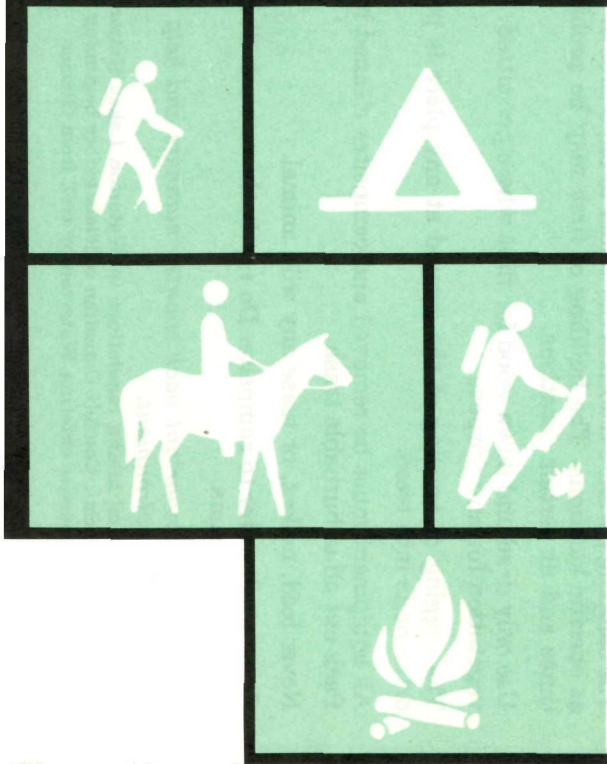


BACKCOUNTRY

Glacier National Park, MT.



Administration

Glacier National Park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. A superintendent, whose address is West Glacier, MT. 59936, is in immediate charge.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources." The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States — now and in the future.



GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Glacier National Park, established in 1910, preserves over 4100 square kilometers of rugged wilderness. Here are massive mountain ranges sculptured by ice, nearly 50 living glaciers, lakes, and a rich variety of wild flowers and wildlife. Glacier is dedicated to maintaining all aspects of this environment in its natural state. Over 1120 kilometers of trails await the explorer of this wilderness. Before you venture into the backcountry, whether on foot or horseback, please:

- Read this folder carefully.
- Outline and plan your trip.
- Check at a ranger station or visitor center for latest trail information.
- Obtain a free Backcountry Use Permit.

BACKCOUNTRY USE PERMIT

All backcountry travelers who intend to have a fire or to camp overnight must obtain a Backcountry Use Permit.

WHY? Each campground has a limit to the number of persons or parties that can use the area. This carrying capacity helps to maintain the natural beauty of Glacier's backcountry, to avoid wear and tear on campgrounds, and to provide for a quality wilderness experience for the backcountry visitor.

Depending upon the fragility of the area, the limits may vary from six to 40 persons. Horses may be excluded or permitted up to a maximum of ten head.

Backcountry Use Permits are not issued previous to the day before you start your trip

Six (6) days is the maximum length of trip that can be reserved at a time . . . with not more than three (3) consecutive nights in any one campground.



FOR PERMITS, INFORMATION

The St. Mary and Apgar Visitor Centers are open daily June through Mid-September.

The following ranger stations are not always manned on a regular basis and it is best to check in early morning or late evening:

Kintla Lake	Two Medicine
Bowman Lake	Cut Bank
Polebridge	Belly River
Logging Creek	Goat Haunt
Walton	Lake McDonald
East Glacier	Many Glacier



HIKERS

1. **Before you go** study park maps. Remember that trails are rarely level. You will be walking uphill and downhill almost constantly. Hiking in the mountains is healthful but strenuous, so plan your trip accordingly, most trail passes are available for safe hiker travel by mid-July and a week or so later for stock. Valley trails are available earlier, but you should always inquire before making extensive plans.

2. **Your foot wear** is your most important equipment. Children may be comfortable in sneakers, but most adults will prefer boots, and in Glacier lug soles are considered a must. Heavy socks help to prevent blistering.

3. **Ask for information** at visitor centers and ranger stations. It is always important to learn about trail conditions, weather forecasts, and what may be seen along the way. The naturalist guided hikes are good introductions to the backcountry.

4. **Stay on the trails.** They will lead you by the best way to your destination. Cutting across switchbacks is dangerous and causes harmful and unsightly erosion.

5. **Glacier weather** is unpredictable and you should be prepared for rain, hail, and snow at any time. Wear a combination of cotton and wool clothes and always carry rain gear. Remember the higher you go, the colder it is and you must be ready for freezing temperatures even in mid-summer.

