

# **Planning Your Visit**

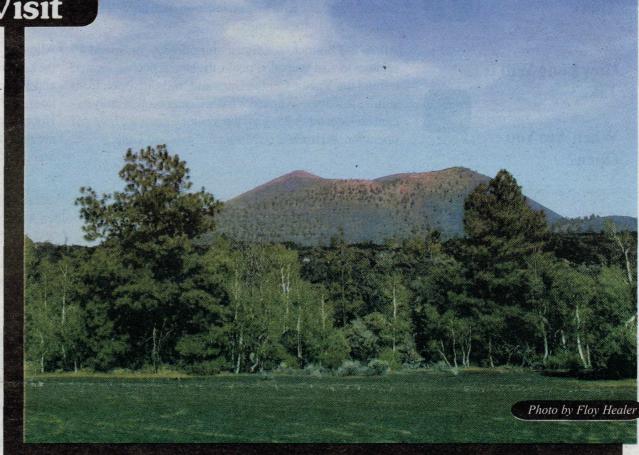
Here, past meets present. Pueblos and cliff dwellings are so well preserved it's hard to believe their builders moved on 700 years ago. Amid lava and cinder one can imagine a landscape still hot to the touch. Welcome to the Flagstaff Area National Monuments!

Walnut Canyon, Sunset Crater Volcano, and Wupatki National Monuments protect significant pieces of this region's natural and cultural history. Visit all three parks to appreciate the greater story of human endeavor played out on these geological landscapes.

Leave Flagstaff with food and a full tank of gas as there are no services at the monuments. Arizona does not observe daylight savings. It remains on Mountain Standard Time.

### Distance from Flagstaff:

Walnut Canyon - 20 min., 10 miles (16 km) Sunset Crater Volcano - 30 min., 14 miles (22 km) Wupatki - 50 min., 33 miles (53 km)



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### In an emergency...

Contact a park ranger. OR From Walnut Canyon or Sunset Crater Volcano call 911.

From Wupatki, call the Coconino Sheriff's Department: (520) 774-4523.

# **Message From the Superintendent**

I want to welcome you to the Flagstaff Area National Monuments and to thank you for visiting our parks. These three parks, Walnut Canyon, Sunset Crater Volcano, and Wupatki National Monuments, are special places that illustrate the rich and dynamic cultural and natural history of the American Southwest. These areas were set aside to preserve the land in perpetuity and to tell the unique story that these cultural and natural landscapes hold. The people who lived here long ago and the dynamic landscapes before you are pieces of history that helped shape the way America looks today.

