

Directions to the Geek/Roth Lakehouse

The following are driving directions from Chicago, the Chicago suburbs and Dubuque. If you need directions from a different location, please let us know. Also, please be careful when driving through the small towns as the speed limits change frequently and there are lots of well-funded police departments with very bored policemen.

- **From Downtown Chicago and Northwest Suburbs (about a 2-1/2 hour drive from Chicago and a 2-hour drive from suburbs):**

1. Take 90 West towards Rockford for 70 miles. After the McDonald's Belvedere Oasis and Chrysler Plant, look for Highway 20 West.
2. Take Highway 20 West around Rockford and towards Freeport for 35 miles.
3. Right before Freeport, Highway 20 splits. Take 20 Business into Freeport (do not follow Highway 20 towards Galena).
4. You will be driving on Highway 20 Business for about 3 miles. At the Highway 26 intersection (there is a Wal-Mart on the corner), turn left onto Highway 26 South.
5. Drive on Highway 26 South for 7 miles. Turn right onto Highway 72 West. Drive on Highway 72 West for 10 miles.
6. At the 4-way stop sign intersection of Highway 72 and Highway 73, drive straight. The road changes and it is bumpy/hilly. You'll pass a couple marinas on the right and will stay on this road for about 3 miles.
7. You'll pass the "Fast Stop" gas station on the right-hand side and will soon pass signs that indicate trail crossings. When you see a sign that says "Dangerous Intersection," you'll turn right at this intersection onto Lake Carroll Blvd.
8. Take Lake Carroll Blvd. for .5 mile (you will pass a ski lift on the left) and turn right onto Spring Creek Drive.
9. Take Spring Creek Drive for about .4 mile and turn left onto Briarwood Dr. (Briarwood Dr. is a little hidden; if you reach a "Y" in the road, you've gone too far.)
10. Drive straight on Briarwood Drive for .3 of a mile and turn right onto Lakewood Court. You will pass some streets on the left but do not turn into them.
11. We live in the blue-gray house with white trim at the bottom of the street. There is a wooded area on the left, a brown house on the right and the lake is in the back. Our address is 12-119 Lakewood Court.

- **From Western Chicago Suburbs (about a 2-hour drive):**

1. Take I-88 (toll road) west to I-39 North (I-39 will be about 15 miles past the \$.95 toll on 88).
2. Take I-39 North (towards Rockford) for about 5 miles and exit at Highway 64.
3. At the stop sign at the end of the exit ramp, turn left to head west on Highway 64.
4. You'll be on Highway 64 for about 45 miles and will travel through various small towns including Oregon and Mt. Morris. BE VERY CAREFUL TO FOLLOW THE SIGNS FOR HIGHWAY 64 AS THERE WILL BE SEVERAL TURNS ALONG THE WAY.
5. In Lanark turn right onto Highway 73.

6. You will drive on Highway 73 for about 5 miles. At the 4-way stop sign of Highway 72 and Highway 73, turn left onto a bumpy/hilly road. You'll pass a couple marinas on the right and will stay on this road for about 3 miles.
7. You'll pass the "Fast Stop" gas station on the right-hand side and will soon pass signs that indicate trail crossings. When you see a sign that says "Dangerous Intersection," you'll turn right at this intersection onto Lake Carroll Blvd.
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- **From Dubuque (about a 70-minute drive):**

1. Take Highway 20 east to Highway 73. You will go through Galena, Elizabeth, Woodbine and Stockton. Highway 73 is in a 45 mph zone about 10 miles east of Stockton.
2. Go south on 73 for about 13 miles. You may see signs for Lake Carroll, don't turn into the main entrance where the biggest sign is located.
3. At the 4-way stop sign of Highway 72 and Highway 73, turn right and continue west on a bumpy/hilly road. You'll pass a couple marinas on the right and will stay on this road for about 3 miles.
4. You'll pass the "Fast Stop" gas station on the right-hand side and will soon pass signs that indicate trail crossings. When you see a sign that says "Dangerous Intersection," you'll turn right at this intersection onto Lake Carroll Blvd.
5. Take Lake Carroll Blvd. for .5 mile (you will pass a ski lift on the left) and turn right onto Spring Creek Drive.
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Welcome to Lake Carroll!

We hope you enjoy your stay at Lake Carroll! To make your time here relaxing and enjoyable, we've put together the following information and tips. Also included is a Departure Checklist to follow when you leave, ensuring that our home is ready for future visits and visitors. We appreciate you reading through this, and hope that you'll remember to sign our guestbook before you leave.

