Welcome to Grand Teton National Park

Few landscapes in the world are as striking and memorable as that of Grand Teton National Park. The Teton Range, the central feature and focus of the park, draws the eyes for miles, captivating park visitors and local residents alike. For generations, the Tetonians have touched all who have witnessed their beauty.

Rising abruptly from the valley floor, the Tetonas offer a testament to the power and complexity of nature. The mountains, valleys, lakes, rivers, and skies are home to diverse and abundant plants and animals. People have been living in the shadow of the Teton Range for almost 11,000 years. The human history of this area is extensive, beginning with American Indian prehistoric life, to the early Euro-American explorers, and the more relatively recent frontier settlement, which left more than 300 historic structures.

This spectacular mountain range and the desire to protect it resulted in the establishment of Grand Teton National Park in 1929. Over time, through the vision and generous philanthropy of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., additional lands were added, creating the present-day park. This area continues to be protected through the combined efforts of the National Park Service, the local community, and Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem partners. Grand Teton National Park is a dynamic example of people from all walks of life working together to protect a mountain range and its surrounding landscape of natural and human communities.

Grand Teton National Park is truly a special and unique place. With thoughtful use and careful management, it can remain so for generations to come. As with other sites in the National Park System, Grand Teton preserves a piece of the natural and cultural heritage of America for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

While you are here, take a moment to put your cares aside, stroll through a grassy meadow, hike a park trail, sit on a quiet lakeshore, and lose yourself to the power of this place. We hope you will be refreshed and restored during your visit, and stay connected to this magnificent landscape long after you have returned home.

Contact Information

Grand Teton National Park’s website ........................................www.nps.gov/gte/

EMERGENCY ..............................................................................911
Park Dispatch ........................................................................(307) 739-3301
Visitor Information .................................................................(307) 739-3300
Weather ....................................................................................(307) 739-3611
Road Conditions ......................................................................(307) 739-3682
Backcountry & River Information ............................................(307) 739-3602
Climbing Information ...............................................................(307) 739-3604
Camping Information ...............................................................(307) 739-3603
TDD (Telecommunication Device for the Hearing Impaired) .......(307) 739-3400

International Visitors

Des renseignements en Francais sont disponibles aux centres des visiteurs dans le parc.
Sie können Informationen auf Deutsch in den Besucherzentren bekommen.
Se puede conseguir información en Español en el Centro del Visitante.

Accessibility information available at visitor centers and on www.nps.gov/grte

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**Gros Ventre**

**Vistor Center**
- Moose Visitor Center
  - Year-round
  - (307) 543-3100
  - Located in Jackson. All services available, visitor center located at 532 N. Cache.

**Lodging**
- Moose Visitor Center
  - Year-round
  - (307) 739-3399
  - NPS visitor center, open 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. in summer, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. other seasons.

**Food Service**
- Moose Visitor Center
  - Year-round
  - (307) 733-2422
  - Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits.

**Campground**
- Moose Visitor Center
  - Year-round
  - (307) 733-2415 x203
  - One- and two-bedroom cabins with kitchens, located on the Snake River.

**South Jenny Lake**

**Visitor Center**
- Jenny Lake Visitor Center
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 733-3932
  - Traditional western fare. Open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

**Lodging**
- Jenny Lake Visitor Center
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 733-2271
  - NPS visitor center, located south of Jenny Lake, very rustic accommodations.

**Future & Seasonal**
- Jenny Lake Visitor Center
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 543-3100
  - Open daily. Breakfast 7-11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., dinner 5:30-10 p.m.

**North Jenny Lake**

**Food Service**
- Lodge Dining Room
  - May-Sept 30
  - (307) 734-8277
  - Breakfast 7-9:30 a.m., lunch 12-1:30 p.m., dinner 6-8:45 p.m.

**Gift Shops**
- Jenny Lake Campground
  - May 12-Sept 24
  - (307) 733-2415 x301
  - Books, gift items, and souvenirs.

**Signal Mountain**

**Lodging**
- Signal Mountain Lodge
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 543-3100
  - Log style units.

**Food Service**
- Signal Mountain Lodge
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 543-3100
  - Open daily for breakfast, dinner, 5:30-10 p.m. Hours vary during shoulder seasons.

**South Jenny Lake**

**Food Service**
- Lodge Dining Room
  - May 14-Sept 30
  - (307) 733-2415 x302
  - Modified American Plan.

**South Jenny Lake**

**Service Stations**
- Highway Station
  - Apr 30-Oct 15
  - (307) 733-2415 x302
  - Gas, diesel, beverages, snacks, souvenirs, and firewood.

**Flagg Ranch**

**Visitor Center**
- Flagg Ranch Information Station
  - June 6-Sept 4
  - (307) 543-2372
  - NPS visitor center, open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. May 13-May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. May 28-Sept 4, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept 5-Oct 8.

**Lodging**
- Flagg Ranch Resort
  - May 15-Oct 9
  - (307) 543-2861
  - Log style units.

**Food Service**
- Flagg Ranch Resort
  - May 15-Oct 9
  - (307) 543-2861
  - Log style menu, breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

**Campground**
- Flagg Ranch Campground
  - May 27-Oct 30
  - (307) 543-2881
  - Scenic and wildlife trips

**Recycling**
- Recycling stations are located throughout the park. Please check at any visitor center or convenience store for more information.

**Medical Services**
- Medical Emergencies
  - St. John's Medical Center
    - Late May-Early Oct.
    - (307) 733-8636
    - 911

- Medical Emergencies
  - Grand Teton Medical Clinic
    - Late May-Early Oct.
    - (307) 733-2514
    - 911

**Worship Services**
- Interdenominational
  - Various Park Campgrounds
    - Episcopal
      - Chapel of Transfiguration L.D.S.
        - May 28-Sept 4
        - (307) 733-2063 x102
        - Sunday, Evangelist 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

- Interdenominational
  - Various Park Campgrounds
    - Roman Catholic
      - Chapel of the Sacred Heart
        - June 1-Sept 30
        - (307) 733-2516
        - Call for times and dates.
The Teton Range dominates the skyline of Grand Teton National Park, drawing the attention of all who pass through Jackson Hole. The geologic events that created this dramatic scenery influence the distribution and abundance of the plants and animals found here. Herbivores—plant-eating animals like moose, mule deer, and elk—inherit areas where their food exists.

