Welcome!
In August 1982, the President and Congress set aside the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument for you to study and visit. It is an incredible place! You can see the results of some of the most powerful forces of Nature and witness the rebuilding process. Now, everything is very, very new and fragile.

Please resist the temptation to slip a rock into your pocket or pick a flower. If all visitors helped themselves to one or two rocks, there would be nothing left. During your visit to Mount St. Helens, you will find friendly help at the Visitor Center, Information Stations, and scheduled Naturalist Programs.

Planning For The Future On Highway 504

By the year 1991, Spirit Lake Memorial Highway (SR 504) will provide all-season access to the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument from the west. Climbing to 3,800 feet above the valley floor, it will offer panoramic views of the dramatic scenery within the monument.

Construction of the Toutle River sediment retention dam is under way by the Corps of Engineers and will be completed by 1989. You can witness the progress of construction from a temporary viewpoint beyond Kid Valley. Displays of Mount St. Helens' impacts on the Toutle-Cowlitz Rivers will be located here during construction. Picnic facilities, restrooms, and concessions will be available at the viewpoint. The completed road will extend to Coldwater Lake with shuttle rides and hiking trails that provide access to viewpoints on Johnston Ridge, looking directly in the crater. The Crater floor is open only when the conditions have been established.

CLIMBING INFORMATION - SAFETY

Even though the 8,365-foot Mount St. Helens is not considered a difficult climb by experienced climbers, the high elevation, steep snow-covered slopes, and rapidly changing weather can be dangerous to those not properly experienced or equipped.

Climbing boots, ice axe, foul weather clothing, sun protection, crampons and rope are recommended. Hard hats are also suggested for protection from rock fall.

The Crater rim of Mount St. Helens, including the summit area, is highly unstable. The rim may also have large and dangerous cornices. When on the rim, be careful not to cause additional rock fall or avalanche release; scientists may be at work below you in the crater. Climbers are advised to use ropes near the crater rim. The crater is an area of extreme hazard. Rock, ice or snow avalanches occur almost continuously. The lava dome is unstable and may produce rock fall at any time. Very hot cracks in the dome and crater floor become covered by snow and pose a hidden danger. Steam and gas explosions may occur without warning. These explosions may be fatal for anyone nearby.

APE CAVE AND LAVA CAST AREA IMPROVED

First-time visitors, and St. Helens veterans will find a new and exciting trail at Lava Cast Picnic area this year. The Lava Cast boardwalk (see also: Trail of Two Forests, on page four) is a 0.5-mile loop trail, just recently completed for your enjoyment. Try it out!

Just north of Lava Cast, reconstruction of Road 8303 and the Ape Cave parking lot will begin in August. A temporary trail will allow you to bypass the construction activity as you visit and explore the cave. Pardon our dust while we are under construction.

Volcanic Hazards

Mount St. Helens is an active volcano. In addition to normal mountain climbing, climbers will be exposing themselves to hazards from volcanic activity which cannot always be predicted. The latest volcanic activity advisories will be posted at the Yale Information Station. All climbers are required to register at the Yale Climber Register. This registration will be helpful if a rescue becomes necessary. Rescue is not assurance, and, like climbing access, is dependent upon the level of volcanic activity and weather. It may be 24 to 72 hours before a rescue can be initiated.
Reconstruction of Forest Road 99 will begin June 1, 1987, and is scheduled to be completed by October 31, 1988. The entire sixteen miles of the road will be affected. The project is the largest road engineering job in the history of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

Some of the details listed below may be subject to change. Stop by Mount St. Helens Information Stations for the most current news. Study the Forest Road 99 project map. A map of the Monument is also available at all Forest Service offices, and Woods Creek and Pine Creek Information Stations. Visitor travel will be permitted on Roads 26 and 2560 only between the hours of 8:00 am and midnight, beginning June 1, 1987, seven days a week.

ALTERNATE ROUTES WITH ONE-WAY SYSTEM
Your gateway to adventure can be reached from two directions. First, by traveling ten miles south, from the town of Randle, on Forest Road 25 to the junction of Forest Road 26. Second, by traveling fifty-six miles north, from the town of Cougar, on Forest Roads 90 and 25 to the junction of Forest Road 26.

Once reaching Forest Road 26, all traffic will be directed south on a one-way loop. While traveling on Forest Road 26, you will be able to stop at the Ryan Lake area, or the Norwegian Pass trailhead prior to reaching the junction of Road 99. Once there (see: Staging Area With Bus Services), traffic will travel west to the Cascade Peaks Viewpoint, then turn south on Road 2560, through the Clearwater Valley, and exit onto Road 25. From there, you can continue, either north to Randle, or south to Cougar.