Emergency Information

- Fire/Police/Ambulance: 911
- Lake Carroll Security: 815-493-2599
- Lakehouse Address: 12-119 (section 12, lot 119) Lakewood Court, Lanark, IL 61046
- Lakehouse Phone Number: 815-493-6901
- Nearest Hospital: Freeport Memorial Hospital, 815-235-4131; take Highway 72 east to Highway 26; go north (left) on 26. In Freeport turn left on Stephenson St. (just past Lincoln St.); hospital is at 1045 W. Stephenson St. in Freeport, approximately 25 miles from Lake Carroll
- Poison Information Center: 608-262-3702
- The cabinet above the small desk in the kitchen has a small first aid kit and flashlight.
- Tim's contact info:
 - Cell: 312-543-2626 (usually on)
 - Home: 773-281-2435
- Joe and Kelly's contact info:
 - Cell: 630-263-4608 (rarely on)
 - Home: 630-769-9329
- If you notice anything unusual, such as a leak, weather damage, unsightly pests/rodents, vandalism, etc., *please call us*.

Locks and Keys

- We move the outdoor key lockbox from time to time and change the combination of the lockbox, so call Tim or Kelly to get the most recent information.
- To use the lockbox: Punch in the combination and push down the "Open" button to lift off the top of the lockbox. If you make a mistake when entering the combination, push "Clear" and start over.
- When using the key, unlock the deadbolt and doorknob locks as they'll both be locked when you arrive.
- Please replace the key and lockbox immediately after use. To put the key back in the lockbox, push "Clear" and enter the combination again. Push the "Open" button down and the top of the lockbox should slide/lock back into place. Please return the lockbox to the super-secret hiding spot after use.
- BE CAREFUL...GETTING LOCKED OUT OF THE HOUSE IS EASY. When the bottom doorknob lock is in the "locked" position, you can easily close a locked door behind you. Remembering to put the lockbox back and knowing the combination would probably be a good idea. Otherwise, it's okay to leave the doorknob unlocked during your stay as long as you use the deadbolt at night and when you're not at home.
- There is an extra key to use if you leave the house; the key is located on the key holder on the left wall when you walk in the front door.

Kitchen

You'll find the kitchen stocked with everything you'll need. Items to note include:

- Cookie sheets and a pizza pan are in the drawer underneath the oven.
- Cooking oil and non-stick cooking spray are in the cabinet above the microwave.
- The pantry to the right of the small desk has paper towels and other dry goods.
- The cabinet above the small desk has a flashlight, sunscreen, bug spray and first aid kit; the drawer below the cabinet has Tim and Joe's fishing licenses and a map of Lake Carroll.
- Coffee, filters and mugs are in the cabinet above the coffeepot.
- The upper cabinets to the right of the sink contain acrylic barware that is *not* dishwasher safe; please hand-wash these pieces if you use them.
- The closet to the left of the stove is the "garbage closet"; it includes a garbage can (naturally!), as well as garbage bags and broom/mop/bucket.
- The cabinet to the right of the refrigerator has some liquor, which you are welcome to enjoy. There are also matches on the top shelf in the small cardboard boxes.
- Check out the drawers below the liquor cabinet for plastic bags, plastic wrap, foil, hot pads, indoor/outdoor placemats and kitchen towels.
- Dish soap and dishwasher detergent are under the sink.

Air Conditioning and Heat

The thermostat is located in the hallway next to the Roth's bedrooms. Note: It's usually much cooler on the lower level, so be careful not to freeze yourself by setting the air conditioner too low.

Water - drink it at your own risk!

We have well water, so drinking frequently from the tap is not recommended. There's bottled water in the garage refrigerator for drinking, and gallons of water under the sink for use in making juice, etc.

Cleaning Supplies – use of these items is not required!

- A vacuum can be found in the front hall closet.
- A broom/mop/bucket, as well as garbage bags, are in the closet to the left of the stove.
- Cleaning products are in the cabinet above the washer.

Laundry

- Feel free to use the washer and dryer just off of the kitchen.
- Laundry soap and dryer sheets are on top of the dryer. An extra bottle of detergent can usually be found in the cabinet above the washer.
- *Be sure to empty the lint trap on top of the dryer between loads.* If the dryer starts beeping, it means that the lint trap is too full.

