



# The Tahoma News

July 1 - September 7, 2009

*The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage. Mount Rainier National Park is a source of inspiration, providing boundless opportunities for exploration, solitude, and contemplation.*



Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center at Paradise.

## A New Visitor Center Opens at Paradise

On October 10th, 2008, two years of construction—and many additional years of planning and design—culminated in the opening of the new Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center at Paradise. The dramatic new building features a lobby open to the rafters with tall windows framing majestic Mount Rainier and the Tatoosh Range. New exhibits provide ample opportunity to learn about the plant and animal life, geologic setting, and human history of Mount Rainier. The theater showcases a new park film emphasizing the scale and impact of Mount Rainier. Food service and a gift shop round out the offerings to make your visit to Paradise comfortable and rewarding.

The new visitor center is designed to match the rustic architecture style of the park's historic buildings, including the Paradise Inn. Architectural design of park buildings dating from the early 1900s incorporates stone and wood to fit into the natural setting. A primary reason for replacing the original Jackson Visitor Center was to create a building more in harmony with this setting.

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### Temporary Road Closure

Stevens Canyon Road (the only park road between Paradise and Ohanapecosh) was severely damaged over the winter. It will remain closed from Backbone Ridge on the west, to the Grove of the Patriarchs on the east, until it can be rebuilt.

Use FS 52 from Ashford (also known as Kernahan Road or Skate Creek Road from Packwood) for west to east access.

*For your safety and to expedite repairs, bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles are prohibited from entering the closed area.*

## Mount Rainier Responds to Climate Change

Mount Rainier National Park belongs to a network of "Climate Friendly Parks" who are leading the way in the effort to protect our parks' natural and cultural resources and infrastructure by addressing the current and future impacts of climate change.

Mount Rainier recently conducted an inventory of greenhouse gases (GHG) produced in park operations. The inventory was the first step in developing a Climate Friendly Park Action Plan with the goal of reducing GHG emissions by 50%. Specifically, we will address the management of energy use, transportation and waste disposal. In addition, actions to begin planning for adapting to the inevitable climate changes are included.

The plan not only includes strategies to reduce emissions, but also one to educate park staff, visitors and local communities. By seriously addressing climate change impacts and reducing GHG, Mount Rainier National Park will reduce its contribution to the problem while setting an example for the visitors and serving as a model for climate friendly behavior within the National Park Service.

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Photo courtesy of John Chao

*Emmons Glacier has the largest surface area of any glacier in the contiguous United States. View is from Sourdough Ridge Trail.*

## Discover Rainier: Off The Beaten Path

If you are in the park on a busy day, you may want to explore less-visited areas to escape the biggest crowds. In taking the extra time to seek out these special places, you can immerse yourself in an old growth forest, reflect next to a cascading waterfall, hike in virtual solitude, or just relax, take in the view, and reconnect with nature. No matter where you go in the park you will find spectacular scenery and a multitude of recreation opportunities!

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### Welcome

One hundred and ten years ago, on March 2, 1899, President McKinley signed the bill that established Mount Rainier National Park. The legislation enacting the new park was the end result of a six-year campaign by individual conservationists, mountaineering and scientific organizations, university faculty, and local business leaders in Seattle and Tacoma. Thus, with this concerted effort, the nation's fifth national park came to be.



Acting Superintendent Randy King

On September 27, 2009, filmmaker Ken Burns will release his newest documentary on PBS, "The National Parks: America's Best Idea." Six years in the making, the six-episode, twelve-hour series tells the story of the creation of a national park system that now includes 391 units representing much of our nation's shared natural and cultural heritage.

The story of the national park system is a story of places made special by their superlative values, beauty and historical importance. Equally, it is a story of the people who loved these places and worked to protect them for all Americans, for all time.

This is "America's best idea" manifested: The essentially democratic notion that the country's best and most important places belong to all of the people, and are not solely the province of privilege, wealth or power. This was a radical departure from the norm in other countries when, Yellowstone, the world's first national park, was set aside in 1872 for "the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

As you visit Mount Rainier, know that these special places – all the units of the national park system – are yours to enjoy and cherish in perpetuity, and pause to reflect and give thanks that it is so.

Randy King  
Acting Superintendent

### 3 Shuttle Schedule

Why should I ride the shuttle to Paradise when I can drive my car? When does the shuttle operate and where does it stop? If I drive my car to Paradise where can I park?

### 5 Short Hikes

Are there hikes under one mile? Is there a short hike at Sunrise? Where can I hike to view a glacier? Which hikes will have wildflowers?

### 6 - 7 Interpretive Programs

When and where can you go on a walk with a ranger? When are the Junior Ranger programs? What are the special speaker presentations this year? When is the Shadows of the Past program being offered?

### General Information ... 2

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## What You Need To Know...

- There are five major visitor areas:  
Longmire (southwest)  
Paradise (south side)  
Ohanapecosh (southeast)  
Sunrise/White River (northeast)  
Carbon River/Mowich Lake (northwest)
- Parking can be difficult to find on sunny summer weekends at Paradise, Sunrise, Grove of the Patriarchs, and at trailheads between Longmire and Paradise. Visit these areas on weekdays, arrive early, carpool to the park, and ride the shuttle (see page 3) to Paradise. Visit one of the areas “off the beaten path”!
- Park roads are winding, road shoulders are narrow, and the speed limit is 35 m.p.h. in most areas. Watch for pedestrians, sightseers, and wildlife. Use pullouts to allow faster drivers to pass you safely.
- Stevens Canyon Road (the only park road between Paradise and Ohanapecosh) will remain closed from Backbone Ridge on the west, to the Grove of the Patriarchs on the east, until it is rebuilt following severe winter damage.

How Far Is It?	One Way Driving Times & Distances	
Road	Distance	Time
Longmire to Paradise	12 miles	25 min
Paradise to Ohanapecosh via Stevens Canyon Rd when open	23 miles	45 min
Paradise to Ohanapecosh via FS 52 (a/k/a Kernahan Road or Skate Creek)	60	2 hrs
Ohanapecosh to the Sunrise/White River turnoff	17 miles	30 min
Sunrise/White River turnoff to Sunrise	14 miles	45 min
Seattle to Paradise via SR 706	99 miles	2.5 hrs
Seattle to Sunrise via SR 410 and Enumclaw	96	2 hr
Seattle to Carbon River	58	1.5 hrs
Yakima to Ohanapecosh	71 miles	1.5 hrs

## Protect Yourself and the Park

Mount Rainier National Park was established in 1899 to preserve the natural and cultural resources in this area and to provide for public benefit and enjoyment. To protect yourself and the park during your visit please follow these rules:

- Pets must be on leashes no longer than six feet and are not allowed in buildings, on trails, or on snow.
- Do not feed or disturb the wildlife.
- Stay on designated trails.
- Make fires only in a fire grill. Collecting firewood is prohibited.
- Weapons are prohibited in the park. Firearms transported through the park must be unloaded, broken down, and stored to prevent use. \*New legislation will change the firearms prohibitions in 2010. For further information, see [http://www.doi.gov/news/09\\_News\\_Releases/052209c.html](http://www.doi.gov/news/09_News_Releases/052209c.html).
- Bicycle only on roads, not on trails.
- Camp in designated campsites only. Sleeping in vehicles outside of campgrounds is not permitted.

