



# RESEARCH GUIDE

## 2022

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**McGill**

RÉSERVE NATURELLE

**GAULT**

NATURE RESERVE

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# Foreword

Welcome to Gault Nature Reserve, McGill's living laboratory. The Reserve protects more than 1000 hectares of one of the last remaining old-growth forest of the St. Lawrence Valley. Staying here rhymes with tranquility and harmony with nature. We acknowledge that the Gault Nature Reserve is situated on the unceded traditional territory of the W8banaki Nation, the Ndakina. **K'wlipai8ba W8banakiak wdakiw8k**. You are welcome on the Abenaki territory.

To learn more about the Reserve, we encourage you to visit our [website](#)

For questions regarding this guide, please contact:

- David Maneli, Associate Director, [david.maneli@mcgill.ca](mailto:david.maneli@mcgill.ca), or;
- Martin Duval, Service and Security Manager, [martin.duval@mcgill.ca](mailto:martin.duval@mcgill.ca).

We are looking forward to seeing you!

The Gault Nature Reserve team

## Applying for a project

The process detailed below is applicable to all Researchers, Students, and Staff wishing to conduct research at Gault.

1. **STEP ONE:** You are required to complete the online form to submit your research project<sup>1</sup>.
2. **STEP TWO:** Once you have submitted your research project, [David Maneli](#), Associate Director, will contact you.
3. **STEP THREE:** Please contact [Martin Duval](#) to receive a quotation for lodging and for your booking.

<sup>1</sup> We may use some information from the form in some of our communications (e.g., newsletter, social media, website.)



# Guidelines for sustainable research

Our COVID-19 health and safety measures are subject to change in accordance with the University's [guidelines](#).

## General rules

1. All research and teaching projects must be registered and require the approval of the Executive Committee of the Reserve.
2. Any research or teaching activity that would threaten the integrity of the mountain's ecosystems is forbidden.
3. All experimental manipulations must be localized and must not have any long-term effects on the ecosystem.
4. Gault staff need to be informed of any research equipment or plots that will be visible from the public trails.
5. The environment must be returned to its natural state on completion of the project. Please, remove flags, stakes, and similar debris.

## Rules specific to the Preservation Sector

1. The use of the Preservation Sector, which is closed to the public, should be restricted largely to research involving only **occasional visits** and **non-destructive sampling**, mostly for the long-term monitoring plots or field experiments requiring minimal chance of human interference.
2. Research will not be allowed if it conflicts in any way with preserving the integrity of the mountain's ecosystem.

## Rules specific to the Public Sector

1. Approved activities taking place in the Public Sector should be conducted so as not to interfere with visitor enjoyment.
2. To help us promote the mission of the Reserve, we ask that you take the time to respond to public inquiries about your work.

## Research results

Your research contributes to a better understanding of the mountain's ecosystems, while also building on the wealth of accumulated knowledge at the Gault Nature Reserve. Your results may help Gault make better management decisions and inform future research.

Consequently, please forward a copy of any publication, report and/or data resulting from research done at Gault to David Maneli: [david.maneli@mcgill.ca](mailto:david.maneli@mcgill.ca).

## COVID-19 measures

Our COVID-19 health and safety measures are subject to change in accordance with the University's [guidelines](#).

### **If you present symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with someone who does:**

- You must self-isolate regardless of vaccination status and follow the [Instructions for People with COVID-19 Symptoms](#)
- If you were on campus or at the Gault Nature Reserve in the 48-hours before your symptoms appeared (or a positive test if asymptomatic), you must call McGill's Case Management Group at 514-398-2920

If you are from another University, refer to your institution's COVID-19 protocol.

## Upon your arrival

It is important that you present yourself to the Welcome Centre during normal business hours (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) so we give you instructions and the following:

- Your **research card**. A picture will be taken. Please always carry that card with you.
- **Research vest** for identification
- **Keys and/or access cards**
- Alarm codes (if needed)

### Special instructions for check-in after hours

If you plan to arrive before 8 a.m. or after closing hours of the Reserve, **please inform us as soon as possible**.

### Opening the gate after hours

Access card will be provided to visitors staying overnight or needing after-hours access.

### ID card for McGill staff or student

McGill ID cards can be programmed to open the gate during your stay. Contact us for more information.

## During your stay

### WI-FI

Instruction sheets are available in each of the buildings. Please note that some cellphones may have limited cellular service at the Cottage and Gault House. The reliability of the network varies between providers.

## Code of conduct

Gault House, the chalets, and most of our research facilities are adjacent to the Preservation Sector of the Reserve. There are various rare plants and some long-term research sites nearby. Feel free to use the open area around the buildings, but please cooperate by staying out of the adjacent woods. You should use the roads to travel between areas.

If you are planning to hike on the trails, [trail maps](#) are available on our website. Please follow the [rules](#) and trail etiquette and respect the opening and closing hours of the Reserve.

To ensure your **safety** and to respect the **conservation mission** of the Reserve, please read the following rules:

- Smoke-free environment. Smoking/vaping is tolerated in the Chalet and Gault House parking lots only.
- No BBQs
- No candles inside
- No temporary road signs
- Furniture should not be moved outside
- No swimming in Lac Hertel
- Pets are not allowed
- Please lock all doors at night or when you leave for the day

## Upon your departure

- Return all keys to the gatekeeper. If the gatekeeper is not there, please put the keys in the box and lock it. **Any missing key or access card will lead to a \$50 fee.**
- Return your equipment.

**Additional cleaning/maintenance fees will be charged to your supervisor if any damage is found or if extra cleaning is needed.**

# Directory and emergency contacts

## In case of emergency

For emergencies requiring the intervention of first respondents (police, firefighters, or ambulance) **dial 911**.

### VERY IMPORTANT

Do not forget that outside of business hours, the gate will be closed. It is important to **send someone to the gate** (when possible) to open and guide the rescue services.

## For all other needs or assistance

1. From 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.: Dial "0" on a fixed phone
  2. After business hours: 514-944-9504 (Gault 24/7 emergency line)
- OR
- 514-398-3000 (McGill Security)

There is only one telephone per building (cottage, chalet, Gault House). We ask you to use your own means of communication whenever possible. Please also make sure you wash your hands before and after using the phone.

- For external calls, **dial 9** followed by the phone number you are trying to reach
- To reach another chalet or the meeting room, dial the extension number
- To be reached at Gault, the phone number is 450-467-4010 followed by one of the extensions below:

Chalet 1 .....	<b>239</b>
Chalet 2 .....	<b>240</b>
Chalet Meeting room .....	<b>241</b>
Gault House — Kitchen .....	<b>233</b>
Gault House — Mezzanine .....	<b>234</b>



## **Gault Nature Reserve staff contact list**

[Click here](#) to access our online staff directory.