

Hello from Ebel's!

Our 2021 season is ahead of us and we have a few new policies and reminders that we would like to make our guests aware of. Please read and share this with your party prior to arrival to make any plans that may affect your vacation.

Please read the Covid-19 policy as it may affect some items that are no longer provided on the houseboat. This policy will stay in effect for the 2021 season.

Reminders:

OVERNIGHT PERMITS

Please be sure to have your overnight permits purchased and ready for the check in process. We will need to place them on the houseboat for you. If you have not purchased them visit <http://recreation.gov>.

PET POLICY

Ebel's is 100% pet friendly! We do have a \$50.00 per pet charge for the stay and do have a 2 pet maximum per houseboat. You will need to pay this at check-in.

EXTRA RENTALS

A small boat is included with your houseboat, you may bring your own boat or your own motor for our small boat. You can also rent from us. **YOU MUST HAVE A BOAT AND MOTOR IN TOW.**

PILLOWS/BLANKETS

There are no pillows or blankets provided on ANY houseboat due to Covid-19 and Minnesota DNR restrictions.. Please bring your own.

POLICIES:

CPAP BATTERY RENTALS DISCONTINUED

We are already experiencing difficulties with CPAP battery setups. Machines have changed and our setups are not able to handle new technology, therefore we are going to have to discontinue rental of battery packs and ask that you make arrangements with your health provider for battery use. Remember that generators **ARE NOT ALLOWED** to run at night! Your provider or Amazon sell battery set ups!

CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

We will add a 3% surcharge for all credit/debit card use. Alternate forms of payment can be check or cash.

Thank you and see you soon!

KATY, JUSTIN & HEATHER EBEL



EBEL'S Houseboat Planning Kit

Welcome Aboard!



Don't forget your fishing pole!

Included with this
planner:

Permit Purchase
Passenger manifest
Charter agreement
List of items to bring
Directions

Thank you for reserving your houseboat vacation with Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats! The Ebels and staff would like to prepare you for your upcoming voyage in beautiful Voyageurs National Park. We have prepared this "houseboat planning kit" to assist you in planning your houseboat vacation and be sure that you are aware of all of the procedures that need to be done to make this an unforgettable vacation. Please take the time to read this entire planner and be sure to share with all members of your "crew".

Katy, Justin & Heather Ebel

Special points of interest:

- Kettle Falls Hotel
- Ellsworth Rock Gardens
- Namakan Narrows pictographs
- Hiking trails
- Wildlife watching



Houseboat overnight permit

New in 2017, all houseboats are required to get a permit to stay overnight in the park. Fees will apply. Visitors may make a reservation by going on-line at www.Recreation.gov or by calling the National Call Center at (877)-444-6777.

Passenger Manifest

A passenger manifest will be sent to you via DocuSign. You will notice that rental houseboat are NOT allowed to have more than 12 passengers (this includes children). Fines can be in the thousands of dollars and are your responsibility. This is a U.S. Coast Guard requirement and is a result of the Passenger Vessel Act of 1993.

Charter Agreement

A “charter agreement” has been included in this planner and MUST be signed prior to boarding your houseboat. This is the agreement between you and Ebel’s for the rental of the houseboat. You will not be allowed to board the houseboat until the signed agreement has been returned to the office. This will be sent electronically via DocuSign.



Escape to the
wilderness without
leaving anything
behind!

Extra Rental Equipment

Please let us know in advance if you will be needing any “extra” rental equipment. This may include small boats (one is included, no motor), small motors, generators, linens (check FAQ’s if these are included with your houseboat) canoes and kayaks

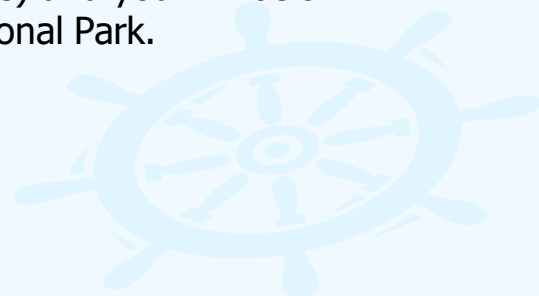


What to expect upon arrival.....