Garage

- After emptying the kitchen wastebasket, please store garbage in the big can in the garage until you leave (the garage door is right by the washer and dryer).

- The garage also has an extra refrigerator in which we keep beer, pop, beer, bottled water and beer...help yourself.

Fish Wine Rack

Due to the fact that Tim the Wine Connoisseur (a.k.a. Wine Snob) stores his premier collection here, using the wine in the fish rack is probably not a good idea unless you have written consent and/or verbal approval from Tim. You can, however, use the wine skewer, which is dangling off the left side of the fish rack. You can also help yourself to the less snobby wine collection in the cabinet to the right of the refrigerator.

TV and Stereo

Joe has quite an elaborate set-up, so using the TV and stereo is a little complicated. Please follow Joe's step-by-step instructions for your viewing/listening pleasure:

- The hub of the system is the tuner on top of the entertainment cabinet to the right of the fireplace. Turn on power on the tuner *and* the TV and press the appropriate button on the tuner:
 - For VCR: Push "Video 1", making sure the VCR power is on.
 - For stereo: Push "Video 2" and use tuner to find radio stations.
 - For DVD/CD player: Push "DVD", making sure the DVD power is on.
 - For Direct TV: Push "TV/Sat", making sure the Direct TV satellite box (on top of the tuner) is on.
- Please note that the speakers stay on all the time, so don't worry that the little green lights on the speakers are always lit.
- If you're having trouble with the system, there is a possibility that the light switch that controls the power in the room has been accidentally turned off. Next to the back door, make sure that the left switch is in the on position.
- Videotapes, DVDs and CDs are located in and around the entertainment cabinet.
- If you can figure out how to use the six remote controls for this system, please leave *us* instructions.

Fireplace

Until we have the chimney cleaned (probably Fall 2001), please do not use the fireplace.

Deck and Grill

- Fortunately the low railing on the deck allows for great lake views, but unfortunately it isn't well positioned for safety. Please watch children when on the deck – especially when on deck chairs – as well as unruly, drunk visitors.
- To use the gas grill:
 - Open top of grill.
 - Turn on gas using valve on propane tank (turn valve to the left).
 - Turn lower dial to "Start".
 - Push "Ignite" button (you may have to press this button a couple times). *If it fails to light, follow the directions on the top of the grill.*
 - Once front burner ignites, turn other dials to "High" to heat up grill.
 - The grill will be ready to use in about five minutes; turn burners to lower temperatures as appropriate after grill is heated.
- To turn grill off:
 - Turn all dials to "Off" *and* turn off gas using valve on propane tank (turn valve to the right).
 - After grill is cooled off, replace cover.

- If the propane tank runs out and you need to replace it, you can do so at the “Fast Stop” which you passed on the way to our home; it’s open from 8 am – 10 pm.

Lights and Fans

Using the lights and fans is easy once you know a simple trick: Turn on the bottom switch labeled “Power” first, then you can turn on the “Light” and/or “Fan” switches. To control the speed of the fan, keep the “Fan” button pressed until it reaches the desired speed. Use “Power” again to turn off both the light and fan.

Burglar Alarm

We don’t use the burglar alarm, but if for some reason it happens to go off when you enter the house, use code number 8151 on the terminal next to the interior garage door (in laundry area) to disable it.

Baby Essentials

- A portable crib is in the closet of the queen guestroom.
- A high chair can be found in the kitchen or front hall closet.
- There are kids cups, plates and flatware in the kitchen; just look by the adult stuff and you’ll find them.

Lower Level

The stairs to the lower level are to the right of the garage door in the laundry area. On the lower level you’ll find two guestrooms, a pull-out couch, a guest bathroom, darts, pool, ping-pong and foosball. After you come down the stairs, there’s a closet to your right that has board games.

Guest Bedrooms

- The upstairs bedrooms are Tim’s (master), Joe and Kelly’s (with Canoe quilt) and Charlie and Audrey’s (adjacent to Joe and Kelly’s). Since we’re there most weekends, we don’t wash the sheets between every visit. So, to ensure a clean bed and room, please use the guestrooms on the lower level. One room has two twin beds (in the closet of this room, you’ll also find extra pillows and blankets). The other room has a queen-size bed with a portable dresser in the closet.
- Additionally, if needed, the golf couch is a sofa-sleeper; if the sheets aren’t on the bed, try the closet in the twin guest room.
- Please clean and replace sheets after use so that the beds are ready for our next visitors.

