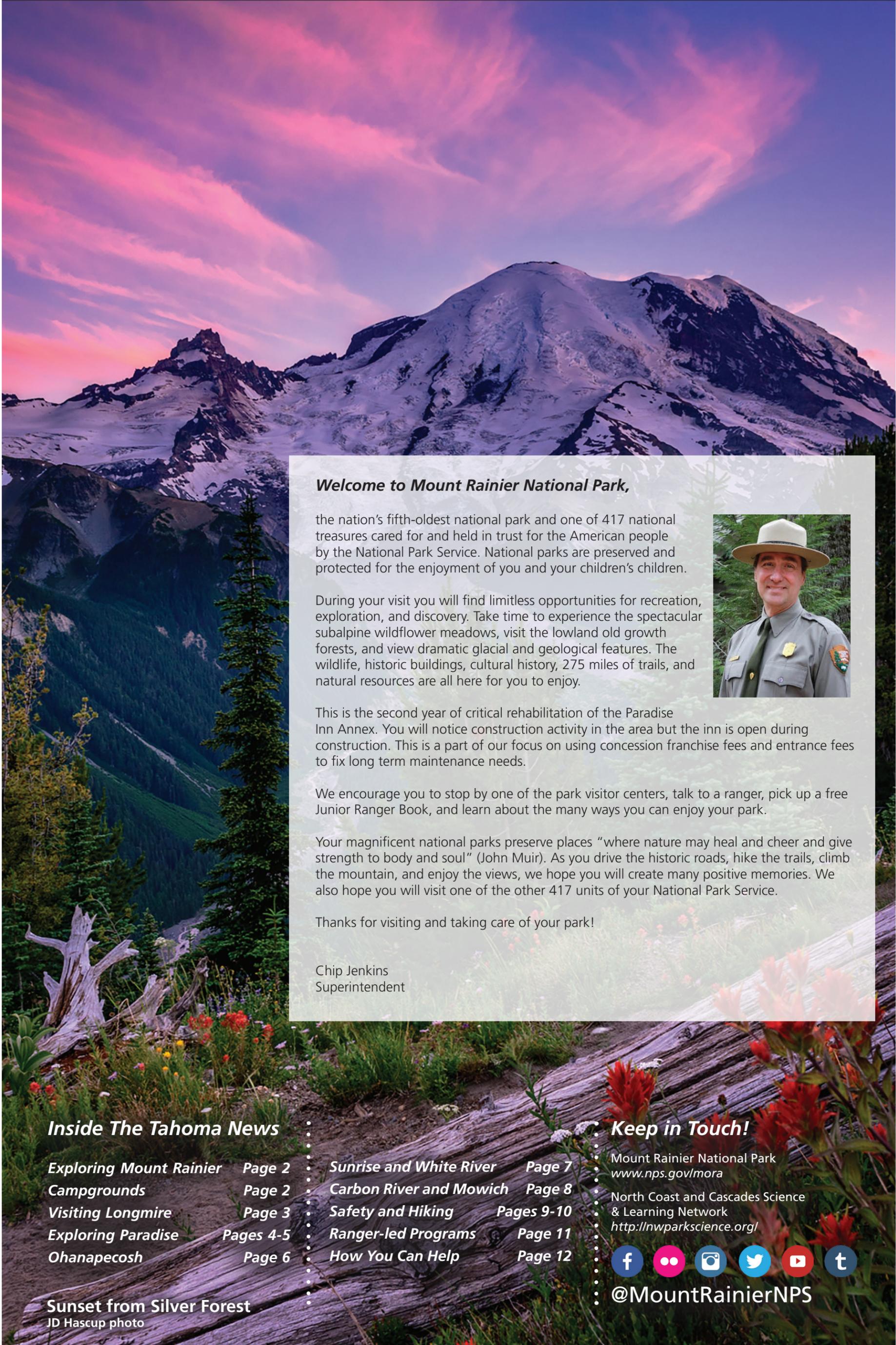




The Tahoma News

Summer 2018 | July 1 - September 3



Welcome to Mount Rainier National Park,

the nation's fifth-oldest national park and one of 417 national treasures cared for and held in trust for the American people by the National Park Service. National parks are preserved and protected for the enjoyment of you and your children's children.



During your visit you will find limitless opportunities for recreation, exploration, and discovery. Take time to experience the spectacular subalpine wildflower meadows, visit the lowland old growth forests, and view dramatic glacial and geological features. The wildlife, historic buildings, cultural history, 275 miles of trails, and natural resources are all here for you to enjoy.

This is the second year of critical rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn Annex. You will notice construction activity in the area but the inn is open during construction. This is a part of our focus on using concession franchise fees and entrance fees to fix long term maintenance needs.

We encourage you to stop by one of the park visitor centers, talk to a ranger, pick up a free Junior Ranger Book, and learn about the many ways you can enjoy your park.

Your magnificent national parks preserve places "where nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul" (John Muir). As you drive the historic roads, hike the trails, climb the mountain, and enjoy the views, we hope you will create many positive memories. We also hope you will visit one of the other 417 units of your National Park Service.

Thanks for visiting and taking care of your park!

Chip Jenkins
Superintendent

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Keep in Touch!

Mount Rainier National Park
www.nps.gov/mora
North Coast and Cascades Science
& Learning Network
<http://lnwparkscience.org/>



@MountRainierNPS

Sunset from Silver Forest
JD Hascup photo

Explore Mount Rainier National Park



Carbon River near Chenuis Falls
JD Hascup photo

At 14,410 feet high, Mount Rainier is the tallest peak in the Cascade Range and an icon of the Pacific Northwest. While the mountain's well-known profile is visible for many miles in every direction, its alpine, glacier-clad slopes occupy only a third of Mount Rainier National Park. There are as many different sides of the park as there are views of Mount Rainier. Take the time to explore the other two-thirds of the park, and discover what lies within the shadow of the great mountain that local American Indians call "Tahoma."

Whether you are looking for wilderness solitude or historical architecture, spectacular drives or challenging hikes, Mount Rainier National Park has something for you. This issue includes information that will help you plan your activities and have a safe and enjoyable visit.

There are five major visitor areas in the park:

- 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. To avoid congestion, visit these areas on weekdays, arrive early, and carpool.

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 recreational opportunities!

Entrance Fees

Admission to the park is \$30 per private vehicle; \$25 per motorcycle; and \$15 per person entering the park on foot or riding a bicycle. The pass can be used for seven days. A Mount Rainier National Park Annual Pass is available at park entrance stations for \$55 and is valid for a full year. Pay fees at park entrance stations. Self-service payment kiosks are available for those arriving when entrance booths are not staffed. Fees support projects in the park, improve visitor facilities, in part fund the education program, and pay for new exhibits in visitor centers, on trails, and at viewpoints.

Every year the National Park Service offers entrance fee free days. For complete fee information, including Annual, Active Military, Senior, and Access passes visit <https://www.nps.gov/mora/planyourvisit/fees.htm>.

Park roads are winding, road shoulders are narrow, and the speed limit is 35 mph in most areas. Watch for pedestrians, sightseers, bicyclists, and wildlife. Please be courteous and use pullouts to allow faster drivers to pass you safely.

