6 lbs per gallon, so 60 gallons of gas = 360lbs, for example), and any gear on board. **If the total combined weight of your Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat is heavier than our Lift rating, then you cannot lift (or park) it at The Lucky Duck.**

**To LOWER a SKI/WAKEBOARDING/RUNABOUT Boat** (OR to LOWER the SKI/WAKEBOARDING/RUNABOUT Boat Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time):

1. **Locate the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat slip;** it's the one closest to the swim ladder and Dock Storage Closet (and farthest from the PWC Lifts and Beach). It is pointed in shape, labelled with a sign, and has a cradle that doesn't include support for pontoons.
2. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the Boat slip or Dock, and that no one (and nothing) is under the Boat Lift to be lowered.
3. **Check to confirm that the red "Kill Switch" lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won't have power, so put the "Kill Switch" into the ON position before proceeding.)
4. **Note that the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift has TWO (2) separate, side-by-side UP/DOWN SWITCHES.** The 2 separate switches control its 2 separate motors: one for the left rod and cables, and one for the right rod and cables. The 2 switches generally must be operated together to keep both sides of the Lift level and moving in sync, and to avoid tilting the Boat Lift to either side. (If AND ONLY IF the Lift cradle doesn't appear level for some reason, you can and should operate just one switch to re-level it.)
5. **Move BOTH of the 2 Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift switches to the DOWN position to submerge the Boat Lift** far enough into the water so that the boat can freely float over the two parallel beams in the middle of the Lift. **WATCH to see that the cables are lowering the Lift;** if the cables are raising it, move the switches to the other position. If nothing is moving,

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

check the "Kill Switch" position to be sure the Lift should have power, and then try pressing the GCFI reset button on the power cord above the switch.

**WATCH to see when the Lift is low enough; STOP lowering the Lift as soon as the boat can freely float over the parallel beams in the middle of the Lift** (with a little extra room to allow the boat to sink slightly lower into the water as people enter and cargo is put on); **Do NOT allow the cables to fully unwind on the Lift rods.**

6. Assist passengers to safely enter the boat once it is floating, and ensure you have enough Coast Guard approved life preservers for the number of people onboard.
7. Instruct passengers to sit down and keep hands, heads, and all items safely inside the boat while you exit the Dock.
8. Turn on the Boat, and check to be sure there no other watercraft or swimmers have moved in behind or near you.
9. **SLOWLY and carefully reverse the Boat out of the boat slip.**
10. **Maintain an idle/no wake speed until fully clear of and at least 100 feet away from The Lucky Duck's Dock (and neighbors' Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.

### To LIFT a **SKI/WAKEBOARDING/RUNABOUT Boat:**

1. **Drop to an idle/no wake speed BEFORE you are within 100 feet of The Lucky Duck's Dock (or any neighbors' Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.
2. **EMPTY YOUR WATER BALLAST tanks** if using a wakeboarding / wakesurfing boat that has these. Each gallon of water in your ballast tanks adds about 8.35 lbs of weight to your boat, so depending on the size of your boat and the capacity of its tanks, full ballast tanks could increase its weight by 1500 to 2000 lbs - or more. The Lucky Duck's Boat Lift is designed to raise an EMPTY boat, and the additional weight of full water ballast tanks may cause damage to the Lift or Dock, which may cause damage to the Boat or injury to people nearby.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

3. **Locate the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat slip**; it's the one closest to the swim ladder and Dock Storage Closet (and farthest from the PWC Lifts and Beach). It is pointed in shape, labelled with a sign, and has a lower support structure over the Boat Lift cradle than the Pontoon Boat Lift.
4. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the Boat slip or Dock.
5. **IF the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift is not already lowered**, communicate with someone on the Dock to lower the Boat Lift using the separate instructions that follow for Lowering a Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat (OR Lowering the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time).
6. **SLOWLY and carefully drive the Boat into the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat slip over the submerged Boat Lift**, reversing gently and briefly once when inside to avoid damaging the Dock or boat. (Boats don't have brakes - you will need to use the reverse gear to stop your forward momentum.)
7. **TURN OFF the boat**, and check to see that any navigation lights, bilge pump, bilge ventilation fan, and battery switch (if your boat has these) are in the OFF position to avoid draining your battery.
8. **Empty ALL people and cargo out of the boat and confirm that water ballast tanks (if your wakeboarding /wakesurfing boat has these) are FULLY EMPTY before attempting to raise the Boat Lift.** This is very important, because a full boat can have thousands of additional pounds of weight, and this additional weight may damage the Lift or its cables, or even cause the Lift cables to snap, which could cause severe injuries to people and damage to the Dock, Lift, or Boat.
9. Leaning over carefully from the Dock, use your hands (and those of someone helping you) to **re-center the emptied boat over the Lift** as needed.
10. **Check to confirm that the red "Kill Switch" lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won't have power, so put the "Kill Switch" into the ON position before proceeding.)
11. **Note that the Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift has TWO (2) separate, side-by-side UP/DOWN SWITCHES.** The 2 separate switches

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

control its 2 separate motors, one for the left rod and cables and one for the right rod and cables. The 2 switches generally must be operated together to keep both sides of the Lift level and moving in sync, and to avoid tilting the Boat Lift to either side. (If AND ONLY IF the Lift cradle doesn't appear level for some reason, you can and should operate just one switch to re-level it.)

12. **Move BOTH of the 2 Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout Boat Lift switches to the UP position to RAISE the Boat Lift. WATCH to see that the cables are raising the Lift;** if the cables are lowering it, move the switches to the other position. If nothing is moving, check the "Kill Switch" position to be sure the Lift should have power, and then try pressing the GCFI reset button on the power cord above the switch. **WATCH** to see that the Boat is correctly centered on the cradle. If not, lower the Lift, re-center the Boat, and return to step 9 above. **WATCH the height of the boat** (and any towing tower or shade covering on it) **and stop the Lift with several feet to spare between the boat and the ceiling of the Dock.** Over-raising the boat could damage the Lift, the Dock or the Boat. You only need to get the Boat Lift cradle a few feet out of the water so the boat isn't slammed into the Dock by waves; you don't need to raise the boat very high.

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

### **PWC LIFT PROCEDURES FOR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT (aka PWCs or JetSkis):**

Please note that The Lucky Duck has two identical PWC Lifts, and these instructions apply to either of those Lifts.

**Each one of The Lucky Duck's electric PWC Lifts is rated to handle up to 1500 lbs.** Be sure to check the total combined hull weight of your PWC (its own weight, not its weight capacity for loading it with people), plus a full fuel tank (gas weighs a little over 6 lbs per gallon, so 15 gallons of fuel = 90lbs), any gear on board, and the weight of your driver. **If the total combined weight of your PWC plus driver is heavier than our Lift rating, then you cannot lift (or park) it at The Lucky Duck.**

**Safely raising or lowering a PWC with our Lift(s) requires more than 1 person.** One or more helpers are necessary on the Dock for the driver to safely park or launch without injury to the driver or damage to the PWC, Lift or Dock.

(Note: If you only have one PWC, the easiest PWC Lift in which to park and from which to re-launch is the one closest to the deep end of the Dock.)

**To LOWER a PWC** (OR to LOWER the PWC Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time):

1. **Locate the PWC Lifts;** they're the 2 identical power Lifts attached to the side of the Boat House closest to the Beach. They're outside the Boat House roof, and smaller than the Boat Lifts in the slips under the roof. They're labelled with a sign, and they have a white surround that wraps around the parallel support beams for the PWC. (Note: The easiest PWC Lift in which to park and from which to re-launch is the one closest to the deep end of the Dock.)
2. **Confirm that the rider(s) are prepared to board.** Ensure that the driver has their Boating Safety Certification card (and a credit card or cash if they need to gas up at a marina, and a phone if they want one) in a waterproof bag in the PWC dry storage compartment. Ensure that the driver has their ignition lanyard attached to their wrist, all riders are wearing ski vests, and the PWC has enough fuel to complete the ride (or get to a marina).
3. **Assist the driver to board the PWC.** The driver should confirm their waterproof bag is secured, and attach their lanyard cable to the Kill Switch on the PWC, so they are prepared to turn on the PWC **AFTER** it's lowered

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## How to Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs

and freely floating. Any additional rider should wait until the PWC is freely floating to board.

4. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the PWC Lifts or Beach area, and that no one (and nothing) is under the PWC Lift to be lowered.
5. **Check to confirm that the red “Kill Switch” lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won't have power, so put the “Kill Switch” into the ON position before proceeding.)
6. **Move the PWC Lift switch to the DOWN position to submerge the PWC Lift** far enough into the water so that the PWC can freely float over the two parallel beams in the middle of the Lift. **WATCH to see that the cables are lowering the Lift;** if the cables are raising it, move the switches to the other position. If nothing is moving, check the “Kill Switch” position to be sure the Lift should have power, and then try pressing the GCFI reset button on the power cord above the switch. **WATCH to see when the Lift is low enough; STOP lowering the Lift as soon as the PWC can freely float over the parallel beams in the middle of the Lift; Do NOT allow the cables to fully unwind on the Lift.**
7. Assist any additional riders to safely board the PWC once it is freely floating but before the driver starts the engine.
8. Manually push the PWC away from the Dock.
9. **Check to be sure no other watercraft or swimmers have moved in behind or near the PWC.**
10. **Turn ON** the PWC.
11. **SLOWLY steer the PC away from the Dock, Beach and shore,** looking carefully for other boat traffic as you exit the Dock area.
12. **Maintain an idle/no wake speed until fully clear of and at least 100 feet away from The Lucky Duck’s Dock (and neighbors’ Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.

### To LIFT a PWC:

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1. **Drop to an idle/no wake speed BEFORE you are within 100 feet of The Lucky Duck's Dock (or any neighbors' Docks).** It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.
2. **Locate the PWC Lifts;** they're the 2 identical power Lifts attached to the side of the Boat House closest to the Beach. They're outside the Boat House roof, and smaller than the Boat Lifts in the slips under the roof. They're labelled with a sign, and they have a white surround that wraps around the parallel support beams for the PWC. (Note: The easiest one to in which to park and from which to re-launch is the one closest to the deep water end of the Dock.)
3. **Ensure that there are no swimmers anywhere near** the PWC slip or Beach area.
4. **IF the PWC Lift is not already lowered,** communicate with someone on the Dock to lower the PWC Lift using the separate instructions in this section for Lowering a PWC (OR Lowering the PWC Lift in preparation for parking at the Dock for the first time).
5. **SLOWLY and carefully drive the PWC toward the submerged PWC Lift.**
6. **When close to the PWC Lift, slow the PWC's forward momentum by reversing gently and VERY briefly, and then cut OFF the power.** (PWCs don't have brakes, and most move forward while "idling" - you will likely need to use the reverse gear to slow your forward momentum before cutting the power.)
7. Allow the PWC's remaining small forward momentum to **glide it in slowly to avoid damaging the Dock, the Lift or the PWC.**
8. **Assist any passengers to get off the PWC** and onto the Dock to avoid unnecessary additional weight while raising the PWC. The driver should stay on board and hold onto a grab bar on the side of the Dock to keep the PWC in place over the Lift.
9. If waves are moving the PWC around, then others on the Dock should carefully lean out to help hold the PWC in place and pull or push the PWC to re-center it over the Lift as needed.

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10. The PWC should be centered over the submerged parallel Lift beams, which are going to completely hold its weight as it is lifted. While the elevated (shallow) front part of the hull of a large PWC may extend slightly over the submerged white surround, the rear jet drive mechanism should be just inside the white surround, so that once the PWC is raised, **NO PART OF THE PWC HULL OR ITS JET DRIVE SHOULD REST ON THE WHITE PLASTIC SURROUND.**
11. **Check to confirm that the red “Kill Switch” lever is in the ON position.** (If it is in the OFF position, the Lift won’t have power, so put the “Kill Switch” into the ON position before proceeding.)
12. **Move the PWC Lift switch to the UP position to RAISE the PWC Lift. WATCH to see that the cables are raising the Lift;** if the cables are lowering it, move the switch to the other position. If nothing is moving, check the “Kill Switch” position to be sure the Lift should have power, and then try pressing the GCFI reset button on the power cord above the switch. **WATCH the height of the PWC and STOP THE LIFT once the white surround is level with the surface of the decking on the Dock.** Over-raising the PWC could damage the Lift, the Dock or the PWC. You only need to get the PWC Lift cradle a few feet out of the water so the PWC isn’t slammed into the Dock by waves; you don’t need to raise the PWC very high.
13. **Confirm that the PWC is correctly centered on the Lift.** The PWC hull should be centered over the parallel Lift beams, which should hold the PWC’s entire weight. **NO PART OF THE PWC HULL OR ITS REAR JET DRIVE MECHANISM SHOULD TOUCH OR REST ON THE WHITE PLASTIC SURROUND. If any part of the PWC is resting on the white plastic surround, then the PWC must be lowered, re-centered, and re-raised.** (Return to step 9 in these instructions.)
14. **Once the PWC is correctly raised on the Lift, assist the driver to disembark,** and remind them to remove their waterproof bag with their Boating Safety Certification card (and cash/credit card and phone if they carried one) from the PWC dry storage compartment.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Overview

**The House Rules section of this guide (and all sub-sections providing rules on specific topics) should be reviewed by both the primary guest before signing the contract, and ALL adult guests before arriving at the rental.**

The principles behind the specific rules that follow can be boiled down to:

- **Take proper care to keep yourself, your guests, and the property safe.**
- **Respect the property and do not remove or damage any part of it.**
- **Respect the neighbors and the Ferncliff community, and avoid being a nuisance to others' enjoyment of their lake experience.**

Understanding the specific rules that follow is important:

- **To avoid injury** of you, your guests or others.
- **To qualify for a preferred renter discount** on a future rental if you'd like to return to The Lucky Duck.
- **To avoid citations** from local law enforcement (on or off the water).
- **To avoid fines or additional fees** when the property is inspected and cleaned after your stay.
- **To avoid having your rental cancelled without refund**, and being asked to leave the premises immediately.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Age and Occupancy Limits

### **NO HOUSE PARTIES:**

The Lucky Duck rents to family groups and friend groups consisting of responsible adults over the age of 25. The Lucky Duck does not allow house parties or events, including weddings, receptions, bachelor or bachelorette parties, graduation parties, fundraisers, etc. It also does not rent to fraternities, sororities, youth or young adult sports teams, youth or young adult clubs, or other groups primarily consisting of unrelated young people under the age of 25, even if "chaperoned" by an older adult. Violation of this rule is cause for immediate cancellation of the rental without refund.

### **MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT:**

**Guests must include at least one adult over 25 years of age who both signs the Vacation Rental Agreement, and also stays in the home for the entire rental period.** Persons under the age of 25 must be accompanied by parent, legal guardian or supervising adult (age 25+) at all times while at the property.

### **OCCUPANCY LIMITS:**

**The Lucky Duck has a maximum capacity of 14 guests over the age of 2. Up to 3 additional infants in guest-provided portable cribs may be accommodated as well.**

The guest capacity of individual rooms is as follows:

- 2 in Cottage bedroom with Queen bed and private patio. (This room also has enough space to add a single guest-provided portable crib.)
- 2 in Main House downstairs bedroom with Queen bed.
- 2 in Main House upstairs bedroom with Queen bed and private deck.
- 1 in Flex Room A with Twin XL bed (connecting to upstairs Queen bedroom and to hallway).
- 2 in Main House upstairs bedroom with King bed.
- 1 in Flex Room B with Twin XL bed (connecting to upstairs King bedroom and to hallway).
- 4 in Main House Primary/Master bedroom with King bed, pull-out Queen sofa-bed and private deck. (This large room also has enough space to add up to 3 guest-provided portable cribs for babies.)