The Teton Range exists due to movement on the Teton fault located along the eastern range front. Starting so to 15 million years ago, a series of massive earthquakes—signaling movement on the fault—caused the mountain block to tilt skyward and the valley block to drop. Every few thousand years, regional stretching breaks the bedrock generating earthquakes up to magnitude 7.5. Each of these jolts offsets the Earth’s surface by up to ten feet. Today, the mountains rise 7,000 feet above Jackson Hole and the ancient valley floor has dropped 15-25,000 feet. Therefore, the total offset on the fault is up to 30,000 feet—or five to six miles.

The climate cooled nearly two million years ago, and Ice Age glaciers began to sculpt the landscape. Periodically ice sheets up to 3,500 feet thick covered most of what is now Yellowstone National Park. The last glacial cirques, U-shaped canyons, and polished bedrock. These glaciers spilled from the canyons onto the valley floor, gouging out basins and depositing moraines. Terminal moraines mark the furthest extent of the glaciers’ flow and create natural dams for lakes such as Leigh, Jenny, Bradley, Taggart, and Phelps.

Poorely developed, rocky soils cover most of Jackson Hole. As the climate warmed, glacial ice melted and flowed south through the valley. Floodwaters washed away topsoil and left behind glacial outwash plains of sand, gravel, and cobbles. Sagebrush, grasses, and wildflowers have adapted to thrive in this rocky, semi-arid landscape. Some mammals and birds favor the sagebrush flats. Bison graze on grasses, pronghorn eat sagebrush, and sage grouse, large chicken-like birds, eat sagebrush leaves.

The Snake River continues to cut through glacial moraines and outwash plains leaving behind older river terraces that step down to the present channel. Cottonwood and spruce trees, home to bald eagles, grow along the Snake River. Beavers occasionally dam side channels of the Snake River, establishing ponds that Canada geese and ducks use for nesting and feeding. Moose and beavers eat willows that flourish in wetlands along the river. Willows and other wetland plants provide cover and nest sites for a multitude of songbirds.

As you explore Grand Teton National Park, read its landscape. Note the handiwork of glaciers on the mountains and canyons, and the old river terraces carved by the Snake River. Watch for the wildlife habitat that provides clues to the ancient processes that formed and shaped this area.

Peak Names

Static Peak
In the Teton Range north of Death Canyon. Named because it is often hit by lightning.

Buck Mountain
Named for George A. Buck, recorder for T.M. Bannon’s 1889 mapping party. Bannon gave the name “Buck Station” to the triangulation station he and George Buck established on the summit in 1889.

Grand Teton
Highest mountain in the Teton Range. Named by French trappers. Upon viewing the Teton Range from the west, the trappers dubbed the South, Middle, and Grand, Les Tres Tonnons, meaning “the three breasts.” Wilson Price Hunt called them “Pilot Knobs” in 1811 because he had used them for orientation while crossing Union Pass. In his Journal of a Trapper, Osborne Russel said that the Shoshone Indians named the peaks “Hoary Headed Fathers.”

Mount Owen

Teewinot
Towers above Cascade Canyon and Jenny Lake. Its name comes from the Shoshone word meaning “many pinacles.” Teewinot probably once applied to the entire Teton Range, rather than just this one peak. Fritiof Fryxell and Phil Smith named the peak when they successfully climbed the Grand Teton from the west, the trappers dubbed the South, Middle, and Grand, Les Tres Tonnons, meaning “the three breasts.” Wilson Price Hunt called them “Pilot Knobs” in 1811 because he had used them for orientation while crossing Union Pass. In his Journal of a Trapper, Osborne Russel said that the Shoshone Indians named the peaks “Hoary Headed Fathers.”

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The Migration Dilemma

Birds serve as colorful, sweet-sounding indicators of biodiversity. The return of migratory birds each spring seems as certain as spring itself. National parks like Grand Teton provide sanctuary for many species. Unfortunately, many of our birds spend only a part of their lives within national park protection. When birds fly south each fall, they face numerous perils. Human-caused habitat changes have fragmented forests, removing safe feeding and roosting areas along migration corridors. Birds that migrate as far as the tropics may lose their winter ranges due to deforestation.

Birdwatchers and scientists alike have become concerned about the future of migratory birds. Become involved by enjoying birds in your backyard and during your travels. At home, plant native vegetation to provide food, shelter and rest sites for migratory birds. Protect birds by keeping your cats indoors. Assist scientists measuring bird population changes by participating in bird counts and surveys, such as the annual Christmas Bird Count and the North American Migration Count. Find out about the Partners in Flight program in your home state. Use your interest and knowledge of birds to help assure their future!

For Wildlife Observers and Photographers

Be a responsible wildlife observer. Remember that patience is rewarded. Use binoculars, spotting scopes or long lenses for close views and photographs. Always maintain a safe distance of at least 100 feet from large animals such as bears, bison, moose, and elk. Never position yourself between an adult and its offspring. Females with young are especially defensive.

It is illegal to feed wildlife, including ground squirrels and birds. Feeding wild animals makes them dependent on people, and animals often bite the hand that feeds them.

Do not harass wildlife. Harassment is any human action that causes unusual behavior, or a change of behavior in an animal. Repeated encounters with people have negative, long-term impacts on wildlife, including increased levels of stress and the avoidance of essential feeding areas.

Please remember, nesting birds are easily disturbed. For wildlife, raising young is a private affair. If an adult bird on a nest flies off at your approach, circles you, or screams in alarm – you are too close to the nest. Unattended nestlings readily succumb to predation and exposure to heat, cold, and wet weather.

Allow other visitors a chance to enjoy wildlife. If your actions cause an animal to flee, you have deprived other visitors of a viewing opportunity. Use an animal’s behavior as a guide to your actions, and limit the time you spend with wildlife, just as you would when visiting a friend’s home. Follow all park regulations and policies.

Give Wildlife a Brake®

Moose, bison, elk, mule deer, pronghorn, black and grizzly bears – a host of large animals inhabit Grand Teton National Park, the Rockefeller Parkway, Yellowstone National Park, and surrounding areas. Animals are on roads and highways at any time of the day or night. For your own safety and for the protection of wildlife, please drive carefully and stay alert.

What Kind of Bear is That?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grizzly Bear</th>
<th>Black Bear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Color</td>
<td>Color</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranges from blond to nearly black, sometimes have silver-tipped hairs that give them a grizzled appearance.</td>
<td>Color is not a reliable indicator of the species. Contrary to their name, black bears are often brown, cinnamon, and/or blond in color.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Features

Grizzly bears have a distinct, or concave, facial profile and a large hump of heavy muscle above the shoulders. Their claws are long and relatively straight, extending two or more inches (5 cm) beyond their toes.