Mount Rainier National Park

Superintendent
Chip Jenkins



Mailing Address
55210 238th Avenue East
Ashford, WA 98304

E-mail
MORAInfo@nps.gov

Park Headquarters
(360) 569-2211

Lost and Found
(360) 569-6608

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 | 23 miles | 45 min |
| Ohanapecosh to White River Entrance | 18 miles | 30 min |
| White River Entrance to Sunrise | 13 miles | 45 min |
| White River Entrance to Carbon River via Enumclaw | 61 miles | 2 hrs |
| Longmire to Carbon River via Eatonville/Orting | 80 miles | 2.5 hrs |
| Longmire to Mowich Lake via Eatonville/Orting | 89 miles | 3 hrs |

Drive-in Campgrounds

| Campground | Open Dates | Elev. | Sites | Group Sites | Toilets | Dump Station | Maximum RV/Trailer Length |
|--------------|---|--------|-------|-------------|---------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Cougar Rock* | May 25 - Oct. 8 | 3,180' | 173 | 5 | Flush | Yes | RV 35'/Trailer 27' |
| Ohanapecosh* | May 25 - Oct. 8 | 1,914' | 188 | 2 | Flush | No | RV 32'/Trailer 27' |
| White River | June 22 - Sept. 24 | 4,232' | 112 | 0 | Flush | No | RV 27'/Trailer 18' |
| Mowich Lake | Primitive walk-in campground, tents only. 10 sites. No fee (must self-register at campground kiosk). Vault toilets, <i>no potable water</i> . No fires allowed. Elevation 4,929'; generally open July through early October, depending on road and weather conditions. Call 360-829-9639 for information. | | | | | | |

*Advance reservations are recommended for individual sites at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh Campgrounds from June 22 through the night of September 4. These can be made up to six months in advance. Reservations for group sites are recommended and are available throughout the season. These can be made up to one year in advance. To make a reservation online, go to www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.

Southwest: Visit Historic Longmire

Deep in the valley of the Nisqually River, the village of Longmire preserves the history of the park's first settlement and headquarters. The Longmire Museum is the starting point for the self-guided walking tour of the Longmire Historic District, where you can 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, next to Longmire Meadow's mineral springs. Between Longmire and Nisqually Entrance, walk the Twin Firs Trail to view lowland old-growth forest; picnic at Kautz Creek where you can view the aftermath of the 1947 mudflow; or drive to Westside Road to see the dramatic results of flooding and rockfall. For great views of lava layers, glaciers, and deep glacial canyons, stop at the viewpoints along Ricksecker Point Road, between Longmire and Paradise.

Bicycle or Hike Westside Road A popular mountain bike route, this gravel road is 13 miles one-way with an elevation gain of approximately 1,120 feet. *Bicycles are not permitted on any park trails, or in any off-trail areas.* Bicyclists are subject to the same laws as motor vehicles. Travel safely, and always wear a helmet.

Twin Firs (Moderate, 0.6 miles, 30 minutes round-trip) Look for the Twin Firs wayside exhibit on the north side of the road one mile east of Kautz Creek or two miles west of Longmire. This short loop trail climbs through some of the best examples of the immense Douglas-firs that line much of the road between the Nisqually Entrance and Longmire.

Picnic Picnic tables and restrooms can be found at Kautz Creek, Longmire, and three miles up the road at Cougar Rock Picnic Area.

Trail of the Shadows (Easy, 0.7 miles, 30 minutes round-trip) Across the road from the Longmire Museum and National Park Inn, this easy loop trail circles mineral springs, a beaver pond, a historic cabin, and massive Douglas-fir and western red cedar trees. This easy trail takes you through the forested edge of a meadow filled with mineral springs. Perfect for families. Across the road, visit the Longmire Museum and ask for Junior Ranger Activity Books, or have lunch at the National Park Inn.

Rampart Ridge (Strenuous, 4.6 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip) The Rampart Ridge Trail branches off from the west side of the Trail of the Shadows, climbs steeply to the ridge-top, then circles back to Longmire by way of the Wonderland Trail. The lower portions of this trail climb through stands of ancient trees of various ages. Some Douglas-firs on the east side of the loop are around 1,000 years old.

Eagle Peak (Strenuous, 7.2 miles, 5 hours round-trip) Eagle Peak offers panoramic views of the Nisqually Valley and Mount Rainier. The lower portions of the trail climb steeply through stands of ancient Douglas-fir and younger mountain hemlock trees.

Carter Falls (Moderate, 2.2 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Stroll along the Paradise River from Cougar Rock Campground to Carter Falls. Forest ages vary from very young to very old, with some stands less than a century old and some more than 700 years old.

Christine Falls A viewpoint just off the road gives you a beautiful view of Christine Falls beneath the stone arch of the road bridge.

Comet Falls and Van Trump Park (Strenuous, 3.6 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip to Comet Falls) Look for diverse wildflowers in the forest and rocky canyon environments along this rugged trail, or climb another steep mile beyond the falls to a beautiful subalpine meadow.

Narada Falls A short but moderately steep walk takes you to a breathtaking view of Narada Falls, on the Paradise River. On a sunny day, you can often see a rainbow refracted in the cool spray of the falls.

Emergency

Dial 911 from any phone located inside the park

Longmire Services and Facilities

Longmire Museum

(360) 569-6575

Ranger programs, exhibits, information, books

July 1 - September 30

9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily

Longmire Wilderness Information Center

(360) 569-6650

Wilderness camping & climbing permits, general information

July 1 - October 8

7:30 am - 5:00 pm daily

National Park Inn at Longmire

Open year-round

Lodging, dining room

Lodging, dining

Front desk

7:00 am - 10:00 pm daily

Dining Room

July 1 - September 2

7:00 am - 8:30 pm daily

Longmire General Store

Open year-round

Food, gifts, essentials

July 1 - September 2

9:00 am - 8:00 pm daily

Ranger-led Programs

Join a park ranger for a talk, guided walk, or evening program. Programs are listed on page 11.

Camping

Cougar Rock is the closest campground to Longmire. It is located to the east, between Longmire and Paradise. Firewood sales daily, 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Campground information is available on page 2.



Longmire Administration Building
NPS photo

Shadows of the Past

Living History Lantern Tour

Saturday, August 25



One night only! Meet the people who explored, settled, climbed, and protected Mount Rainier more than 100 years ago.

The free lantern tours begin in front of the National Park Inn at Longmire, rain or shine, and depart every 20 minutes from 8:30 pm until 9:30 pm.

Tours last 90 minutes. Bring a flashlight and a warm jacket. Wear sturdy shoes.

South: Explore Paradise



Paradise Meadows
Steve Redman photo

Emergency

Dial 911 from any phone located inside the park

Paradise Services and Facilities

Paradise Henry M. Jackson Visitor Center

(360) 569-6571

Ranger programs, exhibits, information, theater, books, food, gifts

July 1 - September 23

10:00 am - 7:00 pm daily

Paradise Jackson Visitor Center Snack Bar & Gift Shop

Food, gifts, books

July 1 - September 6

10:00 am - 6:45 pm daily

Paradise Wilderness Information Center (Guide House)

(360) 569-6641

Wilderness camping and climbing permits, exhibits, general information

July 1 - September 3

7:00 am - 4:00 pm daily

Paradise Inn

Open during rehabilitation of the Paradise Inn Annex.

Lodging, dining room, cafe, gift shop

Front Desk: open 24 hours daily

Dining Room:

Breakfast 7:00 am - 9:00 am

Lunch Noon - 2:30 pm

Dinner 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Sunday Brunch 7:00 am - 2:30 pm

Tatoosh Cafe: 9:00 am - 9:00 pm

Gift Shop: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Besides glaciers, rivers, and forests, this area is rich in history, offers plenty of hiking, and has breathtaking vistas and a stunning profusion of wildflowers. Plan to visit mid-week, or early or late in the day, to avoid crowds and traffic. Explore the exhibits at the visitor center and wilderness information center, dine or stay at the Paradise Inn, enjoy the meadows, take in a view of the mountain, or hike the trails.