With the exception of the pullout Queen sofa-bed in the Primary/Master bedroom, sofas (and in particular living room sectional sofas) are not sleeper sofas; guests should sleep in beds or the pullout Queen sofa-bed, and not on living room furniture.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Age and Occupancy Limits

**Guests are not allowed to park, install or use RVs, campers, tents, or any other temporary housing on the lot.** Guests are not allowed to bring air mattresses, sleeping bags, or any other temporary beds to The Lucky Duck, with the exception of up to 3 portable cribs for infants up to age 2.

**The Lucky Duck Main House and cottage and lot may not be used or occupied by more than 14 non-infant guests plus 3 infants. The occupancy limit is not restricted to overnight guests; it applies to the number of guests on-site at any time.** (For clarity, a daytime (i.e., non-overnight) visit or event that exceeds the occupancy limit is not allowed, even if the day guests do not stay until the next morning.) This policy is important to protect our septic system, to avoid parking overflow into streets or landscaped areas, to avoid property damage, and to prevent noise or crowds from annoying our neighbors. The occupancy limit is monitored with exterior cameras, and direct observations of owners and neighbors, and it is strictly enforced. **Violating the occupancy limit may result in fines and/or being required to immediately vacate the premises before the end of the rental period WITHOUT REFUND.**

### **FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

**We designed The Lucky Duck with family vacations in mind**, and we hope that families with children will enjoy their time at our lake house. The maximum occupancy of 14 adults or children over the age of 2 can be expanded to include up to 3 infants or small toddlers who sleep in portable cribs supplied by guests.

The 2 small Flex rooms in the upstairs of the Main House each have a Twin XL bed. Those small Flex rooms each have a connecting door that opens to an upstairs bedroom, as well as a separate door to the hallway. This allows the small Flex rooms to be used either for young children who need to be in connecting rooms with parents, or for older children who will enjoy having a small private room with its own door to the hall. The Primary/Master upstairs bedroom in the Main House is perfect for young families, as it has a King bed, a Queen pullout sofa-bed, and room for multiple guest-supplied portable cribs.

The Lucky Duck provides a highchair, a toddler booster seat with eating tray, and toddler-friendly dishes, flatware, and sippy cups. However, families will need to bring their own strollers, port-a-cribs and crib bedding, and age-appropriate toys. The Lucky Duck provides books, puzzles, and board games for a range of ages, including children. However, **parents should be aware that the home (including its games, stairs, electrical outlets and cabinets), Boat Dock and waterfront area are not "child-proofed."** In addition to the normal care you take with your children when traveling, **please take special care to keep your children safe near the water.** Please see the ["Boat House, Dock and Beach Rules"](#) for more on this topic.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Noise Policy

As owners in a residential neighborhood with many permanent residents and relatively few rentals, we are committed to ensuring that The Lucky Duck is not a nuisance to our community (including The Lucky Duck owners who live next door on one side, and their friends who live next door on the other side).

Please remember that sound carries across the water. This is true all day, but particularly so in the evening when the wind, wave, and boat traffic noise tend to die down. We ask our guests to particularly **respect the quiet hours of 9:00 PM to 9:00 AM** to avoid disturbing neighbors.

**Loud music (i.e., music that can be heard by neighbors), parties, yelling, dogs allowed to bark outside, unmuffled or revving engines, horns, fireworks, or ANY EXCESS NOISE LEVELS THAT DISTURB NEIGHBORS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT ANY TIME.**

The good news is that if you are seeking a peaceful rental home in a lovely setting for an upscale and relaxing family vacation, you can find it at The Lucky Duck. The flip side is that if you want to host a loud or rowdy house party, you need to keep looking for another venue, because this rental is not for you. Please do not rent The Lucky Duck with the assumption that you can safely ignore the Noise Policy. The owners live next door on one side, and their friends live next door on the other side; excess noise will be noticed and will not be tolerated.

**If your group is making noise that disturbs neighbors, then you will be considered in violation of this policy, and you may be subject to fines and/or be required to immediately vacate the premises before the end of the rental period WITHOUT REFUND.**

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Boat House, Dock and Beach

**THE BOAT HOUSE, DOCK, BEACH AND WATERFRONT ARE** wonderful spots to enjoy Lake Gaston, but also potentially **DANGEROUS IF NOT USED APPROPRIATELY. GUESTS USE THE BOAT HOUSE, DOCK, BEACH AND WATERFRONT AT THEIR OWN RISK, AND ASSUME COMPLETE LIABILITY FOR ANY LOST OR DAMAGED PROPERTY, AND FOR ANY INJURY OR DEATH THAT RESULTS FROM THEIR USE OF THE WATERFRONT AMENITIES.**

### **Footwear:**

- **We RECOMMEND that guests wear water shoes or sandals whenever they are outside, and particularly when they are in the yard or on the walkways, Dock, or Beach area.** The Dock has Trex recycled plastic decking; it is hot when in the summer sun and can be slippery when wet. The Beach is sandy but can have sharp objects that may wash up (e.g., fishing hooks, nails, glass, rocks, etc.) and lurk beneath the top layer of sand.

### **Swimming:**

- **DO NOT ENTER THE WATER FROM ANYWHERE OTHER THAN THE BEACH, OR THE OPEN-WATER END OF THE SWIM AND SUN PLATFORM (near the ladder).**
  - The Dock has shallow water, tree stumps, and rocks under the parts of it that are closest to the shoreline and beach. It is not safe to dive, jump, or enter the water from the narrow walkways used to access the boat slips or PWC slips on the Dock.
  - Similarly, when the Boat Lifts are lowered there are heavy metal frames in the water, and when the Boat Lifts are raised, there is a risk that a cable could snap and the Lift and Boat could fall.
  - **DO NOT EVER DIVE, JUMP OR SWIM IN THE BOAT SLIPS OR UNDER THE PWC LIFTS,** regardless of the position of the Lifts. **The ONLY place it is safe to enter the water from the Boat Dock is from the open-water end of the swim and sun platform in front of the Boat House storage closet, where the swim ladder is located.**
- **DO NOT DIVE.** We RECOMMEND entering the water by going down the ladder or walking in from the Beach, or JUMPING WITH CARE FROM THE OPEN WATER END OF THE SWIM PLATFORM NEAR THE LADDER. Please note that even though the water is generally deep near the ladder on the swim and sun platform, storms can send partially rotted and submerged logs down the lake, or cause waves that roll rocks

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Boat House, Dock and Beach

from the shoreline farther out into the water. For this reason, it's safer to jump rather than dive into the water.

- **AN ADULT MUST ACCOMPANY CHILDREN under the age of 12 (or any child of any age who is not a strong swimmer) WHENEVER THEY ARE ON THE DOCK OR THE BEACH.**
- **WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND that NO ONE SWIM ALONE.** Please note that The Lucky Duck has well-insulated walls, windows and doors, and it's impossible for people inside the house to hear shouts for help from the Dock. All swimmers should have a "buddy" who is either in the water with them or nearby and watching them.
- **We HIGHLY RECOMMEND that ALL SWIMMERS WEAR A SKI VEST OR SKI BELT, regardless of swimming ability.** (Our family and friends do!) The water off the swim and sun platform is deep, and it's impossible to see anything (or anyone) more than a few feet below the surface. If a swimmer gets a cramp, or hits their head on the Dock, or is injured by another swimmer who jumps on top of them, they can slip under the surface and may quickly sink from view. The Boat House storage closet has a rack of life vests, with a wide range of sizes including: Infant, Child, Youth, and Adult S / M / L / XL / XXL. For skilled swimmers, there are also ski belts in sizes S / M / L / XL on the shelves. In addition, you'll find a throw ring and a lifeline in case a swimmer needs assistance. All of these are for your use during your visit to keep you and your guests safe. But they only work if you use them! In addition, you'll find floats and foam noodles for lounging in the water. (These floats and noodles are just for fun, however; they are not life-preserving equipment.)
- **We HIGHLY RECOMMEND that INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (and also older children or adults who are not strong swimmers) WEAR LIFE VESTS not only when they're in the water, but WHENEVER THEY ARE ON THE DOCK OR BEACH.** It's impossible to see a child once they are more than a few feet below the surface; a flotation device offers the best chance of seeing and saving an infant or child who falls into the lake. Please use the provided infant and child-sized life preservers to protect your little ones.
- **We RECOMMEND swimming either near the Beach area or near the swim ladder attached to the sun and swim platform area of the Dock** because swimmers who stray toward the middle of the lake are hard for passing boat drivers to see and avoid.