6. **Travel on ice and snow** can be dangerous. Hiking on glaciers should be avoided by all but experienced or guided parties. Steep, untreaded snowfields are treacherous and should never be crossed by inexperienced hikers.

7. **Horses and mules** have the right-of-way on trails. Move off the trail on the lower side and stand quietly until they pass.

8. **Hiking alone is not encouraged.**

9. **Your pet** is prohibited on the trails. Pets present the image of a traditional predator and puts a stress on native wildlife. Dogs have been known to attract bears too.



CAMPERS

1. **Plan your trip well.** Get a park map, look over the available literature, and discuss your trip with park personnel at a visitor center or ranger station. Obtain your camping permit at the station nearest your departure point.

2. **Good equipment** is often the difference between an enjoyable trip and an ordeal. Your boots should be broken in, your sleeping bag should keep you comfortable to 20 F. degrees above zero, and your food should be lightweight and nourishing. Most backpackers use freeze-dried food and, though expensive, it is probably the best choice. A tent protects you in bad weather but its added weight and bulk must be considered. Small backpacking stoves are always convenient and because wood fires are not permitted in some fragile alpine areas, they are necessary on some trips. (See map).

3. **Sanitation in the backcountry** is a most important consideration. Where there are no pit toilets, use this simple and effective way to dispose of human waste: With a stick or a boot heel, scratch a shallow hole in the soil, and after use cover it up. Natural decomposing mechanisms will finish the job. Camp waste is disposed of by burning where fires are permitted (paper, food remnants, etc.) and/or packing out (cans, bottles, foil, plastic, etc.) It is a good idea to carry only those foods packed in burnable containers and packages.

4. **Water is abundant,** cold and refreshing along almost all trails. You should remember, though, that surface water is never absolutely pure and uncontaminated. Boil drinking water to be completely safe. Never wash yourself, dishes, or clothes in streams or lakes. Carry water to your campsite for these jobs.

Glacier National Park is one of our great wilderness areas. Since every visit by man changes in some slight way this natural world, we must do all we can to preserve our heritage of wilderness. You, the backcountry traveler, must help. Use it wisely, use it gently!



CLIMBERS

1. **Climbing in Glacier** usually means scrambling. Since the rock is sedimentary and many exposed faces are rotten and crumbling, extreme care and skill are required. Careless scrambling can easily lead to danger and the inexperienced and poorly equipped climber will find himself in trouble.

2. **Register** your climbing itinerary at a ranger station or visitor center and remember:

Always consult experience. Seek the advice of park rangers and study guides to climbing.

Be mentally as well as physically prepared for your climb. Remember your party is only as strong as the weakest member.

Never climb alone.



RIDERS, PACKERS

1. **Use of stock** is not permitted in some areas and some trails are impassable to stock. Ask before you go to avoid inconvenience.

2. **Stock have the right-of-way** on trails, but riders should be careful when meeting hikers.

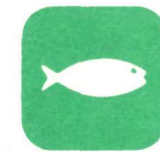
3. **Grazing of stock** is not permitted. Stock users should always pack feed such as grain or pellets.

4. **Hitch stock** to hitch racks where provided. Where there are no hitch racks, tie a rope between two trees and hitch the stock to the rope. This avoids damage to the tree and trampling around the root system.

5. **Horses and mules** that are nervous "diggers" and "pawers" should be hobbled when tied. This will prevent unnecessary damage to the terrain.

6. **Except to load and unload,** stock are not permitted in camping areas.

"One may lack words to express the impact of beauty but no one who has felt it remains untouched. It is renewal, and enlargement, intersatisfaction. The parks preserve it permanently in the inheritance of the American citizen."
Bernard DeVoto



FISHERMEN

1. **Copies of fishing regulations** are available at all ranger stations and visitor centers.

2. **Some park waters are barren of fish,** so inquire before you plan a long trip.

3. **When cleaning fish,** do not dispose of entrails along the streambanks, lake-shores, or near campsites as they attract bears.



BEARS

Consider yourself lucky to see a black or grizzly bear. But remember . . . the wilderness is **their** home. Please be a well-mannered guest. Bears are usually shy; however, make no attempt to approach or startle them. They have been known to attack without warning. When hiking make some noise to alert your presence, or wear a bear bell on your pack. Never offer food to bears and never get between a sow and her cub. As bears have an excellent sense of smell, it is important to avoid the use of odorous food. Regulations require that food, cooking utensils and food containers be suspended, away from sleeping area, and at least 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet from any trunk or limb. In the absence of trees, store food and cooking gear in airtight containers away from sleeping areas. Where possible, cook away from your sleeping area and keep your clothes and sleeping bag clean.

