

PIE LTER Field Station Guide

Marshview Farm

[297 Newburyport Turnpike](#)

[Newbury, MA 01951](#)

978-465-4127

Rowley Field House

[95 Railroad Avenue](#)

[Rowley, MA 01969](#)

978-948-5016

piefacilities@mbl.edu

Introduction

There are two field facilities, Marshview Farm and the Rowley Field House, available for use by PIE LTER researchers and colleagues associated with the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL). The Rowley Field House provides direct water access and Marshview Farm provides expanded housing, laboratory space, storage, and meeting and conference areas for visiting students and researchers.

Using PIE Facilities

All researchers affiliated with PIE LTER are required to [register](#) annually, regardless of if you plan to visit PIE. You must also read and accept the [Principles of Community](#) and [Boating Policy](#).

All non-MBL researchers are also required to read and accept the [MBL Unlawful Harassment Policy](#) and [MBL Risk Waiver](#).

Housing is available on a first-come, first-serve basis, with priority going to PIE LTER staff and projects. To request housing or for more information about scheduling a visit to either field station, please visit our [website](#).

Description of Facilities

The Rowley House has 2 bedrooms with 4 beds each (typically one room is for men and one is for women), a kitchen, 1.5 bathrooms, living area, and small basement that can be used short term for some lab needs. There is also a small boat dock on the premises.

At the Marshview field station, there are two adjoining houses, each with three bedrooms, a kitchen, 2 full baths, and living space. The facility can house up to 13 individuals. There are two laboratory spaces equipped with sinks, counter space, and short-term refrigerator and freezer storage. Behind the barn there is an enclosed garage bay that can be used for short-term storage of field equipment and supplies, although there is no electricity. The Marshview facility is designed to meet the needs of both summer-long residents and shorter-term researchers. While the primary purpose of the facility is to support scientific research, it is important to remember that it is also a temporary home for summer field researchers.

Guidelines for Use

Bedrooms at both Marshview and Rowley are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are no single rooms. We ask short-term users to share rooms with each other before sharing with other long-term users. Visitors must provide their own sheets, linens, and towels. There is a washer and dryer in the upstairs bathroom of the “front house” at Marshview. As is true for any communal living situation, please be respectful of each other’s personal possessions, privacy and need for quiet.

The LTER provides toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, dish sponges, hand soap, trash bags, and light bulbs. You or your project are responsible for all other consumables, including but not limited to food, linens, toothpaste, etc. We recommend bringing:

- Sun-protective clothing
- Hat
- Boots and/or waders
- Raincoat/Winter coat
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Water bottle
- Dry bag
- Linens
- Pillow
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Coolers
- Batteries & chargers
- Tools, lumber, pipes, etc.
- Lab equipment
- Food

Do not use anything that is not yours without permission. Prepare for the weather and bring what you need or buy it yourself. If common supplies run low, please e-mail [PIE facilities](#) to request re-stocking. If it is urgent and you need to buy supplies out of pocket, save the receipt and send to PIE facilities for reimbursement.

If you use the labs, keep them clean. If you are spending the summer at Marshview, remove everything from the lab when you leave unless you have permission to leave it in the lab.

And remember... No Smoking and no pets inside the facilities.

Chipping In

Salt marsh ecology is dirty business, so extra effort is required to keep the houses and the lab space clean. There are outside faucets near the lab entrances to wash muddy gear and people. Keep dirty gear and clothing outside, do not wear or keep field footwear or waders in the house, and hang wet gear on the clothesline.

The Marshview and Rowley Houses are run and cleaned by the people that use the facility. There is no grant for the upkeep and supply needs of the facilities and no caretaker; therefore, it is the responsibility of each project to contribute to the cleanliness and maintenance of the field station. Be conscientious of your use of household consumables such as toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, cleaning supplies, etc., and re-stock as needed. When you leave, always make sure the bedrooms, kitchen, and common areas are clean and organized for the next visitor. Residents will help with weekly cleaning of general use areas. Use the white boards in the kitchen to keep track of household needs and to coordinate use of common areas, labs, and meeting space.

Parking

At Marshview, please park vehicles in the parking area south of the barn. At the Rowley House, only 2 field vehicles are allowed to park at the house. If your project has 2 or more vehicles, pull all the way into the lot at the garage and park behind each other (front to rear). Please leave 2 open spaces at the garage lot for neighbor/co-dock owner Neil Levine. Parking is also available up the road at the train station, ~\$4.00/day.

Boats

All boat operators must complete the MBL Boating Safety class **AND** undergo training with a certified PIE LTER boat manager.

PIE LTER boats are **NOT** general use. You must receive permission before use.

Boat gas is a project responsibility and boat gas tanks should be left **FULL** after use!

Problems

Minor issues (e.g. dipping sink, torn screen, trash pickup missed, etc.): e-mail PIE facilities.

Major issues (e.g. burst pipe, electrical issue): directly call plumber, electrician, or relevant service and then call Anne Giblin and Sam Kelsey to report the incident

Emergency (medical, fire, life-threatening situation): call 9-1-1

Phone numbers for Anne, Sam, and additional local medical facilities are on the bulletin boards in the kitchen.

If you are unsure of the extent of the problem, call Anne or Sam. Leave a message if they don't pick up. We want to help before the problem gets worse!