A network of hiking trails provides access to outstanding wildflower meadows, broad views of Mount Rainier and its glaciers, and routes for skilled climbers attempting to reach the mountain's summit. Photographers appreciate the high-country scenery at Inspiration Point and Reflection Lakes. Hikers looking for less-crowded trails might try the Lakes Trail, Mazama Ridge, and Snow Lake Trail, located just east of Paradise. Consider Nisqually Vista or Myrtle Falls for young hikers, or Alta Vista or Glacier Vista for the more ambitious. Take lots of water and sunscreen!

Picnic Enjoy your picnic at the main picnic area located below the lower parking lot. There are also picnic tables in the plaza outside the visitor center.

Paradise Inn The main building of the inn is open during rehabilitation of the annex. All hotel services including full dining, snack bar, gift shop, and interpretive programs are available at the inn throughout construction.

Henry M. Jackson Visitor Center Stop in to view the exhibits, watch the film, grab a meal or a snack, visit the gift shop, and talk with a ranger.

Paradise Wilderness Information Center (Paradise WIC) Located in the historic Guide House, the Paradise WIC is your one-stop shop for climbing and backcountry camping permits, and hiking and climbing information. Stop by to view the climbing exhibits or to talk with a ranger.

Nisqually Vista (Easy, 1.2 miles, 45 minutes round-trip) Less steep than most trails at Paradise, this route loops through flower-filled meadows and subalpine firs to a view of the Nisqually Glacier.

Deadhorse Creek (Moderate, 2.5 miles, 1.75 hours round-trip) The flowers in this sheltered canyon bloom later but often more luxuriantly than anywhere else. Loop back on the Skyline Trail, or continue on to Glacier Vista.

Skyline Trail (Strenuous, 5.5 miles, 4.5 hours round-trip) This trail gives you a grand tour of Paradise, passing Alta Vista, Glacier Vista, Panorama Point, Pebble Creek, and Sluiskin and Myrtle Falls. The elevation ranges from 5400 to 7000 feet, with wet and dry, exposed and sheltered habitats. Shorter sections of the trail can be done, too.

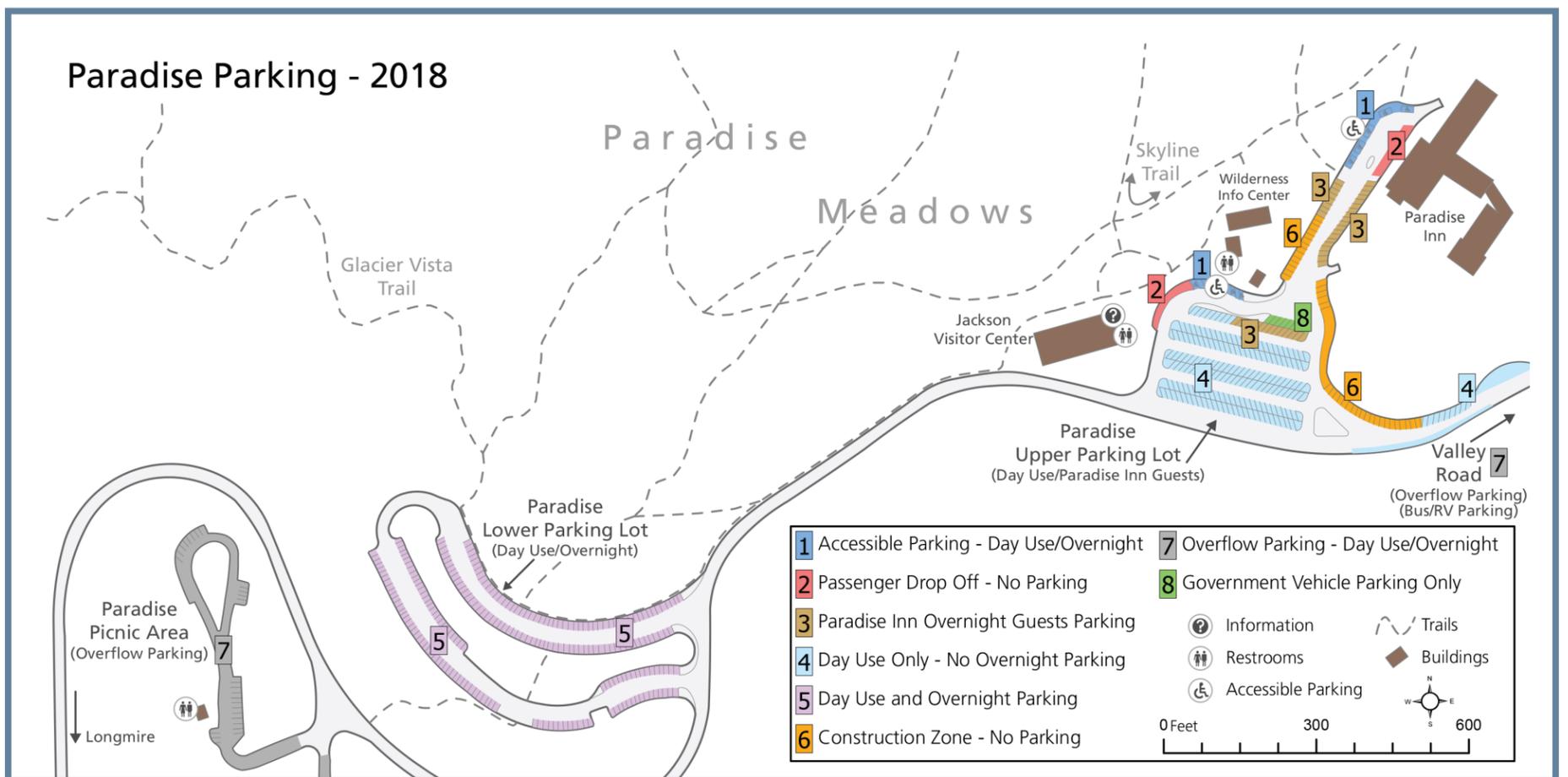
Lakes Loop (Moderate, 5 miles, 4 hours round-trip) A great loop with views of Mount Rainier, the Tatoosh Range. The trail winds through picturesque subalpine meadows and forests and along subalpine lakes. This loop passes through Paradise circling along Mazama Ridge down to Reflection Lakes. Consider beginning your hike at Reflection Lakes.

Bench and Snow Lakes (Moderate, 2.5 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Watch for views of Mount Rainier and the Tatoosh Range, wildflowers in the spring, huckleberries in the fall, and wildlife year-round on your way to these subalpine lakes.

Pinnacle Peak (Moderate, 3.0 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Enjoy abundant wildflowers and spectacular panoramic views including Mount Rainier, Mount Adams, Mount St. Helens, and Mount Hood. This trail winds high onto the rocky slopes of the Tatoosh Mountain Range.



