

# Next-Generation Camp

**D**ECADES OF MEMORIES have been made on this piece of Kiwassa Lake shoreline, but when Chris Clark reimagined the century-old camp his grandfather bought in 1952, it was with an eye to the future. Clark worked with Black Mountain Architecture, in Saranac Lake, to design a modern vacation retreat that could accommodate a growing extended family while maximizing the one-acre property's biggest asset, its scenic lakeside location. "If you look at pictures of the old camp," Clark says, "none of them are of the camp. They're all of the view."

The new home uses a similar footprint to the previous camp, more than doubling the square footage yet lowering the energy usage. Black Mountain's Jesse Schwartzberg says that was

achieved through the passive-solar orientation of the structures and the use of construction materials and methods that help maintain a consistent, comfortable indoor temperature. The main house is solar-ready, with photovoltaic panels to be installed next year, but in the meantime Clark enrolled in Saranac Lake Community Solar, the first such project in the area.

Other environmentally friendly touches include the boat-house's green roof and a native-plant shoreline buffer to protect the lake from stormwater runoff; dark-sky-preserving exterior lighting; the use of local white pine and white cedar and natural, non-toxic finishes. The cost of green products has gone down significantly in recent years, Schwartzberg says. "Green building is not any more expensive when you start with it."







Deep porch overhangs and heat-resistant windows help eliminate the need for air-conditioning at Chris Clark's Kiwassa Lake camp. A 150-year-old white pine felled on the property was used for shelves and built-ins.



Photographs by Johmathan Esper