## Discovering Rainier Off the Beaten Path

Continued from page 1

**Interested in Old Growth Forests?** Visit Ohanapecosh (SR 123) to explore lush old growth forests of Douglas fir and western redcedar. There is also a self-guided nature trail behind the visitor center that leads past hot springs and the site of an early resort. Explore the old growth forest west of Longmire on the short Twin Firs Trail. Start your hike at the interpretive exhibit on Nisqually Road (SR706).

**Are You a History Buff?** If so, then Longmire (Nisqually Road) is the place to visit. The Longmire Museum is the starting point for the Longmire Historic District Walking Tour. Take the self-guided tour of the historic district to get a taste of early National Park Service rustic architecture. Follow the Trail of the Shadows to learn about the park’s first homestead and resort.

**Is Geology Your Interest?** Then drive 3 miles to the end of Westside Road near the Nisqually Entrance to view the dramatic results of flooding and rockfall. You may even see a mountain goat gazing down at you from a cliff face high above! For great views of lava layers, glaciers, and a glacially carved canyon stop at one of the first pullouts on Ricksecker Road from Nisqually Road. Drive the Sunrise Road to view columnar andesite columns that formed when the toe of a lava flow cooled rapidly when it flowed against glacial ice.



Columnar andesite along Sunrise Road.

**Prefer Uncrowded Trails?** Many trails leave from the Reflection Lakes area (Stevens Canyon Road) including the Lakes, High Lakes, Mazama Ridge, and the Wonderland trails, with the Snow and Bench Lakes Trail located in a pullout just down the road to the east. Another great area for trails is on the east side along State Routes 123 and 410. From south to north you will find Silver Falls, Three Lakes, East Side, Shriner Peak, and Crystal Lakes trails to name a few. Trails in the Mowich Lake area lead to subalpine lakes and amazing meadows.

**Wild for Waterfalls?** Then the east side (SR 123 and 410) of the park is the place to go. The powerful Silver Falls near Ohanapecosh is only a 0.3 mile hike from State Route 123 or you can take the 1.3 mile trail from Ohanapecosh Campground. For those who like to hike, take the East Side Trail

to one or all of the many waterfalls dotting the route. Start off of State Route 123 – park at a small pullout 0.5 mile south of Deer Creek – or at the Grove of the Patriarchs on Stevens Canyon Road.



Photo courtesy Scott Beason

Watch for Hoary Marmots in subalpine areas of the park.

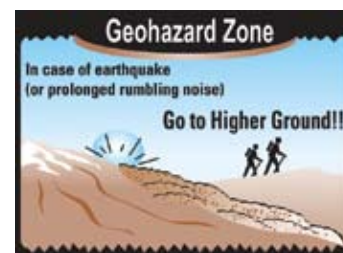
**How about Subalpine Meadows and Lakes?** For an outstanding wildflower meadow experience highlighted by beautiful lakes, try Reflection Lakes (Stevens Canyon Road), Mowich Lake (SR 165), or Tipsoo Lake (SR 410). In mid-summer the meadows should be bursting with color providing a great backdrop for these tranquil lakes set in glacially carved basins.

**Did You Bring a Picnic?** There are many picnic areas throughout the park. From Nisqually Entrance (SR 706), picnic at Kautz Creek where you can take a short walk to view the aftermath of the 1947 Kautz Creek mudflow and the new channel created by the 2006 flood. At Ohanapecosh (SR 123) stop at the picnic area adjacent to the campground. Visit the Box Canyon Picnic Area just east of the Box Canyon Interpretive Site. Be sure to stop at the latter for a look at the Cowlitz River, 180 feet below, as it cuts a deep slot into the bedrock. From the Tipsoo Lake picnic area (SR 410) you’ll have a great view of the meadows surrounding the lake. Picnic at Mowich Lake (SR 165) and admire the colorful subalpine wildflowers surrounding the deepest and largest lake in the park.

## Mount Rainier: An Active Volcano

Active steam vents, periodic earth tremors, and historic eruptions provide evidence that Mount Rainier is sleeping, not dead. Seismic monitoring stations around the mountain should provide days or weeks of advance warning of impending eruptions. Other geologic hazards, however, can occur with little warning. These include debris flows and rockfalls.

The more time you spend in an area with geologic hazards, the greater the chance that you could be involved in an emergency event. While most people consider the danger to be relatively low, you must decide if you will assume the risk of visiting these potentially dangerous locations.



If you are near a river and notice a rapid rise in water level, feel a prolonged shaking of the ground, and/or hear a roaring sound coming from upvalley – often described as

the sound made by a fast-moving freight train – move quickly to higher ground! A location 160 feet or more above river level should be safe.

Detailed information is available at park visitor centers or from scientists at the U.S.G.S. Cascades Volcano Observatory, 1300 SE Cardinal Court, Building 10, Suite 100, Vancouver, WA 98661, or visit the U.S.G.S. Cascade Volcanoes website: [vulcan.wr.usgs.gov](http://vulcan.wr.usgs.gov).



## Ride the *Free* Weekend Shuttle to Paradise

A free shuttle service is available from Longmire and Cougar Rock

to Paradise on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through September 6. Besides a safe, free ride to Paradise, there are other great reasons to leave your car behind.

**1** The immediate parking area near the visitor center only accommodates about 205 cars and no RVs. Parking is limited to two hours and is generally full by 11:00 a.m.

**2** The two hour parking restriction may not allow you enough time to see Myrtle Falls, discover the meadow, visit Paradise Inn, enjoy the visitor center exhibits, attend a ranger program, watch the park film, shop and dine. Parking for longer than 2 hours is permitted on the Paradise Valley Road.