1. Plan on arriving AFTER 1:00 PM and PRIOR to 5:00 PM.
2. Check in with office to hand in and/or sign documents.
3. Pay for your houseboat and any "extra" rental equipment.
4. Your houseboat will be assigned to you.
5. An Ebel's crew member will accompany you to your houseboat.
6. Inspect your houseboat with a crew member.
7. A "crew" member will help you load your belongings.
8. Put your own boats in the water on our boat ramp.
9. Ask your crew member where to park. This is very important, as we have limited parking and need to make good use of the parking area that we have. You may be asked to disconnect your trailer. This trailer will need to be marked by our crew.
10. Order ice, bait, firewood and any items that you may want to purchase from Ebel's. A running tab will be held for you and will be paid at the end of your trip for payment with the fuel that you used.
11. When all the above items have been done, your instructions will begin.
12. Please be sure to LISTEN to all instructions. SAVE your questions until the instructions are done.
13. Once your crew instructor is sure that you fully understand the instructions you will set sail!
14. Our crew member will accompany you for a short cruise (they will tow a boat to return to our base) and you will be on your own to venture in our beautiful National Park.
15. Please have fun!



Making dreams
come true, one
houseboat trip at a
time!



POLICIES

- We are 100% pet friendly. No more than 2 pets will be allowed on one houseboat. **New \$100.00 per pet charge will be added.**
- **A boat and motor in tow is required.** You may bring your own. We will provide as part of your houseboat rental a 14' boat (no oars) that you may bring or rent a motor for. The provided boat is rated for up to a short shaft 20HP.
- **Linen** are provided on our Vista and 65' series at no additional charge. This includes sheets and towels. Our Voyageur and Voyageur Plus Series require you to bring your own linen. **There are NO pillows or blankets provided on ANY houseboat due to Minnesota DNR restrictions.**
- A valid **overnight permit** must be purchased for your houseboat vacation.
- All documents must be **signed** in advance of boarding.
- **Payment** of houseboat must be made prior to boarding. 6.875% state tax, .05% county tax and a 3% service will apply to all house-boat rentals. Extra rental equipment will be taxed 7.37%.
- Any **damages** to our houseboat and its parts will be your Responsibility. We do offer an optional damage insurance for \$30.00 per day.
- **Check-in** time is between 1:00-3:00 PM. **Check-out** time is 9:00 AM.
- All **deposits** are non-refundable. Payment in full 45 days in advance is required on our Vista and 65' Series.
- We have the right to refuse or terminate any trip if determined.

Please follow the rules and policies. Ask if you are unsure!

Phone number
to leave with
family members

218-374-3571

Email



www.ebels.com

THE EBEL'S LOGO.....



The Ebel's logo uses a series of ancient Indian pictographic symbols to reflect the profound spirituality that man has always experienced as he has moved through the wild natural beauty of the northern border lakes region. The design is composed of four interlocking Indian symbols. Each symbol is believed to depict one of the four life forces that come together to create the world as the native Americans of the north woods saw it. The moose symbolizes the land and the wildlife that roam across it. The fish represents the lakes and the creatures that dwell there. The spiral form stands for air, wind and the heavens. And the human form is man taking his position as a humble yet essential part of this universe.

LIST OF ITEMS TO BRING

FOOD: it is wise to plan all meals in advance and bring “special” items to prepare

Dish soap, hand soap and scrubbing pads

Paper towels, tissue, matches and paper plates

Insect repellent and Raid

Allergy and motion sickness medications, if prone

First aid kit, sunscreen and aloe

Freezer bags and aluminum foil

Camera, batteries, binoculars and flashlight

Paper, pens, reading materials, cards and games

Fishing gear, filet knife and steak knives

Personal clothing and raingear

Tennis shoe and hiking boots

Personal hygiene items, swimwear and sunglasses

Extra coolers

Towels, sheets (if not included)