Paradise Inn and Annex, and Guide House
Steve Redman photo



Parking In Paradise

If you are visiting Paradise on a nice day be prepared for heavy traffic, busy parking lots, and pedestrians on the roadway. This year there will also be some construction traffic and a few less parking spaces due to the rehabilitation work on the Paradise Inn Annex. The lobby and main building of the inn is open for business. Due to the popularity of the Paradise area, you are asked to park your vehicle in certain lots depending on the intent of your visit and the type of vehicle you are driving. Please drive courteously and help improve traffic flow by following these guidelines:

- Parking in the upper Paradise lot, adjacent to the Jackson Visitor Center, is intended for day use parking. This lot is generally full by 11:00 am.
- Accessible parking and accessible trailheads are available near the visitor center and the Paradise Inn.
- Paradise Inn overnight guests may also park in the upper lot during their stay.
- The lower Paradise lot is for day use and overnight parking including those hiking in the Paradise area, and for backcountry campers and climbers with a valid backcountry permit.
- Additional parking for long-term and overnight visitors is available along the one-way Paradise Valley Road, east of the upper Paradise lot and in the picnic area.
- Motorhomes, RVs, and vehicles towing trailers must park along the Paradise Valley Road, east of the upper Paradise lot.

Paradise Inn: Open For Business During Rehabilitation of the Annex

The Paradise Inn is the largest lodging facility located within Mount Rainier National Park. It was built using massive timbers and glacial boulders to blend the building with its natural surroundings and, therefore, the building is a contributing feature to the park's National Historic Landmark District designation.

Rehabilitation of the annex began in August 2017 and will continue this spring. The inn is open to overnight lodging at a reduced capacity, access continues to the lobby, food services, gift shop, and evening ranger-led programs are offered. Visitor parking is reduced in the Paradise area throughout the construction period for contractor staging and safe access to the construction site. All traditional Paradise area services, activities, facilities, and trails are available and not affected by the rehabilitation project.

During the work, character defining features of the building exterior will be rehabilitated, including the use of the existing annex foundation stones as a veneer to replicate the historic appearance of the building. Interior improvements include energy efficiency upgrades, sound dampening between guest rooms, new finishes and details that are historically compatible, and fire, life, and safety system updates.

The rehabilitation will correct deficiencies, resulting in a structure that is safe, stable, and serves visitors better. Work will continue throughout the spring and summer. The annex is scheduled to reopen for the 2019 summer season. Please heed safety signs and fencing while in the area.

Ranger-led Programs

Join a park ranger for a talk, guided walk, or evening program. Programs are listed on page 11.

Camping

Cougar Rock is the closest campground to Paradise. It is located to the west, between Longmire and Paradise. Firewood sales daily, 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Campground information is available on page 2.

Drop-in Volunteer Trail Crew Opportunity

Want to help out your national park as a volunteer? Drop-in trail maintenance volunteer opportunities are available every weekend at Paradise and Sunrise! Check in at the Paradise or Sunrise visitor centers at 10:00 am, any Friday, Saturday, or Sunday from June 29 to September 2. Bring water, snacks, and weather appropriate clothing; we'll provide gloves and tools. Suitable for ages 13 and up. Call Kevin Bacher at 360-569-6567 to schedule groups of six or more.

Paradise Alta Vista Trail Rehabilitation

Sections of the Alta Vista Trail are undergoing work in preparation for new tread material on the lower sections. The upper section is being rehabilitated and returned to natural footing.

While sections of trail may be closed on weekdays, alternate routes will be available. The trail will be open on weekends.

Southeast: Stevens Canyon and Ohanapecosh

Emergency

Dial 911 from any phone located inside the park

Ohanapecosh Services and Facilities

Ohanapecosh Visitor Center

(360) 569-6581

Ranger programs, exhibits, information, books

July 1 - September 16

9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily

Ranger-led Programs

Join a park ranger for a talk, guided walk, or evening program. Programs are listed on page 11.

Camping

The Ohanapecosh Campground is located in the southwest corner of the park on SR123. Firewood sales daily, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Campground information is available on page 2.

Box Canyon Trail Work

The Box Canyon area is open this summer while trail and facilities are undergoing rehabilitation. Expect to see evidence of trail work while visiting the area.

While sections of the loop trail may close, one section of the loop trail will always remain open.

Ohanapecosh, in the park's southeast corner, lies deep in the realm of the old-growth forest. From the visitor center and campground, trails follow the Ohanapecosh River past hot springs and shaded streams to the roaring cascade of Silver Falls. Walk the trail to the Grove of the Patriarchs, just past the Stevens Canyon Entrance, to view ancient trees—some over 1,000 years old. Strong hikers will enjoy the incredible view from the Shriner Peak fire lookout, east of State Route 123, and the string of waterfalls along the East Side Trail. On Stevens Canyon Road between Ohanapecosh and Paradise, dramatic viewpoints and a picnic area are found at Box Canyon, where the Cowlitz River cuts a deep slot into glacially-scoured bedrock.

Picnic Picnic among the big trees at the Ohanapecosh Picnic Area, or stop at the picnic area west of Box Canyon.

Stevens Canyon West of Ohanapecosh, the park road traverses spectacular Stevens Canyon. During the summer, watch for wildflowers along the road. Later in the year, enjoy magnificent fall colors as huckleberries, vine maples, and mountain ash turn scarlet and purple.

Box Canyon Trail (Easy, 0.5 mile, 30 minutes round-trip) Follow the path of a glacier that has receded revealing evidence of polished slabs of rock. These rocks also show evidence of glacial movement with striations or scratch marks caused by ice-embedded rocks scraping their surfaces. A half-mile loop trail takes you to a viewpoint of two volcanoes and the steep, narrow box canyon of the Cowlitz River. Restrooms are just off the parking lot. A nearby picnic area is a great place to have lunch. Trail work is currently underway in this area, but access to the overlook and footbridge will be maintained.

Grove of the Patriarchs (Easy, 1.3 miles, 1 hour round-trip) At the east end of the Stevens Canyon Road is one of the most accessible stands of ancient trees in the park. A short self-guided nature trail and suspension bridge take you to a boardwalk loop through thousand year old Douglas-fir and western red cedar trees, protected from forest fires on an island in the Ohanapecosh River. Restrooms are located by the parking lot.

Ohanapecosh Stop at the Ohanapecosh Visitor Center to learn about the old-growth forest ecosystem, or spend the night among the big trees in the Ohanapecosh Campground. The most family-friendly campground in the park features big trees, creeks, a visitor center, restrooms, ranger-led activities including Junior Ranger programs, and several trails. Take a short stroll through the Ohanapecosh Hot Springs, or hike a 2.5 mile loop along the river to Silver Falls.

Silver Falls Trail (Moderate, 3 miles, 2 hours round-trip) This loop trail winds among 500 year old trees along both sides of the Ohanapecosh River. It is one of the best places to look for forest wildflowers and mushrooms, including many species uniquely found in the old-growth forest environment.

Shriner Peak (Strenuous, 8.4 miles, 6 hours round-trip) One of the steepest trails in the park climbs through the forest to an old burn, where dry meadow flowers like bear grass and paintbrush are abundant in the summer. A backcountry campsite is located at the top, near the old fire lookout. There is no water along this trail during most of the season, and little shade.

East Side Trail (Moderate, 11.5 miles, 6 hours one-way) Hike south from Deer Creek to the Grove of the Patriarchs past 700 - 1,000 year old trees along Chinook Creek and the Ohanapecosh River. This trail is best done with two vehicles, one parked at each end of the trail.

