



The Tahoma News

July 1 – September 5, 2016



1916

National Park Service Centennial ~ Summer Edition

2016

Celebrating 100 Years of the National Park Service 1916 - 2016



FIND YOUR PARK

This year national parks throughout the United States are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service (NPS). At Mount Rainier, the park and community partners are planning many special programs and volunteer activities to highlight what makes the park such a treasured place.

For a century the American people have entrusted the NPS to tell the nation's stories and protect its historic, natural, and recreation features, and to preserve the parks so they may be enjoyed by future generations.

In this centennial year, you are invited to both celebrate this milestone anniversary and to become part of the next generation of park stewards.

See pages 5-7 for articles and events celebrating the NPS Centennial. Help the national parks look forward to the next century. This is not the end of a century, but the beginning of the next 100 years!

Welcome...

... to Mount Rainier National Park!



**Superintendent
Randy King**

With the passage of the National Park Service (NPS) Organic Act on August 25, 1916, Congress created an organizing principle and governing mission for our national parks founded on preservation and enjoyment. From the handful of early parks like Mount Rainier, the system has evolved to today's 412 parks—places that represent the nation's incredibly rich natural and cultural heritage, places to be cherished and enjoyed. That this legacy belongs to all of us is the half of its power and beauty.

The NPS Centennial calls us to reflect on this wonderful heritage of parks and public lands and challenges us to ensure their future. Towards that end, the NPS and partners are striving to encourage all Americans to explore their parks and public lands, to find and connect with their special place or story. For from those personal connections will come the caretakers of today and tomorrow—the people who will visit, love, support, and advocate for our parks and public spaces, and in turn, ensure that coming generations will share this same joyful right.

We hope you've found your special place at Mount Rainier!

Randy King
Superintendent

Road Work Ahead: Longmire to Paradise



Construction on the historic Nisqually Road between Longmire and the Paradise area is scheduled to take place through early fall. Most work will occur Monday-Friday, 7:00 am -5:00 pm, but occasional evening or weekend work may be required. There will

be no road work planned for holidays. Park staff will make an effort to keep the public informed of construction activities and changes through the park's website and social media (listed on page 3).

This work continues the third year of a multi-year road construction project addressing outdated utilities and deteriorating road conditions due to abundant precipitation, structural and design deficiencies, large traffic volumes, and normal wear. The project is designed to protect the extraordinary

natural and cultural resources within and adjacent to the road, including rare plants and animals, archaeological resources, and the character of the historic roads.

In 2015, power and data lines between Nisqually Entrance and Longmire were replaced under the road surface. In 2016 work is primarily focused on road drainage structures, patching at varied depths, and road surfacing/paving. Delays will be limited to no more than 30 minutes one-way through the project. Expect rough road conditions, and workers and equipment on or near the road.

Slow down and drive safely while driving in construction areas. Follow instructions from flaggers, pilot cars, and law enforcement. Always drive in your lane unless following a pilot car and stay in your vehicle while stopped. Many workers, heavy equipment, and construction vehicles will be on the road.

Centennial Events

You're Invited! From living history programs and special guest speakers to star parties, you will find the special event that captures your interest listed inside. Learn from a subject-matter expert or a volunteer, or spend Founder's Day celebrating the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. Centennial events are listed on page 7.

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Emergency: Dial 911 from any phone located in the park



Enjoy hiking among ancient trees and past numerous waterfalls on the Eastside Trail.



Watch for ancient andesite columns along Sunrise Road.



Walk across Longmire's historic wooden suspension bridge.

Discover Rainier: Off the Beaten Path

If you are in the park on a busy day, you may want to explore less-visited areas to escape the biggest crowds. In taking the extra time to seek out these special places, you can immerse yourself in an old growth forest, reflect next to a cascading waterfall, hike in virtual solitude, or just relax, take in the view, and reconnect with nature. No matter where you go in the park you will find spectacular scenery and a multitude of recreation opportunities.

Interested in Old Growth Forests?

Visit Ohanapecosh via State Route 123 to explore lush old growth forests of Douglas fir and western red cedar. There is also a nature trail behind the visitor center that leads past hot springs and the site of an early resort. Explore the old growth forest west of Longmire on the short Twin Firs Trail. Start your hike at the interpretive exhibit on Nisqually to Paradise Road (State Route 706).

Did You Bring a Picnic?

At Ohanapecosh off State Route 123 stop at the picnic area adjacent to the campground. Visit the Box Canyon Picnic Area just west of Box Canyon itself. Be sure to stop at the latter for a look at the Cowlitz River, 180 feet below, as it cuts a deep slot into bedrock. From the Tipsoo Lake picnic area off State Route 410 you'll have a great view of the meadows surrounding the lake. Picnic at Mowich Lake via State Route 165 and admire the colorful subalpine wildflowers surrounding the deepest and largest lake in the park.



Take an easy hike to spectacular Silver Falls near Ohanapecosh Campground.

Wild for Waterfalls?

Then the east side of the park via State Routes 123 and 410 is the place to go. The powerful Silver Falls near Ohanapecosh is only a 0.3 mile hike from State Route 123 or you can take the 1.3 mile trail from Ohanapecosh Campground. For those who like to hike, take the East Side Trail to one or all of the many waterfalls dotting the route. Start from State Route 123—park at a small pullout 0.5 mile south of Deer Creek—or at the Grove of the Patriarchs on Stevens Canyon Road.

Is Geology Your Interest?

Then drive three miles to the end of Westside Road near the Nisqually Entrance to view the dramatic results of flooding and rockfall. You may even see a mountain goat gazing down at you from a cliff face high above! For great views of lava layers, glaciers, and a glacially carved canyon, stop at a pullout below Paradise or near Reflection Lakes on Stevens Canyon Road. Drive the Sunrise Road to view

columnar andesite columns that formed when the toe of a lava flow cooled rapidly as it flowed against glacial ice.

Prefer Uncrowded Trails?

Many trails leave from the Reflection Lakes area on Stevens Canyon Road including the Lakes, High Lakes, Mazama Ridge, and the Wonderland trails, with the Snow and Bench Lakes Trail located in a pullout just down the road to the east. Another great area for trails is on the east side along State Routes 123 and 410. From south to north you will find Silver Falls, Three Lakes, East Side, Shriner Peak, and Crystal Lakes trails to name a few. Trails in the Mowich Lake area lead to subalpine lakes and amazing meadows.



Take in the unsurpassed view of the mountain from Reflection Lakes!

Are You a History Buff?

If so, then Longmire on Nisqually Road is the place to visit. The Longmire Museum is the starting point for the Longmire Historic District Walking Tour. Take the self-guiding tour of the historic district to get a taste of early National Park Service rustic architecture. Follow the Trail of the Shadows to learn about the park's first homestead and resort.



A visit to Mowich Lake in the northwest corner of the park is worth the drive.

How about Subalpine Meadows and Lakes?

For an outstanding wildflower meadow experience highlighted by beautiful lakes, try Reflection Lakes off Stevens Canyon Road, Mowich Lake via State Route 165, or Chinook Pass and Tipsoo Lake on State Route 410. In mid-summer the meadows should be bursting with color, providing a great backdrop for these tranquil lakes set in glacially carved basins.

How Far Is It?

One Way Driving Times & Distances

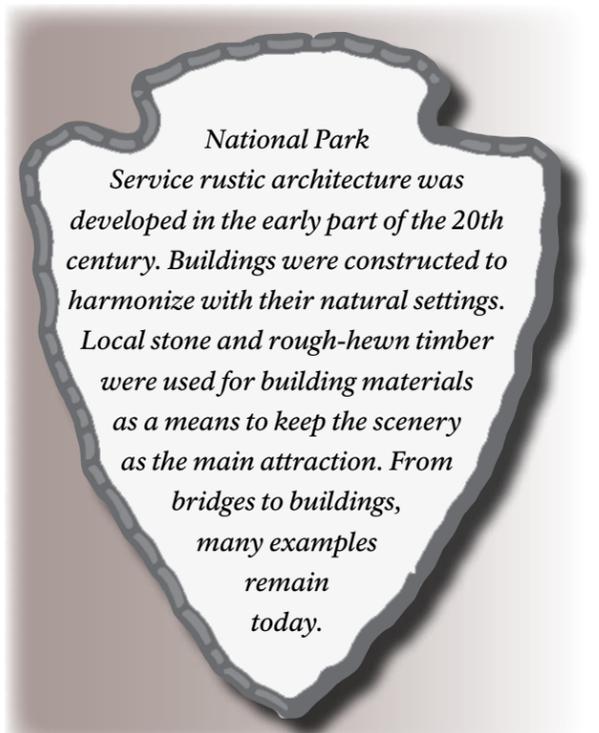
Road	Distance	Time
Longmire to Paradise *	12 miles	25 min
Paradise to Ohanapecosh via Stevens Canyon Rd	23 miles	45 min
Ohanapecosh to White River Entrance	18 miles	30 min
White River Entrance to Sunrise	13 miles	45 min
White River Entrance to Carbon River via Enumclaw	61 miles	2 hrs
Longmire to Carbon River via Eatonville/Orting	80 miles	2.5 hrs
Longmire to Mowich Lake via Eatonville/Orting	89 miles	3 hrs

* Road construction delays not included. See page 1.