Report all bear sightings to a ranger.

MAPS

The map on the reverse may be used as a guide to plan your trip. However, you may want more detailed maps to use on the trail. USGS topographic maps (scales at 100,000 and 1:24,000) of the park are available at St. Mary Visitor Center and Apgar Information Center. They may also be obtained by mail from:

Glacier Natural History Association,
West Glacier, Montana 59936

Or

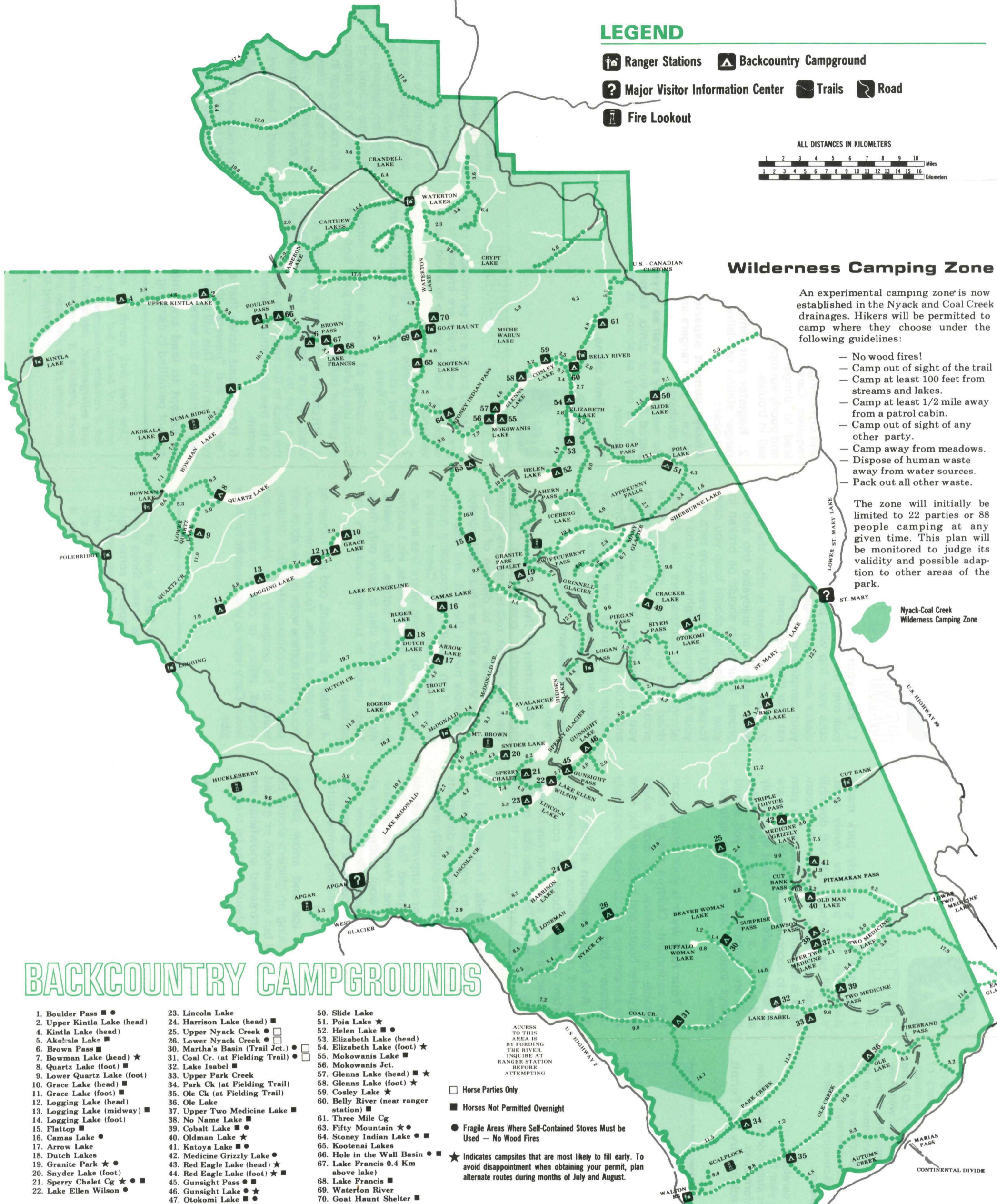
Distribution Section,
U.S. Geological Survey,
Federal Center,
Denver, Colorado 80225