### **Kayaks, Paddleboard and Water Toys:**

- The Lucky Duck provides 4 kayaks and a paddleboard, with paddles for each, for your use. You'll find the paddles in the Boat House and the kayaks and paddleboard on a

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Boat House, Dock and Beach

rack near the Beach. When using any watercraft provided by The Lucky Duck or parked at The Lucky Duck during your stay, **The Lucky Duck REQUIRES that guests adhere to the NC law that mandates the use of a life vest (i.e., ski vest, not a ski belt) when in a boat or kayak or on a paddleboard.**

- In addition to wearing a properly secured life vest, **we RECOMMEND that you launch the paddleboard and kayaks from the Beach** (to avoid tipping or falling near the Dock where you may hit your head).
- We also **RECOMMEND that you paddle close to the shoreline, not out in the middle of the lake**, where there is more boat traffic and also more waves that may make your kayak or paddleboard unstable.
- **If you use a kayak or paddleboard, before leaving the Beach area you must stow it back on the rack on the Beach, and also secure the paddle back in the Boat House.** (If a storm blows in, these items may be washed off the Beach and float away, or may be damaged, and you will be responsible for their replacement cost.)

### **Boat Dock and Beach:**

- **Glass containers are not permitted on the beach**, for the safety of future guests.
- **Before leaving the Dock each day, you must secure all the items that you originally found in the Boat House.** Please secure the Adirondack Chairs to clips or replace them in the Boat House, replace the folding chairs in the Boat House, replace the life vests on hangers and the ski vests and other floats in the Boat House, and replace the kayak and paddleboard paddles in the Boat House. (If a storm blows in, these items may be blown off the Dock and may be damaged or may sink or float away. You will be responsible for the replacement cost of any missing items.)
- **Loud music (i.e., music that can be heard by neighbors), parties, yelling, dogs allowed to bark outside, unmuffled or revving engines, horns, fireworks, or ANY EXCESS NOISE LEVELS THAT DISTURB NEIGHBORS ARE NOT PERMITTED AT ANY TIME on the Beach or Boat Dock.** (See the [“House Rules: Noise Policy”](#) section for more details.)
- **Boats and PWCs MUST BE RAISED ON A LIFT when parked at the Dock**, following the procedures outlined in the [“How To Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs”](#) section of the Guest Guide. **Boats and PWCs may NOT be left floating and tied to the Dock**, even if floating inside boat slips over submerged Boat Lifts, because wind

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Boat House, Dock and Beach

and waves will cause watercraft to be slammed against the Dock, which may damage the Dock and/or the watercraft.

- **Guests can have no more than the following watercraft parked at The Lucky Duck:**
  - **One (1) Ski/Wakeboarding/Runabout (i.e., "Regular" NON-Pontoon or solid/V-hull) boat** up to 25 ft long and weighing up to **7,500 lbs.**
  - **One (1) Pontoon boat or a 2<sup>nd</sup> V-Hull boat** up to 25 ft long and weighing up to **3,000 lbs.**
  - **Up to Two (2) Personal Watercraft (PWCs)** weighing up to **1,500 lbs each**
- **Boat and PWC Lifts are to be used ONLY by guests who have done ALL of the following:**
  - **Attained 25 years of age or more, and**
  - **CAREFULLY READ and agreed to follow the instructions in the "[How To Use Electric Lifts for Boats and PWCs](#)" section of the Guest Guide,**
  - **Emptied their boat or PWC of ALL non-essential weight in the form of water ballast, ALL passengers (other than a single driver on the PWC) and gear, and also**
  - **Earned a Boater Education certification card from NC, VA, or another state recognized by NC Wildlife Resources Commission.** (If you need to complete an instructor-led or online course to obtain your Boater Education certification card, you can find information on how to do that at in advance of your stay at <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Boating/Marina-Resources/Boating-Education-Courses>.)
- **Any boat or PWC that you bring to The Lucky Duck MUST BE OPERATED IN ADHERENCE TO NC boating laws and regulations,** including but not limited to:
  - **Drivers must ensure that they have enough Coast Guard-approved life vests** for themselves and all passengers.
  - **Drivers MUST NOT be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating substances.**
  - **Drivers MUST NOT operate their watercraft within 100 ft of swimmers, non-powered vessels (e.g., kayaks, paddleboards, sailboats), or Docks** (unless actively parking).
  - **Drivers MUST maintain an idle/low wake speed until fully clear of and at least 100 feet away from The Lucky Duck's Dock (and neighbors' Docks).**

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Boat House, Dock and Beach

It's not just the NC law; it's also common sense for safety and common courtesy for neighbors who may have swimmers near their Docks.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: No Smoking, Candles, Fireworks, Deep Frying, Outdoor Fires

**For the comfort and safety of guests (current and future) and neighbors, and the security of the property, we do not permit smoking of any kind, candles or other sources of open flames, outdoor fires outside of the stone firepit, fireworks of any kind, or deep frying/searing/blackening of food.** The only exception to this rule is that food may be seared or blackened on the outdoor gas grill provided on the eating porch.

**The Lucky Duck has been updated for your safety with smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.** Any smoking materials indoors (whether consisting of tobacco or other products, and whether smoked in cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigs, vapes, bongos, hookahs, etc.) may set off our sensitive smoke or carbon dioxide detectors which may trigger our monitored alarm system and cause the fire department to come to the property. Outdoor smoking can result in litter, burn marks or melted materials on our docks, or fires. So, **both indoor and outdoor smoking are not allowed.**

Similarly, lighted smoking materials or candles or any kind of open flame pose a risk of fire, or of irritating the allergies of future guests. Additionally, deep frying food or searing/blackening of food inside the kitchen pose a risk of both smoke or fumes that linger after your stay, and of actual fire. **Searing and blackening of food can only be done on the outside grill.**

Finally, **outdoor fires or firepits, and fireworks of any kind are not allowed** because they pose a risk of injury to people handling them as well as people nearby, and also a risk of damage or fire to the home or Boat Dock. Even sparklers can be dangerous, because their phosphorous burns at such extremely hot temperatures. (We were sensitized to this after a relative had an accident with sparklers that required skin grafts on his hand.)

Guests may not place wood, wood chips, paper, charcoal, or any other combustible materials in the indoor fireplace, or the large stainless steel outdoor gas grill with side cooktop. Guests are welcome to use The Lucky Duck's outdoor grill, and do not need to provide propane tanks, as the grill is fueled by an in-ground propane tank. **Guests are not permitted to bring or use any grill other than the large outdoor grill/cooktop provided by The Lucky Duck.**

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: No Guns or Weapons

**The Lucky Duck prohibits every person entering its Premises from carrying, brandishing, discharging or using, or bringing into the Premises any handgun, long gun, other firearm of any kind, BB or pellet gun, martial arts weapons, hunting bows and arrows, fireworks, incendiary devices, ammunition, swords, knives that are not specialized for kitchen or fishing or hiking use, pepper spray, or any other weapons.**

**The Lucky Duck is PRIVATE PROPERTY and its policy applies to ALL guests, visitors, and contractors, regardless of whether or not they are licensed to carry a concealed or open-carry weapon and/or typically choose to do so in public places or their own homes.** The only persons who are not covered by this policy are active, on-duty police officers and state or federal peace officers who are carrying out their duties and allowed to carry weapons under authority of their status as serving peace officers.