Maximum Entrance Arch and Tunnel Vehicle Heights

Location	Clearance
Nisqually Entrance	15.80 ft
Northeast Entrance (SR 410)	15.30 ft
Chinook Pass Entrance Arch (SR 410)	15.20 ft
Southeast Entrance (SR 123)	15.35 ft
SR 123 Tunnel	14.50 ft
Tunnel at Box Canyon (Stevens Canyon Road)	12.60 ft
Tunnel West of Box Canyon (MP 7 on Stevens Canyon Road)	12.60 ft

Robert Humphries photo





Explore, Enjoy, and Stay Safe

Mount Rainier National Park was established in 1899 to preserve the natural and cultural resources in this area and to provide for public benefit and enjoyment. This information will help you learn more about the park, and protect yourself and the park.

Accessibility

Most restrooms, visitor centers, picnic areas, amphitheaters, and designated campsites are accessible or accessible with help by wheelchair. Accessible lodging is available inside the park and in local communities.

The park brochure is available in braille at visitor centers and entrance stations.

In the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise, the audiovisual programs are captioned; assistive listening devices are available for the park film; an audio described tour of the exhibits is available; and the building and exhibits are accessible by wheelchair.

The Kautz Creek Boardwalk Nature Trail is accessible in summer. An accessible trail leads to the base of Paradise Meadows; a portion of the trails at Paradise are accessible with help. Inquire at the Jackson Visitor Center for more information.

Bikes in the Park

Bicycle only on roads, not on trails. Mountain bikes are permitted on Westside Road and the Carbon River Road, but not on trails.

Mount Rainier National Park

Superintendent
Randy King



Mailing Address
55210 238th Avenue East
Ashford, WA 98304

E-mail
MORAInfo@nps.gov

Park Headquarters
(360) 569-2211
(360) 569-2177 TDD

Lost and Found
(360) 569-6608

Park Websites
Mount Rainier National Park
www.nps.gov/mora
North Coast and Cascades Science & Learning Network
<http://nwparkscience.org/>

Official Park Social Media Sites
[facebook.com/MountRainierNPS](https://www.facebook.com/MountRainierNPS)
[instagram.com/mountrainiernps/](https://www.instagram.com/mountrainiernps/)
[flickr.com/MountRainierNPS](https://www.flickr.com/photos/MountRainierNPS/)
twitter.com/MountRainierNPS
[mountrainiernps.tumblr.com/](https://www.tumblr.com/mountrainiernps)
[youtube.com/MountRainierNPS](https://www.youtube.com/MountRainierNPS)



NOTICE: Marijuana is Illegal in Mount Rainier National Park

While limited recreational use of marijuana is legal in Washington State, possession of any amount of marijuana or other illegal drugs remains illegal in Mount Rainier National Park, surrounding national forests, and all federal lands.

Firearms

The use of firearms is prohibited within Mount Rainier National Park. People who can legally possess firearms under federal, Washington State, and local laws may possess them in the park. Federal law does prohibit firearms in certain facilities within this park; those places have signs at public entrances.

Camping

Camp in designated campsites only. Sleeping in vehicles outside of campgrounds is not permitted.

Don't Be A Victim!

Burglaries have recently occurred at numerous trailheads and parking areas in the park. Those responsible for the crimes were investigated, arrested by Mount Rainier rangers and National Park Service special agents, and convicted in court. However, these convictions will not necessarily end the problem of car burglaries in the park.

Follow these simple guidelines to avoid becoming a victim of future car break-ins:

- Do not leave any valuables in your vehicle, even for a short time.
- Do not leave bags, packs, or purses, that look like they could contain valuables visible in your vehicle.
- If storing items in the trunk of your car, do so before arriving at your destination. You could be watched at trailheads and parking lots.
- Immediately report all suspicious activity you observe at or around parking lots or along roads to a park ranger.

Fishing & Boating

A license is not required for fishing. Some lakes and streams are closed to fishing and Ohanapecosh River is fly fishing only. Check at a visitor center for more information.

Motorized boating is prohibited in the park. Non-motorized boating is permitted on all lakes except Frozen, Reflection, Ghost, Shadow, and Tipsoo lakes.

NOTICE: Research studies have shown mercury is present in some trout in a few park lakes. Check the Washington Department of Health website <http://www.doh.wa.gov/> for information on fish consumption.

Fires in the Park

Make fires only in a fire grill. Collecting firewood is prohibited. See page 12 for firewood sales in the park.

Pets and Service Animals

Leashed pets are permitted only in picnic areas, campgrounds, and parking lots and on roads currently open to public vehicles. *During hot weather do not leave pets in vehicles.*

Pets must be on leashes no longer than six feet and are not allowed in buildings, on trails, in off-trail or backcountry areas, or on snow.

Service animals individually trained to perform specific tasks are allowed on trails and in park facilities only if they are providing a service for a disabled person. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

Tree Hazards

Healthy trees with no defects can present a danger under certain conditions. Stay alert for falling limbs and cones on windy days, and avoid forested areas during storms when possible. Sudden gusts can do great damage to trees—as well as anything in range of falling debris.



Grand Park Fire, Summer 2002

Wildland Fire

Fire is an important part of Mount Rainier National Park's ecosystem and is essential if the natural diversity of park forests and meadows are to be maintained for future generations of park enthusiasts.

During your visit you may see smoke from a wildland fire, or helicopters, and other firefighting activity. Your safety is a main consideration in the management of park fires. If you see smoke from an unmanaged fire, report the location at the nearest visitor center. If fire conditions become high, the park may implement campfire restrictions.

When a naturally ignited fire is not determined to be a threat to people or structures, it may be managed to benefit the park's ecosystem. Fire on the landscape promotes natural conditions and reduces buildup of dead wood and brush.

Learn more about wildland fire or visit www.firewise.org.

Permits

Permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry, and for travelling on glaciers and above 10,000 feet in elevation.

Please Recycle!

Mount Rainier National Park has been recycling since the late 1960s. We recycle aluminum cans, plastic, glass, office paper, mixed paper, cardboard, scrap metal, used oil, batteries, and a number of other items.

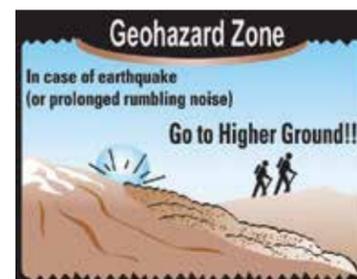
We also purchase recycled plastic products such as plastic bags, picnic tables, and plastic lumber; paper products made of pre- and postconsumer recycled paper; automobile products; and other products.

Be part of the effort! Please deposit aluminum cans, plastic bottles, and glass in the recycle cans provided.

Mount Rainier: An Active Volcano

Active steam vents, periodic earth tremors, and historic eruptions provide evidence that Mount Rainier is sleeping, not dead. Seismic monitoring stations around the mountain should provide days or weeks of advance warning of impending eruptions. Other geologic hazards, however, can occur with little warning. These include debris flows and rockfalls.

The more time you spend in an area with geologic hazards, the greater the chance that you could be involved in an emergency event. While most people consider the danger to be relatively low, you must decide if you will assume the risk of visiting these potentially dangerous locations.



If you are near a river and notice a rapid rise in water level, feel a prolonged shaking of the ground, and/or hear a roaring sound coming from upvalley—often described as the sound made by a fast-moving freight train—move quickly to higher ground! A location 200 feet or more above river level should be safe.

Detailed information is available at park visitor centers or from scientists at the U.S.G.S. Cascades Volcano Observatory, 1300 SE Cardinal Court, Building 10, Suite 100, Vancouver, WA 98661, vulcan.wr.usgs.gov.



NPS/Bacher photo



NPS/Emily Brouwer photo



Elli J. Theobald photo

Reintroducing Fishers to Native Habitat

Most of Mount Rainier’s wildlife is fairly elusive. In summer you may see deer, marmots, and squirrels during your visit, and maybe even mountain goats if you venture into the highcountry. What’s missing here? The Pacific fisher, a small carnivore the size of a house cat, has been missing from its native habitat on Mount Rainier’s slopes since the mid-1930s.