Black bears have a straight facial profile and lack a large hump above the shoulders. Their claws are short and curved, usually not extending more than 1.5 inches (4 cm) beyond their toes.

Where to Look For Wildlife

Always Keep a Safe Distance When Viewing Wildlife

All animals require food, water, and shelter. Each species also has particular living space, or habitat, requirements. To learn more about wildlife habitats and animal behavior, attend ranger-led activities.

OXWOO BEND

One mile east of Jackson Lake Junction. Slow-moving water provides habitat for fish such as suckers and trout, which become food for river otters, ospreys, bald eagles, American white pelicans, and common mergansers. Look for swimming bears and muskrats. Moose browse on abundant willows at the water’s edge. Elk occasionally graze in open aspen groves to the east.

TIMBERED ISLAND

A forested ridge southeast of Jenny Lake. Small bands of pronghorn antelope, the fastest North American land mammal, forage on nearby sagebrush throughout the day. Elk leave the shade of Timbered Island at dawn and dusk to eat the grasses growing among the surrounding sagebrush. View wildlife from your vehicle.

MORMON ROW

East of Highway 26/89/18, one mile north of Moose Junction. Along Mormon Row and Antelope Flats Road, bison and pronghorn can be seen grazing in spring, summer, and fall. Also watch for coyotes, Northern harriers, and American kestrels hunting mice, Uinta ground squirrels, and grasshoppers in open fields. Sage grouse, sage thrashers, and sparrows also frequent the area.

SNAKE RIVER

Jackson Lake Dam south to Moose. Elk and bison graze in grassy meadows along the river. Bison also eat grasses in the sagebrush flats on the benches above the river. Bald eagles, ospreys, and great blue herons build large stick nests within sight of the river. Beavers and moose eat willows that line the waterway.

CASCADE CANYON

West of Jenny Lake. Look for, but do not feed, golden-mantled ground squirrels at Inspiration Point. Pikas and yellow-bellied marmots live in scattered boulder fields. Mule deer and moose occasionally browse on shrubs growing at the mouth of the canyon. Listen for the numerous songbirds that nest in the canyon.

BLACKTAIL PONDS

Half-mile north of Moose on Highway 26/89/18. Old beaver ponds have filled in and now support grassy meadows where elk graze during the cooler parts of the day. Several kinds of ducks feed in the side channels of the Snake River. Moose browse on willows growing along the river.

JESS LEE

Rockefeller Parkway, Yellowstone National Park.
Natural Communities in the Park

The natural systems of Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole create a magnificent environment showcasing an incredible diversity of vegetation and wildlife. Many natural communities in the park are defined by the plants and animals that live within them.

**Alpine Communities**
Plants and animals in the alpine community survive in the harshest of Grand Teton’s environments. High elevation, long winters, and short summers present special challenges to the inhabitants above tree line. Summer is short and intense, with long, bright days and cold nights. Lichens cling to rocks and miniature, low-growing mat-forming plants, such as phlox and pasqueflowers, guard themselves from wind and cold by growing only inches above the soil. Since bees are infrequent, many alpine flowers have unpleasant odors to attract pollinating flies and other insects. The insects in turn attract horned larks and white-crowned sparrows. The alpine forget-me-not rewards hikers with its vibrant blue color. Yellow-bellied marmots often sun themselves on rocky hillsides as Clark’s nutcrackers fly overhead. Tiny rabbit-like pikas spend the warm months collecting and storing food for the long winter. Golden eagles sometimes soar on warm air currents searching for prey. By the time snow falls, most alpine residents have moved to lower elevations or begun a long winter hibernation.

**Forest Communities**
There are a number of forest communities in Grand Teton National Park. Because of the variations in the height of trees, shrubs, and grasses, forests support a wide variety of animal species. The most extensive of the forest communities is the lodgepole pine forest community, which extends from the southern portion of Yellowstone National Park and along the lower elevations of the Tetons to the south end of the range. Elk and male deer find shade here during sunny, summer days. Red squirrels inhabit the trees, gathering seeds and storing them for the long winter. Snowshoe hares, deer mice, and red-backed voles are among the small mammals found on the forest floor. Black and grizzly bears, short-tailed weasels (ermine) and pine martens prey upon smaller animals. Colorful western tanagers fly through the less dense parts of the forest canopy. Other forest communities include Douglas fir and spruce-fir forest communities. Stands of Douglas fir are found on either dry, south-facing slopes up to about 8,000 feet or on dry north-facing slopes at lower elevations. Voles, mice, and gophers also live here; they are hunted by great horned owls. Other birds found amongst the Douglas fir include chickadees, nuthatches, pine siskins, Cassin’s finches, and dark-eyed juncos.

Spruce-fir forests are dominated by Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir and are often located at higher elevations. Moose feed extensively on subalpine fir in the winter months and elk and deer use these forests at other times during the year. Other mammals can be found here, including long-tailed weasels, pine martens, mountain lions, and the rare wolverine. Williamson’s sapsuckers, hairy woodpeckers, Steller’s and gray jays, olive-sided flycatchers, and mountain chickadees are among the birds occupying this forest type.

**Sagebrush Communities**
The sagebrush community is the most visible community in Grand Teton, covering most of the valley floor. Rocky, well-drained soils make it difficult for most plants to survive, but hardy big sage, low sage, antelope bitterbrush, and more than 20 species of grasses thrive here. Though it appears barren and sparse, this is a surprisingly diverse community. Sage grouse use sage for food, shelter, and nesting sites. Arrowleaf balsamroot and spring beauty add spring color to the silvery green of the flats. Small mammals such as Uinta ground squirrels, deer mice and least chipmunks make their homes here. Badgers can sometimes be seen digging burrows while coyotes and wolves may lope across the cobbly plains. Pronghorn are summer residents on the sagebrush flats; they must migrate south to avoid deep winter snows. Large herds of elk feed on the grasses during the morning and evening hours of spring, summer, and fall. Areas where bitterbrush is abundant are good foraging places for moose, especially in fall and winter. Birders can find western meadowlarks, sage thrashers, green-tailed towhees, vesper and Brewer’s sparrows, and raptors of many kinds among the sage.

