



5 Things You Need to Know About Rural Living

Joseph Talbot
B R O K E R



In this guide, we'll explore the key factors that make rural areas unique and appealing, and highlight some challenges you might not be aware of.

Benefits of Rural Living

Moving to a rural community or a country property can mean the best of all worlds. Living away from the city can help you experience the tranquility of nature and a slower pace of life. You'll also enjoy spacious surroundings, clean air, and the opportunity to build strong connections with a close-knit community.

That said, living in rural areas is different from city life in a variety of ways. We're going to explore some things you may not have thought of. Though they might take some getting used to, knowing about them ahead of time can help you prepare yourself and your family while planning accordingly.

1. Agriculture and Farming in Rural Areas

Embrace the agricultural heritage found in rural areas. Witness the hard work and dedication of farmers who provide fresh produce and contribute to the local economy. Get involved in farm-to-table initiatives and celebrate the bounty of the land.



- A few times a year, you may experience strong manure smells from local farms. For most locals, it's just something you get used to, but it can definitely be off-putting the first time you notice it.
- Many townships have bylaws stipulating the number of pets or livestock you can have depending on factors like distance from your neighbours, septic and well placements, etc. Be sure to check with your realtor and the township to learn more.

2. Healthcare in Rural Areas

Rural areas have their own unique healthcare challenges and solutions. Access to quality medical services might require traveling longer distances, but rural communities often prioritize the well-being of residents through specialized healthcare providers and community outreach programs.



- Small-town clinics and hospitals may have fewer services and more advanced treatments may require referrals to larger municipalities.
- Finding a family doctor can be difficult in smaller, more remote communities. Referrals can help you find a doctor who will take you on and walk-in clinics are available if you haven't found one yet.

3. Housing and Property Ownership Considerations

There are many advantages of rural homeownership, from more affordable options to the ability to create your dream retreat on expansive plots of land. Rural living comes with many joys, and out here, your home can truly be your castle. But country home ownership also comes with responsibilities and challenges.

- High winds and winter storms can knock rural power out for longer periods of time. Home owners should be prepared with a back-up generator.
- Rural and small-town properties don't always have access to municipal water and sewer systems. Wells and septic systems require some specialized knowledge. Ask your realtor for more information.
- High-speed internet isn't always accessible in the country. You may need to shop around to find the best prices and service options.
- Every municipality has it's own waste management programs. You may need to purchase bag takes or take your refuse to collection centers. Contact your township for more information about garbage and recycling programs.
- Home insurance may cost more, especially if you are further from EMS services.



4. Transportation in Rural Areas

While transportation options may be more limited in rural areas, living in the countryside presents an opportunity for a simpler and more intentional approach to commuting. Embrace country roads, peaceful bike rides, and the convenience of small-town travel. At the same time, there are a few things to consider.

- It might be difficult to find work in rural communities, so your commute may take a little longer, especially if you still work in the city.
- You may need to rethink the vehicle you drive. Your Tesla Roadster might not be the most suitable for gravel country roads.
- Local weather patterns and country roads take some getting used to. Snow tires are essential in the country and unpredictable winter weather can disrupt travel plans
- Shopping and other amenities aren't always close by. Since getting things done can take a little more planning, you may want to stock up on essentials.

5. Education in Rural Areas

Discover the educational landscape of rural areas, where community engagement fosters individualized attention and a warm, supportive learning environment. From schools rooted in tradition to innovative programs, rural education offers a unique and enriching experience. A couple of things to be aware of:



- School boundaries — Not every community has a school within walking distance, so your child may need to be bussed or driven.
- Inclement weather — Snow and icy roads may result in bus delays or cancellations and schools may even be closed on multiple days each winter.

Community Dynamics in Rural Areas

In rural areas, a sense of community is strong. Neighbors genuinely care for one another, creating a supportive and inclusive environment. Engage in local events and take part in community initiatives that contribute to the overall well-being of everyone.

Rural Living is Incredible

The benefits of rural living outweigh the challenges, but unexpected difficulties can derail your plans. If you have any questions about preparing for a move away from the city, reach out today. I'm happy to guide you every step of the way.



Joseph Talbot
B R O K E R

ROYAL LEPAGE

LOCATIONS NORTH
BROKERAGE