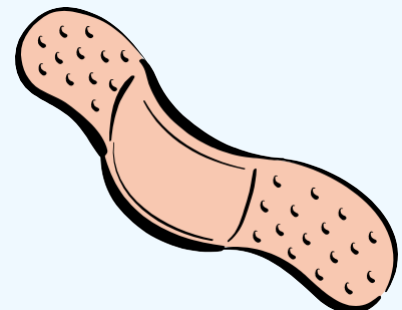
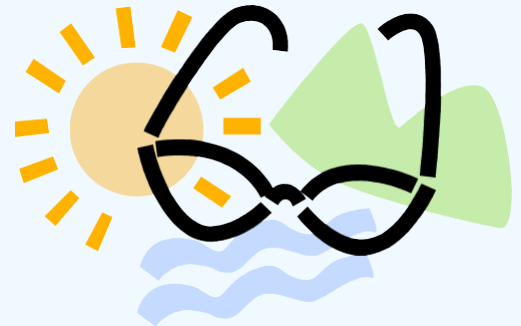
Pillows and blankets or sleeping bags

Children’s life jackets and ski vests. Adult life jackets are included.

CD’s/iPod with jack to plug into stereo system

Grill brush for BBQ

Rope to tow your own boat

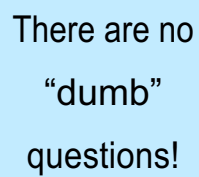




We are located 37 miles south east of International Falls, MN. After traveling on US Hwy 53 we are 10 miles east on County Rd 129 (Ash River Trail). At the intersection of County Rd 129 and US Hwy 53 there is a gas/convenience store (JIM'S ASH TRAIL STORE).

Our address is:

**10326 Ash River Trail, Orr, MN 55771
218-374-3571**



HOUSEBOAT VACATIONS



EBELS.COM

PASSENGER MANIFEST– PAGE 1 of 2

Please complete prior to your arrival.

The Passenger Safety Vessel Act of 1993 prohibits carrying more than 12 passengers (adults, children and infants) on your rental houseboat. If

your rented houseboat has more than 12 passen-

gers you will be in violation of the Passenger Safety Vessel Act of 1993 and subject to penalties enforced by the United States Coast Guard. It is your responsibility to

comply with requirement. Children 12 years old and under must wear a life vest at all times while traveling on an Ebel's houseboat.

At no time should you exceed the 12 passenger limit imposed by the Passenger Safety Vessel Act of 1993

Read and understood by:

Signature

Date

Printed Name

1. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

2. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

3. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

4. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

5. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

6. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

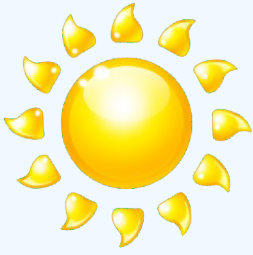
7. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email



8. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

9. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

10. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

11. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email

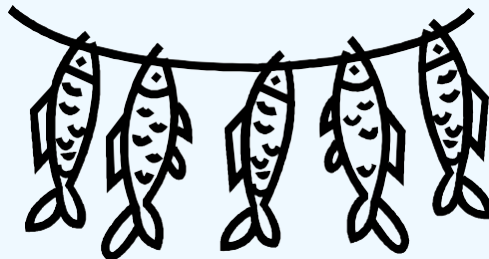
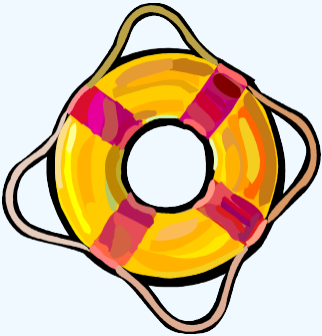
12. _____

Name (check here if this is a child under the age of 12)