STAGING AREA WITH BUS SERVICES
Once you have reached the junction of Forest Roads 26 and 99 (across from Meta Lake trailhead, see map) you have arrived at the parking lot and shuttle bus staging area. A ticket sales booth will be located near the parking lot and staging area. An information board will also be located near the sales booth which will display the latest information concerning the bus service, cost, schedule, and destinations.

Cost for riding the shuttle bus is $1.50 per person. Youngsters under six ride free. Hours of operation for the shuttle buses will be 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. Buses will operate seven days a week, including holidays. Departures will be 20 minutes apart. Buses will travel past Cascade Peaks Viewpoint, with stops at Independence Pass Trailhead, Harmony Falls Trailhead, Cedar Creek Viewpoint, and Donnybrook Viewpoint "overlooking Spirit Lake." Buses will return to the parking lot and shuttle bus staging area from Donnybrook Viewpoint. Passengers will be able to disembark and board buses at the stops listed above.

Handicapped Services: Inquiries can be made at the ticket sales booth for provisions to transport wheelchair users.

TRAILHEADS
The only trailhead unavailable during 1987 will be the Abraham Trail #216D, at the Windy Ridge parking lot. The trail may still be accessed from the Ape Canyon Trail #234 located at the Lahar Viewpoint on Forest Road 83. For your safety: foot traffic is not permitted on Road 99 between Donnybrook Viewpoint and Windy Ridge.

ATTENTION VISITORS
Trailers or boats are not recommended for travel on Forest Road 26. The road is single-lane with turnouts, and narrow. If coming from the north, drop off your trailer at Woods Creek Information Station or Iron Creek Picnic Site, located on Forest Road 25. If coming from the south, drop it off at the Pine Creek Information Station.

CLEARWATER VALLEY EXPERIENCE
As you exit the Monument, your travel route will take you through an area that has been closed to visitor travel since March, 1980. This area is known as the Clearwater Valley. Since the eruption, 284 million board feet of timber have been salvaged. The Forest Service is continuing to help Nature with efforts to regenerate this area by planting thousands of seedlings, preventing erosion with cottonwood and willows along stream banks on the Clearwater Creek, and creating bird-nest sites for a variety of bird species. Despite the altered landscape, migrants such as deer and elk have returned to this valley. The Forest Service and other researchers are learning about plant succession and reforestation from research plots in the valley. In the years to come, this area will again be teeming with life.

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIMES
2% HRS. COUGAR TO META LAKE
1% HRS. VISITOR CENTER TO RANDLE
1% HRS. PINE CREEK TO PINE CREEK
5% HRS. WOODS CREEK TO WOODS CREEK
1% HRS. WOODLAND TO PINE CREEK
1% HRS. PINE CREEK INFORMATION STATION
1% HRS. VISITOR CENTER TO PINE CREEK INFORMATION CENTER
1% ROUND TRIP
Allow extra time to stop and enjoy the views.
Planning Your Day At Mount St. Helens

When planning to visit the Monument, get an early start and expect to spend the entire day. It takes about four hours to drive from Seattle or Portland to the Monument. To ensure your trip is pleasant, the following tips should be reviewed before entering the Monument:

- Come prepared for a wide range of weather conditions
- Bring sturdy walking shoes
- Bring a camera and extra film
- Pick up a Mount St. Helens map at the Visitor Center, Information Stations or Ranger District offices.

Need More Help?

Gifford Pinchot National Forest Supervisor’s Office, (509) 496-7500
Weekdays 7:45am to 4:30pm
Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument Headquarters, (206) 247-5473
Daily 7:45am to 5:30pm
Mount St. Helens Visitor Center, (206) 274-4038, 24-hour recording.
Open Daily 9am to 6pm
Randle Ranger Station, (206) 497-7565
Daily 8:00am to 5:30pm
Emergencies:
- 911-telephone at entrance of building
- 911-telephone at visitor center
- Skamania County Sheriff, (206) 274-4038
- National Park Service, (206) 274-4038
Open Daily 9am to 6pm
24-hour recording: (206) 274-4038. We hope you enjoy your visit to the center, and let us know about your new addition to the Mount St. Helens experience.

Spend a Day

At the Monument, you can do much more than just see the mountain. Interpretive programs, trails and views await your discovery. A morning interpretive naturalist program prepares visitors to continue their Mount St. Helens journey. The forest and wildlife of the cascades come to life in hand-carved wood columns that add warmth and beauty to the lobby. Big screen images and wrap-around sound bring the eruption experience close to each visitor. After viewing this 10-minute multi-image program, visitors will want to explore fascinating displays and hands-on exhibits. Ghost-like mannequins silently represent the people who lived and worked around Mount St. Helens. The model represents a 16 by 22-mile area surrounding the mountain, and allows visitors to experience simulated movement of magma as they walk beneath it.