The fisher is a small, reclusive predator of the weasel family that thrives in mature forests. Along with wolves, wolverines, and lynx, fishers were eliminated from Mount Rainier early in the last century. Fishers throughout Washington State declined primarily through trapping, pest control, and habitat loss associated with an expanding human population. The State listed them as an endangered species in 1998.

Ecosystems evolve through the interactions among all their constituent species, each one representing an integral component of the whole. Generally, more complete ecosystems are more stable—each species plays a role in ecosystem dynamics, acting as a buffer to internal and external forces which may disrupt the ecosystem.

Mount Rainier and North Cascades national parks are working with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Conservation Northwest to reintroduce fishers to their historical range in the Cascades. Earlier this year 23 fishers were released in the project area outside of the park. Released fishers are being tracked by telemetry from the air. In late fall of this year the first fisher release inside the park is expected to take place. Biologists are currently conducting regular telemetry flights, locating den sites, and confirming reproduction at these sites.

Connecting Parks, Science, and People

By Dr. Jerry Freilich, former North Coast & Cascades Science Learning Network Coordinator

Quietly and discreetly, a great deal of science is done each year in our national parks. The National Park Service monitors ecosystem health and investigates sensitive plants and animals to improve management. Scientists from outside agencies and universities do their own research, using the parks as “controls” to compare with more heavily impacted areas.

The North Coast & Cascades Science Learning Network (SLN) is an organization within the northwest national parks created to encourage research in the parks and to disseminate scientific information. The “Network” serves all eight National Park Service sites in the Pacific Northwest and operates a science information website <http://www.nwparkscience.org>. The SLN website supplements the Service’s own sites at each park and features in-depth science information about park resources. The site has two-three page “Resource Briefs” on a diversity of topics and a series of “Science Minute Videos” <http://www.nwparkscience.org/video>. Each video is about four minutes long highlighting both the science work itself and park scientists who do it.

The SLN serves Mount Rainier, Olympic, North Cascades, and five smaller, historical sites in Washington and Oregon. The SLN also provides funding and support for graduate research and special projects. Please contact the SLN’s director, Regina Rochefort, regina_rochefort@nps.gov, based at North Cascades National Park, for additional information.

Your Photos Discover Climate Change Effects

By Dr. Janneke Hille Ris Lambers, Elli J. Theobald and Anna Wilson, MeadowWatch, Univ. of Washington

Seasons define our experience at Mount Rainier National Park. In the summer, many people enjoy the wildflowers that bloom in profusion in the meadows, while just a few months earlier up to 20 feet of snow covered the summer’s display. Not surprisingly, the winter wonderland strongly influences wildflowers. Specifically, snow controls when avalanche lilies, lupines, and all flowers blossom. When snow melts earlier, flowers bloom earlier and when snow melts later, flowers bloom later.

This leads to a critical question: as average temperatures increase with climate change, how will the wildflowers so many of us enjoy be affected? This is a difficult question to answer without a lot of information—and you can help! You can contribute to research at the University of Washington by sharing your wildflower photos. Each of your pictures is an ‘observation’ of when and where wildflowers bloom. Photos contributed this summer will be particularly useful if the warmer spring we’re having leads to an earlier than average snowmelt on Mount Rainier. These data can help uncover how climate change affects the timing of the seasons.

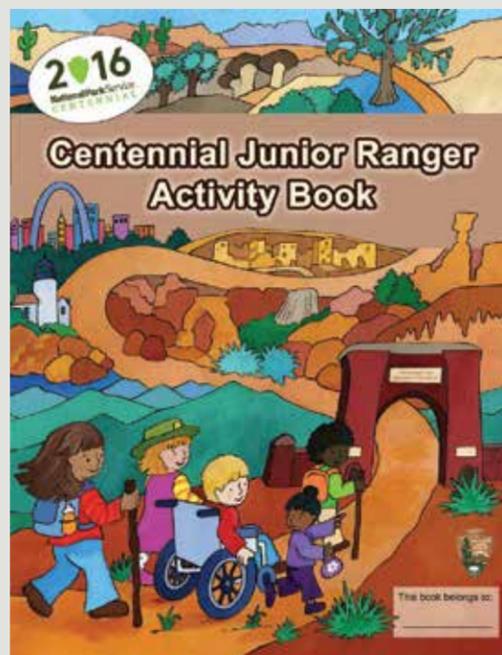
Just take photos of wildflowers (close enough to identify the species) in Mount Rainier National Park! Make sure your photos are date-stamped and geo-tagged (most smartphones automatically enable this feature), and visit www.meadowatch.org for instructions on how to contribute your photos to our project. Thanks for your help!

Hey Kids! Did You Know?

The National Park Service was established 100 years ago in 1916 “...to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations”
—National Park Service Organic Act.

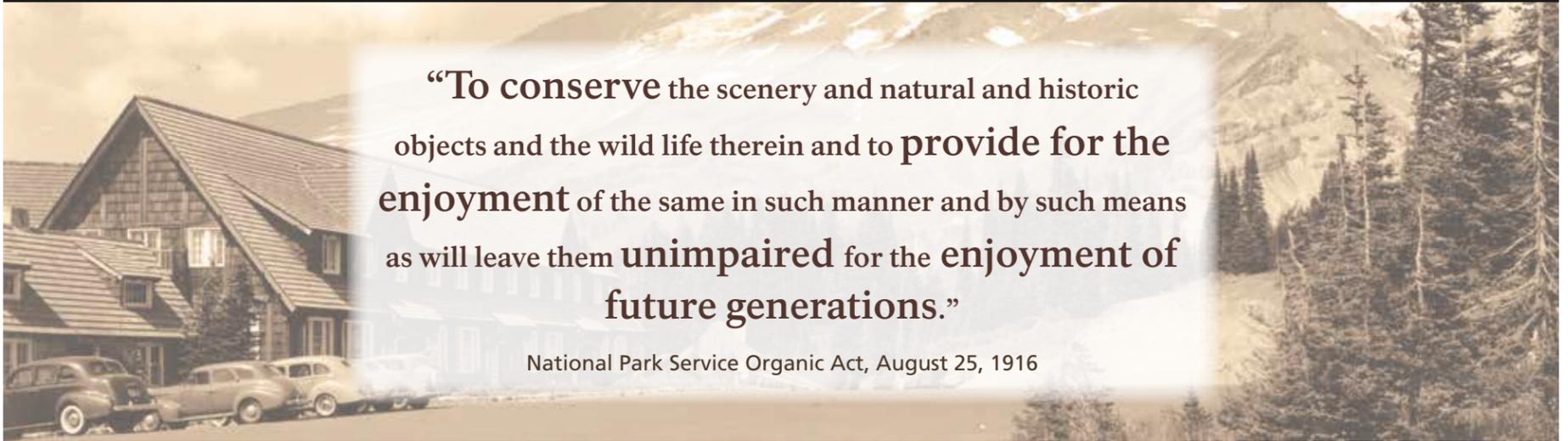
Today, there are more than 410 natural, cultural, historic, and recreational areas managed by the National Park Service. What makes national parks different from other kinds of parks? National parks are part of our national heritage, so they are meaningful to all Americans. Can you match the following list of national parks with the important topics they explore?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Everglades National Park | A. Honors those who prevented an attack on the United States Capitol |
| 2. Grand Canyon National Park | B. Deepest lake in the United States |
| 3. Independence National Historical Park | C. Glacier covered volcano of great natural beauty |
| 4. Lewis and Clark National Historical Park | D. Protects manatee, crocodile, and panther |
| 5. Denali National Park | E. Northwest explorer’s final encampment |
| 6. Vietnam Veterans Memorial | F. Bats |
| 7. Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument | G. Chihuahuan desert ecosystems |
| 8. Mount Rainier National Park | H. American Indian cultures |
| 9. Big Bend National Park | I. Habitat for salmon and thousands of brown bears |
| 10. Flight 93 National Memorial | J. Starfish, marmots, rain forests, and elk |
| 11. Crater Lake National Park | K. Assisted many people to freedom from slavery |
| 12. Mesa Verde National Park | L. Honors people who died in a war |
| 13. Katmai National Park and Preserve | M. Caretaker of the Declaration of Independence |
| 14. Olympic National Park | N. A canyon 277 river miles long formed by erosion |
| 15. Carlsbad Caverns National Park | O. Highest mountain in North American |



Explore the wonders of national parks with cool conservation tips, fun facts, and activities by completing the Centennial Junior Ranger Activity Book. Pick up a free copy at visitor centers while they last. Complete the book and earn a Junior Ranger badge.