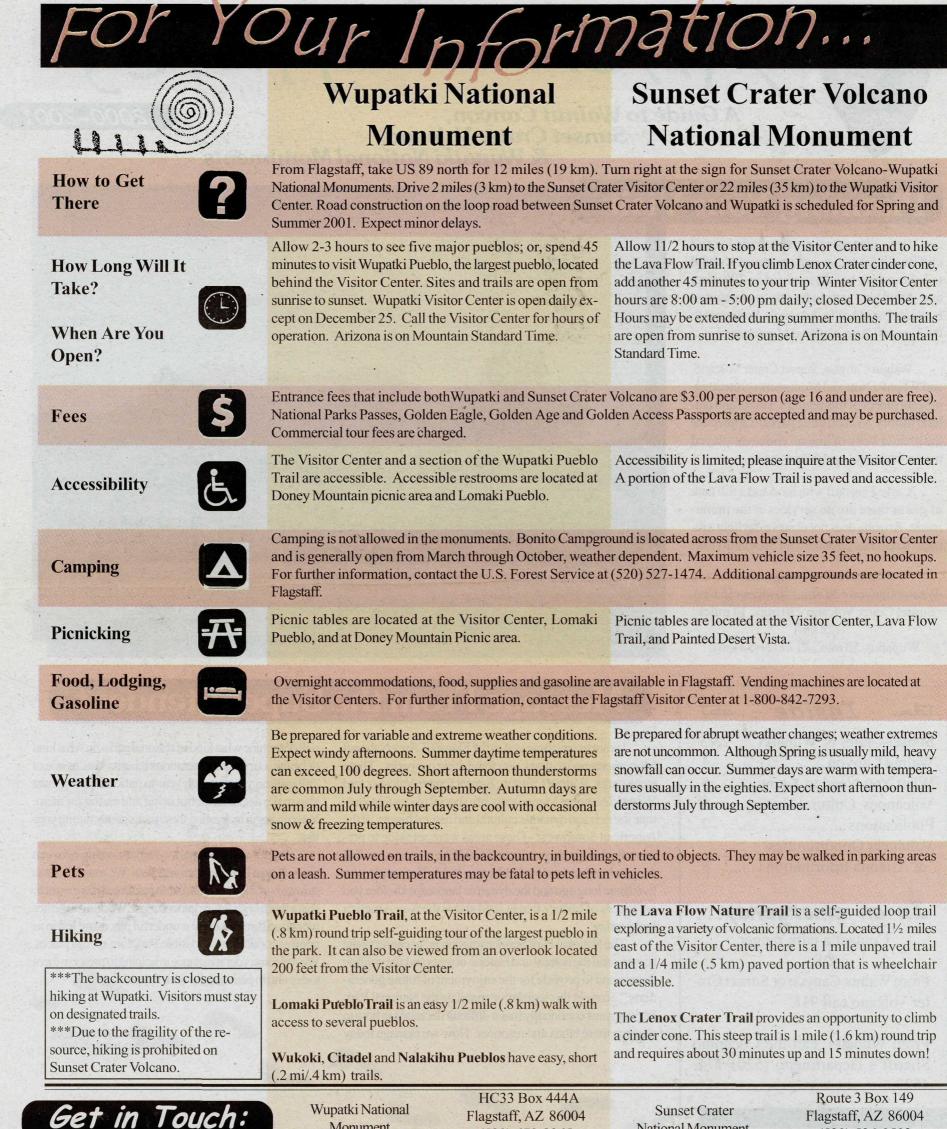
The National Park Service mission is "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of future generations." To meet this legislative mandate the National Park Service must continually make difficult decisions in how to manage these lands and resoures. How we manage today

will determine what kind of national parks, in what kind of health, our future generations inherit. You, as one of 269 million visitors each year to national parks, must also make decisions about using and caring for them. You can begin by treating these parks gently during your visit.

Preserving these parks is a partnership between the National Park Service and you. We must all act as stewards of these irreplaceable resources if we want to share them with future generations. Working together we can ensure that these wonderful places are left in as good as conditions as possible.Parks are special places. We welcome your assistance in helping to preserve them today and in planning for their future.