Guest Bathroom

- The guest bathroom is a little hidden...follow the little hallway next to the queen guestroom. It’s small, but should have everything you need.
- There are extra bath towels below the sink, and hand towels and wash cloths in the cabinet above the toilet. There are extra supplies in this cabinet, as well, including toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and Tylenol.
- Please clean and replace towels after use.

Extra Linens and Toiletries

Extra bath towels and beach towels can be found in the upstairs linen closet next to Charlie and Audrey’s room. You’ll also find another necessity in this closet – extra toilet paper – as well as miscellaneous toiletries.

Neighbors

When looking at the lake, our neighbors to our immediate left are Dave and Karen, who are very friendly and know lots about the lake and area. Our neighbors to our right are Dave and Cindy.

Lake Swimming and Water Toys

- The lake has a steep drop-off just off the shoreline, reaching from 4 – 6 feet in depth around the dock area, *so be careful to supervise kids outside at all times, especially when by the water and dock.*
- Due to inconsistent water depth around the dock, *please do not dive off the dock.*
- You'll find various floaties/life jackets in the lower level storage room. After you come downstairs, this room is the third door on the right side.
- Our kayak/paddles and paddleboat will either be on the dock, lower level patio or storage room. When using the kayak and paddleboat, you must have the same number of life jackets or floatable seat cushions as you do people in the kayak/boat. *Please make sure that kids wear life jackets at all times when in the kayak/paddleboat.*
- When using the kayak and paddleboat on the lake, please travel counter clockwise and stay within 100 feet of the shoreline. If you need to cross the lake, do so only in the middle of the lake using the most direct route possible.

Supplies

- It's a good idea to bring whatever you want to eat and drink with you as there isn't a big grocery store nearby. But if you do forget something, the "Fast Stop" that you passed on the way to our home is a great place to find lots of supplies, including food, gas, propane, beer/liquor, etc. It's open 5:30 am every day and closes at 10 pm on the weekends (it closes earlier on the weekdays); there's a brochure with the phone number on the refrigerator if you want to call before driving over there. It also has a little miniature golf course right behind it - \$5 for adults and kids; children under 3 are free.
- If we run out of something while you're visiting, please make a note of it on the notepad on the refrigerator so that we can replace it next time.

Outdoor Toys and Games

You'll find badminton, horseshoes, bocce ball, basketball, football, baseball and many other games on the shelves in the garage. Please clean off (if needed) and return toys/games to the garage after use.

Fishing

- We fish off the dock but have not caught anything to be too proud of yet. The neighbors say that 50 yards off of our dock is a well-known fishing hole, but until we have a fishing boat, you'll have to be creative in getting there.
- If you need to buy an Illinois fishing license, you can do so at the "Fast Stop." For your convenience, Tim and Joe's fishing licenses are located in the desk drawer in the kitchen; please remember to return them if you use them.
- Info and supplies: There's information on the refrigerator that describes the fish limits. Adult and kid's fishing gear is in the garage and there's usually bait in the garage refrigerator (or it can be purchased at the Fast Stop).

Boat Rentals

Stop by the marinas that you passed on the way in to ask about boat rentals. We've heard that you can rent a pontoon boat from 8 am – 8 pm for about \$150 per day. Other rentals may be available, as well.

Pool and Tennis Courts

- Our guests are welcome to use the pool and tennis courts, which is near the entrance where you came in. To get there from our house, take Lakewood Court (our street) to Briarwood Dr. Go left on Briarwood Dr. to Spring Creek Dr. and turn right. Take Spring Creek Dr. to Lake Carroll Rd. and turn left. You'll see ski lifts on your right and shortly after you'll turn right on Plum Tree Drive by the Isenhart Realty sign. This will lead to a lodge and campgrounds; a pool is to the right of the lodge and tennis courts are to the left of the lodge.
- To sign in at the pool, use our name and address – Roth, 12-119 – and this should get you in. You'll need to know this as there will be a lifeguard on duty that will have you put this info on the register (on the table just inside the fence entrance).
- Some goofy pool rules:
 - Hours are 12 noon – 8 pm...better late than never.
 - Adult swim is 5 – 6 pm every day; *kids are not allowed inside the entire pool area during adult swim, including the kiddie pool...go figure.*
 - Food and drink are not allowed in the pool.
- Tennis rackets and balls are on the shelves in the garage.