WATERTON - GLACIER

LEGEND

- Ranger Stations
- Backcountry Campground
- Major Visitor Information Center
- Trails
- Road
- Fire Lookout

ALL DISTANCES IN KILOMETERS



Wilderness Camping Zone

An experimental camping zone is now established in the Nyack and Coal Creek drainages. Hikers will be permitted to camp where they choose under the following guidelines:

- No wood fires!
- Camp out of sight of the trail
- Camp at least 100 feet from streams and lakes.
- Camp at least 1/2 mile away from a patrol cabin.
- Camp out of sight of any other party.
- Camp away from meadows.
- Dispose of human waste away from water sources.
- Pack out all other waste.

The zone will initially be limited to 22 parties or 88 people camping at any given time. This plan will be monitored to judge its validity and possible adaptation to other areas of the park.

Nyack-Coal Creek Wilderness Camping Zone

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPGROUNDS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Boulder Pass | 23. Lincoln Lake | 50. Slide Lake |
| 2. Upper Kintla Lake (head) | 24. Harrison Lake (head) | 51. Poia Lake |
| 4. Kintla Lake (head) | 25. Upper Nyack Creek | 52. Helen Lake |
| 5. Akokala Lake | 26. Lower Nyack Creek | 53. Elizabeth Lake (head) |
| 6. Brown Pass | 30. Martha's Basin (Trail Jct.) | 54. Elizabeth Lake (foot) |
| 7. Bowman Lake (head) | 31. Coal Cr. (at Fielding Trail) | 55. Mokowanis Lake |
| 8. Quartz Lake (foot) | 32. Lake Isabel | 56. Mokowanis Jct. |
| 9. Lower Quartz Lake (foot) | 33. Upper Park Creek | 57. Glens Lake (head) |
| 10. Grace Lake (head) | 34. Park Ck (at Fielding Trail) | 58. Glens Lake (foot) |
| 11. Grace Lake (foot) | 35. Ole Ck (at Fielding Trail) | 59. Cosley Lake |
| 12. Logging Lake (head) | 36. Ole Lake | 60. Belly River (near ranger station) |
| 13. Logging Lake (midway) | 37. Upper Two Medicine Lake | 61. Three Mile Cg |
| 14. Logging Lake (foot) | 38. No Name Lake | 63. Fifty Mountain |
| 15. Flattop | 39. Cobalt Lake | 64. Stony Indian Lake |
| 16. Camas Lake | 40. Oldman Lake | 65. Kootenai Lakes |
| 17. Arrow Lake | 41. Katoya Lake | 66. Hole in the Wall Basin |
| 18. Dutch Lakes | 42. Medicine Grizzly Lake | 67. Lake Francis 0.4 Km above lake |
| 19. Granite Park | 43. Red Eagle Lake (head) | 68. Lake Francis |
| 20. Snyder Lake (foot) | 44. Red Eagle Lake (foot) | 69. Waterton River |
| 21. Sperry Chalet Cg | 45. Gunsight Pass | 70. Goat Haunt Shelter |
| 22. Lake Ellen Wilson | 46. Gunsight Lake | |
| | 47. Otokomi Lake | |
| | 49. Cracker Lake | |

- Horse Parties Only
- Horses Not Permitted Overnight
- Fragile Areas Where Self-Contained Stoves Must be Used - No Wood Fires
- ★ Indicates campsites that are most likely to fill early. To avoid disappointment when obtaining your permit, plan alternate routes during months of July and August.

BACKCOUNTRY REGULATIONS

All back country travelers who intend to have a fire or to camp overnight must obtain a backcountry use permit.

Pets, firearms, and vehicles of any kind are not permitted on trails.

Campers must camp at sites as authorized on the permit.

The camping permit authorizes the holder to build fires in the backcountry at specific locations. The building of fires may be prohibited at certain times and at certain locations.

Use only dead and down wood for fires where permitted. Never cut green vegetation for any purpose.

The digging or leveling of the ground at any place is prohibited. Never drive nails into trees.

All equipment must be removed and campsites cleaned before departure. Pack out all unburnable trash.

Never feed, molest, or tease any wild animal.

Carry wash water to campsite. Do not bathe or wash dishes or clothes in lakes or streams.

Follow these important back country manners and help to avoid impairment of the environment.

Note: Camping and hiking regulations in Waterton Lakes National Park vary from those used in Glacier. Consult Canadian officials before beginning trip. Identification is required of all parties entering Waterton by trail from Glacier.

BEAR SAFETY TIPS