Answer Key: 1-D, 2-N, 3-M, 4-E, 5-O, 6-L, 7-K, 8-C, 9-G, 10-A, 11-B, 12-H, 13-I, 14-J, 15-F



“To conserve the scenery and natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

National Park Service Organic Act, August 25, 1916

A Century Ago, An Idea Became the National Park Service

Once a dream, the idea to create a unified leadership for the growing number of America’s national parks and monuments, became a reality. One hundred years ago, on August 25, 1916, Congress passed the Organic Act and the National Park Service was born.

Fast forward to 2016. The idea of the National Park Service now has a legacy. It reads like a fairytale of bravery, beauty and beasts, of battles, landscapes, and dinosaurs. It is a story of Americans connecting to and working towards a common goal. People partnering to identify, preserve, and protect a diverse collection of national treasures.

Americans continue to entrust the National Park Service with the guardianship and care of their

legacy. It began with 32 sites including Mount Rainier National Park. Since 1916, the NPS has grown to more than 410 sites located in every state. National trails, historic sites, monuments, parkways, and seashores are listed alongside national parks.

Centennial celebrations at Mount Rainier and nationally started last year and will continue through the summer and fall. Events and programs sponsored by Mount Rainier and community partners are listed on page 7. To find celebrations in other parks, visit NPS.gov.

Throughout the next century, as the NPS story continues to be written, find your park and connect to the legacy that is yours to enjoy. Everyone can

be the next generation of national park believers, stewards and contributors.

The Mount Rainier Forest Reserve should be made a national park and guarded while yet its bloom is on; for if in the making of the West Nature had what we call parks in mind, –places for rest, inspiration, and prayers, –this Rainier region must surely be one of them.

–John Muir,

“Our National Parks”, 1901

The Future of Mount Rainier: The Next 100 Years Starts Today

As the door opens upon the next 100 years, the National Park Service will continue nurturing America’s national treasures, and cultivate a new generation of visitors, supporters, and advocates. From the Find Your Park campaign to Every Kid In a Park program, people are connecting to parks and parks to people.

A century ago the National Park Service and the national parks were founded through individual empowerment, community passion, and organizational crusades. Likewise, the future of Mount Rainier National Park depends on commitments and connections with people—volunteers, researchers, laborers, managers, and you.

Why not each year send thousands of school-children through the National Parks? Mother Nature is the teacher of teachers, these Parks the greatest of schools and playgrounds. No other school is likely so to inspire children, so to give them vision and fire their imagination.

–Enos Mills,

“Your National Parks”, 1917

The next generation of stewards is today’s children and young adults. Mount Rainier is partnering with organizations designed to connect them to the park through education programs, special events, and activities. Youth crews with the Student Conservation Association, Northwest Youth Corps, Youth Conservation Corps, and Washington Conservation Corps learn leadership and conservation skills while sharing their time, talents, and energy with the park.

Mount Rainier Institute is an overnight, K-12, school program that provides nature-based education experiences rooted in science. The institute fosters environmental stewardship and *Continued on page 6*

National Park Week Centennial Celebrations

Saturday, April 16th, marked the start of National Park Week here and at parks nationwide. Entrance fees were waived and park visitors took advantage of the various park-hosted programs.

Guests chatted with a ranger, an archeologist and a wildlife technician during a series of talks throughout the week, hosted at the Longmire National Park Inn. Those attending got answers to their burning questions, got to know the rangers, and enjoyed some quality time at the park in a more intimate setting.

For the junior rangers, a new Centennial Junior Ranger Book debuted during National Park Week. Park staff hosted an NPS Centennial birthday celebration at the local elementary school, giving the students opportunities to learn about wildlife, native plants, climbing the mountain, and the National Park Service.

The park hosted an event specifically for the millennial generation, called the Mountain Meetup. Twenty and thirty-somethings played yard games in the snow, took guided snowshoe tours with rangers,



The Mountain Meetup was one of several National Park Week events celebrating the NPS Centennial.

and learned about avalanche safety. Students from Tacoma Community College, University of Washington Seattle and more, joined together, despite the cold and snowy weather.

Event coordinator, Fawn Bauer stated, “Our Mountain Meetup for millennials was a great success; everyone who attended gave it high praises. I’m extremely proud of the programs and clinics our Meetup Team offered, and we’re grateful for all the support from our partners who

participated in this event; including Mount Rainier Institute, International Mountain Guides, Rainier Mountaineering Inc., Alpine Ascents International, Rainier Guest Services, Student Conservation Association and the University of Washington. There were many new millennial park visitors who found their park that day!”

Article and photo by Caroline Meleedy, Visual Information Student Conservation Association Intern

National Park Service

1872 Yellowstone National Park First National Park	1899 Mount Rainier National Park	1916 National Park Service	1923 Hovenweep National Monument	1933 Shiloh National Military Park	1948 Independence National Historical Park	1959 Minute Man National Historical Park	1965 Assateague Island National Seashore
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The Future of Mount Rainier: The Next 100 Years Starts Today

Continued from page 5

leadership in students who explore the natural world, develop a connection to nature, and build community.

The advent of social media and advanced digital technology provides new venues for everyone, especially young adults, to share their park experiences with friends and family. Today's technology is connecting a new generation of park enthusiasts to parks, and Mount Rainier to a new generation of visitors.



Visitors can participate in long-range scientific studies by taking quality photographs of park flora and fauna. Your photos assist in locating rare plants and weeds, and in understanding the distribution of all plants in the park. Animal sightings that you capture in a photograph assist wildlife biologists with tracking animal movements and finding habitats. Submit your photographic observations of plants and animals to <http://www.inaturalist.org/>; species must be identifiable, and photos must be date-stamped and include embedded GPS coordinates.

During the past century communities and individuals cultivated the idea, and lobbied for the designation of special places as national parks. In the next 100 years of the National Park Service, people will be volunteering to sustain those special places, like Mount Rainier. For example, each year through the Washington Trails Association (WTA) approximately 500 volunteers will help maintain 300 miles of trails in the park.



Citizen Science students and visitors are surveying amphibians, butterflies, and flowering plants in designated areas around the park. Their efforts are providing valuable data about species found in the park and how their numbers are changing over time. Through the "Dragonfly Mercury Project" (DMP) citizen scientists collect dragonfly larvae from designated sites. Their samples are sent to labs

for mercury analyses. The resulting data provides a better understanding of the extent of mercury contamination in national parks from Alaska to Florida.

Moving into the next century starts with partnerships and collaborations that will broaden the scope of scientific and historic knowledge available about the park. The North Coast & Cascades Science Learning Network (SLN) is an NPS collaboration that serves Mount Rainier, Olympic, and North Cascades national parks, along with five smaller historical sites in Washington and Oregon. Projects through SLN include long term monitoring of Mount Rainier's lakes, glaciers, climate, and water quality.

Researchers from Washington State and Portland State universities will conduct a three-year study on how debris found on the terminus regions of the Nisqually and Emmons glaciers influences change in glacier surfaces. Funded by NASA, this project will also help advance the understanding of how ice and climate interact on Mars.

*Teddy Roosevelt, John Muir,
Rachel Carson—The conservation
movements they ignited fit their
particular historical moment.
And likewise, the groundswell for
conservation that is building today
is different from any other we have
seen. It is digital, it is diverse and
more than ever it is motivated
by values widely shared among
Americans of all political beliefs.
– Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, 2016*

Over the next several years, Mount Rainier and North Cascades national parks are teaming up with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to reintroduce fishers, a predator mammal, to the regional forests (see page 4). Also, students from Washington iSchool are designing an online Wilderness Reservation System to replace a 17-year old fax registration process. It will allow the hikers to plan their own trip.

Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF) is the only philanthropic organization dedicated exclusively to supporting Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks. Through charitable contributions and a partnership with each park, WNPF funds youth programs, builds trails, and sponsors research. To learn how you can donate see page 9.

Finally, the future of Mount Rainier is also in the hands of staff, dedicated to the National Park Service's one-hundred-year-old mission. This can be seen in a commitment to bring more youth to the park, a campaign to keep wildlife wild, and the use

of sustainable building materials that maintain the park's historic rustic architecture. Staff scientists even monitor the air for gaseous pollutants that impact the scenic vistas, natural ecosystems, and cultural resources that you enjoy.

With comments previously obtained from the general public, Mount Rainier is developing a Wilderness Stewardship Plan (WSP) to guide the preservation, management, and use of the park's wilderness. The goal is to restore, and protect the overall character of Mount Rainier's wilderness.

These and the many unmentioned partnerships, projects, and opportunities, are a start in securing the future care and protection for Mount Rainier National Park. It is up to future generations to sustain this park and the National Park Service through the next century. However, instilling the relevant passion in them to do so requires leadership from NPS, and stewardship role models from you, their mentors. Coming together at Mount Rainier, teaching, learning, and loving this national park, will ensure its future. Time starts now!

