



Accessibility Statement 2023

Please read carefully if you have mobility or medical needs.

We welcome everyone to our festival, and try to be as inclusive as is reasonably possible. However, we also want to be sure that we all know what we are in for, aside from a wonderful weekend of music and friends.

The Short Version

- Everything is on a first-come, first-serve basis
- Accessible parking is limited
- Flat camping sites are limited
- Weather and terrain can be very challenging
- Washrooms are simple outhouses
- Water is limited and only cold; bring your own
- Electricity is for charging medical equipment only, and not reliable
- Basic first aid is the only medical available
- The site is far from hospitals and emergency services
- Although we don't allow pets on site, Service Animals are welcomed. Please register your Service Animal at the Gate upon arrival
- Every festival attendee is self contained, self sufficient, and can manage well without amenities

The Long Version

The Blue Skies Music Festival is fortunate to be located in the Frontenac Arch, a geographically significant part of the Canadian Shield, which is both a blessing and a curse.

The festival grounds are located on a mostly unimproved clearing in the woods (granite with 1 inch of topsoil). All camping spots are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Few of our camping sites are on flat ground, and those that are, can become shallow lakes in poor weather. Scooters and wheelchairs face serious challenges on the terrain as there are only grass and dirt paths with a lot of uneven ground, steep hills, and rocks. When it rains these paths can become rivers of mud.

We have a wonderful, clean well with beautiful, cold water that sometimes runs low or runs out. Our toilets are simple wooden outhouses, where nothing but toilet paper can

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go in the holes. We have a couple of outhouses that can fit wheelchairs, though conditions for folks with caregivers are tight as it's still just an outhouse.

We have a very marginal connection with electricity and cell service. We are unable to ensure that you will have constant power for medical devices, nor guarantee charging for scooters or other mobility devices. Lighting at night is done mostly with personal flashlights.

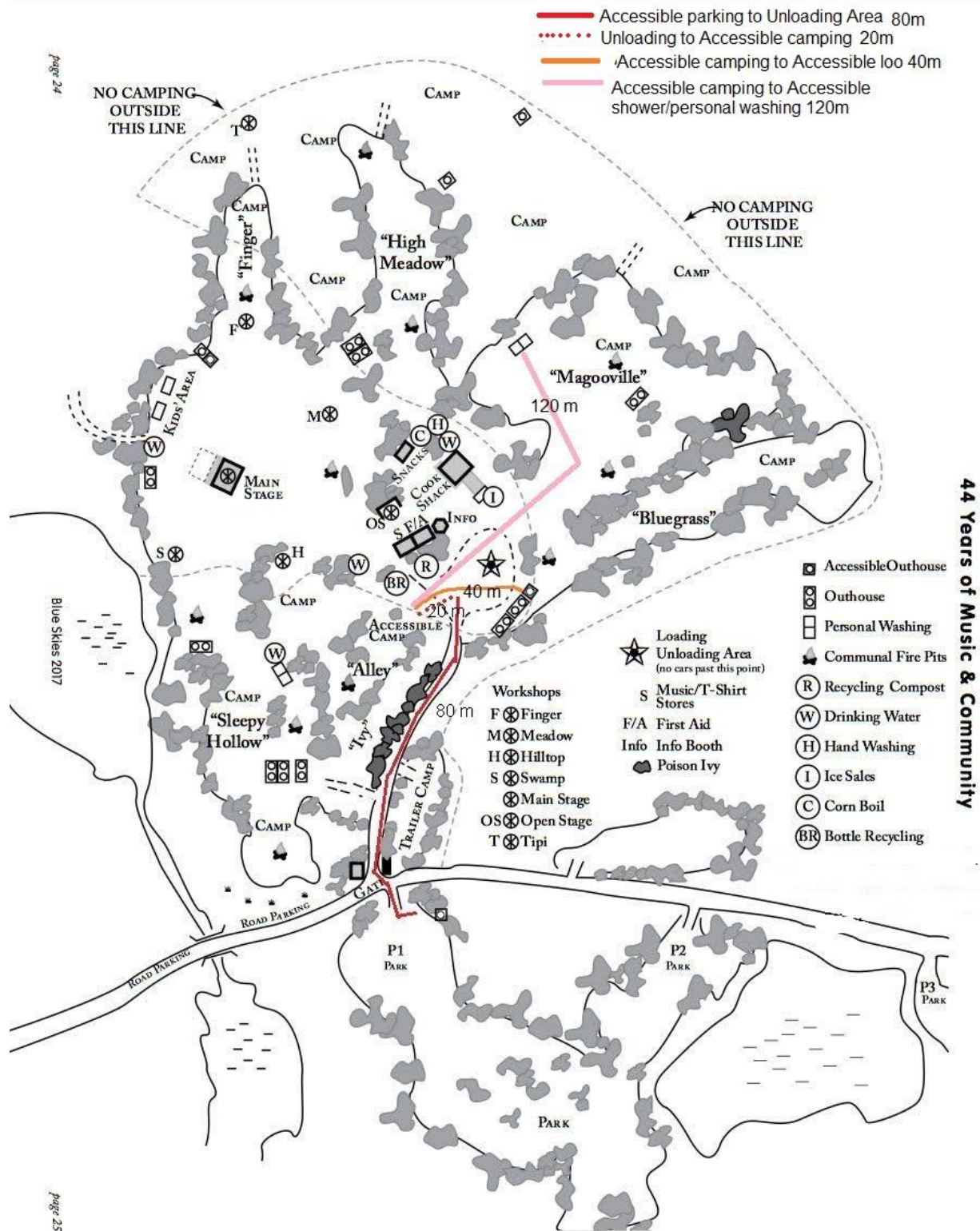
While we have many qualified volunteers who can do general first aid, that is all we provide. We are remote to all services. Emergency response services (Ambulance, Fire and Police) are located nearby, but their limited personnel are often out of the area, and it can take a fair amount of time for them to arrive.

We welcome official service animals, we request that you register the service animal upon arrival at the front gate, so we know how and where to find you should need arise. If you are already onsite and haven't done so already, please make your way to the Info Booth and they will assist you.

If you have health or mobility issues, camping at Blue Skies can be a challenging experience. As an alternative, many folks choose to stay nearby in Sharbot Lake or Silver Lake Provincial Parks, or even rent accommodations in Sharbot Lake or Perth, and then use day passes to enjoy the festival. Parking is a challenge as there are only a few designated accessible parking spots (located outside of the festival proper, a few hundred meters down the road), and if no accessible parking is available, standard parking can run several kilometers down a dirt road. Accessible parking is on a first-come, first-serve basis and it fills up fast.

We would LOVE to see you, but accommodation is a serious challenge as we can't control geography, hydro, weather, or situations that may be specific to your needs. Our expectation is that every festival attendee is self contained, self sufficient, and can manage well without amenities. We do our very best to support each other, so if you decide that you can live with these additional challenges, then we welcome one and all with open arms.

Please go to the Info Booth if you have questions, concerns or suggestions. Or email us at accessibility@blueskiesmusicfestival.ca and we will get back to you after the festival.



Map of Blue Skies Festival Grounds Showing Distances to Accessible Parking

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