**Wetland Communities**
Wetland and aquatic communities in and around rivers, lakes, and marshes are those that are dominated by water. The Snake River and its tributaries drain the mountains surrounding Jackson Hole, providing a rich habitat for a variety of wildlife. Trout and other fish are a valuable food source for bald eagles, ospreys, and river otters. The slower-moving braided channels of the river are home to beavers, otters, muskrats, and several reptiles and amphibians. The Oxbow Bend is an excellent area to find white pelicans, great blue herons, and a variety of waterfowl. Moose feed on aquatic plants and browse on streamside vegetation.
Self-Guiding Trails around the Park

Sample the cultural history, natural history, and mystery of Jackson Hole. Obtain free trail guides at visitor centers and trailheads. Expanded versions of the trail guides for Cascade Canyon, Taggart Lake and the Colter Bay area are also sold at park visitor centers.

CASCADE CANYON TRAIL
Follow part or all of the Cascade Canyon Trail. From the east shore boat dock to Inspiration Point the distance is 5.8 miles roundtrip (2.2 miles via shuttle boat).

CUNNINGHAM CABIN TRAIL
Cunningham Cabin is located 6 miles south of Moran. Take a 1/2 mile walk to learn about the early ranching history of Jackson Hole.

FLAGS RANCH AREA
The Pocolate Creek Loop Trail (2.3 miles) and nearby Flaggy Canyon Trail (3.0 miles roundtrip) offer scenic hiking opportunities. Leaflets available at visitor centers.

MENOR'S FERRY TRAIL
A 1/2-mile loop begins at the Chapel of the Transfiguration parking lot in Moose, and passes Bill Menor's cabin and ferry, and an exhibit of historic photographs at the Maud Noble cabin.

Taggart Lake Trail
The 3.2-mile Taggart Lake Trail traverses a major portion of the 5,028-acre Beaver Creek fire of 1985. The trail begins at the Taggart Lake parking area, 3 miles northwest of Moose.

ACCESS TRAIL AT STRING LAKE
A paved trail follows the shore of String Lake for 1/2-mile. Wayside exhibits explain the formation of glacial lakes.

COLTER BAY AREA
A variety of trails lead from the vicinity of the Colter Bay Visitor Center, including the Lakeshore Trail, paved for 1/3-mile.

FIRE WAYSIDES
Interpretive signs at Cottonwood Creek picnic area, String Lake, and Jackson Lake overlook explain various aspects of fire ecology and local fire history.

SCENIC TOURNOUTS
Consult interpretive signs at scenic turnouts to learn about the natural history and geology of the Teton Range and Jackson Hole.

This is Bear Country

A DEAD BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR
Bears become aggressive after even one encounter with human food. Unfortunately, people often feed bears without realizing it. Bears often get food from backpacks and coolers that are left unattended in campgrounds or along trails. Remember, bears can be anywhere in the park at any time, even if you can’t see them. Help keep park bears wild and safe. Keep your food items safe from bears by locking them in your car or a bear box. Failure to follow regulations is a violation of federal law and may result in citations and fines.

KEEP A CLEAN CAMP
After eating and before leaving camp or sleeping, assure that you have a clean, bear-proof campsite.

■ All food, containers, and utensils must be stored in a bear box or hidden in a closed, locked vehicle with windows rolled up. The only exceptions are during the transport, preparation, and eating of food.
■ Trash and garbage must be stored in the same manner as food, or placed in bear-resistant trash cans or dumpsters.

■ Treat odorous products such as soap, deodorant, toothpaste, suntan lotion, and perfumes in the same manner as food.
■ For your safety, absolutely no food, foodstuffs, garbage, or odorous products may be stored in tents or sleeping bags.
■ Ice chests, thermoses, water containers, barbecue grills, stoves, dishes, and pans must be stored in the same way as food—hidden inside a locked auto or bear box.

BEAR ETIQUETTE
■ If you encounter a bear, do not run. If the bear is unaware of you, detour quickly and quietly. If the bear is aware but has not acted aggressively, back slowly away while talking in an even tone.
■ Never approach a bear for any reason.
■ Never allow a bear to get human food. If approached while eating, put food away and retreat to a safe distance (100 yards/91 meters).
■ Never abandon food because of an approaching bear. Always take it with you.

Help Save Our Bears!
Help us keep our bears wild and healthy. Don’t leave backpacks, coolers, or bags containing food unattended for ANY amount of time. Take them with you or put them in a car or bear box. Even food that is left out accidentally can mean removal or death for a bear. Report all bear sightings and incidents to a visitor center or ranger station.

■ Never throw your pack or food at a bear in an attempt to distract it.
■ Never bury food scraps, containers, or fish entrails. Put them in garbage cans.
■ Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended in camp. Bears are active day and night.
For Your Safety

PLANTS & ANIMALS All plants and animals are part of the natural processes and are protected within the park. Leave plants and animals in their natural setting for others to enjoy. Even picking wildflowers is prohibited. Keep a respectful distance from all animals to avoid disturbing their natural routines. Larger animals are quick, powerful, and unpredictable. Getting too close can result in serious injury. Take special care to avoid encounters with bears and to help maintain their natural fear of humans. Many small animals can carry diseases and should never be touched or handled. Allow them to find their own food. The park management issues their health and survival. No matter how convincingly the animals beg, feeding is prohibited.

HIKING Hikers are reminded to stay on trails; shortcutting is prohibited because it damages fragile vegetation and causes erosion. Visitor centers and the Jenny Lake Ranger Station sell topographic maps and inexpensive trail guides. Steady footwear is essential. Know your limitations when traveling in the backcountry. If you are traveling alone, letting a friend or relative know where you plan to go, the time you expect to return, and expected time of return will greatly increase your chance of survival in an emergency. Permits are not required for day hiking. Trailhead parking areas fill early during the day in July and August, so start your hike early to avoid parking problems. In spring, mornings are snow-covered and you may need an ice axe.

FISHING Whitefish and cutthroat trout, and brown trout inhabit lakes and rivers of the park and parkway. Obtain fishing regulations at the Moose, Jenny Lake, or Colter Bay visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required for fishing in the park and parkway and may be purchased at Signal Mountain Lodge, Colter Bay Marina, Colter Bay Village Store, and Flagg Ranch Lodge. Fishing in Yellowstone National Park requires a separate permit (fee charged); purchase permits at Yellowstone visitor centers and ranger stations. The use of non-native baitfish is prohibited in all parks.