> Sam Henderson, Superintendent

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Monument

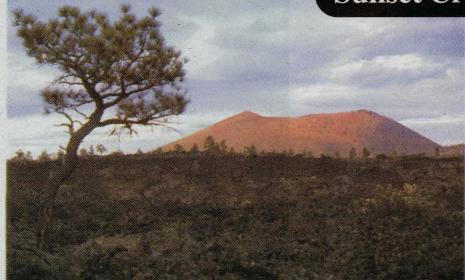
(520) 679-2365 www.nps.gov/wupa

National Monument

(520) 526-0502 www.nps.gov/sucr



### **Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument**



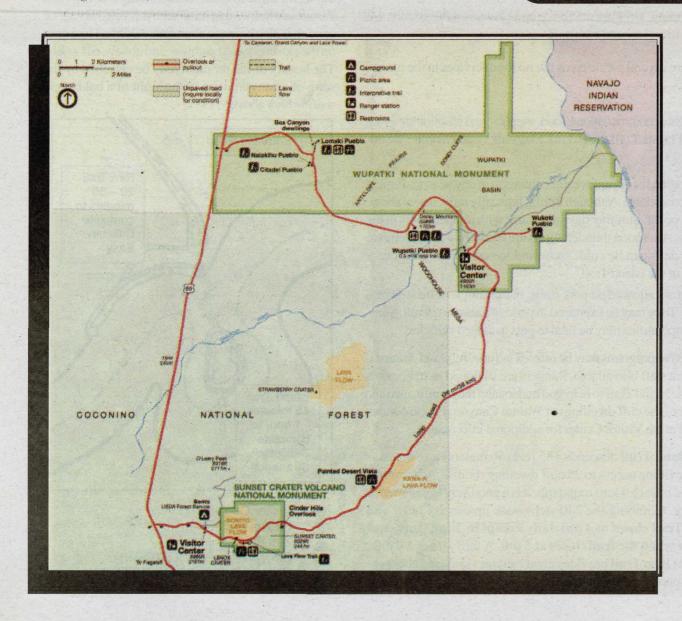
About 900 years ago, people living here undoubtedly witnessed the eruption of Sunset Crater Volcano in A.D. 1065. For approximately 200 years, sporadic eruptions blanketed the region with black cinders and lava flows. The lava flows seem to have cooled and hardened to a jagged surface only yesterday. Squeeze-ups and hornitos are just two of the fascinating volcanic features you'llencounter while exploring the park.Sunset Crater Volcano is often confused with another nearby attraction, Meteor Crater. At Sunset Crater Volcano you will see a cinder cone rising 1,000 feet above the surrounding landscape. Meteor Crater, located 35 miles east of Flagstaff on I-40, is an impact crater measuring over 500 feet deep and 1 mile across.

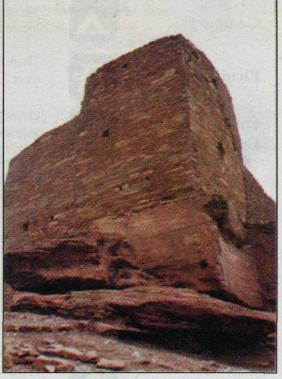
Sunset Crater Volcano

NPS Photo

Getting Here ...

# Wupatki National Monument





Wukoki Pueblo

Photo by: Jessie Grow

Less than 800 years ago, a large agricultural community spread across this volcanic plateau. The warm, arid climate and sparse vegetation make the successes of these pueblo farmers remarkable. Here you'll see stunning artistry in ancient masonry pueblos that emerge from bedrock to stand several stories high.





Hiking



The backcountry of Walnut Canyon is closed to hiking to protect fragile archeological sites.

### Walnut Canyon National Monument

Walnut Canyon Road #3 Flagstaff, AZ 86004 (520) - 526 - 3367www.nps.gov/waca

Leave I-40 at exit 204, 7.5 miles (12 km) east of Flagstaff; drive south 3 miles (5 km) to the canyon rim. Warning: tight turn around for towed vehicles; 40 feet (12 meters) maximum length advisory.

Allow at least 2 hours to see the museum, hike down to the cliff dwellings, and to walk the Rim Trail. Closed December 25.

Park hours: 9am to 5pm: December, January, February

8am to 5pm: March, April, May 8am to 6pm: June, July, August 8am to 5pm: September, October, November Arizona is on Mountain Standard Time

The fee is \$3 per person (age 16 and under free). National Parks Passes, Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and Golden Access Passports are sold and accepted. Commercial tour fees are charged according to vehicle capacity.

Trail accessibility is limited because of terrain; please inquire. Visitor Center is wheelchair accessible as are picnic tables in two locations.

No camping. US Forest Service and private campgrounds are located in and around Flagstaff.

There are several picnic areas but no food services in the monument.

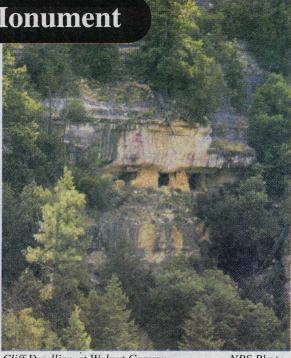
Overnight accommodations, food, supplies, and gasoline are available in Flagstaff (10 mi/16 km). Flagstaff Visitor Center: 1-800-842-7293

Be prepared for abrupt weather changes in any season. Expect windy conditions. Although Spring is usually mild, heavy snowfall can occur. Summer days are warm with temperatures in the eighties. Afternoon thunderstorms are likely July to September. Winter days can be cold; snow and ice can cause temporary closure of the Island Trail.