**3** 72% of greenhouse gas emissions in the park are produced by all the gasoline powered vehicles that travel here, including yours. By riding the shuttle you will help Mount Rainier reduce its carbon

## A New Visitor Center Opens at Paradise

*Continued from page 1*

The new visitor center is smaller and more energy efficient than the old one. The old visitor center collected large amounts of snow in winter, which was removed by running hot water through a system of pipes embedded in the roof. This consumed as much as 500 gallons of diesel per day—acceptable in the 1960s but not any more. The new visitor center has an, elegant, steeply pitched roof well suited for the snowy climate at Paradise. The new visitor center also solves problems of accessibility and safety which were present in the older building.

The old visitor center has been demolished and will be replaced this summer with additional parking and native vegetation. Some long-term visitors were sorry to see the original Henry M. Jackson Memorial Visitor Center go. Perhaps they were nostalgic for a place that figured in their family's experiences, or felt affection for the building's quirky charm. We hope the new visitor center—with its beauty, sustainability, and state of the art exhibits—will develop its own loyal following of people whose visit to Paradise was enhanced by its presence.

footprint and aide in protecting the park's natural and cultural resources (see related story on page 5).

**4** Enjoy the waterfalls! Exit the shuttle on the third stop to enjoy Narada Falls. Pick up the next shuttle continuing to Paradise in 30 minutes. Returning from Paradise, the first stop is Comet Falls. Hike 3.8 miles to one of the highest waterfalls in the park.

**5** On some of the shuttles, a park tour guide will ride along with the visitors. This is an opportunity to learn interesting facts about the park, ask related questions, receive maps and get an orientation while you travel.

**6** Cars will be stopped. Cameras will be flashing. People will be sightseeing. Choose not to be part of the congestion. Enjoy your stress-free drive to Paradise aboard the shuttle.

### Shuttle From Ashford

Enjoy the park scenery by letting someone else do the driving. Ride the free shuttle from downtown Ashford to Paradise.\* The Ashford shuttle stops in Longmire, where visitors transfer to the Paradise Shuttle.

See [www.nps.gov/mora](http://www.nps.gov/mora) for shuttle times  
\*(Transportation is free but park entrance fees apply)

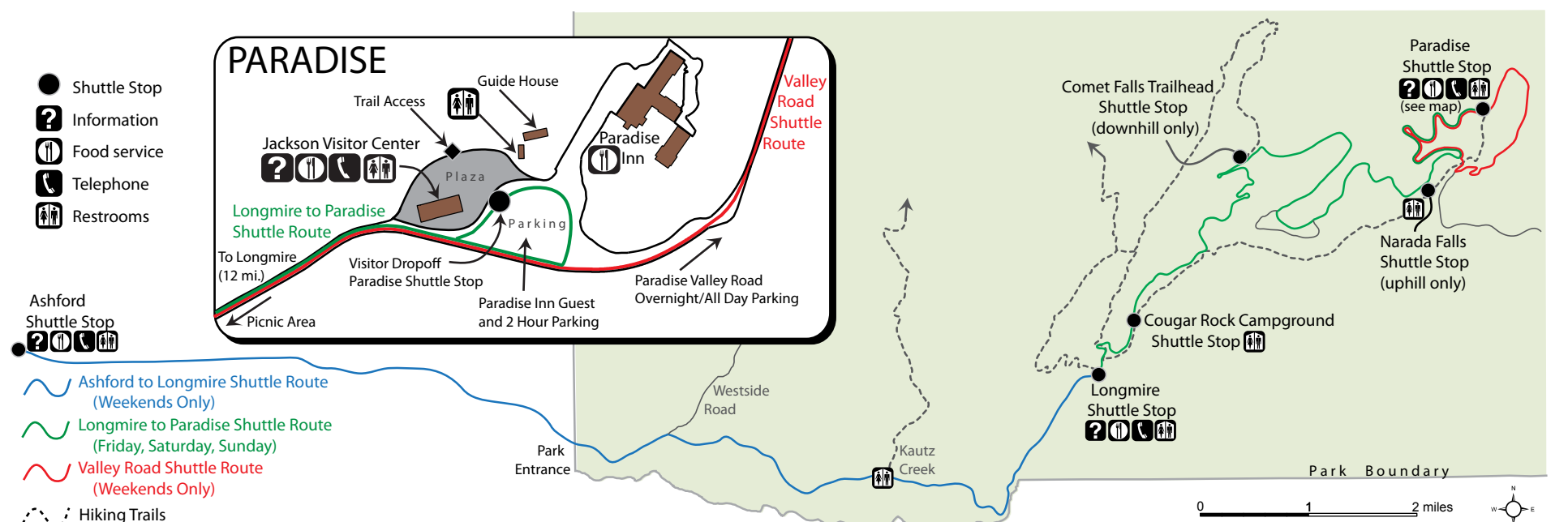
## 2009 Paradise Shuttle Schedule

### Longmire to Paradise - FRIDAYS

Leave Longmire	Leave Cougar Rock	Leave Narada Falls	Arrive Paradise	Leave Paradise	Leave Comet Falls	Leave Cougar Rock	Arrive Longmire
10:00 AM	10:05 AM	10:25 AM	10:45 AM	10:50 AM	11:10 AM	11:20 AM	11:25 AM
10:45 AM	10:50 AM	11:10 AM	11:25 AM	11:30 AM	11:55 AM	12:05 PM	12:10 PM
11:30 AM	11:35 AM	11:55 AM	12:10 PM	12:15 PM	12:40 PM	12:50 PM	12:55 PM
12:15 PM	12:20 PM	12:40 PM	12:55 PM	01:00 PM	01:25PM	01:35 PM	01:40 PM
01:00 PM	01:05 PM	01:25 PM	01:40 PM	01:45 PM	02:10 PM	02:20 PM	02:25 PM
01:45 PM	01:50 PM	02:10 PM	02:25 PM	02:30 PM	02:55 PM	03:05 PM	03:10 PM
02:30 PM	02:35 PM	02:55 PM	03:10 PM	03:15 PM	03:40 PM	03:50 PM	03:55 PM
03:15 PM	03:20 PM	03:40 PM	03:55 PM	04:00 PM	04:25 PM	04:35 PM	04:40 PM
04:00 PM	04:05 PM	04:25 PM	04:40 PM	04:45 PM	05:10 PM	05:20 PM	05:25PM
04:45 PM	04:50 PM	05:10 PM	05:25 PM	05:30 PM	05:55 PM	06:05 PM	06:10 PM
05:30 PM	05:35 PM	05:55 PM	06:10 PM	06:15 PM	06:40 PM	06:50 PM	06:55 PM
06:15 PM	06:20 PM	06:40 PM	06:55 PM	07:00 PM	07:25 PM	07:35 PM	07:40 PM