Street address

City, State, Zip

Email





Voyageurs National Park 2019 - Overnight Houseboat Permits

- Houseboats are required to have a permit for overnight stays from www.recreation.gov or the call center at 877-444-6777.
- There is no limit to the number of houseboats allowed in the park at one time.
- Reservations will not be site specific, rather for overnight stays.
- Reservations will be available starting April 2019, for all of the 2019 season.
- There will be a \$10 fee per each night in the park, (ex: 5 nights = \$50).
- If you cancel a reservation before your permit is printed, you will forfeit the first night's fee of \$10.
- Once your permit is printed, there will be no refunds for cancellations.
- Designated houseboat sites may be used on a first-come, first-served basis.
- There is a limit of two houseboats per each designated site.
- Houseboats may stay at an undesignated site as long as they are at least 200 yards away from any developed site or structure.
- Houseboats may not moor overnight at docks in Voyageurs National Park.
- Houseboats wishing to pitch a tent must go onto www.recreation.gov and reserve a tent site for those in the party who want to do this. However, **a houseboat may not moor at the tent sites.**
- Houseboats are allowed to stay overnight in the two group campsites, R74 on Rainy Lake and K54 on Kabetogama Lake. The group must have a permit for the group site **and** a permit for each houseboat. The group campsite limit is at least 14 and no more than 30 people.
- No discount passes (golden age, access etc.) are accepted for houseboat or camping fees.



How to Make a Houseboat Reservation on Recreation.gov

- 1) Go to www.recreation.gov
- 2) In the upper right, either **Log In** to your account or click on **Sign Up** to create an account.
- 3) In the search bar, type “voyageurs national park houseboat permits” and click on **SEARCH**.
- 4) Click on **Voyageurs National Park Houseboat Permits**.
- 5) Select your entry date and click on **Check Availability**.
- 6) Select the appropriate boxes for your trip dates on the lake you will be on, from your arrival date to your departure date. Click on **Book Now**.
- 7) Make sure itinerary cost listed on the right is correct; fill out requested information on the left and agree to important information at the bottom of the page.
- 8) If complete, click on **Proceed to Cart**.
- 9) Check that the order summary is correct and click on **Proceed to Payment**.
- 10) Fill out payment information and click on **Next**.
- 11) Review and confirm information and click on **Continue**.
- 12) **Print your permit prior to your trip.** It is required to have this when entering the park. To print your permit, log into your recreation.gov account, click on the down arrow next to your name in the upper right, select **My Reservations** and select **Print Permit** for the appropriate trip. There is no place to print your permit once you arrive at the park.



CHARTER AGREEMENT

This charter party at Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc., Ash River Trail, St. Louis County, Minnesota, on the _____ day of _____, 20____ between Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc., owner of the houseboats, Party of the First Part, hereinafter referred to as the Owner, and _____ Party of the Second Part, hereinafter referred to as the Charterer.

WITNESSETH

1. The Owner agrees to let, and the Charterer agrees to hire the houseboat number _____ on the following basis.
2. The Charterer shall pay in advance to the owner as and for the exclusive use of the vessel, a daily or weekly rental to be agreed upon between the parties hereto; there will be no refund to the Charterer of the rental paid in advance.
3. The Charterer shall furnish all of his own food, rations, provisions and personal equipment for the rental period, or in the alter-native, the Charterer shall pay the Owner for such food, rations, provisions and personal equipment as is supplied by the Owner.
4. The vessel shall only be used for the pleasure purposes of the Charterer, his family and guests and the Charterer shall not engage in the transportation of merchandise or carrying of passengers for hire or engage in any trade in violation of the laws of the United States, Canada or any political subdivision of either.
5. During the period of this agreement the Charterer shall have the full and exclusive command, control, use, possession and navigation of the vessel. It is understood that the Owner upon delivering possession of the vessel to the Charterer shall retain no control of its use, possession or navigation, the same being wholly vested in the Charterer for the duration of this agreement.
6. Qualified guides are usually available to the Charterer, which he may hire at his own discretion. Any guide so hired by the Charterer shall be an employee of the Charterer and not that of the Owner.
7. The Owner shall not in any way be held liable for any claim for damages made by any third party arising out of the operation of the vessel by the Charterer. It being understood that the Charterer shall be solely responsible for his operation, navigation and use of the vessel and the Charterer will hold the owner harmless against any and all such claims. Charterer is solely responsible for his/her operation and use of the houseboat vessel and for the control thereof when not in use. Charterer is, therefore, responsible for any claims which may arise out of the operation and use of the houseboat vessel by any person, whether or not authorized by Charterer to operate such houseboat vessel.
8. The Charterer will be liable for any damage to the vessel and will be fully responsible for any lost or damaged equipment and service calls. This provision is not applicable to any service calls which are required because of breakdown of equipment.
9. We reserve the right to inspect any and all boats. If a boat is returned in a dirty condition a \$200.00 cleaning fee will be billed to the Charterer and to be paid before leaving base.
10. Vessels are to be returned to the base not later than 9:00 a.m. on the agreed date. An additional charter rate penalty of one-half day will be assessed against the Charterer for late return. If you plan to return to the base before your scheduled return, please call. Charterer agrees to allow St. Louis Sheriff, Minnesota DNR or Canadian law enforcement officials to board the vessel upon their request. Vessels must be tied up 90 minutes prior to sunset.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both the Owner and the Charterer have executed this Agreement this _____ day of _____, 20____

