

Rules & Recommendations

Limited Gasoline Stations

There are no gas stations within park boundaries. Only Grant Grove market sells cans of emergency gas. Fill up in Three Rivers, Clingan's Junction, or at:

- Hume Lake Christian Camp: 559-305-7770. Year-round 24 hours with credit card. 11 miles (18 km) north of Grant Grove via Hwy 180.
- Stony Creek Village & Kings Canyon Lodge: Closed.

Expect Icy Roads

Slow down. Sudden speed or stopping causes skids. Allow 6 seconds of stopping distance between cars. Check antifreeze, battery, wipers, chains and road conditions before you come: 24-hour recorded information 1-559-565-3341 (press 1, then 1 again).

Always Carry Chains that fit your tires and comply with signs to use them. Buy or rent chains outside the parks. Snow tires are often required; most cars have them. Check the side of the tire for M/S, M+S, or a snowflake symbol.

Get Snow Off Car Roofs

It may slide onto the windshield and block the driver's vision.

Snowplows Rule

Plows may operate day & night, moving with or against traffic. If you see one, watch for signals from the plow operator. Slow down but do not stop.

Don't Lose Your Brakes

Frequent braking causes overheating and brake failure. Instead, always downshift when going downhill. In automatic vehicles, put the gearshift on 1, 2 or L. The engine gets louder, but it will save your brakes.

Emergency Car Repairs

For a tow: 565-3341 then press zero (24 hours). In Sequoia Park only, 24-hour AAA for lock outs, jump starts, out-of-gas, minor repairs: 565-4070.

Use Turnouts; Let Others Pass

Bicycles

Ride on roads, not trails. Obey traffic rules. Wear light colors at night. Under 18: helmet required.

Go Slow for Wildlife!

Never feed animals by the road. Cars often hit them if they wait for handouts on roadsides.

Vehicle Length Limits

- Maximum on Generals Hwy from Hospital Rock Picnic Area and Giant Forest Museum: 22 feet.
- Between Potwisha Campground and Hospital Rock, advised maximum vehicle length is 22 feet.
- Maximum limit on other parts of the Generals Highway is 40 feet for single vehicles, 50 feet for vehicle + towed unit.

Alternatives: Hwy 180 from Fresno is straighter, less steep, and wider. If towing a car with an RV, camp in the foothills and use the car.

Winter Road Closures

Plowing

Snowplows clear roads in priority order, starting with the Generals Hwy from Hwy 198 to Wuksachi, and from Hwy 180 to Grant Grove Village and the park's north boundary. Roads may close during plowing.

Generals Highway (the main park road) between Sequoia & Kings Canyon parks

Snow may close the road between Wuksachi Lodge and Montecito Resort (8 miles south of Hwy 180) for weeks at a time. The lodges remain open.

In Kings Canyon Park & National Forest

- Cedar Grove area closed. Gate on Hwy 180 at Hume Lake junction closes 11/26 at noon.
- Redwood Mountain Road: Unpaved, unplowed.
- Panoramic Point Road closes with first snow; reopens by mid-May. No trailers or motorhomes.
- Big Meadows, Converse Basin (USFS): All are partially unpaved; closed for winter.

In Sequoia National Park

- Crystal Cave Road closes 11/26 at the latest. Reopens in May.
- Mineral King Road reopens late May to mid-June, conditions permitting.
- Moro Rock/Crescent Meadow Road closes with snow; reopens mid-May. No drinking water is available along this road.
- South Fork Road: partially unpaved; slippery when wet.
- Road to Middle Fork Trail: Unpaved; slippery when wet. Road closes for winter; park at Hospital Rock Picnic Area.
- Parking in Giant Forest area: Across from the Giant Forest Museum (closed). Closest restroom & some additional parking: General Sherman Tree.
- Lodgepole Campground: Campsites & road close 11/26 until late spring.
- Main Sherman Tree Trail & Parking: Road to this lot closes when snow accumulates.

Construction Delays



See www.nps.gov/seki, or bulletin boards at visitor centers for updates and details. Thank you for your patience.

Generals Highway Reconstruction

Amphitheater Point to Deer Ridge (between Hospital Rock & Giant Forest):

- **Daytime on weekdays:** Expect delays up to 1 hour between 7am and 5pm. Later in winter, delays are expected to decrease.
- **All other times:** Signal lights may be controlling traffic for up to 20 minutes at a time into December, then may be removed.

Vehicles longer than 22' cannot travel between Hospital Rock and Giant Forest Museum; long vehicles cannot make the tight curves in the construction zone.

The Generals Highway in the foothills



Driving Times in good weather

From Foothills to:

Giant Forest	1½ hour minimum
Lodgepole	1½ hour minimum
Visalia	1 hour
Mineral King (MK)	1½ hours
(MK Road closed late October - late May/June)	

From Giant Forest to:

Grant Grove via Generals Hwy **1 hour**

From Grant Grove to:

Cedar Grove	1 hour
(Road open mid-May to October 29)	
Fresno	1½ hours
Yosemite south entry	3 hours
(via Hwy 41)	