### Longmire to Paradise - SATURDAYS/SUNDAYS

Leave Longmire	Leave Cougar Rock	Leave Narada Falls	Arrive Paradise	Leave Paradise	Leave Comet Falls	Leave Cougar Rock	Arrive Longmire
10:00 AM	10:05 AM	10:25 AM	10:40 AM	10:45 AM	11:10 AM	11:20 AM	11:25 AM
10:30 AM	10:35 AM	10:55 AM	11:10 AM	11:15 AM	11:40 AM	11:50 AM	11:55 AM
11:00 AM	11:05 AM	11:25 AM	11:40 AM	11:45 AM	12:10 PM	12:20 PM	12:25 PM
11:30 AM	11:35 AM	11:55 AM	12:10 PM	12:15 PM	12:40 PM	12:50 PM	12:55 PM
12:00 PM	12:05 PM	12:25 PM	12:40 PM	12:45 PM	01:10 PM	01:20 PM	01:25 PM
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06:00 PM	06:05 PM	06:25 PM	06:40 PM	06:45 PM	07:10 PM	07:20 PM	07:25 PM
06:30 PM	06:35 PM	06:55 PM	07:10 PM	07:15 PM	07:40 PM	07:50 PM	07:55 PM



# Mount Rainier Responds to Climate Change



<http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks/index.html>

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Greenhouse gases from human activities result from deforestation, the combustion of fossil fuels for energy and transportation uses, and the decomposition of waste and other organic matter. The release of gases from various sources such as the management of manure from livestock, the use of fertilizers, chlorofluorocarbons in refrigeration systems and fire suppression systems also contribute to GHG.

### What To Do About Energy

Turning on lights, running computers, and cooking a microwave lunch meal all require an energy source to be functional - like people need food as a source of energy.

Nearly 1/4 of the GHG in the park is created by purchased electricity or stationary combustion. Park operation is the primary source of these GHGs. 18 actions have been identified to improve energy efficiency.

Top on the list is to educate park staff to change behavior on energy use by implementing conservation measures. Standards for computer use and heating offices will be created. Inefficient appliances will be identified and replaced.

The production of clean energy or the purchase of electricity from a reliable source is another goal in the effort to reduce GHG emissions. Actions also include the installation of more solar panels and investigating the potential use of other alternative energy sources.

### The Biggest Contributor

Our cars, RVs, buses and park equipment contributed 72% of the GHG emissions in 2006. Visitors traveling within the park boundaries via motorized vehicles generated nearly 50% of these emissions.

Actions are being considered that will reduce GHG emissions from visitor transportation such as expanding the shuttle service within the park and from surrounding communities that would provide alternative access to park locations. Increasing the traffic flow at entrance stations will help to decrease the time that vehicles idle.

Reducing vehicle miles that park employees travel, improving vehicle efficiency and expanding the use of alternative fuels to operate park vehicles is also part of the plan to significantly reduce GHG emissions.

## Please Recycle!

Mount Rainier National Park has been recycling since the late 1960s. We recycle aluminum cans, plastic (no. 1 and 2), glass, office paper, mixed paper, cardboard, scrap metal, used oil, batteries, and a number of other items.

We also purchase recycled plastic products such as plastic bags, picnic tables, and plastic lumber; paper products made of pre- and post- consumer recycled paper; automobile products; and other products.

*Be part of the effort! Please deposit aluminum cans, plastic bottles and glass in the recycle cans provided.*

# How will climate change impact Mount Rainier?

by Kelsey McDuffee and Kevin Ford, University of Washington Students

Temperatures are rising – in the Pacific Northwest, temperatures have increased 1.5°F since 1920. According to The Washington Climate Change Impacts Assessment Report, temperatures could rise another 6°F by 2100 if we continue to rely on fossil fuels for energy. Here are some of the ways these changes might impact Mount Rainier and the Pacific Northwest.



Subalpine wildflowers bloom at Paradise

### Dwindling subalpine meadows

These meadows exist where trees cannot grow because it is too cold or snow covers the ground for too long. As temperatures rise and snow melts earlier, trees may invade meadows and crowd-out Mount Rainier's famous wildflower species which will move up higher in elevation. If trees invade faster than the meadows can colonize new habitat, the meadows could disappear.

### Melting glaciers spawn destructive debris flows

Between 1913 and 1994, Mount Rainier's glaciers shrank by about 25% in volume. With further warming, even more of Mount Rainier's glaciers will disappear. As the glaciers melt, they expose large areas of loose sediment. During heavy rains, these newly exposed areas can liquefy and turn into destructive landslides called debris flows. The 2006 debris flows and heavy floods that wiped out roads and cut off access to the park showed how damaging these disturbances can be. With continued warming, glacier melting will expose more loose sediment and increase the likelihood of debris flows.

### Forests in flames

The Cascade Mountains can accumulate a lot of snow during the Pacific Northwest's wet winters. This snow pack melts slowly over the dry summers, providing trees with a steady supply of moisture. However, warming could melt the snow pack earlier and create dry late summer conditions that increase the risk of forest fire. In addition, drought stress makes some trees more susceptible to outbreaks of pathogens and insects such as bark-boring insects that can kill trees and make fire even more likely. Given these factors, the area of land expected to burn annually in the Pacific Northwest could triple during the 21st century.

## Climate Friendly Parks!



You can participate in the Climate Friendly Parks effort. Log on to the Do Your Part website, <http://doyourpartparks.org/index.php>, to calculate your carbon footprint and set your personal goals. Don't forget to select Mount Rainier as your favorite park!

Visit the Climate Friendly Parks website for more information on Climate Friendly Parks <http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks/index.html>