Explore Washington's National Park Sites

Through the Antiquities Act of 1906, the President has authority to proclaim national monuments and other sites on lands already under federal jurisdiction. The designation of a "national park" may only be created by an act of Congress. Today our National Park System comprises over 410 units, covering more than 84 million acres in 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, Saipan, and the Virgin Islands.

The richness and diversity of national park units can be explored and revisited throughout Washington State. Since 1899, when Mount Rainier was designated the nation's fifth national park, historic events and landscapes of Washington State have been recognized as federally significant.

Maybe you will Find Your Park in Washington:

- 1899 – Mount Rainier National Park
- 1936 – Whitman Mission National Historic Site
- 1938 – Olympic National Park
- 1948 – Fort Vancouver National Monument
- 1946 – Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area
- 1965 – Nez Perce National Historical Park
- 1966 – San Juan Island National Historical Park
- 1968 – North Cascades National Park
- 1968 – Lake Chelan National Recreation Area
- 1968 – Ross Lake National Recreation Area
- 1976 – Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park (Seattle Unit)
- 1978 – Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail
- 1978 – Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve
- 2004 – Lewis and Clark National Historical Park
- 2008 – Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial
- 2009 – Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail
- 2013 – Wing Luke Museum (an Affiliated Area)
- 2014 – Manhattan Project National Historical Park

Through Time

1966 Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts	1978 Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River	1980 Women's Rights National Historical Park	1992 Manzanar National Historic Site	2000 Rosie the Riveter National Historic Site	2002 Flight 93 National Memorial	2016 National Park Service Centennial	2116 National Park Service Bicentennial
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Centennial Events Calendar

Join us for our Centennial Events!

July Centennial Events

July 1. Visit Rainier Centennial GeoTour The third in a series of four geotours that explore the region's rich history, scenic wonders, quaint communities, and hidden gems at visitrainier.com .
July 1, 15, 29, 8:45 pm. History Comes Alive , Paradise Inn **
July 2, 16, 30, 8:30 pm. History Comes Alive , Cougar Rock Campground **
July 6, 20, 9:00 pm. History Comes Alive , Ohanapecosh Campground **
July 7, 21, 7:30 pm. History Comes Alive , White River Campground **
July 9. REI Village Tour 2016 , Sunrise REI Village 2016 is a large, mobile interactive exhibit that introduces recreation and education opportunities in America's national parks.
July 13-16. Discover Washington Youth Heritage Project , Longmire Discover Washington Youth Heritage Project inspires high school students to explore how the tools of historic preservation can lead to a greater understanding of the past.
July 16. Mount Rainier National Park Associates Centennial Volunteer Project ***
July 21, 8:30 pm. Centennial Speaker Series: Science in the Park , Paradise Inn *
July 27, 1:00 pm. Naturalization Ceremony , Paradise In partnership with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, the park will host a Naturalization Ceremony swearing in new Americans as official United States citizens.
July 28, 8:45 pm. Centennial Speaker Series: Landscapes for the People , Paradise Inn *
July 30, 8:45 pm. Centennial Star Party , Paradise

August Centennial Events

August 3, 17, 31, 8:00 pm. History Comes Alive , Ohanapecosh Campground **
August 4, 18, 7:30 pm. History Comes Alive , White River Campground **
August 6, 8:30 pm. Centennial Speaker Series: Amazing Mount Rainier Stories , Paradise Inn *
August 7-September 2. Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School , Longmire The University of Oregon Pacific Northwest Preservation Field School provides hands-on learning in historic preservation techniques working on buildings in the park's National Historic Landmark District. For information http://hp.uoregon.edu/preservation-field-schools .
August 7, 8:45 pm. Centennial Speaker Series: Wish You Were Here: Mail and the National Parks , Paradise Inn*
August 12-14. Music in the American Wild , 8/12, 7:30 pm, Ohanapecosh; 8/13, 2:00 pm, Paradise; and 8/14, 2:00 pm, Sunrise Music in the American Wild musicians will celebrate the Centennial by performing their original compositions of inherently American music inspired by the amazing landscapes of National Parks.
August 12, 26 8:45 pm. History Comes Alive, Paradise Inn **
August 13, 27 8:30 pm. History Comes Alive, Cougar Rock Campground **
August 13. Mount Rainier National Park Associates Centennial Volunteer Project ***
August 20, 8:30 pm. Shadows of the Past , Longmire In the Shadows of the Past program meet the people who explored, settled, climbed and protected Mount Rainier more than 100 years ago.
August 25-28. NPS Centennial Free Entrance Days —National Park Service's 100th Birthday
August 25. Celebrate National Parks at Mount Rainier On August 25, the 100th anniversary date, Celebrate National Parks at many park locations.
August 27, 8:45 pm. Centennial Star Party , Paradise Join park rangers and astronomy volunteers for a Centennial Star Party, a memorable night of star gazing and dark sky appreciation. Program begins at 8:45 pm at the Paradise Inn lobby followed by the 9:30 pm star gazing at the Jackson Visitor Center plaza.

Event Descriptions

- * The **Centennial Speaker Series** shares a variety of stories and perspectives about the National Park Service and Mount Rainier National Park.
- ** **History Comes Alive**. National parks tell stories of people—past and present. Meet some characters from Mount Rainier National Park's past and hear their stories.
- *** Throughout the summer Washington Trails Association (wta.org) and Mount Rainier National Park Associates (mrnpa.org) lead volunteers working on trail and revegetation projects.

Shadows of the Past Living History Lantern Tour

Saturday, August 20



One night only!
Meet the people who explored, settled, climbed, and protected Mount Rainier more than 100 years ago.
The free lantern tours begin in front of the

National Park Inn at Longmire, rain or shine, and depart every 20 minutes from 8:30 pm until 9:30 pm.

Tours last 90 minutes. Bring a flashlight and a warm jacket. Wear sturdy shoes.



Stephen T. Mather
Father of the National Park Service

A dedicated conservationist and avid mountain climber, Stephen T. Mather became the first director of the National Park Service in 1916. His passion for the outdoors was the guiding vision for the National Park Service's conservation ethic. Recognizing the importance of public support for preservation, Mather worked to make the parks accessible. He had a direct influence on the design of Mount Rainier's roads and infrastructure. State Route 410 on the east side of the park is now the "Mather Memorial Parkway". Look for plaques memorializing Mather at Longmire and Tipsoo Lake.

