

## **PROJECT: The Hut**

### **Project Description:**

The 600 square foot, off-grid cabin is located on the client's family farm in the Ohio Valley. The project came together thanks to a build team comprised of family and friends.

The cabin, tucked in the woods, was a labor of love for the family, who worked together to build the secluded retreat. The project site, now a working cattle farm, which the family purchased in 1981, was originally part of a strip mine, and through their nearly 40 years of stewardship, has been reclaimed by forrest, grasslands and lakes.

The off-grid retreat was inspired by Scandinavian design and the 'hygge' mindset. The structure is sided with cedar shingles and sits amongst trees, atop a high bank overlooking a lake. Designed for peace of mind; the outside setting is brought in through a wide expanse of floor to ceiling windows. Touching the earth lightly with a minimalistic foundation of concrete piers the sustainably built space runs off solar power and collected rainwater. Heavily influenced by aspects of farming, the cabin was constructed using building techniques born out of tradition and logic, with simple materials used economically. The overall concept and design for the retreat demonstrate an emphasis on craft, in a style that we like to call "country minimalism".

Walking up to the front door, which is partially secluded, gives an impression of entering a tree house, as the landscape frames the structure. The cedar shingle clad exterior melds the dwelling into the surrounding forest. The interior is simplistic, featuring bleached Eastern Pine floors and walls clad in white painted lap paneling. The pared-back aesthetic allows the outside landscape to be ever more present on the interior.

Additionally, the project is entirely self-sustaining. Electricity is provided by a solar array located approx 100 yards from the site. A rainwater capture system is the water source. And septic is handled by a drain field system.