



Special Park Conditions

Activity: Wedding/Event Planner

A. Authorized Services

1. The commercial activity authorized by this permit is wedding ceremony services: scheduling ceremony sites, officiating ceremonies, and photography on date of ceremony.
2. The permit does not authorize photography sessions that do not include the wedding ceremony.

B. As the Permittee (business operator), you need to comply with the following regulations. Any violation of regulations can be grounds for revocation of the Commercial Use Authorization (CUA):

1. Be familiar with the park, know and obey park regulations and area closures, and assure compliance with regulations and area closures from participants.
2. All groups must honor the rights of others and always conduct themselves in a professional manner.
3. All natural and cultural resources are protected by law; utmost care will be exercised to see that no natural, historic, or cultural features are injured, and that area be cleaned up and restored to its prior condition.
4. Any special instructions received from the official or ranger in charge of the park area will be complied with.
5. Any additional information relating to the permit will be furnished upon request to the Commercial Services Office.
6. The Permit Holder must provide a list of all the names of vendors such as officiants, photographers, etc. that will provide a service for their company for the wedding ceremony. The vendor company needs to be additionally insured on the Permit Holder's business liability insurance certificate and a copy of all insurance certificates need to be submitted to the Commercial Services Office prior to operating in the park.
7. The Permittee must comply with conditions of seasonal area closures as signed and noted in the Superintendent's Compendium.
8. If photographing the wedding party in tundra areas, the Permittee must make sure all individuals stay on established walkways in the tundra areas to minimize impacts to the fragile tundra environment. Use of the Tundra Communities Trail is not authorized.
9. While photographing wedding ceremonies the following is prohibited: harassing wildlife, employing techniques of calling, baiting, flushing or any other means of artificially attracting wildlife, and flash photography of wildlife.
10. The Permittee is responsible for making sure that the participants understand any hazards and are prepared for conditions and situations that may be encountered.

C. Conduct of Group and Site Regulations

1. Ceremonies can only be conducted in designated sites. The Permittee must adhere to all site restrictions such as group size, vehicle numbers, etc. Weddings are prohibited at Bear Lake from Friday before Memorial Day to the 2nd Monday in October and on weekends year-round. Other designated sites also have restrictions Friday before Memorial Day to the 2nd Monday in October. **See attached "Designated Wedding Sites" file.**
2. The designated area shall remain open to park visitors. Other park visitors shall not be requested to move themselves, their vehicles, or alter their selected activities by the permittee. All pathways and trails in the ceremony area must remain clear for visitors to freely walk the path unimpeded. Do not block the trails. Other visitor services and park programs shall not be unreasonably interfered with.
3. The Southside Lily Lake Picnic Area is generally open to public use for recreational activities; however, the site is posted with a sign that informs users of the following: "If a permit has been paid for and issued for this site you could be asked to vacate the area for the group that reserved it." If you have received a Special Use Permit for this site and find that it is occupied upon arrival, kindly refer to the posted sign and advise that you

have a Special Use Permit in hand that has reserved this site for the specific date and time. If you have any difficulty accessing and using the site for the time shown on your permit, contact a park ranger or volunteer for assistance by calling our Dispatch Center at 970-586-1204.