The sole other exception to this policy is that guests who arrived with such items may properly and adequately secure and conceal any weapons and ammunition in their locked vehicle in the driveway to avoid bringing prohibited weapons into the Main House, Guest Cottage, Yard, or onto the Porches, Decks, Patio, Beach or Boat Dock of The Lucky Duck.

**Any violation of this policy may result in immediate cancellation of a guest's or group's stay WITHOUT REFUND.**

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Pets and Service Animals

We love our own dog, and know that many people like to travel with their fur babies, and so The Lucky Duck is pet-friendly, subject to the following rules:

- **A maximum of two (2) well-behaved dogs are allowed to accompany guests.**
- **Guests are required to PRE-PAY A NON-REFUNDABLE PET FEE OF \$300, regardless of whether they are bringing 1 dog or 2 dogs.** Undeclared dogs that are later found to be onsite will incur a \$600 Pet Fee, and will be required to be removed if there are more than 2 dogs in the house.
- There is no restriction on dog breed or size, but domestic **DOGS ARE THE ONLY TYPE OF ANIMAL ALLOWED**; wolf-hybrids, cats, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and all creatures other than domestic dogs are prohibited.
- **Pets or service animals cannot make noise that is heard outside of the house or Guest Cottage.**
- **DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEASH when in the yard or when walked in the neighborhood, and may not be allowed to come into contact with neighbors or their pets or service animals.** This last point is particularly important, as one of the neighbors has a German Shepherd who does not tolerate uninvited visitors to her yard. The only exception to this is if you are allowing your dog to swim or enjoy some ball play at the Beach area if you are able to control and re-lease the dog when it returns to shore.
- **Dogs are required to be CLEAN and WITHOUT FLEAS OR TICKS, UP-TO-DATE ON ALL VACCINATIONS generally required for boarding, and FULLY AND RELIABLY HOUSE-TRAINED.**
- **Out of consideration for future guests who may have allergies, as well as to avoid damage to furnishings, dogs are NOT allowed on any furniture or bed linens (including all sofas, chairs, pillows, and beds).** We encourage you to bring your dog's own familiar bed to make your dog comfortable on the floor. If you forget your dog's bed, you can also find a few washable water-proof pads folded on the laundry closet shelves, and are welcome to use those as needed for your dog's comfort on the floor.
- **Dogs must remain under guests' supervision at all times**; they may not be left to freely roam, whether in the Home or Guest Cottage or yard. When guests are outside, dogs must either be: (a.) kept in a crate (the one provided by The Lucky Duck or a crate provided by guests) or (b.) leashed and brought with the guests.
- **Dog waste may not be left anywhere in the Main House, Guest Cottage, yard or neighborhood**, with the exception of bagged and sealed pet waste deposited in an

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Pets and Service Animals

outside trash container. (It's important to remember that Ferncliff requests proper disposal of pet waste when you walk your dog off the property, as well.)

- **ANY DAMAGE CAUSED BY PETS or service animals** (such as scratch or chewing marks, damage to floors / walls / doors / trim / rugs / carpets / furniture / linens / fixtures, or the need for specialized cleaning of fur / stains / odors / fleas), **AS WELL AS ANY LOSS OF RENTAL INCOME while that damage is remediated, IS THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GUEST.** Those costs are not included in the Pet Fee, and instead will be deducted from a Security Deposit and/or billed back to the guest.

To make your travel easier, The Lucky Duck has **2 sets of dog bowls**: one set for larger dogs, and one set for smaller dogs, both with a plastic holder to keep water and food spills off the floor. The dog bowls are generally kept in the garage, but may be in another closet or may be already set up in the kitchen for you based on your pre-registration of a pet.

The Lucky Duck has **a large dog crate** in the garage, and guests are welcome to use it in place, but to avoid snagging carpet or scratching walls and woodwork, we ask that you do not move our large crate to bedrooms or upstairs locations.

If you plan to bring a bona fide Service Animal trained to perform work or tasks needed by a person with a disability (vs. a pet or "emotional support" or "comfort" animal) that you believe should be exempt from Pet Fees based on ADA guidelines, please send an email to [info@theluckyducknc.com](mailto:info@theluckyducknc.com) that includes answers to the following:

- Is the animal a Service Animal required for a disability?
- What work or task related to the individual's disability has the animal been trained to perform?

Our management will review the information you provide and let you know whether the Pet Fee can be waived.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Garbage and Recycling

Our community has trash pick-up on Mondays, and recycling pick-up on alternating Mondays. When you arrive, you may find one set of empty trash and recycling bins on the driveway near the Main House, and you may find one set of full trash and recycling bins in the cul-de-sac. Any full bins in the cul-de-sac will be emptied sometime on Monday and you should return them to the driveway near the house after that.

The kitchen has both a trash can (in the front of the pull-out drawer next to the dishwasher) and a recycling can (in the back of the pull-out drawer).

During the week, please use the provided drawstring trash can liners inside the kitchen trash can, and as the kitchen trash fills up, please tie up those bags and put them in one of the outdoor trash bins. **Trash MUST be in plastic bags.** The **outdoor trash bins have black lids** and they are clearly marked "Trash."

**Recycling can NOT be in plastic bags;** it must be loose in the outdoor recycling bin. When the recycling can in the kitchen is full, it can be emptied into the outdoor recycling bin on the driveway. The **outdoor recycling bins have orange lids** and are clearly marked "Recycling."

Please note that the recycling rules in Halifax County are probably different than those for your recycling pick-up in your home community. **ONLY the following items should be recycled (after rinsing out any food or liquids):**

- **Plastic drink bottles and plastic milk jugs**
- **Aluminum drink cans and tin food cans**
- **Glass bottles**
- **Clean paper, clean paperboard, and clean cardboard (but no pizza boxes)**

**NO OTHER ITEMS CAN BE RECYCLED!** Please put **only** these locally recyclable items in the recycling container.

**Please do not leave trash or recycling inside The Lucky Duck** when you depart at the end of your stay. Please empty all trash and recycling into the appropriate labelled outdoor bins, taking care to ensure that the trash and recycling can lids are completely closed (to keep out animals). Then, please roll the outdoor bins to the edge of the cul-de-sac before you leave.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Parking

**To avoid towing and/or fines, do not park so that access to the detached garage is blocked, and do not park on the street or in the cul-de-sac.**

**The Lucky Duck has a parking pad outside the Main House garage that can accommodate up to 4 regular-size vehicles** if parked parallel to each other and facing the garage doors. **2-3 additional vehicles can park directly behind those**, and more vehicles can be parked behind those part of the way up the long driveway (but not blocking the detached garage near the cul-de-sac).

**Please do not park any vehicles inside the garage** attached to the Main House; that garage is only used for storage, maintenance tools, extra refrigerator, extra washer/dryer, and the ping pong table.

**Please do not block access between the separate, detached garage building and the cul-de-sac.** The detached garage near the cul-de-sac is a private structure that is not part of your rental of The Lucky Duck, and the owners go in and out of it frequently to access vehicles, bikes, tools, and items stored inside.

**Please do not park on the cul-de-sac or nearby streets.** Ferncliff FPOA requests that overnight street parking be avoided, and as a practical matter, our cul-de-sac only has room for temporary parking for contractors who service the properties on the cul-de-sac during the day. If the cul-de-sac is used for overnight parking, it causes our neighbors, the mail carrier, delivery trucks, garbage trucks, contractors, and emergency vehicles to be blocked from accessing driveways.