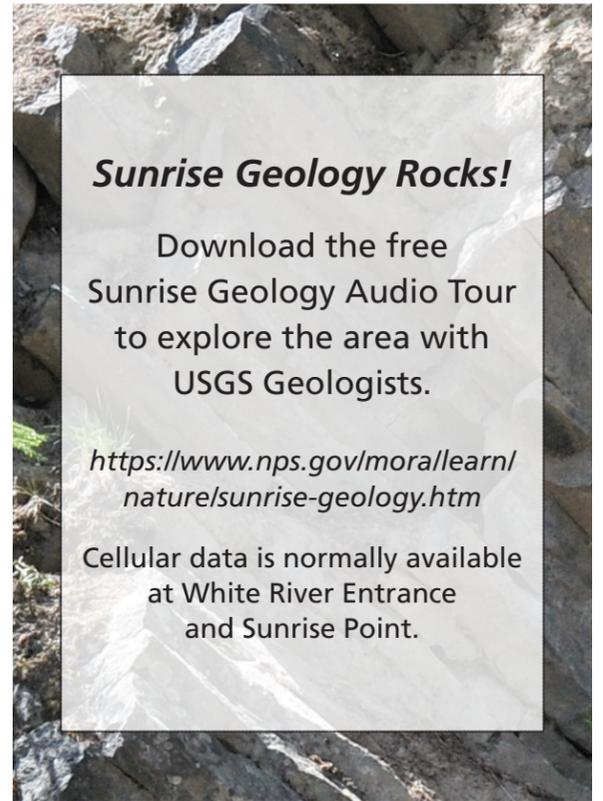


Silver Falls
NPS photo



Eastside Trail Giants
NPS photo

Northeast: Experience Sunrise and White River



The White River/Sunrise Road leads from State Route 410 toward the White River Campground and high-country trailheads. From here, trails lead hikers to subalpine wilderness or to the moraine of the Emmons Glacier, the largest American glacier outside of Alaska. Continuing up the road toward Sunrise, look for outcrops of columnar lava, hillsides of wildflowers, and a breathtaking vista at Sunrise Point. Washington's highest paved highway ends at the Sunrise Visitor Center (6400 feet), where summertime crowds come to enjoy the area's open meadows and expansive scenery, considered by some to be the grandest views in the park. Along State Route 410, a trail leads strong hikers up to the scenic Crystal Lakes basin, and the Tipsoo Lake area near Chinook Pass provides a picnic area next to the lake and its lush meadows.

Picnic Enjoy lunch with a view at picnic areas located at Sunrise, White River Campground, and Tipsoo Lake.

White River Entrance Restrooms and information on hiking, backpacking, and other services are available at the White River Ranger Station.

Owyhigh Lakes Trail (Moderate, 7 miles, 3.5 hours round-trip) This hike offers solitude amongst old-growth forests to subalpine meadows and lakes. From the White River Road, climb steadily up the side of Tamanos Mountain through a 700 year old forest to Owyhigh Lakes.

White River Patrol Cabin Take a stroll back in time and discover the important role these cabins played in protecting the park. Located in the White River Campground.

Glacier Basin Trail (Moderate, 6.5 miles, 6 hours round-trip) Following in the footsteps of climbers, this trail continues to subalpine meadows, surrounded by mountains, and a backcountry camp.

Emmons Moraine Trail (Easy, 3 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Turn off on the spur trail from the Glacier Basin Trail to view the massive Emmons Glacier, the largest by area in the lower 48 states, with Mount Rainier towering above. The first part of this trail offers cascading waterfalls and cool forests.

Sunrise Interpretive programs, snack bar, gift shop, bookstore, visitor center, exhibits, hiking, and restrooms are available. Numerous trails, of various lengths and degrees of difficulty, begin from the Sunrise Visitor Center and wander through meadows filled with wildflowers during the peak bloom.

Silver Forest Trail (Easy, 2 miles, 1 hour round-trip) This lovely stroll includes abundant wildflowers and breathtaking views of the White River Valley, Emmons Glacier, and Mount Rainier.

Berkeley Park (Strenuous, 7 miles, 5 hours round-trip) Hiking into Berkeley Park provides an opportunity to experience a sampling of the park's wilderness. Towering mountains, subalpine meadows, multiple cascading streams, and wildlife excite the senses as you descend into this valley.

Mount Fremont (Strenuous, 5.6 miles, 3.5 hours round-trip) This historic fire lookout provides expansive panoramic views of the northeast side of the park. The trail passes through subalpine meadows to rocky slopes with low-growing plants adapted to the harsh alpine environment.

Sourdough Ridge Trail to Dege Peak (Moderate, 4.2 miles, 2.5 hours round-trip) Experience ridgeline hiking along the Sourdough Mountains with spectacular views of the Sunrise area, Mount Rainier, glaciers, subalpine meadows, wildlife, and the Cascade Mountain range.

First Burroughs Mountain Trail (Strenuous, 4.8 miles, 3 hours round-trip) Ascending high onto First Burroughs Mountain, this trail leads you into the alpine, tundra-like environment with unobscured views of Mount Rainier. Following the top of this old lava flow, you feel as if you could almost touch the mountain.

Tipsoo Lake and Naches Peak (Moderate, 3.5 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Wildflowers grow thick around this beautiful subalpine lake. Take a short stroll around the lake, or branch off on the longer and more diverse Naches Peak Loop, which features different flowers on the wetter west side and drier east side of the peak. This trail is located east of White River near Chinook Pass on SR 410.

White River / Sunrise Services and Facilities

White River Wilderness Information Center

(360) 569-6670

Wilderness camping and eastside climbing permits, general information

July 1 - October 8

7:30 am - 5:00 pm daily

Sunrise Visitor Center

(360) 663-2425

Exhibits, information, books

July 1 - September 23

10:00 am - 6:00 pm daily

Sunrise Day Lodge Snack Bar & Gift Shop

Food and gifts. Day use only, no overnight lodging

July 1 - September 9

10:00 am - 7:00 pm daily

Ranger-led Programs

Join a park ranger for a talk, guided walk, or evening program. Programs are listed on page 11.

Camping

The White River Campground is located at the intersection of White River Road and Sunrise Road. Firewood sales daily, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Campground information is available on page 2.

Drop-in Volunteer Trail Crew Opportunity

Drop-in trail maintenance volunteer opportunities are available every weekend at Paradise and Sunrise! Check in at the Paradise or Sunrise visitor centers at 10:00 am, any Friday, Saturday, or Sunday from June 29 to September 2. Bring water, snacks, and weather appropriate clothing; we'll provide gloves and tools. Suitable for ages 13 and up. Call Kevin Bacher at 360-569-6567 to schedule groups of six or more.

Northwest: Carbon River and Mowich Lake



Emergency

Dial 911 from any phone located inside the park

Carbon River and Mowich Lake Services and Facilities

Carbon River Ranger Station

(360) 829-9639

Located on the Carbon River Road 5.5 miles east of the Mowich Lake (SR165) junction.

Wilderness camping & northside climbing permits, general information

July 1 - September 3

7:30 am - 5:00 pm daily

Camping

There is a walk-in campground at Mowich Lake. A backcountry camping permit is required for the Ipsut Creek Campground at Carbon River. Campground information is available on page 2.

Located on the “quiet side” of the park, the Carbon River valley showcases ancient forests, deep valleys, waterfalls, and a dynamic, flood-prone river that flows from the Carbon Glacier, the lowest-elevation glacier in the contiguous United States. Or follow State Route 165 to Mowich Lake, the park’s largest and deepest lake. Look for colorful subalpine wildflowers along its shores. From the picnic area at road’s end, trails lead to subalpine lakes, flower-strewn meadows, and amazing views of the park’s wilderness from the Tolmie Peak fire lookout. Stop by the Carbon River Ranger Station located on Carbon River Road past the junction to SR165 for information, permits, and to talk with a ranger.