Park Partners	
Who's responsible for protecting Mount Rainier National Park? Everyone!	
Here are some people who deserve special thanks:	
	<p><b>Visitors Like You!</b> Just by paying the entrance fee, you make a difference. Eighty percent of the fees collected at Mount Rainier are kept in the park, while twenty percent are made available to other parks in need. Your money is helping several projects right now:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rehabilitating park trails</li> <li>• Meadow restoration</li> <li>• Upgrading exhibits and media</li> <li>• Rehabilitating picnic areas</li> </ul> <p>As you explore the park, look for signs of your fees at work!</p>
	<p><b>Discover Your Northwest (formerly Northwest Interpretive Association)</b> provides resources like travel guides, maps, educational books, DVD's, and other materials for visitors to public lands. They generate funding every year for projects and programs that enhance visitor experiences through retail sales in bookstores located in visitor and information centers across the Northwest. As a nonprofit partner benefiting educational programs in national parks, Discover Your Northwest plays an important role in making interpretive and educational publications like this available to visitors. To find out more, visit one of their locations in the Park, call the Mount Rainier location at (360) 569-2211, ext. 3320, or visit them online at <a href="http://www.discovernw.org">www.discovernw.org</a>.</p>
	<p><b>Volunteers</b> Each year more than 137,000 volunteers donate over 5,200,000 hours of service in the national parks. They come from every state and nearly every country in the world to help preserve and protect America's natural and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of this and future generations. At Mount Rainier National Park, 1,837 volunteers contributed a total of 70,130 hours in 2008. We express our deep appreciation to them and to all who are volunteering in 2009! Both short and long-term opportunities are available. For a schedule of activities and information on how to join our team, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at (360) 569-2211 ext. 3385, or visit our website at <a href="http://www.nps.gov/mora/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm">www.nps.gov/mora/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm</a>.</p>
	<p><b>Washington's National Park Fund</b> Every year millions of people visit Washington state's spectacular national parks: Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic. Since 1993, Washington's National Park Fund has connected people to parks and inspired contributions of time, talent and money. The Fund helps ensure that visitors have high quality, memorable experiences by sponsoring educational, trail and wildlife projects. By securing funding from individuals, corporations, foundations and businesses, the Fund supports park restoration, enhancement and preservation. For information about how you can help Washington's national parks, call 206-770-0627 or visit <a href="http://www.wnfp.org">www.wnfp.org</a>.</p>
	<p><b>Student Conservation Association</b> SCA is a nationwide force of high school and college-age volunteers who are committed to protecting and preserving the environment. Through internships, conservation jobs and crew experiences, SCA members are rising to meet environmental challenges while gaining real, hands-on field experience. They complete projects in every conservation discipline from archaeology to zoology. SCA directed volunteer efforts at Mount Rainier National Park in response to the floods of 2006, for which it received the Department of the Interior's Cooperative Conservation Award. For more information about SCA or to get involved, visit <a href="http://www.thesca.org">www.thesca.org</a>.</p>

## Wilderness Camping

Wilderness camping permits are required for all overnight stays in the park's backcountry. Permits and backcountry information are available at all wilderness information centers and most visitor centers (see page 8 for locations and hours).

Although permits are free, there is an optional, fee-based reservation system for campers and climbers in effect May through September. Backcountry reservations are \$20 per party (1-12 people) for 1 to 14 consecutive nights.

Seventy percent of all backcountry sites and zones are available for reservation. The remaining 30% are issued on a first-come, first-served basis on the day the trip begins.

### Leave No Trace

- Plan ahead & prepare
- Travel & camp on durable surfaces
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Minimize campfire impacts\*
- Respect wildlife
- Be considerate of others

\*Fires are for emergency use only; they are not allowed in Mount Rainier's Wilderness

## Climbing

Each year, approximately 9,000 people attempt to climb Mount Rainier. Nearly half reach the 14,410 foot summit. Climbing permits are required for travel above 10,000' and/or on glaciers. Climbing information - including fees, routes, and conditions - is available at ranger stations. Guided climbs and climbing seminars are available through:

- Alpine Ascents International (206) 378-1927
- International Mountain Guides (360) 569-2609
- Rainier Mountaineering, Inc. (888) 892-5462

## Hiking the Muir Snowfield

The Muir Snowfield, a permanent field of snow, ice and rock outcrops, is located north of Paradise between 7,000 and 10,000 feet in elevation. Thousands of people hike on the Muir Snowfield each year en route to Camp Muir. On a clear day, the hike is spectacular. But when the weather deteriorates, as it often and unpredictably does, crossing the Muir Snowfield can be disastrous.

- Avoid the snowfield in questionable weather, especially if you're alone or unprepared. Weather conditions can change suddenly and drastically.
- If you're ascending and clouds or fog start rolling in, turn around and head back to Paradise. If that's not possible, stop moving, dig in, and wait for better weather.
- Without a compass, map, and altimeter, it is extremely difficult to find your way to the trailhead in a whiteout. Carry these items and know how to use them.
- Do not descend on skis or a snowboard in limited visibility — you could become lost.
- When hiking to Camp Muir, be sure to carry emergency bivouac gear so that you can spend the night out if you have to.
- To protect fragile alpine vegetation, hike only on trails or snow.

While it may be disappointing to abandon your hike to Camp Muir, remember that the snowfield will still be there in better weather.

### Easy & Moderate Hikes

Area	Trail Name	Trailhead Location	Round Trip Distance	Comments
Carbon River	Rainforest Nature Trail	Carbon River Entrance	0.3-mile loop trail	Self-guided trail through an inland temperate rainforest
Longmire	Twin Firs	1.9 miles west of Longmire	0.4-mile loop trail	Short hike in old growth forest. Limited parking
	Trail of the Shadows	Across from the National Park Inn	0.7-mile loop trail	Good for children & evening strolls. Meadow/Mtn. views.
	Carter Falls	2 miles east of Longmire	2 miles	Easy hike, climbs 500' at end, cascading waterfall
Paradise	Alta Vista	Begin on Skyline Trail from visitor center to Alta Vista	1 mile	Very steep, great view of meadows, Tatoosh Range, Mt St Helens and Mt Adams
	Skyline trail to Myrtle Falls	North side of the parking lot	1 mile	Suitable for wheelchairs with help, and strollers
Stevens Canyon Rd.	Bench & Snow Lakes	1 mile east of Louise Lake, south side of road	2.5 miles	Watch for bears in the meadows in late summer
	Box Canyon	11 miles east of Paradise	0.5-mile loop	View a deep, narrow canyon
Ohanapecosh	Grove of the Patriarchs	Near Stevens Canyon entrance	1.2-mile loop	Old growth forest, ancient trees
	Silver Falls	Ohanapecosh Visitor Center	2.4-mile loop	Old growth forest, waterfall
Mather Memorial Parkway/SR 410	Tipsoo Lake	Off SR 410, east of Cayuse Pass	0.5-mile loop	Short trail around the lake, Mountain views
Sunrise Point	Clover Lake	Parking area 2.5 miles before Sunrise	3 miles	Alpine lake and wildflowers
Sunrise	Silver Forest/Emmons Vista Overlook	South side of parking lot from Sunrise Rim Trail	2 miles	Views of glacier at the Emmons Vista Overlooks (0.5 mile one-way)
	Nature Trail	North side of parking lot	1.5 miles	Wildflower meadows and great mountain views

## Knowledge and Safety Are Secrets to a Great Hike

Be adventurous, explore, learn and have fun hiking along the 260 miles of trails to waterfalls, meadows and through the backcountry. Talk with rangers about trail conditions, distances and elevations. Use a topographical map. Know the weather forecast. Stay alert, be curious and have a great hike.