Pets are not allowed on park trails, in buildings, or tied to fixed objects. They may be exercised in parking areas on a leash. Summer temperatures may be fatal to pets in closed vehicles.

Interpretive programs may be offered in June, July, and August if sufficient staff is available. Rangers are stationed at major sites along the Island Trail to help you understand the significance and wonder of the cliff dwellings at Walnut Canyon. Please contact the staff at the Visitor Center for additional information.

The Island Trail descends 185 feet (56 meters) into the canyon providing access to 25 cliff dwelling rooms. A strenuous 9/10 of a mile (1.4 km) round trip, it is a good way to experience the park. Climbing the 240 steps back up can tax heart and lungs. Trail closes at 4 pm daily except in June, July, and August when the trail closes at 5 pm. A fairly level 3/4 mile (1.2 km) Rim Trail provides great canyon views and access to a small pueblo and pithouse.

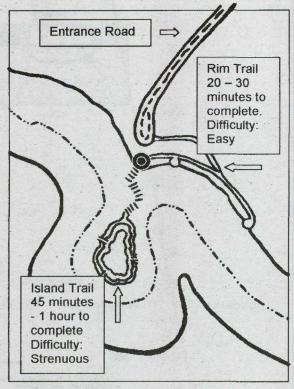


Cliff Dwelling at Walnut Canyon

NPS Photo

More than half a millennium has passed since the voices and laughter of pueblo people filled this canyon. Hundreds of empty cliff homes are evidence they once prospered here. Step back in time as you walk among their homes nestled in the ledges of the canyon. In these single story rooms you might even discover an 800-year-old fingerprint preserved in plaster.

Please respect the canyon. People from around the world come to experience its unique beauty and the ancient homes that have been protected here. The canyon is also home to abundant wildlife. Hike only on the existing paved pathway and always talk softly. The beauty of the moment may be enriched by the song of a canyon wren or the sight of a bald eagle soaring high above.



- **Visitor Center**
- **Hiking Trail** 1
- 240 Steps III
- Canyon Rim 6690ft (2039m) Canyon Bottom 6340ft (1932m)
- 1:1 Road



# What You Need to Know...

While visiting the Flagstaff Area National Monuments, you are responsible for knowing and obeying park rules and regulations. If you have any questions, please contact a park ranger. Here are a few things to remember:

**Observe posted speed limits.** Park roads are not designed for speed. Slow down at dawn and dusk and *watch for animals crossing the road*. Buckle up. Seat belts are required by law.

Hunting and the possession of firearms is prohibited.

Vehicles and bicycles must remain on designated public roadways. Always use signed parking areas and *never stop in the roadway*.

**Do not feed or harm wildlife.** This is home to thousands of different types of animals and they are protected within the parks. Remember these are wild animals -- *Keep a safe distance*. Poisonous snakes and insects are common but not aggressive. Avoid contact with rodents. The White-footed Deer Mouse is a carrier of hantavirus and Prairie Dogs can carry plague.

### Keep Your Feet off the Furniture



Sitting, leaning, walking, or climbing on walls loosens mortar which erodes easily. Walls collapse.

(minimum fine \$50)

### Don't Take the Knickknacks

Parks are not the place to collect rocks, fossils, animals, or plants. Imagine if each of the one million visitors a year to the Flagstaff Area National Monuments took something home. The parks would be stripped bare.

(minimum fine \$250)

### Don't Rearrange the Furniture

Left in place, pieces of pottery and artifacts are valuable clues; rearranged in piles they mean nothing. This behavior deprives other visitors of the thrill of discovering artifacts where they were left a thousand years ago.

It is also illegal to remove them.