4. No banners, signs, steamers, or hanging objects will be allowed for the event. Nothing shall be attached to any natural or historic object or any National Park Service sign, bench, post, building, or facility.
5. Audio devices (radios, musical instruments, etc.) shall not be used in such a manner (i) that exceeds a noise level of 60 decibels or (ii) that makes noise which is unreasonable, considering the nature and purpose of the permit, location, time of day, impact on park users, and other factors that would govern the conduct of a reasonably prudent person under the circumstances.
6. Sound amplification is not permitted. Vocal communication with the public shall not exceed normal conversational volume.
7. Park visitor centers, restrooms, and other buildings must not be used for ceremony preparations (dressing, picture-taking, rehearsals, waiting areas, etc.) or in the event of inclement weather.
8. Equipment such as tables, chairs, carpets, tents, floral displays, and generators cannot be used in the park. Throwing and scattering rice, birdseed, flower petals, or other materials is prohibited. The Permittee is authorized for up to 6 portable chairs (provided by the Permittee) for the elderly or individuals that cannot stand.
9. Parking is only authorized in designated areas. Unauthorized parking may be subject to violation notices. Carpooling/shuttling is strongly encouraged, and may be required, as parking space is limited.
10. Leave No Trace principles and practices shall be closely adhered to for all events/ceremonies that take place in the park. Refer to enclosed handout (if applicable) for further information.
 - a. The Online Awareness course on Leave No Trace is required. It is free. [Leave No Trace: Take Action to Protect the Outdoors - Overview \(Int.org\)](#)
11. Please respect the park's resources and tread lightly. Avoid sensitive resource areas. Make sure all trash and ceremony items are picked up and packed out with you.

D. Permits and Fees

1. The Permittee must utilize the [CUA Wedding Request Form](#) to submit a request to the Commercial Services Office for the proposed ceremony. The client's name, preferred date, time, and location must be filled out to be scheduled. Email romo_fees_permits@nps.gov for questions.
 - a. Advance emails to check availability before submitting the formal request will not be considered scheduling the ceremony. Any approved formal requests will be charged even if the ceremony is cancelled.
 - b. ***Ceremony Cancellation: Commercial Services Office must be notified by email*** – send an email to romo_fees_permits@nps.gov or reply to the email chain that “approved” the ceremony once a ceremony cancellation has been confirmed by the client. You will receive another automated email once the ceremony is updated to “cancelled”.
 - c. Requests will only be approved one year in advance (i.e. a ceremony for any date June 2027 can be approved as early as June 1, 2026).
2. If a client has received the draft permit and payment instructions from the Commercial Services Office, the client will need to cancel directly with the Commercial Services Office if wanting to schedule directly through the CUA for the ceremony in the park. The date, time, and location will not be held until it is officially scheduled by the CUA permit holder.
3. Any unusual requests regarding the ceremony (decorative arches, catering, ceremony equipment, etc.) must be cleared through the Commercial Services Office. If an unusual request is accommodated by the Commercial Services Office, a written letter will be sent to the Permittee.
4. **Normal entrance fees** apply to all vehicles associated with the wedding. Advance entrances fee can be purchased online at www.recreation.gov.
5. ***There is a \$75 per event booking fee for each wedding event booked under your Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) permit. Those fees will be collected on a quarterly basis determined by the number of weddings in that quarter. The fee is charged whether the event (ceremony) happens or is cancelled.***
6. During Timed Entry, the Permittee must use the wedding permit template issued by the Commercial Services Office to fill in details of each scheduled event for distribution to the clients for the day of their

wedding. This is especially important during Timed Entry periods for the clients to show the entrance station staff, especially if they enter the park in a different vehicle than their CUA Guide.