**RVs, Campers, and similar vehicles are not allowed at The Lucky Duck. However, you may have a boat or PWC trailer if is appropriate parked.** Additionally, near the street there is a long flat area that runs parallel to the paved driveway. (It's covered in leaves and mulch, and is firmly packed as it is actually a remnant of the old gravel driveway that was replaced.) This is an **ideal spot for parking a boat or PWC trailer**, in case you tow your own boat or PWCs to use at the house.

For the convenience of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicle owners, The Lucky Duck provides a **JuiceBox EV car charger** on the exterior wall of the garage, next to the side door (on the side closest to the Guest Cottage). It fits most non-Tesla brands as-is, and works with a Tesla using a common adapter that most Tesla owners carry with them. It is an electric appliance that should not be handled by children, but adult guests are welcome to use it during their stay.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Other

The Lucky Duck is set up with a wide range of amenities for your enjoyment. In addition to the preceding rules for specific amenities, to avoid damage or injury, we request that you respect the following rules of use for other amenities:

- **Do NOT flush anything other than human waste or toilet paper.** Like most homes on the lake, The Lucky Duck has a septic system. Feminine hygiene products (including pads, panty liners, and tampons), diaper wipes (whether or not they claim to be “flushable”), diapers, pull-ups, wrappers, or other trash or debris will clog the pumps that feed our septic system, rendering the entire system inoperable. This will require a time-consuming and costly repair, which will interrupt your vacation and for which you will be financially responsible. **Please be sure ALL guests are made aware of this rule as soon as they arrive!**
- **Do not operate the air conditioning with windows or doors open, and do not operate the fireplace with air conditioning running.** This not only wastes energy, but also may cause the air conditioning units to “freeze up” which will result in a system failure, a service call, and perhaps a costly repair.
- **Do not leave windows or sliding doors open.** Doing so will waste energy and may let bugs into the house. The only exception to this rule is that windows with closed screens may be left open in rooms in which both the heat and air conditioning are turned off and the door to the rest of the house is closed.
- **Do not leave children unsupervised** in the Guest Cottage, Main House, or on the Yard, Dock or Beach areas.
- **Do not allow children to play in hazardous areas**, including wooded areas, areas near the green septic tank covers in the yard, or near electrical panels and controls on exterior wall of garage, or near or on the rock that protects the shoreline, or on any step ladder or similar hazardous areas.
- **Do not allow children to operate electronic equipment** that may be dangerous to them or easy to break, including but not limited to: kitchen appliances, gas grill, Boat or PWC Lifts, shades, fireplace, EV car charger, thermostats, electrical break boxes, garage doors, etc. You will be responsible for any and all injuries or damage caused by any of your guests, including children.
- **Do not leave trash or recycling on the ground, overflowing out of the bins, or uncovered with lids in the outside bins.** Doing so will attract pests, including insects, dogs, and wild animals.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## House Rules: Other

- **Do not move, redirect, cover or tamper with any of the exterior cameras, or tamper with any electronic equipment in the hall closet** with the exception of the FlowLogic water leak detection device. For instructions on the FlowLogic system, please see [“Main House and Guest Cottage Amenities”](#) section. Tampering with other electronics may cause internet interruptions, and/or costly equipment repair or reprogramming for which you will be responsible.
- **Do not tamper with any locked cabinets or closets, or enter the owner’s private detached garage structure near the cul-de-sac** (even if that detached owner’s garage is unlocked or open at times during your stay). Those spaces contain items for the exclusive use of the owners and their cleaning crews.
- **Guests must comply with all federal, state, local laws and regulations, and neighborhood speed limit, as well as Ferncliff Property Owner Association rules applicable to the Property.**
- **The use, possession, distribution, or sale of illegal drugs is expressly forbidden on the premises.**
- **Guests are not allowed to alter the property or furnishings, or to hang or display any signs, banners, or flags at or on the property.**
- **The owners reserve the right to enter the property (or have contractors enter the property) if they deem it necessary to perform preventative maintenance, inspect for damages, make repairs, or respond to guest requests.** We do our best to schedule inside work when The Lucky Duck is unoccupied, but cannot always do this. So, when owners or contractors do need to access the inside of the property, you will be given notice and we will try to avoid disruptions. Contractors who may need to be on the outside premises or need inside access include but are not limited to: landscapers, exterminators, Boat Lift servicers, handymen, propane gas company, electric utility company, plumbers, electricians, IT/internet professionals, etc.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Linens, Towels, and Cleaning

**Your rental fee includes use of our bed linens, bath towels and beach towels, and your standard post-check out cleaning fee includes the laundering of those items.** (Unlike many short-term rentals at Lake Gaston, The Lucky Duck does not charge any additional fee for linens and towels.)

No interim cleaning or towel/linen changes are included in the rental fee during your stay. However, 2 sets of washers and dryers are available (one set in the laundry closet near the kitchen and one set in the garage) for your use to freshen any bath towels, beach towels, or bed linens as needed during your stay. Additionally, basic cleaning supplies (broom, dustpan, vacuum, sponges or cleaning cloths, cleaning products) are available in the garage or kitchen or laundry closet for any cleaning you choose to do during your stay.

Use of toiletries in dispensers and use of standard “staple” supplies such as detergent, garbage can liners, condiments, etc. will not result in extra charges, but we ask that you leave behind whatever you don’t use during your stay for the benefit of the next guests (i.e., **please don’t remove or throw away our toiletry or supply containers or dispensers, or any remaining products**).

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Check In and Check Out

### WHEN ARE CHECK-IN AND CHECK OUT?

**CHECK-IN TIME IS ANY TIME AFTER 4:00 PM.**

#### HOW DO I CHECK IN?

The Lucky Duck uses electronic access control systems for its Main House, cottage, and boat house. You will be provided driving directions, and given a randomly generated security code (which will be set up to allow you to access The Lucky Duck) via a confirmation email after you submit full payment for your stay and accept the terms of our online rental agreement. **Your security PIN access code will become active at the check in time on your assigned check in date.** It will not work before that time. Because of the time required to clean The Lucky Duck to our high standards, and the system we set up in advance to provide automated electronic access at the standard check-in time, **we cannot accommodate early check-ins.** Please do not arrive early or park in the driveway before your assigned check-in time, to avoid blocking in or impeding our cleaning crew in their duties.

**CHECK OUT TIME IS NO LATER THAN 10:00 AM.**

We understand it's hard to leave such a lovely spot, but **we absolutely cannot accommodate late check outs.** It is important that you adhere to our check-out schedule, to allow time for our cleaning staff to get The Lucky Duck ready for the next guests. Because late check-outs would impede our ability to clean The Lucky Duck to our high standards before the next check-in time, may cause extra work hours for our cleaning staff, and may therefore impact the next guests' check-in time, **The Lucky Duck charges a fee of \$250 for each full or partial hour guests (or their vehicles or watercraft) are still on site after their check-out time.** This fee may be either deducted from the security deposit and/or charged back to the guest.

#### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO CHECK OUT?