Be prepared by carrying the ten essentials. Choose appropriate outdoor clothing, footwear and gear. Whenever possible do not hike alone. Always tell someone of your travel plans so they can notify the park if you fail to return.



Hike the Palisades Lakes Trail just below Sunrise to view magnificent subalpine meadows and lakes.

### Pay Attention To The Weather

At Mount Rainier, the weather can change rapidly. Hikers who aren't prepared for changing weather conditions increase their risk of becoming lost or injured. Avoid problems: know and plan for Mount Rainier's changeable weather.

### Crossing Streams Safely

Many hikers underestimate the power of moving water and some consider their former successful stream crossings as a ticket to the other side. This may not be true. Regardless of your knowledge, skills, and experience use these pointers in making wise decisions when crossing a stream.

- Early morning when river levels are generally at their lowest is the best time to cross.

- Look for an area with a smooth bottom and slow moving water below knee height.
- Before crossing, scout downstream for log jams, waterfalls and other hazards that could trap you. Locate a point where you can exit if you fall in.
- Use a sturdy stick to maintain two points of contact with the ground at all times.
- Unfasten the belt of your pack so you can easily discard it if necessary.
- Staring down at moving water can make you dizzy. Look forward as much as possible.

### Hiking snow covered trails

You may need a reliable map and compass skills to traverse snow-covered trails, which can be difficult to follow. Panhandle Gap, Spray Park, and Seattle Park are frequent problem areas.

Choose to turn around instead of crossing steep, snow-covered slopes. A fall could be disastrous. Comet Falls and Pinnacle Peak trails often have hazardous slopes. Take an ice axe if you know how to use it.

Falling through thin snow bridges is a hazard anywhere streams remain snow-covered. Listen for the muffled sound of running water. Also avoid stepping onto snow cornices as they may collapse under your weight.

### Carry the "10 Essentials" and know how to use them!

1. map of the area
2. compass
3. extra food & water
4. extra clothing (warm!) & rain gear
5. emergency shelter
6. first aid kit
7. flashlight or headlamp
8. sun glasses & sun screen
9. pocket knife
10. matches (waterproof!)

## Become a Volunteer Ranger

As you visit Mount Rainier, keep your eyes open for people wearing hats and shirts with a “volunteer” logo on them. You’ll see them working in the visitor centers, assisting visitors on the trails, planting native vegetation, rebuilding the flood-damaged Glacier Basin trail, even helping to survey amphibian populations.

Last year more than 1800 people worked in partnership with the National Park Service to protect the natural and cultural resources of Mount Rainier and serve its visitors. These invaluable partners help us accomplish far more than we would be able to without their help.

But they also find great personal rewards. Carbon River volunteer George Coulbourn says “When I’m asked why I volunteer, I respond that I began for altruistic reasons. Having spent many rewarding days in the Park I felt that I had arrived at a good time for pay back. Doesn’t work. Like most volunteer activities, the volunteer gets more than he gives, and the harder he tries, the more he gets.”

Have you ever dreamed of being a park ranger? You still can—for a day, a summer, or on weekends as your schedule permits. Opportunities abound. Ask how you can become part of our team! [www.nps.gov/mora/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/mora/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm).

## MOUNT RAINIER IS A PLACE OF GREAT BEAUTY AND INSPIRATION

You may be inspired to take a picture or to get a close-up look at a wildflower. But stop and consider your actions before you step off the trail.



With each step you take onto a meadow, an average of 20 plants are impacted!

Subalpine vegetation survives in a harsh environment. With a short growing season, plants take longer to recover from damage. Much of the plant’s energy is spent on rapid flowering. Even if a plant survives the weight of your footstep, it may be stunted for years.

So when exploring Mount Rainier’s fragile meadows...

Please, Stay on Trails!

## Summer Speaker Series

*Guest Speakers Will Share Their Knowledge, Experience and Memories of Mount Rainier*

**National Parks During the Great Depression and WWII**  
Saturday, July 4, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Todd Smith, City of Olympia Parks

**Protecting the Nisqually Watershed**  
Saturday, July 11, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Joe Kane, Nisqually Land Trust

**Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier**  
Saturday, July 18, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Pat Pringle, Author of *Roadside Geology of Mount Rainier National Park*

**The Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail**  
Saturday, July 25, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Keith Dunbar, National Park Service

**Mycology of the Pacific Northwest**  
Saturday, August 1, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Brian Luther, Puget Sound Mycological Society

**Adventurous Women of Washington**  
Saturday, August 1, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Heidi Walker, Klondike Gold Rush NHP

**A History at Ohanapecosh**  
Saturday, August 8, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Loren Lane, Retired Park Ranger  
Mount Rainier National

**50 years of Climate, Culture and Landscape Change**  
Saturday, August 8, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Alton Byers, The Mountain Institute  
Jon Riedel, National Park Service

**A History at Mount Rainier**  
Saturday, August 15, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Gerry Tays, Retired Assistant Superintendent  
Mount Rainier National Park

**Mount St. Helens and the Cascade Volcanoes**  
Saturday, August 15, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Todd Cullings,  
Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument

**Stories of the Mountain**  
Saturday, August 22, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Jim Ross, Naturalist for 30 years  
Mount Rainier National Park

**Reminiscences of Mount Rainier**  
Saturday, August 22, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Rex Derr, Director of Washington State Parks

**Nisqually Perspectives**  
Saturday, August 29, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Joyce McCloud and Family, Nisqually Tribe

**A History on the Mountain**  
Saturday, August 29, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Cleve Pinnix, Former Park Ranger  
Mount Rainier National Park

**The Geologic Story of the Mountain**  
Saturday, September 5, 9:00 p.m. Paradise Inn  
Carolyn Driedger, U.S. Geological Survey

**National Parks During the Great Depression and WWII**  
Saturday, September 6, 8:30 p.m.  
Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater  
Todd Smith, City of Olympia Parks

## Shadows of the Past

### Living History Lantern Tour

Saturday, August 15, 2009



Meet the people who explored, settled, climbed, and protected Mount Rainier more than 100 years ago. Historical characters emerge from the darkness along the Trail of the Shadows as you walk the trail with a ranger.



### Lantern Tours begin in front of the National Park Inn

and depart every 20 minutes from 8:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Tours last 90 minutes. Bring a flashlight, a warm jacket and wear sturdy shoes.