E. General Provisions for All Permits

1. Guide Passes and Entrance Fees for Clients

- a. Guide passes are to be used solely by the Permittee and designated employees to conduct official business under a Commercial Use Authorization or Concessions Contract and are not for personal use. **Guides must always carry this pass while in the park.**
 - b. Guide passes must be always kept with guides in the park, to be presented as requested to park staff to confirm appropriate use and entry to the park. Permittee is responsible for ensuring that its guides comply with this requirement. ID is required.
 - c. Guides are required to present the guide card at the entrance stations along with their driver's license when entering the park to show that they are on official business. Guides are required to inform the entrance station staff of clients entering for the trip; for example, which vehicle, number of clients, etc.
 - d. Clients of the Permittee are not admitted free entrance to the park. The clients' options are:
 - i. Buy an entrance pass – pay when they enter with the Permittee
 - ii. Have a current entrance receipt
 - iii. Have a current pass - Rocky Mountain National Park Annual Pass or America the Beautiful Pass (pass is valid & in the name of the client)
2. CUA Permit Holders and their clients are not authorized to use the fast pass lane for any commercial activities in the park. All CUA Permit Holders (i.e. guides) and clients must enter via a staffed entrance kiosk. Use of the fast pass lane by a CUA Permit Holder may result in revocation of their CUA permit.
 3. Frontcountry camping is available on a first-come, first-serve basis at Longs Peak Campground and by advanced reservation at Moraine Park, Glacier Basin, Aspenglen, and Timber Creek Campgrounds. Normal camping fees and regulations, including length of stay, will apply to the Permittee and its participants.
 4. Prior to initiating each trip, guides are encouraged to contact Park Headquarters (970) 586-1206 for information on current conditions.
 5. Proof of adequate general liability and automobile insurance coverage must be provided to the park prior to operating under this permit.
 - a. Commercial General Comprehensive Liability coverage is required in the amount of \$500,000 per person per accident.
 - b. Commercial Vehicle Insurance coverage is required for all owned, non-owned, and hired vehicles used by the Permittee who transport clients.
 - c. Minimum limits for Commercial Vehicle Insurance are \$1,500,000 for 15 or fewer passengers and \$5,000,000 for 16 or more passengers. Rocky Mountain National Park must be listed as additional insured.
 6. All incidents involving overdue parties or accidents involving property damage or personal injury must be reported to Park Dispatch at (970) 586-1204 as soon as possible but no later than 24 hours after the incident and to the Commercial Services Office.
 7. All advertisements/brochures which make reference to Rocky Mountain National Park must be approved by the Superintendent prior to publication, distribution, or broadcasting. All such publications must include a statement that the operator is authorized by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, to conduct services in Rocky Mountain National Park.
 8. Prior to engaging any commercial filming or still photography using model(s) (posed or on camera talent), set(s), or prop(s) that are not part of the location's natural or cultural resources or administrative facilities consultation with the Commercial Services Office is required. This activity may be subject to a separate permit.
 9. Violation of park regulations or the terms of this permit may result in the suspension of privileges granted by this permit and could lead to appropriate fine or citations, as well as non-renewal.

Designated Wedding Sites

The following table includes a list of Designated Wedding Sites in Rocky Mountain National Park, with conditions and restrictions. If you are unfamiliar with the locations listed, it is recommended that you visit the site. All locations are outdoors and rustic in nature without protection from the weather. Some sites offer seating at a few picnic tables or wooden benches. In planning your wedding, please keep in mind that the park generally restricts the use of equipment such as tables, chairs, tents, banners, displays, etc. Simple ceremonies that take advantage of the natural environment, views, and surroundings are recommended.

In Rocky Mountain National Park, all wedding ceremonies of 2 or more people require a permit.

Review the wedding locations list along with each location's group size and site restrictions. The ceremony size includes all members of the wedding party and guests. This includes officiate(s), photographer(s), bride and groom, children, etc.

The permit does not grant exclusive use of the area. All sites remain open to the public. National Park entrance fees apply. The following guidelines are included as conditions of the permit:

Follow "Leave No Trace" Principles:

- No disruption of the atmosphere of peace and tranquility in the park; no amplified music
- Minimize interference with park programs, activities, and visitors
- Minimize interference with the operations of public facilities or the services of National Park Service concessioners or contractors
- Maintain a safe and healthy environment for other park visitors

Location	Max Number in Party	Number of Vehicles Allowed
3M Curve	15	3
Alluvial Fan	20	5
Bear Lake (winter only, no weekends)	20	5
Copeland Lake	30	10
Harbison Meadows	30	10
Hidden Valley	30	10
Lily Lake Dock	10	3
Lily Lake Southside Picnic Area	30	10
Lily Lake Trail	20	5
Moraine Park Discovery Center Amphitheater	30	10
Sprague Lake (Summer)	15	3
Sprague Lake (Winter)	30	10
Timber Creek Campground Amphitheater	20	5
Upper Beaver Meadows	30	10

Check out the Permit Locations chart at [Weddings & Other Ceremonies - Rocky Mountain National Park](#) to select each location for more information.