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Rachel Maddow's Retreat Has An Unusual Feature (Just Don't Call It An Outhouse)

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When MSNBC's Rachel Maddow needs a break from the daily grind, she heads up to her pre-Civil War vacation home in Western Massachusetts. The farmhouse offers a handsome place to unplug (there's no TV!), but the house's single bathroom posed a problem. "In order to reach it, you have to climb up a very steep staircase," Maddow explained to New York magazine.

Just behind that home, however, is a solution -- an interesting structure designed specifically for Maddow. "I can seal myself in the bathhouse and watch football really loudly without bothering anybody," she says.

Yes, a bathhouse.

Designed by architect Nicole Migeon, primarily as a second bathroom for Maddow and her partner Susan Mikula's weekend getaway, the outhouse-like structure is what Maddow calls a "retreat within a retreat," and the one place on the property where she actually *can* watch TV.

According to New York magazine's Wendy Goodman, the simple pitched-roof structure features vertical wood slats (made from sustainably grown cedar) that reference the design of old tobacco-drying barns in the area and reclaimed-maple cabinets that hide Maddow's cherished entertainment center.



Check out more of this incredible one-room bathhouse in the April 21 issue of New York magazine. And for more great decor stories, visit NYMag.com's Design page.

All photos via New York Magazine.