

Mount Rainier National Park

Nisqually to Paradise Road Construction Update



Wayside Notes

In the early 1900's, the Nisqually to Paradise Road was built to offer the best views possible as visitors approached the mountain. As you can imagine, this historic route requires maintenance and periodic repairs. Due to adverse winter weather, road work must take place during the busy summer season.

This year the majority of the project will occur between Longmire and Paradise.

Each year thousands of vehicles, cycles of freeze and thaw and falling trees take their toll on the road. Improvements to the road are necessary to preserve its integrity as a popular and historic scenic drive and to provide continued safe access for years to come.

Just the Facts: Mount Rainier National Historic Landmark District

Mount Rainier serves as one of the most complete examples of 1920s National Park Service planning. This included centering visitor activity within "villages" to preserve wilderness throughout the rest of the park and using natural building materials to create structures that blend in with the surroundings. The Longmire Community Building pictured above is a prime example of the "rustic" architecture of this era.

What to Expect

- **Road Construction** will take place June through early fall, 2016.
- **Work this week** will take place in various "pockets" along the road from Longmire to Paradise. Due to construction work at **Christine Falls**, there will be limited access to the upper parking area and the trail to the overlook below will be **closed** throughout the week and possibly into the following week.
- **Expect delays of up to 30 minutes** (total) during daylight hours, Monday through Friday between Longmire and Paradise.
- **Be Aware of Closures.** The entire Ricksecker Point Loop Road and the parking area at Glacier Bridge will be closed June through early fall.
- **No Idling.** Please be considerate of air quality and turn off your vehicle when stopped at construction.
- **Plan Ahead.** Restroom facilities are located at Kautz Creek, Longmire, Narada Falls and Paradise.

For more information go to:

<https://www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/nisqually-paradise-road.htm>

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