



# VISITING FAMILIES' INFORMATION & TIPS

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*The average visitor time spent at the Dorothy Molter Museum is 45 minutes. However, every visitor is different in how they take advantage of a variety of ways to explore and enjoy our Museum property.*

## 1. Visit Etiquette

- a. Families with children under 16 or adults with special needs are expected to stay together and always maintain adult supervision, including when using the restroom.

## 2. Museum Spaces

- a. The majority of the Dorothy Molter Museum consists of historic collections which means:
  - i. We ask you to help prevent touching or moving items, bringing fidget toys may be helpful
  - ii. We ask you to help family members understand that when too many people touch these items, they wear out faster and cannot be replaced
- b. We have specific resources & areas for physical engagement
  - i. Nature-themed books to look through in Gift Shop
  - ii. Sensory Backpacks (2) are available for free during a visit. Includes fidget toys, timer clock, communication cards, sound-cancelling headphones, earplugs, sunglasses and more
  - iii. Ring-toss Game outdoors
  - iv. Dorothy's Discover Trail - .25mi nature trail loop with interpretive signs and benches
  - v. Dorothy's Discovery Backpack is available for free during a visit. Includes nature-themed books for young learners and activities to use while on Dorothy's Discover Trail
  - vi. Exhibit Scavenger Hunt – Dorothy's Friends – 11 plastic animal figurines are placed throughout the Museum (all 4 buildings) and are visible without touching or moving items. Each animal represents a story from Dorothy's life in the wilderness and includes a QR code to scan for a digital article for more educational information
    1. Admissions will encourage you to find them all and, when finished, tell us what your favorite animal was in exchange for a sticker
  - vii. Point Cabin – Duluth-style pack in the porch to pick up the pack to see how strong you are

c. Videos:

- i. Winter Cabin back room: 7min video on Dorothy's memorial service and includes footage of snowmobiles from 1987
- ii. Point Cabin main room: 15min video featuring Dorothy Molter talking about her life as she goes about daily life (chopping wood, hauling water, feeding ducks, etc.)

d. Quiet Space and Sensory Garden

- i. This outdoor space includes a large and small picnic table and a sensory garden in an old boat
- ii. It is located on the east side of the public parking area to provide physical distance from the main areas where most visitors congregate

e. Birds' Landing

- i. This outdoor space is off the south end of the Interpretive Center and includes a picnic table/bench
- ii. This space is a pollinator garden and bird feeding area with interpretive signs

### 3. Parking

- a. There is a large public parking area on a gravel surface with limited shade
- b. RVs and vehicles towing trailers/campers will find adequate parking and a turn-around

### 4. Guided Programs

- a. 20-30min guided programs are offered at the top of every hour and consist of a brief introduction to the Museum, a history of Dorothy Molter's life and time for Q&A
- b. Content is adapted to the audience median, which varies and is often diverse. Children are encouraged to attend and ask questions!
- c. Participants are welcome to engage to their comfort level and are free to leave the tour at any time
- d. These hourly programs begin inside the Gift Shop with the majority of the program outdoors unless there is inclement weather

### 5. Snacks & Beverages

- a. Visitors are welcome to enjoy snacks and/or beverages inside our Interpretive Center & Gift Shop or outdoors at any one of our multiple picnic tables/benches.
  - i. For those who would like to enjoy a larger meal (e.g. lunch), please use our outdoor seating areas
  - ii. Indoor seating is limited to a bench and not suitable for laying out multiple snacks or a meal

- b. Food or beverages are not allowed in the three (3) historic cabins: Winter Cabin, Point Cabin & Cady Cabin
- c. The Museum does not offer potable water unless by request from the staff break area
- d. The Museum sells minimal food items and is limited to bottled root beer, root beer candies and locally made granola

## **6. Garbage & Recycling**

- a. We offer an outdoor garbage and recycling area for items accumulated while visiting. Please refrain from disposing of large quantities of vehicle or household trash

## **7. Restroom Facilities**

- a. There is one, gender neutral restroom that has a sink, urinal and toilet
- b. There is a stool and a folding chair
- c. There is both a very loud hand dryer and paper towels
- d. We do not recommend filling water bottles for drinking from the tap due to touch-transfer from visitors

## **8. Breastfeeding**

- a. We do not have a separate, public space for breastfeeding or diaper changing. If you would like a private space, please ask staff. Our private staff area is in the basement of the Interpretive Center.

## **9. Accessibility**

- a. The Interpretive Center, Winter and Point Cabins all have ramp access and manual doors that are 36" wide. The Cady Cabin entry is 32" wide.
- b. Crushed rock pathways and wood decks offer access to all buildings on-site.
- c. The interpretive center and gift shop features an accessible, family restroom.
- d. A Social Narrative and Video Narrative are available online for pre-visit preparation at <https://www.rootbeerlady.com/visit/>
- e. Due to our rural location and limited resources, please contact us at least two weeks in advance with requests for language interpretation, private tours before/after hours or any other service that may help us offer an outstanding visit

## **10. Gift Shop**

- a. We offer a wide variety of curated items for sale in our gift shop. Please monitor members of your family to prevent accidental damage to or breakage of retail items.