EBEL'S VOYAGEUR HOUSEBOATS, INC.

Owner _____
(An Officer)

Charterer _____



PET POLICY

Ebel's is pet friendly and currently charges \$50 per pet with a maximum of two per houseboat. We do ask that you take responsibility for the cleanliness of the houseboat regarding your pet.

1. Please do not allow your pet on the furniture and beds!
2. Please do not leave your pet unattended in the houseboat.
3. Clean your pet's paws when entering the houseboat from the beach.
4. Immediately report any damage that your pet may have caused.
5. Follow the National Park pet policy.

Heavy shedding pets are the housekeeper's worst enemy. Please clean up after your pets! Ebel's reserves the right to charge a minimum fee in the amount of \$250.00 for houseboats that require extra cleaning due to pets. This includes the replacement of blankets and shampooing of the carpet.

Please be respectful of the guests that follow you! We hope that you and your pet have a wonderful vacation!



Guest Signature _____ Date _____



KATY EBEL

10326 Ash River Trail • Orr, Minnesota 55771 • 218-374-3571

LIMITED WAIVER OF RIGHTS OF RECOVERY

In consideration of payment of \$_____, Ebel's Voyageur Houseboats, Inc. ("Ebel's") hereby waives its right to recover damages against _____ ("Charterer") for part of the deductible portion of Ebel's physical damage insurance ("Hull Insurance") for Houseboat Number _____ for damage to such houseboat under the following specific terms and conditions:

1. The Charterer is responsible for the following damages to such houseboat:
 - The first **\$200.00** of damage, per incident.
 - All damage from **\$5,000.00** to **\$10,000.00** per incident.
 - Ebel's insurance company may sue the Charterer under its subrogation rights for any damages to such houseboat in excess of the deductible under Ebel's Hull Insurance policy which deductible is currently \$10,000.00 per incident.
 - The amount of damage to such houseboat shall be determined by Ebel's and shall be Ebel's purchase price for expedited delivery of replacement parts plus the number of hours necessarily incurred by Ebel's in repairing the damage with the labor to be calculated at Ebel's "shop rate".
2. This waiver does not apply to damage to fishing boats and their motors; fish-n-ski boats and their motors; houseboat anchors; houseboat furniture; and/or propellers on the motors on said fishing boats, fish-n-ski boats and/or such houseboat.
3. Ebel's is not acting as an insurer.
4. In the event the Charterer or its guests breach the terms of the Charter Agreement for the afore-described houseboat and such breach directly or indirectly causes the damage to the houseboat then, and in that event, this Agreement is void.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both Ebel's and the Charterer have executed this Agreement this _____ day of _____, 20____.

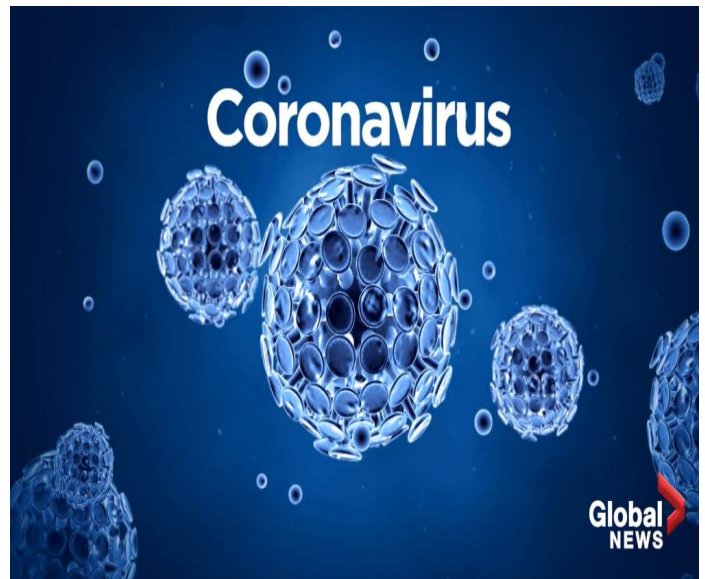
EBEL'S VOYAGEUR HOUSEBOATS, INC.