Picnic Picnic tables are located at the Carbon River Ranger Station and Entrance, and along Mowich Lake Road at Paul Peak and Mowich Lake.

Carbon River The dynamic, glacier-fed Carbon River that continues to braid and change channels as glacial sediment deposits shape its path.

Carbon River Entrance Restrooms, picnic tables, and an interpretive trail are available. Stretch your legs on the short 0.3 mile interpretive trail and discover a unique inland rainforest among Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, western hemlock, and western red cedar. Note that the bridge is currently out so this is not currently a loop trail.

Carbon River Trail This former road is now a trail due to repeated flooding. Hike or bike the trail through this rainforest environment as the forest reveals views of the Carbon River and surrounding mountains. From the parking lot the trail gains approximately 600 feet in elevation along its 5 mile length; some sections are rough and rocky. **Bicycles are not permitted on any other trails in the area or in any off-trail areas.** Bicyclists are subject to the same laws as motor vehicles. Travel safely, and always wear a helmet.

Old Mine Trail (Moderate, 3 miles, 2 hours round-trip) Explore a trip to the past by peering into the shaft of an open mine at the trail’s end. Hike or bike 1.2 miles from the parking lot to the trailhead.

Chenuis Falls (Moderate, 0.8 miles, 4.5 hours round-trip) Enjoy this trail that leads across the Carbon River on a footlog to the gently cascading Chenuis Falls. From the parking lot, hike or bike 3.7 miles to the trailhead. Check trail conditions at the ranger station. Footlog is subject to wash out.

Green Lake (Moderate, 10 miles, 5 hours round-trip) This trail ascends through old-growth forests to the beautiful clear lake. A short side trail before Green Lake takes you to Ranger Falls. From the parking lot hike or bike 3.2 miles to the trailhead. One mile past the turnoff a side spur leads to Ranger Falls.

Mowich Lake Canoes glide across this subalpine lake with the wakes ruffling the mountain’s reflections. Enjoy the serenity while fishing the deep waters or hiking the nearby trails. The road to Mowich is unpaved after the first three miles and may be rough. Mowich is reached via state SR 165.

Tolmie Peak Fire Lookout (Moderate, 5.6 miles, 3 hours round-trip) The historic fire lookout offers spectacular panoramic views of Mount Rainier and surrounding areas. Follow the Mowich Lake shore to Ipsut Pass for views of Carbon River Valley, Eunice Lake, and the final ascent up Tolmie Peak. The trail begins at the last bend in the road on the Mowich Lake Road, 5.5 miles from the park boundary. Please stay on the main trail near Eunice Lake to protect the fragile environment.

Spray Park Trail (Moderate, 6 miles, 4 hours round-trip) Beautiful subalpine meadows with views of Mount Rainier are some of the rewards along this trail. The trail begins on the west side of the Mowich Lake Campground. Take the 0.25 mile spur to Spray Falls, a 300 foot cascading waterfall.

Park Partners



Washington’s National Park Fund
wnpf.org



Mount Rainier National Park Volunteers
www.nps.gov/mora/getinvolved/volunteer.htm



Washington Trails Association
www.wta.org



Discover Your Northwest
www.discovernw.org



Visit Rainier
visitrainier.com



Mount Rainier National Park Associates
www.mrnpa.org



Mount Rainier Institute
www.packforest.org/mtrainierinstitute/

Know Before You Go

Hazards of the Season

A beautiful day on the mountain can turn into dangerous whiteout conditions in a matter of minutes. Knowing what to do and making the right decision can be the difference between life and death.

Winter snowpack may linger late into summer on the mountain. Snow may be found covering portions of trails into August. However, keep in mind that snow is not the only issue when it comes to safe backcountry travel.

Route-finding Challenges

Trails may be snow-free at lower elevations but anticipate and prepare for snow at higher elevations. Conditions change rapidly during the day and footprints in the snow quickly disappear. This has left many day hikers disoriented upon their return trip, expecting to simply follow their own tracks back to the snow-free trail. This results in many lost individuals, injuries, and fatalities. When route-finding, note important landmarks. If the trail becomes difficult to follow, stop and find where you are on the map before continuing.

Be Prepared

If at any point you feel uncomfortable or unprepared, turn around. If you plan on retracing your route back to the trailhead consider using wands on snow-covered trails. Always carry a good map and compass, and actively use them on snow-covered trails. Also consider supplementing your map and compass with an external-antenna GPS for best coverage beneath a forest canopy.

Consider the steep snow slopes, melt holes, thinning snow bridges, and other early season hazards that you may encounter, and be honest with yourself in assessing your skills and experience.

Plan Ahead

- Protect yourself by wearing appropriate outdoor clothing including footwear.
- Be prepared for rapidly changing weather.
- Carry the ten essentials even on a short sightseeing hike.
- Always tell someone of your travel plans so they can notify the park if you fail to return.
- If visibility is poor, do not travel at all.
- Plan your route ahead of time, have a backup plan, and never travel alone.

Snow Avalanches

The greatest danger is an avalanche that you trigger by skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, or climbing. Be prepared for travel in avalanche terrain. Carry a transceiver, probe, and shovel and know how to use them. Determine if the location you are traveling is avalanche prone. If in doubt, ask questions or don't go. Unstable snow may slide at any time . . . not just in winter! Even small avalanches can be deadly.

Mountain Weather Changes Rapidly

A pleasant outing can quickly transform into a survival ordeal. Proper gear (adequate boots, ice axe, the ten essentials, etc.) is a must. Navigation in spring storms can be extremely difficult. If you're ascending and clouds or fog start rolling in, turn around and head back to the trailhead. If that's not possible, stop, dig in, and wait for better weather.

Classic Backcountry Practices

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

Carry the 10 Essentials and know how to use them!

1. Map and compass
2. Sunglasses, sunscreen, and hat
3. Extra clothing (warm!) and rain gear
4. Flashlight or head lamp (extra batteries)
5. First aid supplies
6. Waterproof matches or lighter
7. Repair kit and tools (for gear)
8. Extra food
9. Extra water
10. Emergency shelter

You Can Help Protect Mount Rainier



Keep Wildlife Wild

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.

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

Please drive carefully and watch for wildlife.

Before you step off the trail...

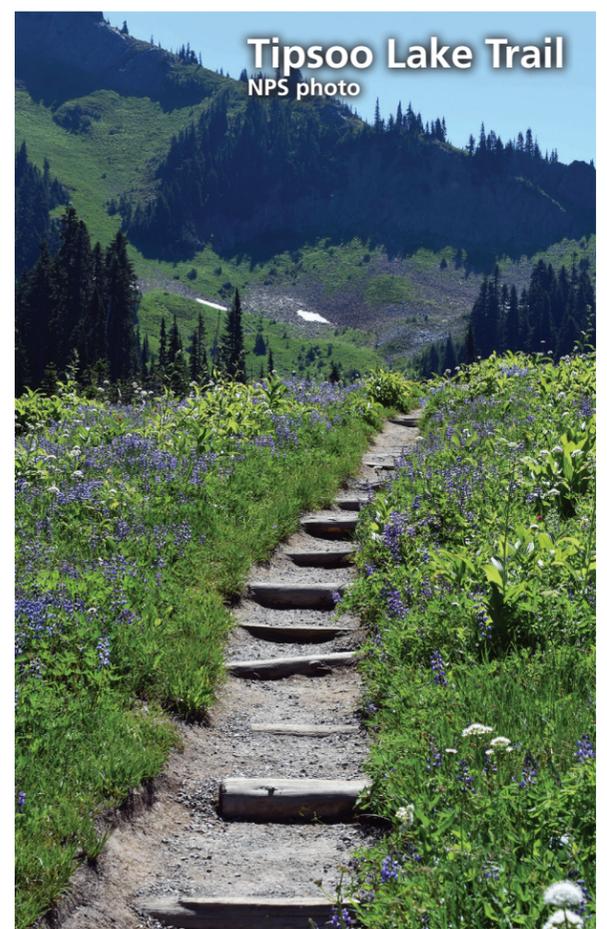
... consider this: each step into a meadow crushes an average of 17 plants!