Ranger-led Programs

Paradise	Length	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Paradise Ranger Chat Join a ranger in the lobby of the Paradise Inn to help plan your day at the park. Meet in the lobby.	25 min	9:30 am	9:30 am		9:30 am	9:30 am	9:30 am	9:30 am
Discover Paradise Participate with a ranger in exploring life at 5,000 feet. Meet at the flagpole in front of the visitor center. Return on your own.	60 min	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:00 pm
Mount Rainier—An Active Volcano What's Mount Rainier up to? Join a park staff member for a dialogue about the Northwest's iconic volcano. Meet at the flagpole outside of the visitor center. Return on your own.	60 min	10:30 am	10:30 am	10:30 am	10:30 am	10:30 am	10:30 am	10:30 am
Junior Ranger Program Join a ranger or volunteer for fun and educational activities to earn your Junior Ranger Patch! Ages 6 to 11, parents must remain with their Junior Rangers. Meet inside the visitor center at the front desk.	30-45 min	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm
Paradise Inn Lobby Talk Join a ranger to discover fascinating stories of Paradise and the historic Paradise Inn. Look for the ranger inside the Paradise Inn.	30 min	2:30 pm	2:30 pm		2:30 pm	2:30 pm	2:30 pm	2:30 pm
Astronomy Program Observe the heavens from the slopes of Mount Rainier. Meet in front of the Paradise Visitor Center. Check for start times at the visitor center or call the astronomy hotline (360) 569-6230.	2 hours	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting	9:45 pm weather permitting
Visitor's Choice What's on your mind about Mount Rainier National Park? Help the ranger plan the program. Meet at the relief map in the visitor center	45 min	3:15 pm	3:15 pm	3:15 pm	3:15 pm	3:15 pm	3:15 pm	3:15 pm
Paradise Inn Evening Program Take a seat in the lobby of the Paradise Inn and enjoy an evening with a park ranger or a guest speaker. Topics vary. Inquire at the Jackson Visitor Center or at the Paradise Inn for program descriptions.	45 min	8:45 pm	8:45 pm	8:45 pm	8:45 pm	8:45 pm	8:45 pm	8:45 pm
Special Programs Check at bulletin boards, visitor centers, or inns for a schedule.								
Longmire/Cougar Rock Campground	Length	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Junior Ranger Program Ages 6 to 11. Join a ranger or volunteer for fun and educational activities! Meet at the Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater.	30-45 min	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm	6:30 pm
		<i>Parking at the campground is limited. If you attend the program, but are not camping, park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground.</i>						
Evening Program Join a ranger for a program that involves, inspires, and explores! Topics vary nightly. Meet at the Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater.	45 min	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm	8:30 pm
		<i>Parking at the campground is limited. If you attend the program, but are not camping, park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground.</i>						
Take a HIKE! With a Ranger Experience the forest along the Paradise River en route to Carter Falls. Meet at the Carter Falls Trailhead 2.1 miles east of Longmire, just east of the Cougar Rock Campground. Bring water, a hat, and sturdy shoes.	90 min Return on your own 2 miles							10:30 am
Our Mountain: A History of Adventure Join us as we share stories of the past and present. Even if the tales have grown more outrageous with time, chances are we'll still find a lot in common. Check with the Longmire Museum for further details.		10:15 am & 3:30 pm						
Sunrise/White River Campground	Length	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Junior Ranger Program Children ages 6 to 11 are invited to join park staff for a fun activity about the mountain, glaciers, habitats, and more. Meet at the White River Campfire Circle.	1 hour	10:00 am					10:00 am	10:00 am
Sunrise Afternoon Guided Walks Learn about the natural and cultural history of the Sunrise area on this easy ramble with a ranger. Meet at the Sunrise Visitor Center flagpole. The trail is not wheelchair accessible.	45 min	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm	1:00 & 3:00 pm
History Comes Alive National parks tell stories of people—past and present. Meet characters from Mount Rainier National Park's past and hear their stories.		<i>Check bulletin boards for dates and times.</i>						
Evening Program Take an in-depth look at a special topic of Mount Rainier National Park during a traditional campfire talk. Meet at the campfire circle in the White River Campground.	45 min	---	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	7:30 pm	See bulletin boards	7:30 pm	7:30 pm
		7:00 pm starting August 7	7:00 pm starting August 7	7:00 pm starting August 7	7:00 pm starting August 7		7:00 pm starting August 7	7:00 pm starting August 7
Check bulletin boards for additional Junior Ranger programs, special programs, and schedule updates.								
Ohanapecosh	Length	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Junior Ranger Program Ages 6 to 11. Join a ranger or volunteer for fun and educational activities! Meet at the Ohanapecosh Visitor Center.	1 hour	10:00 am		10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am
Evening Program Join a ranger for a program that involves, inspires, and explores! Topics vary nightly. Meet at the Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater.	45 min			9:00 pm 8:30 pm starting August 6	See bulletin boards	9:00 pm 8:30 pm starting August 6	9:00 pm 8:30 pm starting August 6	9:00 pm 8:30 pm starting August 6
History Comes Alive National parks tell stories of people—past and present. Meet characters from Mount Rainier National Park's past, and hear their stories.		<i>See page 7 for more information. Check bulletin boards for dates and times.</i>						
Check bulletin boards for additional Junior Ranger programs, special programs, and schedule updates.								



Making a Difference Into the Next 100 Years

By Laurie B. Ward, Washington's National Park Fund Executive Director



Do you love national parks? Would you like to give back to make them stronger?

At Washington's National Park Fund (www.wnnpf.org), you may choose to give directly to Mount Rainier National Park. You may also give directly to one of the priority areas that the Fund supports:

- Science and Research—providing resources for fisher restoration, glacial studies, red fox research, etc.
- Visitors' Experiences—strengthening Search and Rescue, trails, emergency roadside assistance, etc.
- Volunteerism and Stewardship—funding the park's program so they're able to bring in, train, and manage the 1,700 volunteers who come in each year
- Youth Programs—building upon past years' successes so more youth can gain access

Over the past seven years, more than \$2.5 million has been given to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks through Washington's National Park Fund. Eighty percent of the funds raised are given to the parks. Funds are raised through events, estate gifts, online giving, corporate and foundation support, climbs of Mount Rainier, year-end appeals, RAMROD (Ride Around Mount Rainier in One Day), the park's lodge guest donation program, and donation boxes in the park. One hundred percent of the funds raised stays in Washington State for the benefit of Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks.

Show your support! Washington State residents can purchase national park license plates. Thanks to the thousands who have them, \$150,000 is split evenly between Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks.

During this centennial year, show you care. Give to Mount Rainier National Park through Washington's National Park Fund.

Washington's National Park Fund
1904 3rd Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98101
206-623-2063
EIN: 01-0869799



Experience Mount Rainier as a Volunteer Ranger

As you visit Mount Rainier, keep your eyes open for people wearing hats, shirts, and jackets with a "volunteer" logo. You'll see volunteers working in the visitor centers and assisting visitors in the meadows. Even more are busy behind the scenes, organizing the park's collection of historic photos and taking care of plants in our greenhouse.

Last year, almost 1,700 people worked in partnership with the National Park Service to protect the natural and cultural resources of Mount Rainier and serve its visitors. These invaluable partners help us accomplish far more than we could have alone.

Have you ever dreamed of being a park ranger? You still can—for a day, for a summer, or on winter weekends as your schedule permits. Opportunities abound. Ask how you can become part of our team!

www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm

Your Visitor Fees at Work

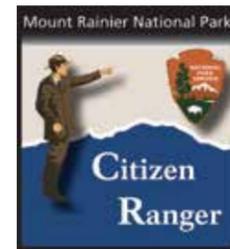
Mount Rainier became the fifth national park in 1899, and was the first to admit vehicles for a fee at the Nisqually Entrance in 1907. Eighty years later, the cost for a one week visit to the park was raised from two dollars to five dollars per vehicle. With changing times and the increased costs of running the park fees are now twenty-five dollars per vehicle.

Your entrance and camping fees benefit the park tremendously. By law, eighty percent of these recreation fees are retained at the park, with twenty percent made available to national park units without fee programs. This funding is used exclusively on projects or services that directly benefit visitors.

Visitor fees are the primary fund source for the electrical and telecommunication utilities being installed in the Nisqually-Paradise Road. Every year, visitor fees are used to support trail, campground, and picnic area repairs and improvements, restore subalpine meadows, upgrade aging interpretive exhibits, improve accessibility, reduce hazards, and provide information through fee rangers, social media, and publications like this one!

By paying entrance and camping fees you help care for the park. Watch for evidence of your fees at work during your visit and thank you for your support of Mount Rainier National Park!

Citizen Ranger Learning Adventures!

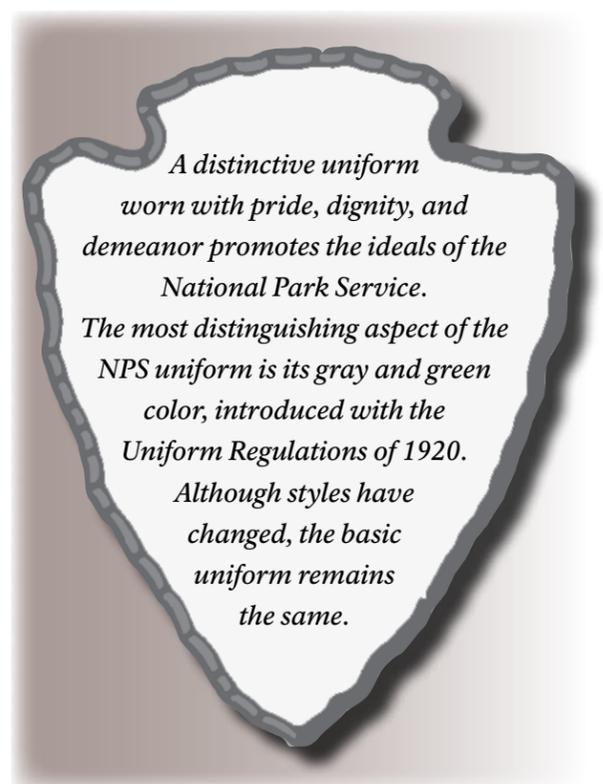


There is a new way to explore the park! Have your own adventure by completing "Citizen Ranger Quest" activities. Has your inner Junior Ranger never really gone away? Try out a Quest! They are designed for older

children (12 and up) and adults. However, these in-park learning adventures can also be enjoyed by younger children with help from adults or older children. Groups, families, or individuals completing four of the do-it-yourself activities become "Mount Rainier Citizen Rangers," and receive a certificate and patch.

Quest topics are diverse and vary from history to science to stewardship. Some Quests take place indoors while others help you explore outdoors. Completion times for the different Quests vary from about thirty minutes to two hours. Quests can be completed using web-based information before you arrive or after you leave the park.