(minimum fine \$250)

### Sign the Register not the Rocks



Adding your name, drawings, or inscriptions to rock outcrops, rock art panels, or structures dishonors the timeless qualities and wilderness values of these special places. All visitor centers have guest registers where we invite you to add your mark to ours.

(minimum fine \$250)

# Mountain Lion Encounters

Mountain lions live in these parks. Sightings are rare—an attack is an extremely unlikely event. There is far greater risk of being struck by lightning. However, lions have been frequenting Walnut Canyon and potential exists for a hazardous encounter. To avoid danger, it is important for you to know how to behave in mountain lion country. The following advice is based on information gained from encounters in other areas. It can allow us to more safely share these parks with a truly spectacular animal.

# These actions have resulted in mountain lion attacks:

- $\sqrt{\text{People jogging or hiking alone. It is}}$  advisable to travel in groups.
- $\sqrt{}$  Children running or walking unattended by parents. Keep children close and within sight at all times!



# What to do if you see a mountain lion:

- √ Do not run! Do not approach it! Do not crouch down!
- $\sqrt{\text{Stop! Raise your arms and back away}}$ slowly, facing the lion. Leave the lion an escape route.
- $\sqrt{\text{Pick up small children. Their size and}}$  behavior make them vulnerable.
- $\sqrt{}$  If a lion is aggressive, wave your hands slowly, speak firmly or shout.
- $\sqrt{}$  If attacked, remain standing and fight back.

# House Rules:

A visit to northern Arizona often includes experiencing archeological sites. The dry climate of this region has allowed artifacts and sites of past human activity to survive decomposition and the forces of erosion for hundreds or, in some cases, thousands of years. These fragile remnants face one major threat: an ever-present stream of visitors.

Because damage is cumulative and usually irreversible, it is essential that everyone understand the impact site visits create. Our decisions and actions will determine whether these priceless and nonrenewable traces of the past will exist into the future.

Today descendants of the ancient inhabitants of the pueblos seen at places like Wupatki and Walnut Canyon—primarily members of the Hopi and Zuni tribes—consider these homes not abandoned, but alive with profound spiritual meanings. Please, as a guest in these homes remember these basic house rules:

### By Invitation Only

Visit well-known, signed and mapped sites. These have been stabilized and reinforced and are better able to withstand visitation.

Use established trails to and around sites. Uncontrolled foot traffic around and through sites is one of the most damaging impacts; it rapidly undermines wall foundations and crushes fragile archeological objects and deposits.

At Walnut Canyon and Wupatki, off-trail hiking is prohibited. Think of the cumulative impact created by judgements such as "It's just a couple of us and it's just this one time."



### Making Your Visit Memorable and Fun!

Planning ahead? The following publications, available from Southwest Parks and Monuments Association, are our choices for making the most of your visit to the Flagstaff Area National Monuments.

Wish you had bought that book after all? All of the books, audio and video tapes, maps, and posters available at our visitor centers may be ordered by mail or telephone. Buy a membership to Southwest Parks and Monuments Association and enjoy a 15% discount on your purchase.

### Southwest Parks and Monuments Association

Southwest Parks and Monuments Association was founded in 1938 to aid and promote the educational and sceintific activities of the National Park Service. As a nonprofit organization authorized by Congress, it makes interpretive material available to park visitors by sale or free distribution. All net proceeds support the interpretive and research programs of the National Park Service.

### Getting to Know the National Monuments

### Offical Map and Guides

Wupatki/Sunset Crater Volcano Walnut Canyon

Park maps, safety, regulations, general orientation and introduction to the natural and cultural history of the parks. **\$.25** each.