By: _____
Its _____

Charterer: _____
Print Name: _____

2020 Covid-19

EBELS HOUSEBOATS



Ebel's response to Covid-19

Our 49th year will be a year to remember! We have had challenges and are ready to tackle Covid-19. With cooperation and a little patience we can make a Ebel's houseboat trip the **ULTIMATE** social distancing vacation!

Please read over what we are planning to do to ensure a safe and enjoyable vacation!

AMMENDED DEPOSIT POLICY



45-Day Notice

As all of us are aware of the current Covid-19 pandemic, we have altered our cancellation policy to reflect the current guidelines of our nation. For 2020 we are changing to a 45 day cancellation policy, with your deposit carrying over to the 2021 season. This replaces our current non-refundable policy.



2020 Season

As long as state and federal governments allow lodging such as us to operate, we will be open. We will follow all the guidelines that the CDC recommends for the safety of our guests.

COVID POLICIES

CHECK-IN In the 2020 season we will be sending out all documents pertaining to rentals via DocuSign. Please follow the instructions within the email and return to us prior to arrival. This includes the Passenger Manifest, Charter Agreement, Optional Insurance waiver, Pet Policy and a copy of your Signed Overnight Permit. If you are unsure of how to do any of this, please email us info@ebels.com. We will be happy to assist.

Once your entire group has arrived, we will ask that only one person per group enter our office. This person can make payment and receive houseboat assignment. We ask that this person wear a mask. We will have them available if you need.

Fishing licenses should be obtained prior to your arrival. They can be purchased online via <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/licenses/fishing/index.html>

We will assign one staff member to assist in loading your houseboat, parking your vehicle and questions prior to instructions. When possible please email us your bait, ice and wood order at info@ebels.com

Instructions will be given by one staff member to ONE guest. Others may listen at a distance. The staff member will captain the houseboat to Sullivan bay where they will leave the houseboat and return to our base. Please allow for social distancing while our staff member is onboard. You could be outside on the upper deck, on the back deck or in your small tow along boat.

CLEANING OF HOUSEBOAT All of our houseboats will be thoroughly cleaned as they have been with the addition of paying particular attention to frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, remote controls, countertops, handles, toilets, faucets, sinks and other nonporous surfaces. Bleach and disinfectants will be used for normal cleaning. Once the houseboat is cleaned, we will be fogging p with an electric atomizer sprayer containing a disinfectant registered with the EPA for use against Covid. Please note that we will whenever possible allow the houseboat to sit 24 hours prior to a guest's arrival. These additional cleaning procedures will also have to allow for more cleaning time do please be patient with us!!!

DURING YOUR VACATION We will have contact with you via marine radio or cell phone. Please know your location prior to calling us if assistance is needed. Plan on stocking up on all your ice, bait and firewood prior to departure. Mechanical assistance will be available if needed.

CHECK-OUT Plan on one person with mask to come in office to pay remaining balance. Ice, bait, wood and fuel will be tallied at the end of your trip.

IN CLOSING We want to provide the safest possible trip you can have during these unprecedented times. By helping Ebel's with the new policies and changes we will and will continue to provide you with trouble-free houseboat vacations like we have for 49 years! Please do not come to our area or take your vacation if you are symptomatic. Our area currently has very few cases of Covid. We hope you and yours are healthy and remain healthy, and for the speedy recovery of our nation.

*PLEASE NOTE THAT POLICIES MAY CHANGE WITH TIME

THANK YOU & BE WELL,

KATY, JUSTIN, HEATHER EBEL & THE EBELS CREW

