Mount Rainier National Park offers excellent opportunities for exploration and adventure, but it also offers opportunities to get lost or injured. Reduce your risk by following these simple guidelines:

**Beware**

It's very easy to get lost or injured when the weather deteriorates; the trail is covered with snow; you don't know where you are; and/or you don't know how to assess avalanche hazard and avoid the danger.

**Prepare**

When hiking, climbing, skiing, or snowboarding, bring the "10 Essentials" and know how to use them. Obtain compass bearings for tracks to Camp Muir or other off-trail destinations; carry a map, compass, and an altimeter; wear rain- and wind-resistant clothing; and take a whistle, a "space blanket," and a snow shovel.

**Take Care**

Tell someone your travel plans so they can notify Mount Rainier National Park offers excellent communities and opportunities to get lost or injured. Reduce your risk by following these simple guidelines:

**Beware**

It's very easy to get lost or injured when the weather deteriorates; the trail is covered with snow; you don't know where you are; and/or you don't know how to assess avalanche hazard and avoid the danger.

**Prepare**

When hiking, climbing, skiing, or snowboarding, bring the "10 Essentials" and know how to use them. Obtain compass bearings for tracks to Camp Muir or other off-trail destinations; carry a map, compass, and an altimeter; wear rain- and wind-resistant clothing; and take a whistle, a "space blanket," and a snow shovel.

**Take Care**

Tell someone your travel plans so they can notify Mount Rainier National Park about your visit.
Welcome...

...to Mount Rainier National Park, the green and white jewel in the ring of fire that stretches from the Cascades around the Pacific to the islands of Japan. This national park is also one of the crown jewels of the 379 units of National Park System, recognized and protected by the American people as the best of the best of our natural and cultural heritage. My staff and I are exceptionally proud to work at Mount Rainier and to assist each of you in experiencing your park.

There are a few things I would like to bring to your attention as a visitor and as a participant in the protection of this park. Ninety seven percent of the park is designated Wilderness: only a short distance from parking lots you may leave behind the hustle of modern life and re-enter wild lands with unbridged rivers, dense forests, and glacial crevasses. This experience is what many people want, but the key to a pleasant day in wild lands is personal responsibility. Remember the "10 Essentials" and talk with one of our rangers about your plans and your experience level if you are unsure. The second aspect of responsibility is protecting the park resources while you are here. You will see signs requesting you to stay on trails and not tread on meadow areas that are very sensitive to foot traffic. Last year we hosted 1,764,000 visitors and the park looks great because most of them stayed on the trails!

We are working to release the draft Mount Rainier General Management Plan late this summer, which will guide the park management for the next twenty years. Some changes are being proposed for places such as the Westside Road, Carbon River, and Paradise. Watch for the announcement of the availability of the draft plan and give us your comments.

The resources of Mount Rainier—from the ice-capped summit to the great subalpine wildflower meadows of Paradise and Sunrise to the clear water streams of Ohanapecosh—are entrusted to the National Park Service by the American people, but we all must work together to protect them. That protection has two responsibilities: come experience the park and pass it on to your kids, and, while you are here, know that this place is very special, like a rare gem, to be handled carefully.

Have a great experience at Mount Rainier!

Jon Jarvis
Superintendent

Accessibility

- Most comfort stations, visitor centers, picnic areas, and designated campsites are accessible or accessible with help for wheelchair users.
- Accessible lodging is available inside the park in local communities.
- In the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise, written information, exhibits, and scripts for uncaptioned audiovisual programs are available.
- An accessible boardwalk at Kautz Creek (3 miles SW of Longmire) leads to an overlook of the 1947 debris flow and a view of the mountain (trail may not be accessible when snow-covered).
- TDD: (360) 569-2177.

Geologic Hazards

Recent research has improved our understanding of this active volcano. Although eruptive events are usually preceded by an increase in earthquake activity, other geologic hazards such as mudflows (also known as lahars), glacial outburst floods, or rockfall can occur without warning.

Needless to say, the longer you stay in an area where there are geologic hazards, the greater the chance that you could be involved in an emergency event.

All river valleys in the park are vulnerable to geologic hazards. While most people consider the danger to be relatively low, YOU must decide if you will assume the personal risk of visiting and staying overnight in these potentially dangerous locations.

If you are near a river and notice a rapid rise in water level or hear a roaring sound coming from upvalley—often described as sounding similar to a fast-moving freight train—move quickly to higher ground! A location 160 feet or more above river level should be safe.

Detailed information is available from scientists at the U.S.G.S. Cascades Volcano Observatory, 5400 MacArthur Blvd., Vancouver, WA 98661. Website: http://volcan.wr.usgs.gov/

Your Fees at Work

Mount Rainier National Park is part of the Congressionally-authorized Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. The program allows federal land management agencies to increase and retain entrance and user fees. Eighty percent of the fees at Mount Rainier are kept in the park, while twenty percent are made available to other parks in need.

Current "Fee Demo" projects include:
- Completion of the last mile of the Wonderland Trail
- Upgrading sewage treatment facilities
- Rehabilitating trails at the Grove of the Patriarchs and Reflection Lakes
- Upgrading interpretive exhibits
- Rehabilitating campgrounds

Your fees are playing a vital role in fulfilling Mount Rainier National Park's mission to protect park resources and to provide for visitor enjoyment. As you explore the park, look for signs of your fees at work!