## If You See a Black Bear or a Mountain Lion

Mount Rainier National Park provides habitat for many animal species. Among the largest and most feared are the black bear and the mountain lion. Though you are not likely to see them, if you do meet one of these larger mammals, your best defenses are awareness and knowledge. Be aware of how these animals might respond to your presence and know what to do in the unlikely event of an encounter with a bear or lion.



**Close Encounters With Black Bears**  
Black bear attacks are extremely rare in the United States and have never occurred in this park. Bears respond to people in different ways – take time to understand the signals. Be aware of aggressive signals and know how to respond to prevent close encounters.

- Never feed a black bear, either intentionally or by leaving food unsecured.
- Do not approach bear cubs. An adult may be nearby to protect and defend the cubs.
- Back away from a nearby bear, even if it appears unconcerned with your presence.
- Do not run. Back away slowly. Talk loudly.
- A defensive bear will appear agitated and will often give visual and vocal warnings like swatting or stomping the ground, exhaling loudly, huffing, snapping teeth, or lowering the head with ears drawn back while facing you. This response may escalate to a charge.

### If Charged by a Black Bear

- If the bear stops, slowly back away while talking, keeping the bear in view while leaving

the area.

- If it continues, act aggressively, shouting and throwing rocks or sticks.
- If the bear attacks and you have food, distance yourself from the food.
- If the bear attacks and you do not have food, fight back aggressively. This is likely a predatory attack, and the bear is treating you as prey.

### Close Encounters With Mountain Lions

Mountain lions usually do not like confrontation. If you see one, give it plenty of space so it can get away. Never approach cougar kittens. Leave the area immediately.

- Do not run or turn your back on a lion.
- Make yourself look large, intimidating and in control: stand up tall, open your jacket, yell, throw things.
- Stand in a group with your companions.
- Quickly pick up and hold small children.
- If the lion moves toward you, wave your arms and make noise.
- Back away slowly while facing the animal.
- If attacked, fight back aggressively. Stay standing. Hit as hard as possible especially to the head. Use a stick or rock as a weapon. Throw dirt in the eyes. Protect your head and neck.

Report all bear and mountain lion sightings to a ranger or call park dispatch: (360) 569-2211 ext. 2334.



## Interpretive Activities July 1 to September 7

### You're Invited!

Join a park ranger for an evening program, guided nature walk or talk. Explore the nature and history of Mount Rainier National Park. A variety of programs are offered throughout the park each day.

### Longmire and Cougar Rock Areas

**Roving Ranger**, Look for the roving ranger hat or sign in the Longmire or Paradise areas or at pull-outs between the Nisqually Entrance and Reflection Lakes. Rangers will present brief talks and have park information available. Times and locations vary.

**Living History Program**, 3:30 p.m. Saturdays only through August 15

Meet a character from the past and discover the rich cultural history of Mount Rainier National Park. Historical characters may include PB Van Trump, The Longmire Family, Fay Fuller, Samuel Emmons and others. Meet at the Longmire Museum. (30 minutes)

**Junior Ranger Program, Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater**, 6:30 p.m. daily July 1 through August 22; Fridays and Saturdays only through September 5

Ages 6 to 11. Join a ranger or volunteer for fun and educational activities! Meet at the Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater. Parking at the Cougar Rock Campground is limited. If you attend the program but are not camping, please park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground. (45 minutes)

**Evening Program, Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater**, 9:00 p.m. daily through July 31, 8:30 p.m. daily August 1 through August 22, 8:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays only August 22 through September 5

Join a ranger or volunteer for a program that involves, incites and explores! Topics vary. Parking at the Cougar Rock Campground is limited. If you attend the program but are not camping, please park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground. (45 minutes)

### Ohanapecosh Area

**Junior Ranger Program, Ohanapecosh Visitor Center**, 10:00 a.m. daily

Children of all ages are invited to join park staff for a one hour activity. Have fun while you learn more about Mount Rainier National Park! (1 hour)

**Rove the Grove**, 2:00p.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily

Park staff will be available along the Grove of the Patriarchs trail to answer your questions and present informal mini-talks.

**Evening Program**, 9:00 p.m. nightly through July 31; 8:30 p.m. beginning August 1

Join a ranger each night for an in-depth view of a fascinating aspect of Mount Rainier National Park. Topics change nightly. Meet at the Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater. (45 minutes)

### Sunrise/White River Area

**Sunrise Afternoon Guided Walks**, 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. daily

Learn about the natural and cultural history of the Sunrise area on this easy ramble with a ranger. Meet at the Sunrise Visitor Center flagpole. one half mile. (30 minutes)

**Junior Ranger Program**, 10:00 a.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, July 3 through September 6

Children of all ages are invited to join park staff for a fun activity about the mountain, glaciers, habitats and more. Meet at the White River Campfire Circle. (1 hour)

**Evening Program**, 8:00 p.m. through July 31, 7:30 p.m. beginning August 1

Take an in-depth look at a special topic of Mount Rainier National Park during a traditional campfire talk. Meet at the White River Campfire circle. (45 minutes)

### Paradise Area

**Roving Ranger**, Look for the roving ranger hat or sign in the Longmire or Paradise areas or at pull-outs between the Nisqually Entrance and Reflection Lakes. Rangers will present brief talks and have park information available. Time and location vary.

**Meadow Meander**, 10:30 a.m. daily through Labor Day

Discover the ecology of the Paradise area. Meet the ranger at the flagpole in front of the visitor center. 75 -90 minutes with the ranger plus return on your own. 1 mile round trip.

**Junior Ranger Program**, 1:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday through August 14

Ages 6-11 join a ranger for fun activities exploring facets of Mount Rainier. Meet at the visitor center information desk. Parents are welcome. (45 minutes)

**Paradise Glacier View Walk**, 2:00 p.m. daily through Labor Day

Walk to a view of a glacier and explore the geology of Mount Rainier. Meet at the large flagpole outside the visitor center. 75-90 minutes with the ranger and time to return on your own, 1.5 miles round trip.

