

OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT



Chaperone Checklist

Thank you for volunteering to assist your students on a field trip to Oregon Caves National Monument. You are a vital part of the education program. We appreciate if you will provide support to the students and the Park Rangers during the field trip. The following information will help you know what to expect and how you can help.

Chaperone responsibilities:

- **Help Protect Our Bats!** This fatal disease in bats has already killed over a million bats in eastern North America, and is spreading west. Avoid spreading the fungus that causes white-nose syndrome in bats! **When you visit Oregon Caves, plan ahead not to bring any items that have been worn or used in any cave, mine, or bat hibernation site east of the Rocky Mountains in the U.S. or Canada since 2005, or in any cave in Europe, ever.** This includes shoes, camera bags, and clothes. Even if the item has been washed, there is still a risk. **Do not bring it.**
- **Safety first!** Depending on where you enter the cave, the tour route may consist of over 400 stairs and is considered moderately strenuous. You also may have to walk uphill for 5-10 minutes before you enter the cave. The tour is not recommended for any person who has breathing, vision, balance, or heart conditions.
- **Students first!** Remember we are here for the students. Please refrain from answering the Ranger's questions, and encourage students to figure out the answers.
- **Listen up!** When the Ranger makes a stop in the cave s/he will ask for the student's attention. Please be courteous. It is distracting to try to speak over others who are conversing during the program.
- **Spread out!** If there is more than one chaperone on the tour, please space yourselves between students to help monitor and manage them and stay focused on the program.
- **No cameras!** Students are not allowed to take cameras on an educational tour. A chaperone may take a camera, but only one group picture is allowed in the cave.
- **Leave no trace!** Remember to leave only footprints and take only memories.

Please call us in advance if you have any questions or concerns. We anticipate a wonderful day sharing a very special place with your students.

Warm Regards,

Education Rangers
Oregon Caves National Monument