BACKPACKING Grand Teton National Park has more than 375 miles of trails of varying difficulty. Obtain the required free backcountry permit for overnight trips at the Moose or Colter Bay visitor centers or the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. One-third of backcountry campsites in high use areas may be reserved in advance from January 1 - May by writing the park; there is a fee of $8 per reservation. Pets are not allowed on park trails or in the backcountry.

CAMPFIRES Campfires are allowed without a permit at designated campgrounds and picnic areas within or designed fire rings, unless fire restrictions are in effect. A permit may be obtained for campfires below the high water line in Lake at the Jackson Bay Visitor Center. Campfires are prohibited in all other areas of the park and parkway.

SWIMMING Swimming is permitted in all lakes. There is a designated swimming beach at Colter Bay with picnic facilities, and free public swimming beaches at Jenny Lake and Flagg Ranch. The Jenny Lake is a swift and cold river presenting numerous dangers, swimming is not recommended.

WINDS Blowing wind is a frequent weather phenomenon in the Grand Teton region and should be watched for when planning a visit. Keep rugs and tarp to protect yourself from the wind. Where possible, plan to spend the day where winds are less likely to be experienced. Winds often occur over nights of low temperatures. The winds are often strongest in the morning.

MOISTURE Moisture is present most of the year, but with variation. The days are usually dry, but at times may be extremely humid. Snow begins to melt in April and May, and may be expected in the fall. Snow may be found at high elevations almost any month. Snow at elevations above 8,000 feet is usually gone by late May or early June. Snow is usually gone from the lowlands by late June or early July. The ground, not the air, is dry throughout the year.

Make the Most of Your Park Visit

Short on time? Wondering how to make the most of your time in Grand Teton National Park? Take a look at a few of the suggestions below to help plan your visit. Use the map on page 12. The Jenny Lake area is located south of the south entrance of Yellowstone National Park to the south boundary of Grand Teton National Park is 56 miles west of Jackson, a trip that takes 1 hour 15 minutes. Plan to stop at all the viewpoints along the way and explore areas of interest. The Jenny Lake area is the only place to visit all four national parks in one day.

Menor’s Ferry/Chapel of the Transfiguration Turn off the Teton Park Road 2 miles south of Moose on Highway 268/191, turn east. Follow the road to the small town of Kelly. To see the Gros Ventre Slide, turn at the sign marked “Gros Ventre Slide.” The Gros Ventre Slide is located east of the town and is a popular spot for seeing wildlife.

Antelope Flats/Kelly Loop Antelope Flats is 14 miles south of Moose junction on Highway 268/191, turn north. Follow Antelope Flats Road to a ranger station or catch a bus to the Bird Observatory.

Signal Mountain Summit Road This 5-mile drive starts one mile south of Signal Mountain Lodge and Camperground. The road winds to the top of Signal Mountain, 8000 feet above the valley. Summit overlook provides a panoramic view of the river Teton Range, Jackson Lake, and most of Jackson Hole. The road is narrow and parking at overlooks is limited. Trailers or large motor homes are not permitted.

Jackson Lake Dam Overlook Jackson Lake Dam, one mile west of Jackson Lake on the Teton Park Road, raises the level of Jackson Lake a maximum of 39 feet. Dam construction began in 1952. The dam lake is also a natural lake formed by an immense glacier that once flowed from the Yellowstone plateau. Park on the west side of the dam and take a short walk for a peaceful view of Jackson Lake and Mt. Moran.

Oxbow Bend Located one mile east of Jackson Lake Junction, this cut-off meander of the Snake River attracts a wide variety of wildlife. Mt. Moran, the most prominent of the Teton Range, dominates the background.

Willow Flats Stop at the Willow Flats turnout, six miles south of Colter Bay for a view of an extensive wetlands that provides excellent habitat for birds, boaters, and moose. Jackson Lake and the Teton Range form the backdrop.

Colter Bay Visitor Center/Indian Arts & Crafts Shop Visit the museum to view art created by native people and get a glimpse of nineteenth-century Native American life. Native American and wildlife videotapes are shown throughout the day.

Ranger-Led Activities During summer, join a ranger for a visitor center talk, museum tour, stroll, hike, or evening program. Attend these activities to learn more about the natural and human history of the park and parkway.

Take a Hike Over 250 miles of hiking trails in the park and parkway range from easy to difficult and can be found on the Teton Park and Parkway Map. Allow at least six times the round-trip distance for one-way travel. A map of the park is available at any park visitor center.

Raft Trips on the Snake River Park and parkway concessionaries operate trips on the Snake River. Watch for moose along the banks and bald eagles and American white pelicans soaring above.

Ride a Bike The Jenny Lake Scenic Drive has wide shoulders and superb views of the Tetons. The Antelope Flats Hiking Trail provides riding opportunities on secondary roads. Wear helmets and use caution. Ride only where cars can legally go. Bicycles are not allowed on trails or in the backcountry.

Horseback Riding Park concessionaries offer horseback rides at Colter Bay, Jackson Lake Lodge, and Flagg Ranch.

Teton Weather

Avg. Min. Temp. (F) 25.7 31.1 39.0 49.0 60.9 70.6 76.8 78.8 68.9 55.9 38.0 26.0 52.0

Avg. Max. Temp. (F) 1.2 3.6 11.9 22.1 30.9 37.2 41.2 38.6 32.2 23.2 13.7 1.5

Avg. Total Precip. (in.) 2.61 2.00 1.60 1.45 1.61 1.86 1.22 1.37 1.44 1.24 2.47 2.31

Avg. Total Snow (in.) 44.4 20.3 14.9 3.9 2.8 0.1 0 0 0.5 4.4 25.2 39.6 176.5

Avg. Snow Depth (in.) 28.0 34.0 32.0 13.0 0.0 0 0 0 0.4 4.0 16.0 1.60

Jan. 15

TEETOWN [SPRING 2006] 7
Camping in the Park

There are two trailer villages and five campgrounds in Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. All are operated by park concessioners. There are eight campsites on Grassy Lake Road that have no potable water and are free of charge.

**Campgrounds**

The campground fee is $15 per night per site and $7.50 for Golden Age/Golden Access cardholders. Jenny Lake and Colter Bay have hiker/biker sites available for $5 per night. Jenny Lake Campground is open only for tent camping. All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but do not have utility hookups.