**Climate Change at Mount Rainier and the Pacific Northwest**, 3:15 p.m. daily through August 15

Meet in the theater of the Jackson Visitor Center for a slide presentation or video followed by a short discussion about climate change. (30 minutes)

**Paradise Inn Evening Stroll**, 5:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday through August 14

Oh, the stories Paradise can tell! Come along on this leisurely walk to explore the nature and/or history of this place called Paradise. Look for the ranger outside the Paradise Inn entrance. 1 mile round trip. (30 minutes)

**Paradise Inn Evening Program**, 9:00 p.m. daily through September 6

Take a seat in the lobby of the Paradise Inn and enjoy an evening presentation with a park ranger or one of the guest speakers. Topics vary. Inquire at the Jackson Visitor Center or at the Paradise Inn front desk for program descriptions. (45 minutes)

**Mount Rainier: The Restless Giant**, shows every 30 minutes, except during special presentations

This park film had its debut with the opening of the Jackson Memorial Visitor Center in October 2008. It explores the changing nature of Mount Rainier using high definition video and surround sound! Accessible and closed caption. (21 minutes)

### Junior Ranger Activity Book

#### Hey Kids!

You can earn a Junior Ranger Badge and a certificate. Stop by any visitor center and ask for a free Junior Ranger Activity Book. Complete the activities for your age. Return the completed book to any visitor center to receive your badge!

Visitor Facility Hours		
Visitor Centers		
<b>Longmire Museum</b> (360) 569-2211 x3314	<b>July 1- September 6</b> 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily	Sat. 3 p.m. living history, books, information exhibits
<b>Henry M. Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise</b> (360) 569-2211 x6036	<b>July 1 - September 6</b> 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily <b>September 7 - September 15</b> 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. daily	Ranger programs, exhibits, information, park videos, books, deli, gifts
<b>Ohanapecosh Visitor Center</b> (360) 569-2211 x6046	<b>June 13 - October 12</b> 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily	Ranger programs, information, exhibits, books
<b>Sunrise Visitor Center</b> (360) 663-2425	<b>July 3 - September 7</b> 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. daily	Ranger programs, exhibits, information, books
Wilderness & Climbing Information Centers		
<b>Longmire WIC</b> (360) 569-4453	<b>July 1 - October 13</b> 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily	Wilderness camping & climbing permits
<b>Guide House</b> (360) 569-2211 x6009	<b>July 1 - August 15</b> 6:00 a.m. - 6:45 p.m. Thurs - Sun 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Mon - Wed <b>August 16 - September 7</b> 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. daily	Climbing permits, exhibits, wilderness permits, information
<b>White River WIC</b> (360) 569-2211 x6030	<b>July 1 - September 7</b> 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sun - Thurs 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Friday 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday	Wilderness camping & eastside climbing permits
<b>Carbon River Ranger Station</b> (360) 829-9639	<b>July 1 - September 3</b> 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon - Thurs 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Fri - Sun	Wilderness camping & northside climbing permits (including Ipsut Creek campground)
Food & Lodging		
<i>For in-park lodging reservations, call Mount Rainier Guest Services at (360) 569-2275 or go to <a href="http://www.guestservices.com/rainier">www.guestservices.com/rainier</a></i>		
<b>National Park Inn at Longmire</b>	<b>Open year-round</b> Front Desk open 24 hours daily Post Office: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon - Fri	Dining Room hours: 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
<b>Longmire General Store</b>	<b>June 6 - September 6</b> 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. daily	Gifts, snacks, firewood, apparel
<b>Paradise Inn</b>	<b>July 1 - October 5</b> Front Desk open 24 hours daily Post Office: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon - Fri Gift Shop: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. daily	Dining Room hours: Breakfast 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Dinner 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Sun Brunch through Sept. 27 Cafe 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
<b>Paradise Camp Deli and Gift Shop at Paradise in the Jackson Visitor Center</b>	<b>June 6 - September 6</b> 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily	Sandwiches, pizza, soup, snacks, apparel, gifts, books
<b>Sunrise Lodge Snack Bar &amp; Gift Shop</b>	<b>July 3 - September 7</b> 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily	Food and gifts. Day use only no overnight lodging
<b>Firewood Sales</b>	<b>July 1 - September 6</b>	Firewood
Cougar Rock Campground	4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (loop A)	
Longmire General Store	9:00 a.m. - 8 p.m. thru Aug 30	
Ohanapecosh Campground	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily	
White River Campground	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. daily	
<b>Gasoline, lodging, dining, recreation equipment rentals, and other services are available in local communities. A list of these services is available at park visitor centers and on the park's website at <a href="http://www.nps.gov/mora">www.nps.gov/mora</a>. Religious services are available in the park or in local communities.</b>		
<b>GAS IS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE PARK</b>		



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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**Mount Rainier National Park**

**Acting Superintendent**  
Randy King

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**Website**  
[www.nps.gov/mora](http://www.nps.gov/mora)

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**EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™**

## Keep Wildlife Wild

- Don't feed the wildlife
- Store your food in an animal-proof container, or inside your car.
- Don't leave food, beverages, pet food or toiletries unattended for any length of time.
- Clean up picnic areas after you eat.

Early in the history of national parks, people were encouraged to get close to and even feed wild animals but times have changed. Many animals were killed or died as a result of these practices.



Human food puts animals at risk and some die as a result. Birds like jays or ravens are effective nest predators – eating the eggs or young of other birds. By feeding birds, visitors concentrate these nest predators near roads and trails and inadvertently contribute to the death of songbirds in the same area.

Still, one of the most common mistakes people make at Mount Rainier National Park is to feed the wildlife. Visitors seeking a personal connection with animals think they are “helping” them. In fact it harms them in many ways.

Beggar squirrels, foxes, deer, and jays learn to approach people and busy areas and often get hit and killed by cars. Animals that become accustomed to humans and human food may pursue and injure visitors. Biologists and rangers must intervene – with killing the animal as the last resort. Wildlife feeding is wrong – dead wrong.

## Drive-in Campgrounds

Campground	Open Dates	Elev.	Sites	Fee	Group Sites	Group Fees	Toilets	Dump Station	Maximum RV/Trailer Length
Cougar Rock*	May 29 - Oct. 12	3,180'	173	\$12/15*	5	\$40-64	Flush	Yes	RV 35'/Trailer 27'
Ohanapecosh*	May 22 - Oct. 12	1,914'	188	\$12/15*	2	\$40	Flush	Yes	RV 32'/Trailer 27'
White River	June 25 - Oct. 4	4,400'	112	\$12	0	N/A	Flush	No	RV 27'/Trailer 18'
Ipsut Creek	Road to campground <b>closed to vehicles</b> (flood damage). Open to walk-in & bike-in use. Wilderness Camping Permit required for overnight stay. No fires or pets allowed. No fee								

\*Advance reservations are recommended for individual sites at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh Campgrounds from June 25 through the night of September 6. These can be made up to 6 months in advance. Reservations for group sites are required and can be made up to one year in advance. To make a reservation on-line, go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or call 877-444-6777.