Since routine cleaning is included in your rental fee, when you leave, we simply ask that you do the following:

- **Empty all trash and recycling** into the correct outdoor container.
- **Run the dishwasher and hand-wash any dirty kitchen items** that cannot go in the dishwasher; it's fine to leave the dishwasher still running or items drying in the drainboard, but it's not OK to leave dirty items in the sink or scattered around the house.
- **Ensure that all faucets, grill, oven, fans, lights and appliances are turned off.**

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Check In and Check Out

- Ensure that no damp or wet towels are left in the boathouse, on decks, or on wood or upholstered surfaces; it's fine to **leave all used bath and beach towels on tiled floors in bathrooms**, or on the floor near the laundry closet.
- **Leave used bed linens on unmade beds.**
- **If you moved any furniture** (whether inside the house or cottage, or on the decks or patios or boathouse), **put it back** into the place where you found it.
- **Put away any games, puzzles, books, towel drying racks, ping pong equipment or other sports gear, or other household items** that you used during your visit back where you found them.
- **Put away any life vests, ski vests, floats, kayaks, paddleboards, paddles, chairs, water toys, or other Boat Dock or Beach gear** you used during your visit back where you found them.
- **Tilt up the swim ladder** (so that algae won't grow on it) and turn off any lights on the Boat Dock.
- **Remove any boat or PWC you put on the Boat or PWC Lifts. Leave all the boat and PWC Lifts in the up position** (i.e., out of the water).
- **Remove all your personal possessions as well as any food you brought into the house.** (If you don't want to take your food with you, it needs to be put in the appropriate outdoor trash or recycling container.)
- **Ensure the gas is turned off on cooktop and oven.**
- **Reset the thermostats to the recommended settings** (Cool to 78 or Heat to 65, depending on the season).
- **Ensure that all windows and doors are closed and locked, including:** casement windows, sliding doors to decks (upstairs and downstairs), garage overhead doors, garage side door, French doors to cottage, closet door in boat house, and main entrance door.
- **Use the "All Off" switch near the front door to turn off all the lights throughout the house.**
- **Exit the house, close the front door, and then press any key on the keypad to lock the front door.**

**Your security PIN access code will expire at the time of your check-out.** Please ensure that you have moved out all of your belongings, checked out of the house, and removed your watercraft from the Dock and your vehicles from the driveway by that time, so that the cleaners can get started making it ready for the next guests. Because late check-outs impede our ability to clean The Lucky Duck to our high standards before the next check-in time, and thus

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Check In and Check Out

impact our staff and other guests' enjoyment, **The Lucky Duck charges a fee \$250 for each full or partial hour guests (or their vehicles or watercraft) are still on site after their check-out time.** This fee may be deducted from the security deposit and/or charged back to the guest.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Changes and Cancellation

### CANCELLATIONS BY GUESTS:

**If a guest requests to cancel a stay that was previously booked and fully or partially prepaid, The Lucky Duck will provide a refund based on the following schedule:**

- **If booked through an online travel agent or service provider, such as Airbnb or VRBO, then according to the cancellation and refund policies listed** for The Lucky Duck on that travel site, as of the date of the booking.
- **If booked directly through The Lucky Duck's website:**
  - **100% refund** if cancellation occurs **at least 60 days prior** to scheduled check-in date.
  - **50% refund** if cancellation occurs **at least 30 days prior** to scheduled check-in date.
  - **25% refund** if cancellation occurs **at least 14 days prior** to scheduled check-in date.
  - **0% refund** if cancellation occurs less than 14 days prior to scheduled check-in date.

**All refunds are calculated net of any credit card or booking fees originally paid on the reservation.**

Partial refunds are not available for guests who are unable to stay for the entire week that they booked. Refunds are not available due to inclement weather unless there is a mandatory evacuation order for our location.

If you would like to request a change to a previously booked time period, please contact us following the instructions in the [“How to Contact Us, Give Us Feedback, or Book Another Stay”](#) section.

**To reduce guests' risk of lost rental fees due to unforeseen illness or emergency, we highly recommend that guests consider purchasing travel insurance.** Policies vary in their coverage options, and are available through multiple providers, including the following examples (listed in alphabetical order):

- Allianz Travel (<https://www.allianztravelinsurance.com/>)
- TravelDefenders.com (<https://www.traveldefenders.com/>)
- TravelGuard (<https://www.travelguard.com/travel-insurance/trip-types/vacation-rental-insurance>)

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Changes and Cancellation

- TravellInsurance.com (<https://www.travelinsurance.com/>)

### **CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS BY THE LUCKY DUCK:**

In the very rare event that The Lucky Duck is forced to delay a check-in time due to a staff or maintenance issue, or a prior guest's late check-out, or the need to repair of damage caused by a prior guest, or similar unforeseen issue, then:

- If the delay is for less than 1 hour, The Lucky Duck will provide the guest a pro-rata reimbursement of the rental fees for the missed time and \$250 credit toward a future stay.
- If the delay is between 1 and 3 hours, The Lucky Duck will provide the guest pro-rata reimbursement of the rental fees for the missed time plus an additional payment of \$30 per pre-registered guest to cover the cost of their group's dinner at a nearby restaurant during the delay.
- If the delay is greater than 3 hours but no more than 6 hours, The Lucky Duck will provide the guest pro-rata reimbursement of the rental fees for the missed time plus an additional payment of \$50 per pre-registered guest to cover the cost of dinner at a nearby restaurant plus some other entertainment (movie, bowling, etc.) during the delay.
- If the delay is over 6 hours, then The Lucky Duck will either:
  - Make the property available as soon as possible and provide a discretionary amount of compensation for the guest, or
  - Cancel the stay and provide a full refund if the property cannot be made available in a timeframe acceptable to the guest.

Additionally, **The Lucky Duck may cancel a paid rental and/or require a guest to leave immediately and without refund if a guest violates The Lucky Duck's policies or rules in the ["House Rules"](#) section of this guide**, including, without limitation, policies related to noise, smoking, incendiary devices or fireworks, outdoor fires, guest capacity limits, firearms, safe operation of watercraft or use of Boat/PWC Lifts, pets, etc.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Lost and Found

Guests are responsible for safeguarding all items they bring to the property and removing them at the end of their stay. Although The Lucky Duck cannot take responsibility for personal items that are forgotten or lost, if you contact us about something you left behind and if we can find your item, we will do our best to return it to you for a \$50 handling fee plus the cost of any packaging, postage or shipping.

Please note that we will only be able to search for lost items during the 6-hour cleaning window between guests; we will not enter The Lucky Duck to search for lost items during another guest's paid rental period.

Unclaimed items may be discarded or donated to charities after 30 days.

# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## How to Contact Us, Give Feedback, or Book a Future Stay

You can contact us with questions or requests in any of the following ways:

- For **non-emergency** questions or requests, please EMAIL our Rental Manager at [info@theluckyduck.com](mailto:info@theluckyduck.com) or TEXT **252-677-0047** during normal business hours (8:00AM - 5:00 PM on weekdays). You can also use the Contact Us page on our website at <https://theluckyduck.com/contact/>. You will hear back within 12-24 hours.
- For **maintenance emergencies or questions or requests during your stay that need to be addressed immediately**, even outside of normal business hours, please CALL OR TEXT **252-677-0047**.

We hope you have a wonderful stay at The Lucky Duck, and we're eager to hear your thoughts about your experience. To provide feedback - whether accolades or suggestions - you can:

- Leave a review using the link in our check-out email, or on Trip Advisor, Yelp, or Google, or on any outside booking service you may have used to book your stay (AirBnb, VRBO, Hotel.com, etc.).
- Send an email to [info@theluckyducknc.com](mailto:info@theluckyducknc.com).
- Jot a note to our team on the [Contact Us](#) page of our website.
- Like us or contact us via [Facebook](#).
- Tag 'theluckyducknc' in photos of your Lake Gaston visit on [Instagram](#).

If you were delighted with your experience at The Lucky Duck, the highest compliment you can pay us is to refer your friends or book your next stay!

**For guests who have stayed with us previously and who have not violated our policies, we offer a "preferred guest" discount on future stays.** Please email our Rental Manager at [info@theluckyducknc.com](mailto:info@theluckyducknc.com) or use the [Contact Us](#) page on our website to **request a discount code before booking your next stay via our website**. Booking directly through our website will also provide you with the best price, because we do not charge a separate cleaning fee for guests who book directly with us!