For additional information, or to obtain your Citizen Ranger Quest activity sheets and certificates, inquire at the Longmire Museum, and Ohanapecosh, Paradise, and Sunrise visitor centers.



Park Partners							
	Discover Your Northwest www.discovernw.org	Mount Rainier National Park Associates www.mrnpa.org	Mount Rainier National Park Volunteers www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm	Student Conservation Association www.thesca.org	Visit Rainier visitrainier.com	Washington's National Park Fund www.wnnpf.org	Washington Trails Association www.wta.org

Know the weather before you go



Steve Redman photo

Wilderness Camping

Mount Rainier National Park offers outstanding wilderness hiking and camping opportunities. Wilderness camping permits are required for all overnight stays in the park's backcountry. Permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis only. No advance reservations are being accepted this year. Permits can be obtained up to one day prior to the trip start date, or on the start date. Wilderness permits must be obtained in person at the Longmire Wilderness Information Center, White River Wilderness Information Center, or the Carbon River Ranger Station. See page 12 for hours.

Park Water Bottle Filling Stations

Mount Rainier National Park has free potable water available at most of the developed areas in the park. In addition to traditional water fountains, the park worked with its lodging and dining concessions partner, Rainier Guest Services (RGS), to install three new water bottle filling stations that make it easier for visitors to fill oversized bottles quickly. RGS offers several types of reusable water bottles for sale in the gift shops at Longmire, Paradise, and Sunrise.

Water bottle filling stations, water fountains, and/or spigots are located in the following locations:

- **Paradise:** Paradise Inn, Jackson Visitor Center, Paradise Ranger Station, and picnic area comfort stations
- **Longmire:** National Park Inn/General Store and Longmire Administration Building
- **Ohanapecosh:** Visitor Center restrooms and most campground comfort stations
- **Sunrise:** Inside and outside the Day Lodge
- **Cougar Rock Campground:** Most campground and picnic area comfort stations
- **Grove of the Patriarchs:** Comfort station
- **Box Canyon:** Comfort station
- **White River:** Ranger Station parking area and campground comfort stations



Firewood: Buy It Where You Burn It!

Washington forests are in jeopardy from the transportation of invasive insects and diseases in firewood. New infestations of tree-killing insects and diseases often are first found in campgrounds and parks. Here's what you can do to help:



- Buy firewood near where you will burn it—that means the wood was likely cut within 50 miles of where you'll have your fire.
- Wood that looks clean and healthy can still have tiny insect eggs, or microscopic fungi spores, that will start a new and deadly infestation. Always leave it at home, even if you think the firewood looks fine.
- Aged or seasoned wood is still not safe. Just because it is dry doesn't mean that bugs can't crawl onto it!
- Tell your friends not to bring wood with them. Everyone needs to know that they should not move firewood.

More information is available online at www.dontmovefirewood.org.

Climbing

Each year, approximately 10,000 people attempt to climb Mount Rainier. Nearly half reach the 14,410-foot summit. Climbing passes and permits are required for travel above 10,000 feet and on glaciers. Climbing information—including fees, routes, and conditions—is available at the Paradise Climbing Information Center and other ranger stations. *Please obtain permits at least 30 minutes prior to ranger stations' closing times. See page 12 for hours.* Guided climbs and climbing seminars are available through:

- Alpine Ascents International (206) 378-1927
- International Mountain Guides (360) 569-2609
- Rainier Mountaineering, Inc. (888) 892-5462

Leave No Trace

Plan ahead and prepare
Travel and camp on durable surfaces
Dispose of waste properly
Leave what you find
Minimize campfire impacts*
Respect wildlife
Be considerate of others

**Fires are for emergency use only; they are not allowed in Mount Rainier's Wilderness.*

Easy & Moderate Hikes

Area	Trail Name	Trailhead Location	Round-Trip Distance	Comments
Carbon River	Rainforest Nature Trail	Carbon River Entrance	0.3-mile loop trail	Self-guiding trail through an inland temperate rainforest
Kautz Creek	Kautz Creek Viewpoint	3 miles southwest of Longmire	0.1-mile	Wheelchair-accessible boardwalk and viewpoint
Longmire	Twin Firs	1.9 miles southwest of Longmire	0.4-mile loop trail	Short hike in old growth forest. Limited parking
	Trail of the Shadows	Across from the National Park Inn	0.7-mile loop trail	Good for children & evening strolls; meadow/mtn. views; east half of loop suitable for wheelchairs with assistance
	Carter Falls	2 miles northeast of Longmire	2 miles	Moderate hike, climbs 500' up forested canyon to waterfall
Paradise	Nisqually Vista	Lower Paradise parking lot	1.2-mile loop	Trail work this summer will prohibit hiking the loop in full
	Skyline Trail to Myrtle Falls	Large stairway/ramp near visitor center	1 mile	Suitable for strollers and wheelchairs (with assistance)
Stevens Canyon Road	Bench & Snow Lakes	1.5 miles east of Reflection Lakes	2.5 miles	Watch for bears in the meadows in late summer
	Box Canyon	11 miles east of Paradise	0.5-mile loop	View a deep, narrow canyon and glacially-polished rocks
Ohanapecosh	Grove of the Patriarchs	Near Stevens Canyon entrance	1.2-mile loop	Old growth forest, ancient trees, suspension foot-bridge
	Silver Falls	Ohanapecosh Campground	2.4-mile loop	Old growth forest, waterfall, river
Mather Memorial Parkway/SR 410	Tipsoo Lake	Off SR 410, east of Cayuse Pass	0.5-mile loop	Short trail around the lake, mountain views
Sunrise	Silver Forest/Emmons Vista	South side of parking lot	2 miles	Glacier views at Emmons Vista Overlooks (0.5 mile one-way)
	Nature Trail	North side of parking lot	1.5 miles	Wildflower meadows and great mountain views

Daniel Keebler photo



Hazards of the Season

Winter snowpack may linger late into summer on the mountain. Snow may be found covering portions of trails into August. However, keep in mind that snow is not the only issue when it comes to safe backcountry travel. This past winter was unusually warm with several significant wind events. Trails are likely damaged; bridges and footlogs may be out; and large fallen trees may obscure trails.

Route-Finding Challenges

Many early season hikers are not prepared for challenges encountered by a lingering snowpack. Trails may be snow-free at lower elevations but anticipate and prepare for snow at higher elevations.

Conditions change rapidly during the day and footprints in the snow quickly disappear. This has left many day hikers disoriented upon their return trip, expecting to simply follow their own tracks back to the snow-free trail. This results in many lost individuals, injuries, and fatalities. When route-finding, note important landmarks. If the trail becomes difficult to follow, stop and find where you are on the map before continuing.

A beautiful day on the mountain can turn into dangerous whiteout conditions in a matter of minutes. Knowing what to do and making the right decision can be the difference between life and death.

Be Prepared

If at any point you feel uncomfortable or unprepared, turn around. If you plan on retracing your route back to the trailhead consider using wands on snow-covered trails. Always carry a good map and compass, and actively use them on snow-covered trails. Also consider supplementing your map and compass with an external antenna GPS for best coverage beneath a forest canopy. Again, it is extremely important that you know how to use these tools.

Consider the steep snow slopes, melt holes, thinning snow bridges, and other early season hazards that you may encounter, and be honest with yourself in assessing your skills and experience.

Snow Avalanches are Common in Spring

The greatest danger to you is an avalanche that you trigger by skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, or climbing. Be prepared for travel in avalanche terrain. Carry a transceiver, probe, and shovel and know how to use them. Determine if the location you are traveling is avalanche prone. When in doubt, ask questions or don't go. Unstable snow may slide at any time . . . not just in winter! Remember, even small avalanches can be deadly.

Mountain Weather Changes Rapidly

A pleasant outing can quickly be transformed into a survival ordeal. Having proper gear (adequate boots, ice axe, the ten essentials, etc.) is a must. Navigation in a storm conditions can be extremely difficult. If you're ascending and clouds or fog

start rolling in, turn around and head back to the trailhead. If that's not possible, stop moving, dig in, and wait for better weather.

Plan Ahead

- Protect yourself by wearing appropriate outdoor clothing including footwear.
- Be prepared for rapidly changing weather.
- Carry the ten essentials even on a short sightseeing hike.
- Always tell someone of your travel plans so they can notify the park if you fail to return.
- Do not travel alone.
- If visibility is poor, do not travel at all.

Cross Streams Safely

Many hikers underestimate the power of moving water and some consider their former successful stream crossings as a ticket to the other side. This may not be true. Use these pointers in making wise decisions when crossing streams.

