Guidelines for use of Coweeta Temporary Residences for Investigators and Students

The current dormitory was renovated with funds from the National Science Foundation, matching funds from the University of Georgia, and money from the USDA Forest Service.

The following categories of people are authorized to use the residence:

1. LTER PIs, students, and technicians.
2. Other UGA and non-UGA investigators and cooperators at Coweeta.
3. Spouses/partners of investigators who are assisting with research.
4. Occasional visitors from other Universities.
5. Visitors from other LTER sites.

The following groups should NOT expect to use the residence:

1. PIs on sabbatical will normally use the Coweeta house, with the Coweeta residence space as backup if needed.
2. Spouses/partners/dependents of investigators not assisting with research.
3. University classes or other instructional users who are not collecting data.
4. Miscellaneous friends and neighbors.

User fees:

The current user fee for the Coweeta residence is $15 per person per night. However, this fee is subject to change at the discretion of the operator and/or the USDA Forest Service.

Prior to use:

All persons using the facility must read and understand these guidelines.

Procedures for operation of the residence facility:

1. An LTER technician will be charged with overseeing the reservations of users. An online system is used to provide reservation access to Coweeta LTER users who are not required to pay individual fees. The technician will also make weekly inspection of the facility. Any difficulties or problems with the facility should be communicated to the technician who will then communicate the problem to the UGA LTER Site Manager or appropriate US Forest Service representative.
2. Users are expected to maintain the residence in a neat and clean condition.
3. Users must furnish their own food, toiletries, etc.

Residence Regulations

1. No pets are allowed, under any conditions, inside or outside the facility. This includes feeding or caring for stray animals outside the facility. Report any stray or lost animal immediately to the LTER technician or site manager or to USFS personnel. You also may call Animal Control at 828-349-2106.
2. No unsafe or destructive behavior, or equipment, is allowed in the dorm at any time. No weapons or potentially hazardous equipment shall be allowed in the dorm. Field equipment that poses potential safety concerns is not allowed in the dorm and can be stored in other locations, such as the Analytical Chemistry Lab, the Vehicle Shed, a field or personal vehicle, or the LTER storage shed. Users should contact the LTER technician or Site Manager for directions on where to safely store equipment.

3. No smoking anywhere in the building or on the porches. If you need to smoke, please make sure to walk far enough from the building so that the smoke won’t bother anyone.

4. Show consideration for others by keeping noise down, radios turned down, etc. Dorm residents should maintain and promote courteous, respectful, and professional relationships among all researchers and residents.

5. Do not engage in activities that make others residing in the dorm, or on the premises, uncomfortable. Dorm residents come from many institutions, so issues of sexual harassment should first be addressed through the procedures of the complainant’s home institution. The link to sexual harassment policies at UGA is https://eoo.uga.edu/policies/non-discrimination-anti-harassment-policy

6. Use residence equipment and facilities in a responsible manner. Do not dismantle or turn off any safety signs or detectors.

7. When checking out, insure that the lights and the oven range are off, that the doors are locked, and that keys have been returned.

8. Dispose of all garbage and recyclables. Garbage can be taken to the on-site garbage bin located in the fenced area behind the Coweeta workshop. Recyclables can be taken to the Otto Recycling Center located at 2877 Addington Bridge Rd.

9. Do not make long-distance phone calls using the phones in the facility. Do not use the Internet to stream illegal or inappropriate content. The bandwidth of the Wi-Fi is limited; be courteous about your bandwidth demands, e.g., please don’t stream movies when people need the bandwidth to work.

10. Report any difficulties, maintenance issues, or violations of the above to the Coweeta LTER technician or to Coweeta LTER Site Manager and to your supervising faculty member.

*Living in the dorm is a privilege extended to site researchers. Any person(s) engaging in activities that are unsafe to themselves or others can be removed immediately by the LTER Site Manager or appropriate US Forest Service Representative. Anyone found to be in violation of the above Residence Regulations may be asked to leave the facility. Reports of violations will be directed to the alleged violator’s supervisor who will discuss with USFS leadership and the LTER PI (or designated representative) the appropriate course of action. This will be reported back to the alleged violator, who will have a chance to respond to the reported violations and the suggested course of action. When there is no immediate danger to dorm residents, decisions to remove residents from the dorm will be made after consultations among the USFS representative, the supervisor, the Site Manager, and the LTER PI (or designated representative).*