### Guide to Wupatki and Sunset Crater

Scott Thybony An excellent road guide about the natural and cultural features of both national monuments. 48 pages. **\$5.95.** 

**Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument** *Rose Houk* 

A look at the youngest of over 600 volcanoes found in the San Francisco volcanic field. 16 pages, **\$3.95** 

#### Wupatki National Monument

Susan Lamb An overview of the natural and human history of Wupatki, from past to present. 16 pages, **\$3.95** 

#### Walnut Canyon

Scott Thybony Guide to the cultural and natural history of Walnut Canyon National Monument. 16 pages, **\$3.95** (available in German for **\$4.95**)

### Wupatki and Walnut Canyon, New Perspectives on History, Prehistory, and Rock Art

David Grant Noble Research and analysis has provided new insights presented here in a concise overview. 40 pages, **\$7.95** 

### Letters from Wupatki

*Courtney Reeder Jones* A compilation of letters written to friends and family by the wife of Park Service caretaker Davy Jones during the 1930s. A wonderful glimpse into life at Wupatki before developments and 240,000 visitors a year. 151 pages, **\$13.95** 

### How to Place an Order

### **By Phone**

Telephone orders are encouraged to ensure that you are ordering the publications best suited to your needs. To place an order, please call (520) 526-1157, extension 226.

#### By Mail

Add up the total amount of your order plus shipping cost (see shipping information). Send a check (payable to SPMA) or include your credit card number and expiration date to: SPMA, 6400 N. Highway 89, Flagstaff, AZ 86004.

> Visa and MasterCard are accepted. Prices are subject to change.

Those Who Came Before: Southwestern Archeology in the National Park System Robert and Florence Lister This is an excellent and comprehensive overview of southwestern archeological sites in the National Park System. 184 pages, \$16.95

A companion piece is also available on VHS for \$19.95.

#### **Prehistoric Cultures of the Southwest Series** *Rose Houk*

Each booklet in this five-part series provides an introduction to the evolution, achievements, and lasting legacy of a distinct ancient culture. Please specify *Anasazi*, *Hohokam*, *Mogollon*, *Salado*, or *Sinagua*. 16 pages, **\$3.95** each

### 50 Common Birds of the Southwest

*Richard Cunnigham* An easy reference to the more commonly seen species in the Southwest. 64 pages, **\$7.95** 

#### 70 Common Cacti of the Southwest *Pierre Fisher*

This perennial best-seller describes and depicts 70 common cacti species of the Southwest deserts. 80 pages, **\$7.95** 

### 50 Common Reptiles and Amphibians of the Southwest

Jonathan Hanson and Roseann Beggy Hanson Excellent color photographs make identification easy. 64 pages, **\$7.95** 

#### **Roadside Geology of Arizona** *Halka Chronic*

Explains the spectacular geology of Arizona as seen from a car at specific points along the highways throughout the state. 321 pages, **\$18.00** 

### Volcanoes of Northern Arizona

*Wendell Duffield* An easy-to-understand guide to northern Arizona volcanoes with beautiful graphics and color aerial photographs. Includes several self-guided road tours. 68 pages, **\$14.95** 

#### Shipping Rates

ItemTotal	Shipping Cost
Up to \$4	\$2.00
\$4.01-\$15	\$4.00
\$15.01-\$25	\$5.00
\$25.01-\$50	\$6.00
\$50.01-\$100	\$6.50
Over \$100. Ac	tual postage $+$ \$1.00

Over \$100: Actual postage  $\pm$  \$1.0 International shipments, add \$1.00

Posters, add \$5.00 for mailing tubes and shipping

# For additional publications and information on SPMA, log on to: www.spma.org/



Before you leave home, don't forget to pack your...

.Maps!

#### Arizona State Map

The official state highway map produced by Arizona Highways, also available in German. **\$2.25** 

#### Guide to Indian Country Map Covers the Four Corners area outlining Indian reservations, national parks and monuments, and geologic features. \$3.95

**Recreational Map of Arizona** Detailed travel map with more than 400 recreational sites and 500 points of interest listed. **\$3.95** 

Road Map of Navajo and Hopi Nations Includes detailed maps of Monument Valley, Chaco Culture, and Canyon De Chelly. **\$2.25** 