- Early morning when river levels are generally at their lowest is the best time to cross.
- Look for an area with a smooth bottom and slow moving water below knee height.
- Before crossing, scout downstream for log jams, waterfalls, and other hazards that could trap you. Locate a point where you can exit if you fall in.
- Use a sturdy stick to maintain two points of contact with the ground at all times.
- Unfasten the belt of your pack so you can easily discard it if necessary.
- Staring down at moving water can make you dizzy. Look forward as much as possible.

Most importantly, plan your route ahead of time, have a backup plan, and never travel alone.

Hiking the Muir Snowfield

The Muir Snowfield—a permanent field of ice, snow, and rock outcrops—is located north of Paradise between 7,000 and 10,000 feet in elevation. Thousands of people hike on the Muir Snowfield each year en route to Camp Muir. On a clear day, the hike is spectacular. But when the weather deteriorates, as it often and unpredictably does, crossing the Muir Snowfield can be disastrous.

- Avoid the snowfield in questionable weather, especially if you're alone or unprepared. Weather conditions can change suddenly and drastically.
- If you're ascending and clouds or fog start rolling in, turn around and head back to Paradise. If that's not possible, stop moving, dig in, and wait for better weather.
- Without a compass, map, GPS (and extra batteries), and altimeter, it is extremely difficult to find your way to the trailhead in a whiteout. Carry these items and know how to use them.
- Do not descend on skis or a snowboard in limited visibility—you could become lost.
- When hiking to Camp Muir, be sure to carry emergency bivouac gear so that you can spend the night out if you have to.
- To protect fragile alpine vegetation, hike only on snow or official trails.

While it may be disappointing to abandon your hike to Camp Muir, remember that the snowfield will still be there in better weather.

Before you step off the trail...

... consider this: each step into a meadow crushes an average of 20 plants!



When exploring Mount Rainier's fragile meadows hike only on maintained trails or thick patches of snow.

Keep Wildlife Wild

- Please do not feed the wildlife.
- Store your food in an animal-proof container or inside your car.
- Do not leave food, beverages, pet food, or toiletries unattended for any length of time.
- Clean up picnic areas after you eat.



Human food puts animals at risk and some die as a result. For example birds, like jays or ravens are effective nest predators—eating the eggs or young of other birds. By

feeding jays or ravens, visitors concentrate these nest predators near roads and trails and inadvertently contribute to the death of songbirds in the same area.

Feeding wildlife harms them in many ways. Beggar squirrels, foxes, deer, and jays learn to approach people and busy areas. They often get hit and killed by cars. Animals that become accustomed to humans and human food may also pursue and injure visitors. Biologists and rangers must intervene, with killing the animal as the last resort.

Carry the "10 Essentials" and know how to use them!

1. Map and compass
2. Sunglasses, sunscreen, and hat
3. Extra clothing (warm!) and rain gear
4. Flashlight or head lamp (extra batteries)
5. First aid supplies
6. Waterproof matches or lighter
7. Repair kit and tools (for gear)
8. Extra food
9. Extra water
10. Emergency shelter

Visitor Facility Hours

Visitor Centers

Longmire Museum (360) 569-6575	July 1 - October 10 9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily	Ranger programs, exhibits, information, books
Paradise Henry M. Jackson Visitor Center (360) 569-6571	July 1 - October 10 10:00 am - 7:00 pm daily <i>Due to road construction delays the visitor center may open up to 15 minutes late.</i>	Ranger programs, exhibits, information, park film, books, food service, gifts
Ohanapecosh Visitor Center (360) 569-6581	July 1 - September 18 9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily	Ranger programs, exhibits, information, books
Sunrise Visitor Center (360) 663-2425	July 1 - September 25 10:00 am - 6:00 pm daily	Exhibits, information, books

Wilderness & Climbing Information Centers

Longmire Wilderness Information Center (360) 569-6650	July 1 - October 10 7:30 am - 5:00 pm daily	Wilderness camping & climbing permits, general information
Paradise Climbing Information Center (Guide House) (360) 569-6641	July 1 - September 5 7:00 am - 4:30 pm daily <i>Closed 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm daily</i>	Wilderness camping and climbing permits, exhibits, general information
White River Wilderness Information Center (360) 569-6670	July 1 - October 10 7:30 am - 5:00 pm daily	Wilderness camping and eastside climbing permits, general information
*Carbon River Ranger Station (360) 829-9639	July 1 - September 5 8:30 am - 5:00 pm Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 6:00 pm Friday - Sunday <i>*Located on the Carbon River Road 5.5 miles east of the Mowich Lake (SR165) junction.</i>	Wilderness camping & northside climbing permits, general information (including Ipsut Creek Campground)

Food & Lodging

For in-park lodging reservations, call Mount Rainier Guest Services at (360) 569-2275 or go to www.mtrainierguestservices.com

National Park Inn at Longmire	Open year-round Front Desk: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm daily	Lodging, dining room
Longmire General Store Open year-round	July 1 - September 4 9:00 am - 8:00 pm daily	Gifts, snacks, apparel, firewood
Paradise Inn	Front Desk: open 24 hours daily Dining Room: Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:30 am Lunch 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Dinner 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm Sunday Brunch 11:30 am - 2:00 pm Tatoosh Cafe: 9:00 am - 10:00 pm Gift Shop: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm	Lodging, dining, gifts, apparel, ranger on duty, interpretive programs
Paradise Camp Deli and Gift Shop in the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise	July 1 - September 5 10:00 am - 6:45 pm daily	Food, gifts, books, apparel
Sunrise Day Lodge Snack Bar and Gift Shop	July 1 - September 5 10:00 am - 7:00 pm daily	Food and gifts. Day use only, no overnight lodging
Firewood Sales	Available through September 25 at the Longmire General Store, through September 4 at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh campgrounds.	

Gasoline, lodging, dining, recreation equipment rentals, and other services are available in local communities. A list of these services is available at park visitor centers and on the park's website at www.nps.gov/mora. Religious services are available in local communities. GAS IS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE PARK

Parking In Paradise



If you are visiting Paradise on a nice day be prepared for heavy traffic, busy parking lots, and pedestrians on the roadway. Due to the popularity of the Paradise area, you are asked to park your vehicle in certain lots depending on the intent of your visit and the type of vehicle you are driving. Please drive courteously and help improve traffic flow by following these guidelines:

- Parking in the upper Paradise lot, adjacent to the Jackson Visitor Center, is intended for short-term visitors and is limited to two hours. This lot is generally full by 11:00 am. Disabled visitors with a valid disabled parking permit may park in the upper lot with no time restriction; disabled-accessible trailheads are available near the visitor center and the Paradise Inn. Paradise Inn overnight guests may also park in the upper lot during their stay.

Parking can be difficult to find on sunny summer weekends at Paradise, Sunrise, Grove of the Patriarchs, and at trailheads between Longmire and Paradise. To avoid congestion, visit these areas on weekdays, arrive early, and carpool.

- Parking in the lower Paradise lot is intended for visitors staying longer than two hours, for those hiking in the Paradise area, and for backcountry campers and climbers with a valid backcountry permit. When the upper Paradise lot is full, short-term visitors may also use the lower lot.
- Additional parking for long-term and overnight visitors is available along the one-way Paradise Valley Road, east of the upper Paradise lot.

Park roads are winding, road shoulders are narrow, and the speed limit is 35 mph in most areas. Watch for pedestrians, sightseers, bicyclists, and wildlife. Please be courteous and use pullouts to allow faster drivers to pass you safely.

- Motorhomes, RVs, and vehicles towing trailers must park along the Paradise Valley Road, east of the upper Paradise lot.
- Plan for road construction delays up to 30 minutes each-way between Longmire and Paradise.

Drive-in Campgrounds

Campground	Open Dates	Elev.	Sites	Group Sites	Toilets	Dump Station	Maximum RV/Trailer Length
Cougar Rock*	May 20 - Oct. 10	3,180'	173	5	Flush	Yes	RV 35'/Trailer 27'
Ohanapecosh*	May 20 - Oct. 10	1,914'	188	2	Flush	Yes	RV 32'/Trailer 27'
White River	June 24 - Sept. 26	4,232'	112	0	Flush	No	RV 27'/Trailer 18'
Mowich Lake	Primitive walk-in campground, tents only. 10 sites, 3 group sites (max. group size 12). No fee (must self-register at campground kiosk). Vault toilets, <i>no potable water</i> . No fires allowed. Elevation 4,929'; generally open July through early October, depending on road and weather conditions. Call 360-829-9639 for information.						

***Advance reservations are recommended for individual sites at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh Campgrounds from June 23 through the night of September 4. These can be made up to six months in advance. Reservations for group sites are recommended and are available throughout the season. These can be made up to one year in advance. To make a reservation online, go to www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.**