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Limitation of Liability

**THE LUCKY DUCK IS RENTED SUBJECT TO A VACATION RENTAL AGREEMENT UNDER THE NORTH CAROLINA VACATION RENTAL ACT. THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES TO THAT VACATION RENTAL AGREEMENT ARE DEFINED BY LAW. GUESTS' PHYSICAL OR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE ON THAT VACATION RENTAL AGREEMENT, OR PAYMENT OF MONEY, OR ACCESS AND USE OF THE PROPERTY AFTER RECEIPT OF THE AGREEMENT, IS EVIDENCE OF THEIR ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT AND THEIR INTENT TO USE THE LUCKY DUCK PROPERTY FOR A VACATION RENTAL.**

**USE OF THE BEACH, BOAT DOCK, BOAT AND PWC LIFTS, MAIN HOUSE, GUEST COTTAGE, YARD AND WALKWAYS, DRIVEWAY AND CAR CHARGER, AND ALL AMENITIES OF THE RENTED PREMISES IS STRICTLY AT THE RISK OF THE GUEST AND THEIR INVITEES.** Guests assume any and all risks and liabilities arising from the negligent or non-negligent use or operation of the amenities or premises, including risks of:

1. Loss or damage to any part of the rented premises or its amenities
2. Loss or damage of personal property of guests
3. Personal injury or death.

**Guests are responsible for any repairs necessary due to guests' (or their invitees') misuse or negligence, or the behavior of their dogs.** Guests' liability for property damage is not capped by any security deposit or accidental damage insurance policy. Guests are responsible for their own safety and the safety of their invited guests. **As part of the Vacation Rental Agreement governing their use of the property, GUESTS AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE LUCKY DUCK and its management and owners from any and all claims or lawsuits alleging damages and/or personal injury that occurred during the Tenant's rental of or occupancy of the property,** unless caused by the grossly negligent or willful act of The Lucky Duck or its management or owners, or their failure to comply with the Vacation Rental Act.

**The Lucky Duck recommends that Guests purchase their own vacation travel insurance policy,** as outlined in the ["Changes and Cancellation"](#) section of this guide. **The Lucky Duck shall not be liable or accountable for any issue caused by acts, circumstances or forces beyond The Lucky Duck's reasonable control** including, but not limited to acts of God, electrical surges, electronic device malfunctioning, lightning, flooding, hail, hurricanes, wind, storms, rain, strikes, acts or failures of utility companies, acts of government authorities, construction or noise on nearby properties, travel restriction or advisory, quarantine, epidemic, pandemic, national or regional emergency (including any public health emergency), government order or law or any other "Force Majeure" issue beyond the reasonable control of The Lucky Duck.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## Safety and Security

Guests consistently tell us that they love our relaxing lakefront location in a quiet residential neighborhood. We do our best to make that experience one that is both comfortable and secure.

**FIRE:** The Lucky Duck has smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, heat detectors, and integrated fire alarms. There are fire extinguishers in the kitchen, the boathouse, the garage, and in all of the bedrooms (typically in closets). The Lucky Duck has strict policies against smoking, candles, deep frying, open flames and fireworks, to protect against fire, injury, and accidental set-off of the fire, smoke, and carbon monoxide alarm system.

**CAMERAS AND RECORDERS:** The exterior of the house and cottage, the Dock, and the driveway are equipped with motion-activated cameras and recorders.

**LOCKS AND KEYS:** The Lucky Duck uses an electronic access control system, with PIN access codes that are unique to each guest, and only active during the guest's rental period.

When your reservation is confirmed, you will be given a randomly generated security code. Your code will be activated from the check-in time of your reservation through the check-out time of your reservation. Your security code, FOLLOWED BY THE CHECK ('✓') KEY, can be entered on keypads and must be used open all of the (non-sliding) doors into the Main House, the French doors into the cottage, and the boathouse.

Please **DO NOT SHARE YOUR SECURITY CODE** with non-guests or allow anyone else to see you enter your security code. If you share or allow others to see or overhear your code, you have provided direct access to the house, the cottage, and boathouse, and you put at risk your own and your guests' safety, and the security of The Lucky Duck during your stay.

**PARKING:** The cameras on the exterior of the house record views of the entrances, boat house, and parking area. In general, our neighborhood is safe, but like almost everywhere else, there have been occasional break-ins in the past. You can help keep yourself and your belongings safe by being mindful of your own security. Keep the doors to The Lucky Duck locked when you are sleeping or on the Dock. Roll up your windows and lock your parked vehicles, and bring your valuables inside from your car, or conceal them so that they are invisible from outside the car.

**COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATES:** The Lucky Duck guests must adhere to any US, NC, or Halifax County regulations or health requirements including those related to COVID (or other disease) prevention, including, ***if applicable at the time of their stay***, wearing of masks when sharing spaces with non-household members. Otherwise, any masking or social distancing is optional.

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

We hope that your stay at The Lucky Duck will be relaxing and without incident, but in case of emergencies, here's what to do.

**IN CASE OF FIRE, call 911** and give the home address (32 Merriwood Rd., Littleton, NC 27850) and location of the fire within The Lucky Duck (e.g., kitchen or garage or upstairs bedroom, etc.) Immediately exit the house along with any other guests who are with you. If and only if you have time to do so safely, try to activate the fire alarm on the alarm panel in the main hallway as you exit, to alert any other guests. If you believe you can safely extinguish a small fire, or if you need to use a fire extinguisher to help get yourself or any of the guests to safety, fire extinguishers can be found in the kitchen, garage, boathouse, and bedroom closets. Once you and your guests safely exit the house, move away from the house while you wait for the Fire Department to arrive. Please also call our emergency number (252-677-0047) to alert our Rental Manager that first responders have been summoned.

**IN CASE OF POLICE EMERGENCY requiring the Halifax County Sheriff, call 911** and give the home address (32 Merriwood Rd., Littleton, NC 27850). If possible, please also call our emergency number (252-677-0047) to alert our Rental Manager that first responders have been summoned.

**IN CASE OF MEDICAL EMERGENCY requiring an ambulance, call 911** and give the home address (32 Merriwood Rd., Littleton, NC 27850). If possible, please also call our emergency number (252-677-0047) to alert our Rental Manager that first responders have been summoned.

If the medical issue is not an emergency and doesn't require an ambulance, and you prefer to drive to get medical care, some available options (in order of distance) include:

- ECU Health North Hospital ER (in Roanoke Rapids, NC - 14.9 miles) - <https://locations.ecuhealth.org/roanokerapids/>
- Med First Primary & Urgent Care (in Roanoke Rapids, NC - 14.9 miles) - <https://www.thinkmedfirst.com/locations/med-first-roanoke-rapids/>
- FastMed Urgent Care (in Roanoke Rapids, NC - 15.1 miles) - <https://www.fastmed.com/urgent-care-centers/roanoke-rapids-nc-walk-in-clinic/>
- VCU Health Community Hospital ER (in South Hill, VA - 20.5 miles) - <https://www.vcuhealth.org/community-memorial-hospital/>
- Mariah Parham Hospital ER (in Henderson, NC - 32.8 miles) - <https://www.mariaparham.com/>
- UNC Health Nash General Hospital ER (in Rocky Mount, NC - 36.6 miles) - <https://www.nashunhealthcare.org/hospitals-locations/locations-profile/nash-general-hospital/>

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# The Lucky Duck Guest Guide

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

**IN CASE OF MAINTENANCE EMERGENCY**, such as a water leak or plumbing problem, septic alarm or malfunction, loss of power, loss of air conditioning or heat, etc. please call our emergency number (252-677-0047). **If the issue is a leak, please attempt to turn off the water supply to the fixture (sinks and toilets have a hand valve on the water supply line that you can turn to cut off the flow of water to the fixture).** Our on-call Manager can tell you how to shut off the water valves to a specific fixture or to the entire home to stop the leak even before anyone arrives to fix the cause of the issue. Or if the problem is electronic, they may be able to remotely reset the Wi fi network, TV server, or security access code for your unit. **For emergencies at any hour, please contact us by calling 252-677-0047.**

**FOR ALL NON-EMERGENCIES**, please EMAIL our Rental Manager at [info@theluckyduck.com](mailto:info@theluckyduck.com) or TEXT 252-677-0047 during normal business hours (8:00AM - 5:00 PM on weekdays). You can also use the [Contact Us](#) page on our website. You will hear back within 12-24 hours.

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