### ...Hiking and Travel Guides!

The Guide to National Parks of the Southwest Nicki Leach Authoritative and interpretive guide to 52 National Park Service sites in Arizona, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. Color. 80 pages, **\$9.95** 

The Back Roads This Arizona Highways book outlines 20 exciting back road tours for the whole family. 137 pages, \$10.95

#### Flagstaff Hikes

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Richard and Sherry Mangum 146 day hikes around Flagstaff, Arizona. 188 pages, **\$15.95** 



# Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to get to know your parks better? Consider becoming a Volunteer-In-Parks (VIP)! Your skills and enthusiasm are needed in a variety of areas from greeting visitors, to maintaining facilities, to monitoring park resources. VIPs can work part time or full time, year round or for a few months. Housing or RV hook-ups are sometimes available. Want to find out more?

If the idea of volunteering at Wupatki, Walnut Canyon, or Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument appeals to you, please contact us at: Flagstaff Areas Volunteer Program Attn: Volunteer Program Coordinator 6400 N. Highway 89 Flagstaff, AZ 86004 (520) 526-1157

... see You soon !!

### **Exploring Northern Arizona**

Flagstaff and the country surrounding the city contain some of the most fascinating and beautiful sites in the Southwest. Within an 80-mile radius of Flagstaff, a day on the road can take you from lush, green forests to the rugged, colorful desert.

The city invites you to learn about the natural and cultural history of the area through its museums, arboretum, astronomical observatory, and historical sites.

Public lands surrounding Flagstaff offer a diversity of resources and recreational activities, including scenic drives, hiking and backpacking, camping, horseback riding, skiing, mountain biking, rock climbing, wildlife viewing, and photography.

From deep red rock canyons to high mountain peaks, one is enticed to get out and see the area. For more information, contact the Flagstaff Visitor Center. Flagstaff Visitor Center 1 E. Route 66, Flagstaff, AZ 86001 (520) 774-9541 or 1-800-842-7293. Lodging, dining, events, and area attractions. Open daily.

These central offices can also assist you in planning your visit.

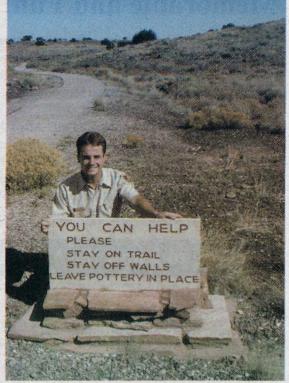
### **National Park Service**

Flagstaff Area National Monuments 6400 N. Hwy 89, Flagstaff, AZ 86004 (520) 526-1157. Information on Walnut Canyon, Sunset Crater Volcano and Wupatki Open weekdays.

**Coconino National Forest** Supervisors Office, 2323 Greenlaw Lane, Flagstaff, AZ 86004 (520) 527-3600 Information on camping, hiking, fishing, and other recreational activities. Open weekdays.

Hopi Reservation Hopi Tribal Council P.O. Box 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039 (520) 734-2441

Navajo Nation P.O. Box 663, Window Rock, AZ 86515-0663 (520) 871-6436 or 871-7371



NPS Volunteer Ryan Newby Photo by: C. Funk

## Green Energy Parks:

Making the National Parks a Showcase for Sustainable Energy Future

In April 1999, the Department of Interior and the Department of Energy formed a partnership called "Green Energy Parks: Making the National Parks a Showcase for Sustainable Energy Future". The goal is to promote the use of energy efficient and renewable energy technologies and practices in our national parks, while educating the public about these efforts.

Each of the Flagstaff Area parks is implementing environmentally friendly cleaning products and eliminating all toxic materials from within the parks. And, they continue to fine tune their recycling program.

By being environmental leaders, the National Park Service hopes to educate park visitors, local residents, businesses, and schools about the impact of conventional energy use on natural and cultural resources. What can you do to reduce energy use and adopt environmentally safe practices?



Printing of the Ancient Times is made possible by a donation from Southwest Parks and Monuments Association. No government funds are expended. This guide is printed with soy ink on recycled paper. Please recycle or share it with a friend.