

# National Park Service – Campground Design Guide

## External Review Document Information Sheet

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Campgrounds provide a low-cost and unique opportunity for visitors to experience National Park Service (NPS) sites across the country. More than 330 million visitors explore parks annually, with tent, RV, and backcountry campers spending an estimated 7.9 million nights at park system campgrounds in 2018.

Growing interest in expanding and supporting public recreational access supports the need to fully understand, optimally manage, and strategically invest in campgrounds throughout the NPS.

The NPS has undertaken a campground modernization strategy to ensure our second century of NPS campgrounds supports both visitors and employees.

Please review background information files for additional details on the overall strategy.

An internal NPS team has developed draft design guidelines to centralize campground design information. These include details on spatial requirements for expanding campsites to accommodate RV use and guidelines on how to meet accessibility codes while maintaining cultural resource integrity. A kickoff workshop was held at the end of January 2020. Internal outreach included interviews of 17 parks and NPS programs. External outreach included interviews of all public land agencies including state parks. The guide will be a clearinghouse of best practices and the interviews allowed data collection so the team could incorporate existing guidance.

The NPS Campground Design Guide will be available for public review and comment until 12/4/20.

### How will the guide be used?

- The guide is intended to promote a consistent approach to future National Park Service campground changes and improvements.
- Guide users may include all National Park Service staff and private contractors including planners, designers, superintendents, maintenance staff, concessioners and partners.
- Information is designed to assist all sizes and scopes of projects related to campgrounds.
- The document is broken into sections to lead users through a common project sequence; however, it can be used at any point in a project or maintenance effort.
- The guide is NOT intended to make all NPS campgrounds look the same.

### How you can help

- Review the document and consider what changes, deletions or additions you think are needed in the campground guide. Please be as specific as possible and indicate page numbers or sections as needed in your comments.
- Get the word out to interested members of the public and invite them to share their thoughts and expertise.
- Submit comments using PEPC: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/CampgroundGuide>
- Submit comments before the end of the comment period on 12/4/20.

### **Campground Design Guide Project Schedule**

- ✓ Project initiation – January 2020
- ✓ Initial outreach – Spring 2020
- ✓ Guide development – Summer 2020

➤ External review draft – Fall 2020	<b>WE ARE HERE</b>
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Incorporate public comment – Winter 2020

Editing and Layout – Winter 2021

Publication of Campground Design Guide – Spring 2021