The maximum length of stay is seven days per person at Jenny Lake and 14 days at all other campgrounds – no more than 30 days in the park per year. These campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis and advance reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds often fill during July and August. Approximate filling times are listed. For status of campgrounds, contact entrance stations or visitor centers. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park per year. These campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis and advance reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds often fill during July and August. Approximate filling times are listed. For status of campgrounds, contact entrance stations or visitor centers. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park. Camping is not permitted within the park along roadides, in overlooks, or in parking areas. Doubling up in campsites is not permitted, and there are no overflow facilities.

**GROUP CAMPING**

Reservations are available for group camping at Colter Bay and Gros Ventre campgrounds. The sites range in capacity from 10 to 100 people. The nightly use fee is $3 per person plus a $15 nonrefundable reservation fee. Organized groups such as youth, religious, and educational groups may use the group campsites. Advance reservations are required and may be made through the Grand Teton Lodge Company at (800) 628-9988 or (307) 543-3100.

**TRAILER VILLAGES**

Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch trailer villages have full hook-ups, showers, and laundry. Colter Bay has 112 sites. Flagg Ranch has 100 trailer and 75 tent sites. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park.

**RECYCLING CENTERS**

All campgrounds in Grand Teton National Park and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway are managed by authorized concessioners. Grand Teton Lodge Company operates the campgrounds at Colter Bay, Jenny Lake and Gros Ventre, while Signal Mountain Lodge operates Lizard Creek and Signal Mountain campgrounds.

These concessioners fund campground improvements as a part of their contracts. Improvements for 2006 include the placement of recycling containers in park campgrounds. Collectively, these two concessioners recycle more than 170 tons of material annually. When you stay in any park campground, please use the recycling containers to help keep Grand Teton clean and pleasant for other campers.

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Water Warning

Cool, crystal clear stream water looks tempting to drink. As more and more people camp and hike in the backcountry, the incidence of intestinal infection from drinking untreated water has increased throughout the West. Guardia, campylobacter, and other harmful bacteria may be transmitted through untreated water. Drinking untreated water can make you ill. Carry sufficient water from approved sources, such as water spigots and drinking fountains in the park and parkway, when hiking or enjoying any outdoor activity. If you must use water from lakes or streams, boil water 3-5 minutes to kill harmful microorganisms or filter with an approved device.

Backcountry Comfort

Pit toilets are provided at many trailheads, but there are no toilets in the backcountry. Be sure to urinate at least 200 feet from streams and lakes. To prevent contamination of waterways, bury feces in a hole 6-8 inches deep at least 200 feet from streams and lakes. Pack out used toilet paper, tampons, sanitary napkins, and diapers in sealed plastic bags. Do not bury or burn them.
Entrance Fees 2006

All Americans support national parks through tax dollars. Congress allocates some of those tax dollars to each park area. However, costs for achieving National Park Service goals in Grand Teton and other national parks have greatly increased in recent years. Operational funding has not kept pace with escalating needs. Unfortunately, funding available through the appropriation process is sufficient only to conduct the yearly operation of the park. Money is not available for major maintenance projects involving roads, trails, facilities, and infrastructure. In 1997, Congress authorized the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, which allowed selected national parks—including Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks—and other federal sites to increase entrance and other fees. The parks were authorized to keep 80 percent of the fees collected in the park to address the backlog of projects. In 2006, money generated through the program in Grand Teton National Park will be used for:

- On-going trail rehabilitation projects.
- Rehabilitation and improvements to wastewater treatment facilities in Colter Bay, Beaver Creek, and Flagg Ranch.
- Resurfacing roads in the north district of the park, including roads between Colter Bay and the south entrance of Yellowstone, and the Pacific Creek Road.
- Replacement panels for interpretive exhibits.

Thank you for supporting the protection of America’s national parks.

Fee Schedule for Grand Teton National Park

Entrance Fee
$25 per vehicle • $12 per person (single hiker or bicyclist) • $20 per motorcycle
Allows entrance to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks for 7 days.

Golden Eagle Passport $85
Allows entrance to all national park areas and some other federal fee areas for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

National Parks Pass $50
Allows entrance to most national park areas for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

Parks Specific Pass $40
Allows entrance to Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks for 12 months from purchase; non-transferable.

Golden Age Passport $10 (one-time fee)
Allows lifetime entrance to all National Park System areas to American citizens 62 years old or older; non-transferable.

Golden Access Passport - Free
Allows lifetime entrance to all National Park System areas to American citizens who can provide proof of permanent disability; non-transferable.

We invite you to become an annual member-at-large entitled to a 15% discount on purchases at all GTNHA visitor center outlets, as well as on catalog and website orders. Many cooperating association stores nationwide offer reciprocal discounts. I would like to become a:

☐ $25 Individual Annual Member with discount privileges
☐ $50 Associate Annual Member with discount privileges and commemorative Grand Teton canvas backpack

Name ____________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State __________ Zip Code ___________ Phone ________
Date of Application ___________ Paid By [ ] Check [ ] Credit Card
[ ] Cash [ ] Check
[ ] Credit Card

Grand Teton National History Association • P.O. Box 170 • Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-3403 • www.grandtetonpark.org

The Grand Teton National Park Foundation was established in 1997 as the park’s primary partner to increase public understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of Grand Teton National Park and the Greater Yellowstone area. Since that time, the Association has been aiding the interpretive, educational, and research programs of Grand Teton National Park. The Association has grown to operate interpretive and educational bookstores in five outlets in Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway, and several outlets in Bridger-Teton National Forest, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, and National Elk Refuge information facilities. When you make a purchase at an Association bookstore, profits are returned to the park in the form of donations to support park programs. Your purchase also supports the publication of this newspaper, books, and the free educational handouts available at visitor centers and entrance stations. Be sure to check out the on-line bookstore at www.grandtetonpark.org for all your trip-planning needs and complete the coupon below to become a member.

Yes! I would like to be a part of the future of Grand Teton National Park.

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State __________ Zip Code ___________ Phone ________
Date of Application ___________ Paid By [ ] Check [ ] Credit Card
[ ] Cash [ ] Check
[ ] Credit Card

Grand Teton National History Association • P.O. Box 170 • Moose, WY 83012
(307) 739-3403 • www.grandtetonpark.org

The Merrie Center is a nonprofit organization located on the historic Merrie Ranch, home of famed conservationist Mardy Murie. The Merrie Center’s mission is to develop new constituencies for wilderness, emphasizing the importance of human connections with nature. The center is funded entirely through the generosity of individuals and the commitment of foundations. Please call if you are interested in visiting the center or attending a seminar.