Entrance Fees and Passes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Pass</th>
<th>Covers</th>
<th>Covers Camping Fees</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Valid for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>Everyone in a single, private, non-commercial vehicle</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>One person (on foot, in a bus, on a motorcycle or bicycle)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>7 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Pass</td>
<td>Entrance to Mount Rainier</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW! National Parks Pass</td>
<td>Entrance to all 379 areas/sites managed by the National Park Service</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Eagle Upgrade Sticker</td>
<td>Expands your National Parks Pass to cover entrance fees to all Federal fee areas</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Age</td>
<td>Free lifetime entrance to Federal fee areas for U.S. residents age 62 and over</td>
<td>50% discount</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Access</td>
<td>Free lifetime entrance to Federal fee areas for U.S. residents with permanent disabilities</td>
<td>50% discount</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Life</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Call (360) 569-2211 ext. 2590 for fee information on tour buses, annual passes, and Golden Passports. There's no park entrance charge for people age 16 and younger.

This is Mountain Lion Country!

Mountain lions, also called cougars or pumas, are common but rarely observed at Mount Rainier National Park. Consummate hunters, they prey primarily on black-tailed mule deer and elk calves in the western Cascades. Lions are quite large and distinctly cat-like in appearance, with a very long tail. From nose to base of tail an adult male may measure 50", and its tail may be 36" long. Mountain lions generally have gray to reddish-tan fur.

No lion-caused human injuries have occurred at Mount Rainier, although sightings and encounters have increased in recent years. Powerful hunters, lions can pose a threat to people, especially when just learning to hunt or when protecting their young. As humans have moved into relatively undeveloped rural areas in the past few decades, lion attacks have become more frequent. However, attacks on humans by mountain lions are still rare. It's very unlikely you'll see a mountain lion while you're here. If you do, remember:

Children and lone adults are most at risk:
- Don't hike alone.
- Keep children close to you.
- Running or jogging puts you at higher risk.

IF YOU MEET a mountain lion:
- DON'T RUN! Stand still and stand together with your companions. Face the lion.
- Pick up and hold small children immediately.
- Stand upright and try to make yourself appear larger.
- Shout!
- If attacked, fight back aggressively.

Please report all sightings of mountain lions as soon as possible to the nearest ranger station, visitor center, or park headquarters at (360) 569-2211, extension 3373 or extension 2334.
### Road Opening Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Open All Year</th>
<th>Open May 26 to June 30</th>
<th>Open June 23 to September 30</th>
<th>Open July 1 to October 31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westside Road to Dry Creek</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>August 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paradise Valley Road</td>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>July 30</td>
<td>August 30</td>
<td>September 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stevens Canyon Road</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>August 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cayuse Pass (SR 123/SR 410)</td>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>July 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinook Pass (SR 410)</td>
<td>Late May</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>August 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White River Road to Ipsut Creek</td>
<td>May 26</td>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>August 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunrise Road</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>October 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mowich Lake Road to Mowich Lake</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>October 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carbon River Road to Ipsut Creek</td>
<td>Open all year</td>
<td>Open all year</td>
<td>Open all year</td>
<td>Open all year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Easy and Moderate Hikes in Mount Rainier National Park

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Trail Name</th>
<th>Trailhead Location</th>
<th>Roundtrip Distance</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Longmire</td>
<td>Trail of the Shadows</td>
<td>Across road from the Nisqually Visitor Center</td>
<td>0.7-mile loop trail</td>
<td>Good for children &amp; evening strolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carter Falls</td>
<td>2 miles east of Longmire</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>Easy hike, climbs 500’ at end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Niqualy Vista</td>
<td>Just west of the Jackson Visitor Center</td>
<td>1.25-mile paved loop</td>
<td>Meadow &amp; glacial views, strollers OK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Myrtle Falls</td>
<td>Upper parking lot, near the Stevens Canyon entrance</td>
<td>1 mile via the east side of the Skyline Trail/paved</td>
<td>Leads through wildflower meadows to a waterfall. Great views of the mountain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paradise</td>
<td>Grove of the Patriarchs</td>
<td>Near Stevens Canyon entrance</td>
<td>1.2-mile loop</td>
<td>Old growth forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Silver Falls</td>
<td>Ohanapecosh Visitor Center</td>
<td>2.4-mile loop</td>
<td>Mostly level, old growth forest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Campgrounds in Mount Rainier National Park

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Elev.</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th># of sites</th>
<th>Flush Toilets</th>
<th>Pit Toilets</th>
<th>Dump Station</th>
<th>Location/Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunshine Point</td>
<td>2000’</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SW corner of park, 0.25 miles E of the Nisqually Entrance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cougar Rock*</td>
<td>3180’</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SW corner of park, 2.3 miles NE of Longmire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohanapecosh*</td>
<td>1914’</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SE corner of park, 11 miles NE of Packwood on SR123.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White River</td>
<td>4400’</td>
<td>$10</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>E side of park, 5 miles W of White River Entrance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipsut Creek</td>
<td>2300’</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td>NW corner of park, 5 miles E of Carbon River Entrance. ROAD SUBJECT TO WASHOUT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mowich Lake</td>
<td>4950’</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30 walk-in sites</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td>NW corner of park, at the end of SR165. Unpaved Road. NO FIRES.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Advance Reservations required for Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh Campgrounds from June 26 – September 4. Call 1-800-365-CAMP® up to 5 months in advance or reserve your site online at reservations.nps.gov.