Golf

There's a clubhouse and 18-hole golf course located near the main entrance of Lake Carroll. The green fees are around \$20 (not including cart). Call 826-463-2808 to make a tee time. The course is about 10 minutes away. Drive back to the "Fast Stop" and instead of driving to the right in front of the Fast Stop, go to the left onto Lake Carroll Blvd., which is behind the Fast Stop. You'll also pass some storage garages. Drive on Lake Carroll Blvd. for about 3 miles. At the stop sign, turn left onto Lake Carroll Blvd. (Lake Carroll Blvd. circles around the entire development.) The Clubhouse is about ¼mile on the left.

Winter Sports

Lake Carroll is great for winter sports, including ice skating, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling and sledding:

- To ensure that the lake is frozen enough for use, please follow the instructions on the refrigerator about required temperatures for the appropriate freezing of lake water depths.
- Skiing/sledding is available near the entrance where you came in. To get there from our house, take Lakewood Court (our street) to Briarwood Dr. Go left on Briarwood Dr. to Spring Creek Dr. and turn right. Take Spring Creek Dr. to Lake Carroll Rd. and turn left. You'll see ski lifts on your right and shortly after you'll turn right on Plum Tree Drive by the Isenhart Realty sign. This will lead to the ski lodge.

Restaurants

We are certainly making no endorsements here, but there are a few nearby restaurants in Shannon (about 15 miles east on Highway 72), and in Lanark (about 5 miles east on Highway 72 and five miles south on Highway 73). In the summer months, they also serve food at the Lake Carroll Clubhouse. To get to the Clubhouse, drive back to the "Fast Stop" and instead of driving to the right in front of the Fast Stop, go to the left onto Lake Carroll Blvd., which is behind the Fast Stop. You'll also pass some storage garages. Drive on Lake Carroll Blvd. for about 3 miles. At the stop sign, turn left onto Lake Carroll Blvd. (Lake Carroll Blvd. circles around the entire development.) The Clubhouse is about ¼mile on the left.

Garbage Removal

Since Joe and Tim were too cheap to pay for Lake Carroll's very pricey garbage removal, you'll have to take your trash with you when you leave. We've been using the dumpster by the campgrounds, and haven't been caught yet! The dumpster is located next to the lodge by the pool. To get there from our

house, take Lakewood Court (our street) to Briarwood Dr. Go left on Briarwood Dr. to Spring Creek Dr. and turn right. Take Spring Creek Dr. to Lake Carroll Rd. and turn left. You'll see ski lifts on your right and shortly after you'll turn right on Plum Tree Drive by the Isenhardt Realty sign. Pull up just behind the lodge, throw your bags on the heap and drive off quickly.

Standard Disclaimer

This lakehouse is exclusively for use by friends, relatives, acquaintances, friends of friends, friends of relatives and friends of acquaintances. The owners do not accept responsibility for hangovers (although Extra Strength Tylenol is provided free of charge; see "Guest Bathroom" section above), injuries or bad behavior. If you get yelled at by the neighbors or authorities, please don't associate your stupidity with us (we already have enough of that in our family). If you get hurt, please don't sue us.

Seriously, though, we want the house and lake to remain a safe, fun place to visit. Please be careful when visiting, especially with small children.

Departure Checklist

Yes, we know we're a bit anal, but we see this checklist as a way to ensure that the house is ready for our upcoming visits and visitors. Make fun of us if you'd like.

- Sheets and towels cleaned and replaced?
- Air conditioning turned off, or heat turned down to 60 degrees?
- Oven and burners off?
- Coffee maker off *and* unplugged?
- Dirty dishes cleaned/returned to cabinets and dishwasher emptied?
- Perishable food removed from refrigerator and pantry?
- All lights off?
- All fans off?
- All toilets quiet and not running water into their tanks?
- Grill burners off *and* gas valve on propane tank turned all the way to the right?
- Deck umbrella down and tied closed?
- TV, satellite, stereo tuner, VCR and DVD turned off?
- Fireplace flu closed *and* fireplace gas turned off?
- Windows closed *and* locked?
- Kayak/paddleboat returned to dock, lower level patio or storage room and turned upside down?
- Floaties returned to basement storage room?
- Garbage removed from inside garbage cans and garage?
- Guestbook signed?
- Garage door closed?
- Doors closed, locked and dead-bolted?
- Key lockbox returned to super-secret hiding spot?

Thanks!

Tim, Joe and Kelly