

Cooperative Activities

National Park Service

The National Park Service is committed to the idea that parks and recreation are legitimate concerns of people everywhere. We believe that state and city parks, those that cross international boundaries, and preserved areas in other countries, as well as national parks, add to the world's well being. Preserving and enjoying the place—whether for tennis or the view—are more important than who manages the area.

To show this concern for parks everywhere, the National Park Service established the Office of Cooperative Activities giving it the responsibility to work out means for exchanging information and providing technical assistance among public and private groups. Publications, periodicals, training courses, and exchanges of individuals for short-term assignments in park areas are examples of assistance the Service makes available within the framework of Federal regulations and executive and legislative directives.

Other Federal agencies, state and local governments, Native American tribes and universities are presently involved with the Service in many different programs resulting in the sharing of knowledge and services.

Reimbursable assistance is available upon request to National Park Service regional offices or the Washington offices described in this leaflet.

Federal and State Liaison

This Division coordinates national park and recreation assistance programs on matters in which the National Park Service has specific expertise. These include:

Park Practice Publications—a series of technical periodicals published cooperatively with the National Recreation and Park Association. Available by subscription to NRPA. *TRENDS*—48-page quarterly keeping park managers informed of new ideas and directions in the park and recreation profession.

GRIST—tested ideas that can be implemented in almost any park—maintenance, safety, and security tips, ways to recycle materials and conserve energy—all suggested by practitioners in the field. Published bi-monthly.

DESIGN—Over 1,000 plans available for well-designed structures suitable in park and recreation settings. Published quarterly.

Training Institute for Park and Recreation Management—training, consultation and advisory services to requesting state and local governments on a reimbursable basis. Specialized training instructors with practical park experience serve as instructors for on-site courses in such subjects as Ranger Training, Maintenance Operations and Interpretive Skills.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act—facilitating the exchange of individuals between federal, state and local agencies, universities, and Native American tribes.

The National Park Service believes that parks belong to everyone. They are part of the inheritance we will leave to our children and their children. Our job is to help make it easier for all park people to work together for the protection and wise use of our common heritage.

International Park Affairs

Over 100 countries have now imported the idea of national parks or protected areas—a concept that began with the setting aside of Yellowstone as the first national park in the world in 1872.

Most nations have adapted the park idea to fit the geographic, climatic, or economic needs of their people and the NPS has provided a limited amount of advice and consultation as park systems developed. Recently, however, a heightened awareness of world-wide ecological stresses has emerged and a sense of urgency developed for strengthening conservation relationships between countries.

In response, the U.S. National Park Service makes information, training, advice, direct on-site assistance, as well as park personnel available to requesting countries for help in establishing or maintaining national park systems. Working with the U.S. State Department and Federal land-managing agencies, the Park Service implements U.S. treaties with other countries for the protection of natural and cultural heritage around the world.

Current program emphasis includes:

- Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere
- The Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
- Peace Corps
- International Seminar on the Administration of National Parks and Equivalent Reserves
- PARKS Magazine
- Man and the Biosphere Program
- Canadian and Mexican Border Cooperation
- Foreign Excess Currency Program/Endangered Species Habitat Protection

Professional Publications Division

This publishing office was established to encourage the publication of the results of park service research in archeology, history, and other disciplines. It selects manuscripts for publication, works with the authors on improvements when necessary, and works through editing and design to the final book or report. The office also acts as a source of information for private sector publishers, whether not-for-profit or commercial, who may be interested in publishing material related to the parks. Publications issued through the division are available from the Superintendent of Documents. Recent publications include studies of Appalachian Mountain culture and of the use of remote sensing techniques for cultural resource management.

Native American Assistance

The National Park Service has always had a productive relationship with the Bureau of Indian Affairs in the Department of the Interior and Native American tribes. Many national parks in the west adjoin tribal lands and the interpretation of native culture is an important element in many park programs.

Assistance to requesting tribes is available through regional offices for a variety of projects utilizing National Park Service expertise.

Through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act, exchanges of NPS individuals with Native American tribes and the use of Native Americans on training assignments at national park sites are in progress. Other examples of current assistance efforts include site planning and operation and resource development help as requested by Native American tribes or tribal organizations.

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Regional Programs

As the leader in the park and recreation movement since the establishment of the National Park System in 1916, the Service has felt a responsibility to share its knowledge and its people with others in the land managing profession. During the past 10 years, there has been increasing awareness of the need for cooperation among those at the state and local as well as national park level. A recognition that there is much to be gained by learning what others are doing. New legislation such as the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act have made it easier for cooperation to exist and grow.

North Atlantic Regional Office
15 State St.
Boston, MA 02109
(Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont,
Massachusetts, Rhode Island,
Connecticut, New York, New Jersey)

National Capital Regional Office
1100 Ohio Dr., SW
Washington, DC 20242
(District of Columbia, some units
in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia)

Southeast Regional Office
1895 Phoenix Blvd.
Atlanta, GA. 30349
(Kentucky, Tennessee, North
Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi,
Alabama, Georgia, Florida,
Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands)

Midwest Regional Office
1709 Jackson St.
Omaha, NE 68102
(Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin,
Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri,
Nebraska, Kansas)

Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225
(Montana, North Dakota, South
Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado)

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office
143 South Third St.
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(Pennsylvania, Maryland, West
Virginia, Delaware, Virginia, excluding
parks assigned to National
Capital Region)

Southwest Regional Office
P.O. Box 728
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma,
New Mexico, northeast corner of Arizona)

Western Regional Office
Box 36063
450 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
(California, Nevada, most of
Arizona, Hawaii)

Pacific Northwest Regional Office
601 Fourth and Pike Building
Seattle, WA 98101
(Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska)

Most of the National Park Service's assistance and exchange programs take place at the regional level and are concerned with the forms of specialized knowledge relating to the park and recreation profession. Two Training Centers, and Design and Construction facilities, also make information available. Organizations and individuals wishing further information are encouraged to write directly to the region in which they live.

The National Park Service administers the System through nine Regional Offices. The addresses of these offices and their areas of responsibility follow:

Other useful addresses:

Denver Service Center
National Park Service
755 Parfet Street
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

Harpers Ferry Center
National Park Service
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Stephen T. Mather Training
Center
P.O. Box 27
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Horace M. Albright Training
Center
P.O. Box 477
Grand Canyon, AZ 86023