When exploring Mount Rainier's fragile meadows, hike only on maintained trails or thick patches of snow.

Cross 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. Use these pointers in making wise decisions when crossing streams.

- 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.



What You Need to Know



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. This information will help you learn more about the park, and protect yourself and the park.

Accessibility

Most restrooms, visitor centers, picnic areas, amphitheaters, and designated campsites are accessible or accessible with help by wheelchair. Accessible lodging is available inside the park and in local communities.

The park brochure is available in braille at visitor centers and entrance stations.

At the Sunrise and Paradise visitor centers, the audiovisual programs are captioned; audio described tours of the exhibits are available; and the exhibits are accessible by wheelchair. Additionally, assistive listening devices are available for the park film at the Paradise Visitor Center.

The Kautz Creek Boardwalk Nature Trail is accessible with assistance in summer. An accessible trail leads to the base of Paradise Meadows; a portion of the trails at Paradise are accessible with help. Inquire at the Jackson Visitor Center for more information.

Don't Be A Victim!

Burglaries have occurred at numerous trailheads and parking areas in the park. Those responsible for the crimes were investigated, arrested by Mount Rainier rangers and National Park Service special agents, and convicted in court. However, these convictions will not necessarily end the problem of car burglaries in the park.

Follow these simple guidelines to avoid becoming a victim of future car break-ins:

- Do not leave any valuables in your vehicle, even for a short time.
- Do not leave bags, packs, or purses, that look like they could contain valuables visible in your vehicle.
- If storing items in the trunk of your car, do so before arriving at your destination. You could be watched at trailheads and parking lots.
- Immediately report all suspicious activity you observe at or around parking lots or along roads to a park ranger.

Camping

Camp in designated campsites only. Sleeping in vehicles outside of campgrounds is not permitted.

Bikes in the Park

Bicycle only on roads, not on trails. Mountain bikes are permitted on Westside Road and Carbon River Road, but not on trails.



No Drone Zone!

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft (drone) within the boundaries of Mount Rainier National Park is prohibited.

Fires in the Park

Make fires only in a fire grill. Collecting firewood is prohibited. Firewood is sold in Cougar Rock, Ohanapecosh and White River campgrounds.

Pets and Service Animals

Leashed pets are permitted only in picnic areas, campgrounds, and parking lots and on roads currently open to public vehicles. *During hot weather do not leave pets in vehicles.*

Pets must be on leashes no longer than six feet and are not allowed in buildings, on trails (except the PCT), or in off-trail or backcountry areas.

Service animals individually trained to perform specific tasks are allowed on trails and in park facilities only if they are providing a service for a disabled person. Service dogs-in-training are not service animals under ADA, but are considered pets.

Tree Hazards

Healthy trees with no defects can present a danger under certain conditions. Stay alert for falling limbs and cones on windy days, and avoid forested areas during storms when possible. Sudden gusts can do great damage to trees—as well as anything in range of falling debris.

Mercury in Park Lakes

Research studies have shown mercury is present in some trout in a few park lakes. Check the Washington Department of Health website <http://www.doh.wa.gov/> for information on fish consumption.

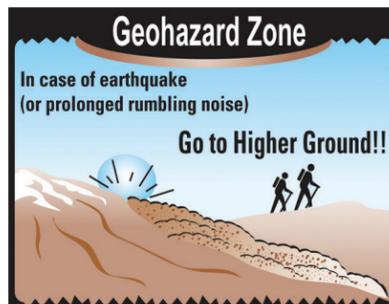
Climbing

Each year, approximately 10,000 people attempt to climb Mount Rainier. Nearly half reach the 14,410-foot summit. Climbing permits are required for travel above 10,000 feet and/or on glaciers. Climbing information—including fees, routes, and conditions—is available on the park website and at Wilderness Information Centers at Longmire, White River, and Paradise.

Pay your annual climbing fee through pay.gov; keep your receipt and print or save it on your phone to serve as proof of payment; and bring a picture ID.

Guided climbs and seminars are available through:

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



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.

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—200 feet 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, vulcan.wr.usgs.gov.

Paradise
NPS/EBrouwer photo

Permits

Permits are required for all overnight stays in the backcountry, and for traveling on glaciers and above 10,000 feet in elevation.

Wilderness Camping

Mount Rainier National Park offers outstanding wilderness hiking and camping opportunities. Wilderness camping permits are required for all overnight stays in the park's backcountry year-round. Permits and backcountry information are available at all wilderness information centers and most visitor centers. 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 percent are issued on a first-come, first-served basis the day of or one day before the trip begins. Wilderness permits must be obtained in person at the Longmire Wilderness Information Center, White River Wilderness Information Center, or the Carbon River Ranger Station.

Firewood: Buy It Where You Burn It

Washington forests are in jeopardy from the transportation of invasive insects and diseases in firewood. New infestations of tree-killing insects and diseases often are first found in campgrounds and parks.

Buy firewood near where you will burn it—that means the wood was likely cut within 50 miles of where you'll have your fire. Never bring wood from home, even if you think the firewood looks fine. Aged or seasoned wood is still not safe.

More information is available online at www.dontmovefirewood.org.

Firewood sales are available in the park at the Longmire General Store and at Cougar Rock, Ohanapecosh, and White River campgrounds.

Ranger-led Programs

Join a park ranger for a talk, guided walk, or evening program. These free programs explore the park's natural and cultural history. Find out who else has come to Mount Rainier and why. Discover what this mountain really is and what it may become. Meet some of the park's inhabitants—from owls to elk—and find out why they are here.

Hey Kids!

Ask for a Junior Ranger Activity Book. It's FREE at all park visitor centers. Complete it to learn lots of cool stuff about your park and earn a badge and certificate.

Citizen Ranger Quests

Has your inner Junior Ranger never really gone away? Try out a Quest! They are designed for older children (12 and up) and adults. Quest topics are diverse and vary from history to science to stewardship. Some Quests take place indoors while others help you explore outdoors. Completion times for the different Quests vary from about thirty minutes to two hours. Information on Quests is available at visitor centers.

| Paradise | Length | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Explore Mount Rainier Explore the various facets of Mount Rainier with a ranger. Meet at the flagpole in front of Jackson Visitor Center. | 90 min | 10:30 am |
| Discover Paradise Join a ranger to explore and discover the resources of Paradise. See park bulletin boards for meeting place. | 2 hrs | 10:00 am | | | | | | 10:00 am |
| Paradise Junior Ranger Program Drop in and join a ranger for a host of fun family activities around Paradise! Ages 6 to 11 | Varies | Noon - 3:00 pm |
| One Hundred Years of the Paradise Inn Join a ranger to discover fascinating stories of Paradise and the historic Paradise Inn. Meet in the lobby of the inn. | 30 min | 2:30 pm | | | 2:30 pm | 2:30 pm | 2:30 pm | 2:30 pm |
| Astronomy Program Observe the heavens from the slopes of Mount Rainier. Meet in front of the Paradise Visitor Center. Check the astronomy hot-line for current information (360) 569-6230. | 2 hours | 9:45 pm | | | | 9:45 pm | 9:45 pm | 9:45 pm |
| | | 9:30 pm starting August 4 | | | | 9:30 pm starting August 4 | 9:30 pm starting August 4 | 9:30 pm starting August 4 |
| Paradise Inn Evening Program Enjoy an evening with a ranger in the lobby of the historic Paradise Inn. Topics vary. Inquire at either the visitor center or the lobby of the inn for program descriptions. | 45 min | 8:45 pm |
| | | 8:30 pm starting August 5 |

