



Advocacy, Education & Stewardship
Strengthening the Cabin Program

Coronavirus and the Cabin Community

March 24, 2020

A Message to all Cabin Owners,

As the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) continues to impact communities across the country and around the world, our thoughts are with our community members, healthcare professionals, and others affected during this challenging time.

At National Forest Homeowners we are working to do our part to slow the spread of the virus, closely following guidance from government and health authorities. We support everyone who is doing the same, and we are grateful for their efforts. Our appreciation goes out to those providing essential services during this difficult time, especially front-line health care professionals.

We're ready to help. Working virtually is our normal mode of operation. Our professional staff work from home and our board and committee members meet via phone and web conferences, so we are well prepared to continue our work during this challenging time. The Forest Service is also following guidelines for limiting personal interactions, which will impact their operation and service levels to some degree. Try to exercise greater patience in your dealings with the Forest Service during this time.

The largest impact to NFH so far is the rescheduling of the NFH Conference from April to September and the related decision to cancel our Fall Forum event this year. We are moving forward with our plans for holding the NFH Conference on September 12-13, while continuing to monitor public health conditions. The health and safety of our members remains our highest priority and we will adjust our plans if needed. Maintaining flexibility is key. Our Conference registration has re-opened with our commitment that members will receive a full refund if they later decide to not attend the conference or the event is cancelled. Similarly, hotel room reservations at The Heathman Lodge may be canceled without penalty up to 48 hours prior to your stay.

None of us know the human and economic full impact of this global pandemic yet, but we do know that some are more impacted than others. There is no better time to be a good neighbor, whether it's in your cabin community or your home community. Many of us are in a position to help others in our community and we urge our members to consider how you might help others in need.

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We are all in this together has been one of our primary principles driving our advocacy efforts. During these challenging times, one can appreciate how this same principle applies on a much greater scale.

Social Distancing is a phrase few of us had heard of until a few weeks ago, but one we will probably never forget. Practicing social distancing doesn't mean you have to stay indoors. I can't think of a better time or better way to practice social distancing than enjoying the great outdoors at your cabin.

We don't know all the challenges that lie ahead, but we want our members to know we are here to help in any way we can. Your feedback is appreciated, whether to offer suggestions or to ask for help.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and healthy - we'll all get through this together!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Gann".

Doug Gann
NFH President