The AMK Research Station is a field operation of the University of Wyoming based at the historic AMK Ranch in Grand Teton National Park. The research station facilitates research in the diverse aquatic and terrestrial environments of Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks and the Bridger-Teton and Caribou-Targhee national forests.

We offer a variety of programs for educators and professionals as well.

Teton Science Schools, founded in 1967, provide and encourage experiential education in natural sciences and ecology while fostering an appreciation for conservation ethics and practices. The secluded campus, operated in cooperation with Grand Teton National Park, is located on a historic dude ranch in the park. The Greater Yellowstone region serves as the school’s outdoor classroom and model for year-round programs that offer academic, professional, and personal benefits to students of all ages.

Summer programs include two- to five-week residential field ecology and field natural history courses for high school and junior high students, and weeklong, nonresidential programs for third through eighth grades. A one-year, masters-level graduate program in environmental education and natural science is also available. This summer the Teton Science Schools are offering 37 field seminars for adults and seven seminars for families. Workshops and seminars for teachers and other professionals are also offered.

So if you’re interested in the environment and you want to learn more, come to the Grand Teton. It’s a place where you can have a good time and you can learn a lot. It’s a place that’s really going to be special for you.

The Tetons Science Schools, founded in 1967, provide and encourage experiential education in natural sciences and ecology while fostering an appreciation for conservation ethics and practices. The secluded campus, operated in cooperation with Grand Teton National Park, is located on a historic dude ranch in the park. The Greater Yellowstone region serves as the school’s outdoor classroom and model for year-round programs that offer academic, professional, and personal benefits to students of all ages.

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Managing Fire in Grand Teton National Park

Today, federal fire management policy reflects both a commitment to public safety and an understanding that fire—a dynamic and natural process—is important to the health of the ecosystem. Grand Teton National Park’s comprehensive fire management program balances the preservation of natural and cultural resources with concerns for public health and safety by using the latest science, technology, and a highly trained workforce to evaluate conditions and consider management options. Through fire effects monitoring, vegetation mapping, and GIS data collection, fire managers have a range of modern tools to assist them in making decisions.

Some lightning-ignited fires, when they meet agency criteria, can be managed for resource benefits. These fires are carefully managed to ensure they stay within predetermined geographic areas and weather and fire effects guidelines. This action, referred to as wildland fire use, is critical to fire-adapted plants that rely on natural fire cycles to resprout from roots or open cones for seed dispersal.

Fire can be applied to the landscape to promote natural conditions and reduce buildup of dead wood and brush. A prescribed fire targets specific objectives like restoring early successional vegetation, creating diverse habitats for plants and animals, while minimizing risks to developments and cultural resources.

Grand Teton National Park manages fire to protect human lives, personal property, and irreplaceable natural and cultural resources. Fire suppression is a key component of the fire management plan. Specific park areas are identified where fire suppression is critical to visitor and resource protection.

Park fire crews mechanically reduce vegetation in developed areas. Fuels around buildings are reduced by thinning trees and removing dead wood and brush from the forest floor. This debris, called slash, is piled and dried for at least a year, then burned during wet weather in spring or late fall. Piles of brush and logs waiting to be burned should be left undisturbed. These piles contain mostly green branches that do not make good firewood.

For more information about fire management in Grand Teton National Park, visit www.nps.gov/gtref/fire/fire.htm.

The story of fire can be confusing. While the public is asked to prevent wildfires, fire managers sometimes conduct prescribed fires and manage lightning-caused fires for resource benefits. Fire specialists carefully plan the size and timing of these fires, allowing for a natural restoration of the ecosystem while providing for public and firefighter safety.

Take A Look Around

Fire has been an essential and natural part of the Grand Teton National Park ecosystem for thousands of years. The presence of fire within the park is one of the significant factors contributing to the diversity of flora and fauna and overall health of the park ecosystems. As we understand fire’s necessary role in the ecosystem, we must also accept occasional burns that sustain the area’s natural ecological balance.

Many opportunities exist in the park to view changes over time after a fire. The park staff invites you to view the different stages of revegetation and explore the diverse fire-adapted vegetation unique to this landscape. Though charred trees or shrubs may no longer be visible in areas that have burned, a noticeable change in the height, density, or type of vegetation can be a clue that fire was present.

Teton Science Schools
A prescribed fire was completed west of the Teton Science Schools in 2001. The fire has increased the amount of native grasses and forbs in the area and provides important habitat and forage for a number of species.

North Jenny Lake
The lightning-caused Alder Fire was managed for resource benefits for several weeks in September 1999 before strong winds caused it to grow rapidly, and the fire was suppressed. Four years later, the area is now rich in grasses, and many lodgepole pine seedlings are established in the open spaces.

Blacktail Butte
In 1998, Grand Teton National Park conducted a prescribed fire on the south end of Blacktail Butte in order to benefit vegetation and wildlife habitat. The change in height and density of the sagebrush can be noted from the highway. Elk, moose, and sage grouse are frequently seen feeding in the area. Further south of the prescribed fire site is the area that burned by a lightning-ignited fire in 2003. Here, grasses and forbs are returning to the area.

Antelope Flats
A lightning strike on the sagebrush flats near Mormon Row in 1994 has allowed grasses and wildflowers to again populate the area. Even ten years later, bison, pronghorn, and elk are still drawn to this part of the valley floor. Near the fire’s northeast end, a large area of aspen trees has vigorously resprouted.

Beaver Creek
Stimulated by a 1985 fire in mixed conifers, the area near Taggart Lake is now rich in young lodgepole pines, aspen trees, and snowbrush caranoths. The Taggart Lake Trail winds through stands of young lodgepole pine.

Waterfalls Canyon
This fire, along the west shore of Jackson Lake, burned in 1974. Only a few burned trees remain standing. Thirty years later, many shrubs and trees are well established. In 2000, two separate wildland fires naturally burned into the 1974 fire area and fire behavior moderated, aiding control efforts.

Please do your part to prevent human-caused fires:

- Build campfires only in designated areas, monitor them, and make sure they are properly extinguished.
- Smoke safely. Grind out cigarettes, cigars, or pipe tobacco, then properly dispose of them. Ashtrays should be used while smokers are in a vehicle and should never be emptied on the ground.
- Do not use fireworks or other pyrotechnic devices. They are prohibited at all times within the park.
- Obey posted restrictions. Restrictions may change during dry summer conditions.