Special Programs

Check bulletin boards, visitor centers, or inns for a schedule.

| Longmire/Cougar Rock Campground | Length | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Junior Ranger Program Join a ranger for fun and educational activities! Ages 6 to 11. Meet at the Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater. <i>Parking at the campground is limited. If you attend the program, but are not camping, park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground.</i> | 30-45 min | 6:45 pm |
| | | 6:30 pm starting August 5 |
| Evening Program Join a ranger for a program that involves, inspires, and explores! Topics vary. Meet at the Cougar Rock Campground Amphitheater. <i>Parking at the campground is limited. If you attend the program, but are not camping, park in the Cougar Rock Picnic Area across the park road from the campground.</i> | 45 min | 8:30 pm |
| | | 8:15 pm starting August 5 |

| Sunrise/White River Campground | Length | SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Junior Ranger Station Join a ranger to explore the many stories of Mount Rainier. Play games, take challenges, do puzzles, and more! Stay as long as you would like. | Varies | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 1:00 - 2:00 pm |
| Discover Sunrise Dive into the resources of Mount Rainier during this hands-on program. This experience changes daily. Check park bulletin boards and park website for details. Meet at the Sunrise Visitor Center flagpole. | 2 hours | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm |
| Evening Program Take an in-depth look at a special topic of Mount Rainier National Park during a traditional campfire talk. Meet at the campfire circle in the White River Campground. | 45 min | 7:30 pm | | 7:30 pm |
| | | 7:00 pm starting August 4 | | 7:00 pm starting August 4 |

Check bulletin boards for additional Junior Ranger programs, special programs, and schedule updates.

| Ohanapecosh | Length | SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|-------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Junior Ranger Program Children ages 6 to 11 are invited to join a ranger to explore, learn about, and help protect Mount Rainier. Meet at the Ohanapecosh Visitor Center. Parents, please stay with your Junior Rangers. | 45 min | 10:00 am | 10:00 am | 10:00 am | 10:00 am | 10:00 am | 10:00 am | 10:00 am |
| Evening Program Join a ranger for a program that involves, inspires, and explores! Topics vary nightly. Meet at the Ohanapecosh Campground Amphitheater. | 45 min | | | | 8:30 pm | 8:30 pm | 8:30 pm | 8:30 pm |
| | | | | | 8:00 pm starting August 4 |
| Junior Scientists Join a ranger to work as a scientist studying the forests and rivers of Ohanapecosh. This program is best for children nine and older. Meet at the Ohanapecosh Visitor Center. | 1 1/2 hours | | | | | | | 10:00 am |
| Discover the Grove of the Patriarchs Dive into the resources of Mount Rainier during this hands-on program. This experience changes daily. Check park bulletin boards and park website for details. Meet at the Grove of the Patriarchs parking lot. | 1-2 hours | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm | 2:00 pm |

Check bulletin boards for additional Junior Ranger programs, special programs, and schedule updates.

You Can Help Protect Mount Rainier



From reporting wildlife sightings to serving as a volunteer, there is a way everyone can participate in the successful management of Mount Rainier National Park.

Have You Seen a Fisher?

The park is tracking recently reintroduced Pacific fishers by aircraft through signals emitted from implanted transmitters. You can help by reporting fisher sightings to a ranger. Remember that fisher, marten, and mink are very similar looking species. Even the experts can get them confused and photos (even fuzzy ones) are very helpful. One thing to look for is a long, bushy tail (a third of the total length) that is bushy all the way to the base. Marten and mink tails are tapered at the base. Fisher's ears are also much smaller in profile compared to marten and mink.



Your Photos Discover Climate Change Effects

By Dr. Janneke Hille Ris Lambers, Elli J. Theobald and Anna Wilson, MeadoWatch, Univ. of Washington

In the summer, many people enjoy the wildflowers that bloom in profusion in the meadows, while just a few months earlier up to 20 feet of snow covered the summer's display. Not surprisingly, the winter wonderland strongly influences wildflowers. Specifically, snow controls when avalanche lilies, lupines, and all other flowers blossom. When snow melts earlier, flowers bloom earlier and when snow melts later, flowers bloom later.

This leads to a critical question: as average temperatures increase with climate change, how will the wildflowers so many of us enjoy be affected? This is a difficult question to answer without a lot of information—and you can help! You can contribute to research at the University of Washington by sharing your wildflower photos. Each of your pictures is an 'observation' of when and where wildflowers bloom. Photos contributed this summer will be particularly useful if the warmer spring we're having leads to an earlier than average snowmelt on Mount Rainier. These data can help uncover how climate change affects the timing of the seasons.

Just take photos of wildflowers (close enough to identify the species) in Mount Rainier National Park! Make sure your photos are date-stamped and geo-tagged (most smartphones automatically enable this feature), and visit www.meadowwatch.org for instructions on how to contribute your photos to our project. Thanks for your help!



Experience Mount Rainier as a Volunteer Ranger

As you visit Mount Rainier, keep your eyes open for people wearing hats, shirts, and jackets with a "volunteer" logo. You'll see volunteers working in the visitor centers and assisting visitors in the meadows. Even more are busy behind the scenes, organizing the park's collection of historic photos and taking care of plants in our greenhouse.



Last year, more than 2,000 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 could have alone.

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

Show Some Love for Your National Parks

By Laurie B. Ward, Washington's National Park Fund Executive Director

Our national parks are deserving of a little extra love these days. Show your care by joining the thousands who are giving to Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks through Washington's National Park Fund. If you'd like to give directly to Mount Rainier National Park, you can choose to do so on our website www.wnspf.org.

Washington's National Park Fund supports park priority projects in these four core areas:

- Strengthening science and research (glaciers, wildlife, etc.)
- Improving visitors' experiences (trails, campgrounds, search and rescue, etc.)
- Growing the volunteerism and stewardship program
- Supporting youth and family activities in the park

To learn more, go to www.wnspf.org or call the Fund at 206-623-2063. Tax ID: 01-0869799

Washington's National Park Fund is the official fundraising partner dedicated to raising charitable gifts exclusively for Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic national parks.

White Nose Bat Syndrome



Bats are valuable members of our ecosystems. They provide important pest control services that protect our forests and crops from harmful insects. A bat disease called white-nose syndrome (WNS) is spreading through the U.S. and was recently detected in Washington. Park scientists are currently studying bat populations to understand the extent of the problem in our parks. WNS is not harmful to humans or pets. WNS is caused by a cold-loving fungus called *Pseudogymnoascus destructans*. The fungus invades bats' skin and forms white patches on muzzle, wings, and ears, giving rise to the name. The fungus attacks bats while they are hibernating and can persist in the environment for many years. It disrupts their hibernation and may cause starvation or dehydration. People can spread it to new places on clothing, shoes, or gear that has come in contact with the fungus. If you have visited places where bats live, you can help reduce WNS spread by properly decontaminating these items <https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination>.