** $14/night from June 26 - Sep. 4. All other campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis.
Visitor Centers

All can be reached by calling (360) 569-2211

**Longmire Museum (Longmire)** ext. 3314
Information, exhibits, book sales.
May 1 - May 6: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon - Fri.
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sat - Sun.
May 7 - June 30: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon - Fri.
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri - Sun & Holidays

**Jackson Visitor Center (Paradise)** ext. 2328
Information, exhibits, movies, books, sales, food service, gift, showers.
April 29 - June 3: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily
June 4 - June 16: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily.
June 17 - Sep 4: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily

**Sunrise Visitor Center** ext. 2357
Information, exhibits, books, sales.
May 26 - June 4: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri - Sun & Holidays
June 9 - June 22: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Thurs.
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fri - Sun.
June 23 - Sep 4: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily

**Paradise Inn Post Office**
Front Desk: Open 24 hours daily
Snack Bar (opens May 27) 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Showers (located in the basement):
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Paradise Inn (Paradise)
Opens May 19. Closed Sundays and Holidays.

**Ohanapecosh Visitor Center** ext. 2352
Information, exhibits, book sales.
May 1 - May 5: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon - Fri.
May 6 - May 16: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Fri - Sun
May 17 - Sep 4: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily

Food & Lodging

For lodging reservations in the park call Mount Rainier Guest Services at 360-569-2275.

**National Park Inn (Longmire)**
Lodging and dining. Open year-round.
Front desk: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily
Restaurant: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Sun-Thurs.
7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Fri, Sat, & holidays.
Beginning June 17: 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily

**National Park Inn Post Office (Longmire)**
Open year-round. Closes Sundays and Holidays.
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**General Store (Longmire)**
Open year-round. Groceries, gifts, firewood.
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily
Beginning June 17: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily

**Jackson Visitor Center (Paradise)**
Grill & Gift Shop:
10 a.m. - 6 p.m. daily
Beginning June 17: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. daily
Shower (located in the basement):
Open during building hours (see above).

**Paradise Inn (Paradise)**
Opens May 19.
Front Desk: Open 24 hours daily
Dining Room
Breakfast Buffet 7 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Lunch 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Dinner 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
(May 28 - Sep 24 only)
Glacier Lounge 12 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Gift Shop 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Snack Bar (opens May 27) 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Paradise Inn Post Office**
Opens May 19. Closed Sundays and Holidays.
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Sunrise Lodge**
Day use only—no overnight lodging.
Scheduled to open July 1.

Gasoline, lodging, dining, and other services are available in local communities. A list of these services is available at park visitor centers and on the park's web site: www.nps.gov/mora. Religious services are available in the park and in local communities.

GAS IS NOT AVAILABLE IN THE PARK.

Park Planning

Planning for the future of Mount Rainier National Park is a monumental task and responsibility that is shared by park managers and the public alike. You may have recently attended public meetings or seen newsletters about the planning process in which Mount Rainier is currently engaged. When completed, the product of this process, a General Management Plan (GMP) for Mount Rainier National Park, will outline a broad philosophical approach to managing the park and specify actions that are needed to reach identified goals as we move into the 21st century.

To be placed on the mailing list for future newsletters, please contact:
Superintendent
Mount Rainier Nat’l. Park
Tahoe Woods Star Route
Ashford, WA 98304-9751
Tel. (360) 569-2211 ext. 2301
mora_sup@mora.nps.gov

Experience Your America with a National Parks Pass
National Parks Pass

"Experience Your America with a National Parks Pass" Campaign

The National Park Fund was created to restore, enhance, and preserve Washington’s national parks. The Fund is a private, independent, not-for-profit organization that works with individuals, businesses, foundations and others to secure financial and volunteer support for projects to improve the parks.

In 1999, the Fund supported the following projects in Mount Rainier National Park:

- Roadside assistance. A volunteer provided visitors with emergency roadside assistance this summer, allowing rangers to concentrate on resource and visitor protection duties.
- Expansion of the park’s web page to include panoramic high resolution digital images representing the significant landscapes of Mount Rainier National Park, along with text about the resources.
- A display about backcountry resource impacts, minimum-impact camping, hiking, climbing, and human waste removal techniques.
- A traveling exhibit to inform the public of the creation of the new park archives as well as the status of major, ongoing park projects.

For information about how you can help with these and other projects, contact:

Jen Benn, Executive Director
Washington’s National Park Fund
2112 Third Avenue, Suite 501
Seattle, WA 98121
Tel. (206) 770-0627
www.wnpf.org

Look for donation boxes and contribution envelopes at park visitor centers.