Fire can be an effective disturbance that rejuvenates vegetation and is critical in maintaining the natural sequence of plant communities known as succession. During a fire, competing trees are removed, allowing new seedlings to thrive.
Yellowstone National Park

All opening and closing dates and hours of operation are subject to change due to weather and other variables. Check at park entrance stations and visitor centers for updated information.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Emergency __________________________ (307) 344-7200
Visitor Information __________________ (307) 344-7381
Visitor Information TDD only (307) 344-5395
Xanterra Parks & Resorts _____________ (307) 344-5437

More information is in Yellowstone Today, the park newspaper, available at Yellowstone National Park entrance stations and visitor centers.

Yellowstone Roads

SPRING 2006 OPENING SCHEDULE
Spring weather is unpredictable; roads may be closed temporarily by snow or other weather conditions. Snow tires or chains may be required. Weather and snow conditions permitting, tentative road opening dates for automobiles are:
April 21: Mammoth to Old Faithful, Madison Junction to West Entrance
April 21: Norris Junction to Canyon
May 5: Canyon to Lake, Lake to East Entrance
May 12: Lake to South Entrance, West Thumb to Old Faithful, Tower Junction to Tower Fall
May 26: Beartooth Highway, Tower Fall to Chittenden Road Canyon Junction

CONSTRUCTION
- Eleanor Lake to the East Entrance will be open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. with half hour delays, closed nightly 8 p.m. - 8 a.m. daily
- Beartooth Highway (US 242) Half hour delays but no closures

AUTUMN 2006 CLOSING SCHEDULE
The only park road that remains open to wheeled vehicles all winter is the road from Gardiner, MT at the North Park Entrance to Silver Gate and Cooke City near the Northeast Park Entrance. All other park roads close at 8 a.m. on November 6. All opening and closing dates and hours of operation listed are subject to change due to weather and other variables. Check at park entrance stations and visitor centers for updated information.

Visitor Services

All dates are subject to change at any time.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Old Faithful Inn (undergoing renovation) ______ June 26-Oct 10
Old Faithful Snow Lodge ______ May 6 - Oct 23
Old Faithful Lodge ______ May 5 – Sept 17
Grant Village ______ May 6 – Oct 1
Lake Yellowstone Hotel ______ May 19 – Oct 10
Lake Lodge ______ June 10 – Sept 24
Canyon Lodge ______ June 2 – Sept 17
Roosevelt Lodge ______ June 9 – Sept 4
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel ______ May 12 – Oct 9

RESTAURANTS, GENERAL STORES AND SERVICE STATIONS
The following locations have restaurants or cafeterias, general stores and service stations: Old Faithful, Canyon, Grant Village, Lake, Tower-Roosevelt, Mammoth Hot Springs, and Fishing Bridge.

PUBLIC SHOWERS
Showers are available to the public (fee charged) at Old Faithful Lodge, Grant Village Campground, Fishing Bridge RV Park, Canyon Campground and Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel during the summer season.

VISITOR CENTERS AND MUSEUMS
Information, publications, exhibits, movies/videos, and ranger programs are available. For details visit www.nps.gov/yell or www.travelyellowstone.com.

Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth Hot Springs
Open year-round, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. in summer.
(307) 344-2263

Canyon Visitor Center
Open May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2550

Fishing Bridge Visitor Center
Open May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2450

Grant Village Visitor Center
Open May 27, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. (307) 242-2560

Madison Information Station
Open June 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 344-2821

Museum of the National Park Ranger, Norris
Open May 27, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Norris Geyser Basin Museum
Open May 27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 344-2812

Old Faithful Visitor Center
Open April 21, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. in summer.
(307) 545-2750

West Thumb Information Station
Open May 27, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (307) 242-2652

West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center
Chamber of Commerce Staff
Available year-round. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
NPS Rangers
Available daily beginning April 21, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; May 29 and thereafter, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. (406) 646-4403.

Camping in Yellowstone

FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED CAMPSITES
There are eleven campgrounds and one RV park in Yellowstone National Park. The National Park Service operates seven campgrounds: Mammoth, Tower Fall, Indian Creek, Pebble Creek, Lewis Lake, Norris, and Slough Creek Campgrounds. Sites at these seven campgrounds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

RESERVABLE CAMPSITES
Reservations for campgrounds at Canyon, Grant Village, Bridge Bay and Madison campgrounds and Fishing Bridge RV Park may be made by contacting (307) 344-7393. Fishing Bridge RV Park is the only campground with water, sewers, and electrical hookups, and is for hard sided vehicles only, no tents or tent trailers. Please make your reservations early and/or on plan on securing your campsite as early in the day as possible. Campgrounds may fill early in the day, especially during July and August. Camping or overnight parking vehicle in pullouts, parking areas, picnic areas or any place other than a designated campground is prohibited. There are no overflow camping facilities. All camping is limited to 14 days between July 1 and September 3 and to 30 days during the rest of the year, except at Fishing Bridge RV Park (no limit). Check out time for all campgrounds is a 10 a.m.

GROUP CAMPING
Group camping areas are available for large organized groups with a designated leader such as youth groups, etc. Fees range from $4-$9 per night depending on the size of the group. Advance reservations are required and can be made year-round by writing to Xanterra Parks & Resorts, P.O. Box 65, Yellowstone Park, Wyoming 82190 or by calling (307) 344-9347.
Road Improvements will take place in Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks throughout the 2006 season. For the most up-to-date information about road conditions in Grand Teton National Park call (307) 739-3614 or visit www.nps.gov/grte. For information about Yellowstone roads call (307) 344-2117 or visit www.nps.gov/yell. 

State law requires motorists in Wyoming to move over and slow down when passing stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights. The law aims to reduce the danger of these vehicles getting hit by passing vehicles. In the last five years, stopped Wyoming Highway Patrol cars were struck on 27 different occasions.

Under the law, motorists on Wyoming interstates must move over to the travel lane farthest away from a stopped emergency vehicle before they pass. On two-lane highways, passing motorists must slow to 20 mph below the speed limit. These actions are required unless a law enforcement officer otherwise directs motorists. Violations can result in fines of up to $200, jail terms of up to 20 days, or both.

Recycling containers are located at visitor centers, stores, lodges, and in campgrounds. Items collected include aluminum and tin cans, glass and plastic bottles as well as small propane fuel cylinders. Batteries can also be recycled at many stores. Additional items may be recycled in select areas, check at park visitor centers for more information.