

MOUNT RAINIER

National Park



FALL ACTIVITIES

Fall is a time when we look forward to the first snow of winter while still hoping for "Indian Summer." The meadows and hillsides change from the rich green of summer to a golden brown. The mountain ash, huckleberry, vine maple and big leaf maple leaves turn yellow, gold, brown and red. The drive through Stevens Canyon between Paradise and Ohanapecosh offers some beautiful views of fall colors usually in late September and early October. Also, the Paradise, Sunrise, and Tipsoo Lake areas offer radiant fall colors and pleasant hikes. Clear sunny days and cool evenings make Fall one of the best times to hike.

The first snowfall will dress up Mount Rainier's faces. Snowfall of a few inches or more start in early October. Keep an eye on the weather and "be prepared" are the key words.

LONGMIRE Longmire Museum: Open daily, features historic exhibits of geology, natural history, early park exploration and Northwest Indians. The Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association offers books, maps, and slides for sale. The Hiker Information Center is open daily through September. Backcountry permits will be available at the Longmire Museum after October 1.

Campfire Programs: Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm, through September at Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater.

Guided Walks: Saturday and Sunday 10 am, through September, meet at Cougar Rock Campground.

Self-guiding Trail: The "Trail of the Shadows" helps you explore the mineral springs of Longmire Meadow and tells the story of the park's early history during a 30-minute walk. The trail starts across the road from the National Park Inn.

Park Concessioner: The National Park Inn is closed for remodeling. Snacks and gifts are available in a temporary location near the Longmire Museum.

Campgrounds: Sunshine Point Campground is open all year. Cougar Rock Campground closes in early October, or earlier in bad weather.

PARADISE Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center: Open daily through October 15, then weekends only thereafter, features exhibits on animals, glaciers, geology, wildflowers, and mountain climbing. The movie "What is a Mountain", the slide program "Is the Mountain a Museum?" and the movie "Fire and Ice" are shown on a rotating schedule each half hour. Consult the activity boards or inquire at the information desk for details. The Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association offers books, maps, and slides for sale.

Evening Programs: Daily at 8:30 pm at the Paradise Inn through September 23. See bulletin boards for a schedule of other daytime activities offered through September 23.

Self-guiding Trail: Nisqually Vista Trail begins at the back of the visitor center parking lot. This 1.25 mile, 45 minute loop trail offers a great view of the Nisqually Glacier.

Park Concessioner: Mount Rainier Guest Services operates food services and gift shop in the Jackson Visitor Center daily through October 15 and weekends thereafter. Paradise Inn will provide meals, lodging, and gift shop until closing for the winter on October 8.

OHANA--
PECOSH

Visitor Center: Open daily until October 15 and weekends through October 29th. Exhibits feature animals, old-growth forest, and local history. The Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association provides books, maps, and slides for sale.

Campfire Programs: Saturday nights, 8:00 pm at the Ohanapecosh Amphitheater through September.

Self-guiding Trail: The "Life System" trails helps you explore the forest story of Ohanapecosh on a 30-minute walk starting at the visitor center. "The Grove of the Patriarchs" trail takes you through an ancient Old-Growth Douglas-fir forest along the Ohanapecosh River. This 1.5 mile round trip trail starts from near the Stevens Canyon Entrance.

Trails: The low forest trails along the Ohanapecosh River to Silver Falls are excellent Fall hiking trails. Shriener Peak trail provides some fine fall colors and views of Mount Rainier and wildlife.

WHITE
RIVER

Campground and Road: White River Campground closes September 19, and the entire White River Road from Highway 410 closes on October 16.

Hiker Information Center: Open until September 30.

SUNRISE

Visitor Center: Open daily through September 17, features exhibits on ecology of the parks' subalpine and alpine environments. The Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association provides books, maps, and slides for sale.

Park Concessioner: Mount Rainier Guest Services operates the Sunrise Lodge. The Lodge is open daily 10 am - 6 pm through September 10, offering food service and gift shop.

Road: The Sunrise road will remain open daily as long as weather permits. After September 30, the gate at the junction with the White River Campground Road will be locked nightly, re-opening each morning as conditions permit. Check with the staff before leaving your vehicle at Sunrise overnight. The entire White River Road from Highway 410 will close for the season on October 16.

CARBON
RIVER

Campground: Ipsut Creek Campground will remain open throughout the winter, weather permitting. Water and garbage collections are not available after September 17.

Trails: A self-guiding trail along June Creek through the rain forest starts at the Carbon River Entrance. The trail to the Carbon Glacier and high meadows of Mystic Lake and Mowich Lake start from the Ipsut Creek Campground.

The scheduled closing of roads and facilities may change without notice. Fall storms may bring snow earlier than expected. To report any emergency or ask about facilities, trails, and weather contact any ranger station or visitor center.

Take Pride In America. Pack out your trash; help pick up the litter left by those less thoughtful than you. Thank you.



1889-1989
90th Anniversary
Mount Rainier National Park
Fifth U.S. National Park