Our Printings

Donations to the Pacific Northwest National Parks and Forests Association are deductible. Tax deductible memberships (Student $3.00, Regular $5.00) to the association are available, entitling members to a fifteen percent discount on merchandise at any Pacific Northwest National Parks and Forests Association branch. Ask any employee at the Visitor Center or the Pine Creek Information Station about how you can become a member.

Your Support is Appreciated

The publication of the Volcano Review and Monument Vicinity Map, which are distributed free of charge, have been made possible through your donations to the Pacific Northwest National Parks and Forests Association. Donations are accepted at the Mount St. Helens Visitor Center and the Pine Creek Information Station.

Pumice, a bug’s palace

Protect our natural features

Visitor Services

North Side
Morton — full services.
Randle — full services.
Woods Creek Information Station
(Forest Road 25) — up-to-date information about roads, viewing sites and volcanic status
Iron Creek Campground (Forest Road 76) — 22 sites, water, garbage collection, $5.00 camping fee.

South Side
Amboy — full service.
Chelatchie Prairie — groceries and gas.
Spedewa Hill viewpoint — RV park, camping
Yale Park — Picnicking, boating
Cougar — full services, volcano flights.
Cougars Park and camp — tent camping, picnicking, boating.
Beaver Bay — camping, picnicking, boating.
Swift Camp — camping, picnicking, boating.
Eagles Cliff Store (Forest Road 90) — groceries, gas.
Pine Creek Information Station — up-to-date information about roads, and viewpoints, books and maps.
Ape Cave (Forest Road 8303) — day-use only, vault toilets.
Road 99 cascade Peaks viewpoint — food, beverages, and film concession.
East Side
Carson (along State Highway 14) — full services.
Beaver Campground (Winder River Road mile post 12.31) — 25 campsites, garbage collection, water, $5.00-$8.00 camping fee.
Paradise Campground (Winder River Road mile post 14.41) — 42 campsites, garbage collection, water, $4.00-$6.00 camping fee.

Just For Kids . . .

Mount St. Helens Detectives:
Looking Closely For “The Invisible”

Lots of fascinating things are happening in the lands surrounding Mount St. Helens that people do not often notice. Fish, frogs and tiny insects live out of sight in the lakes and streams. Gophers tunnel in darkness through the soil searching for roots to eat. Tiny spiders “balloon” silently on the summer wind as they travel many miles to new homes. Can you believe that large animals, weighing hundreds of pounds each, roam the area in search of food, yet are rarely seen by people? The insects, frogs, fish, and other animals around the volcano are not really invisible — most of them have simply developed their own ways of hiding in order to live longer. If they are not careful, they will probably be eaten for dinner by some other animal.

Activity: Let’s all become “Mount St. Helens detectives” and begin searching for evidence of the secretive creatures that live here. Watch and listen carefully. What was the splash in the water? Was that a whiskle I heard? Where did that mound of dirt come from? Are those animal tracks? Keep notes of what you find.

Let’s get to work, detectives! Jim Quiring, Mount St. Helens

 exper ienci ng The New
Mount St. Helens Visitor Center

A scant five miles from the busy I-5 corridor, visitors discover a graceful facility which combines modern design with rustic Cascadian features. Surrounded by towering Douglas-firs, along the shore of Silver Lake, the center is constructed of volcanic basalt and native northwest materials. Exciting programs, trails and views await your discovery. A morning interpretive naturalist program prepares visitors to continue their Mount St. Helens journey. The forest and wildlife of the cascades come to life in hand-carved wood columns that add warmth and beauty to the lobby. Big screen images and wrap-around sound bring the eruption experience close to each visitor. After viewing this 10-minute multi-image program, visitors will want to explore fascinating displays and hands-on exhibits. Ghost-like mannequins silently represent the people who lived and worked around Mount St. Helens. The model represents a 16 by 22-mile area surrounding the mountain, and allows visitors to experience simulated movement of magma as they walk beneath it.

A seismograph provides a direct link to Mount St. Helens in the Current Research section of the Center where visitors use scientific instruments like those used to measure activity in the crater. Before you exit the exhibit area, peer through telescopes at the steaming mountain, stop and check the interpretive program schedule in the lobby or drop in on a naturalist-led walk along the lakeshore or participate in a special program in the theater or the Silver Lake room. To further study volcanoes, geology, birds, trees and other nature subjects, a variety of books are available.

Groups of all kinds are encouraged to visit the Center, and special needs may be accommodated. Operating hours are from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily throughout the summer months. For current information, call the center’s 24-hour recording: (206) 274-4038. We hope you enjoy your visit to the center, and let us know about your new addition to the Mount St. Helens experience.

Gail Hakola, Rich Ray
Visitor Center Staff

Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association

This newspaper is published by the Pacific Northwest National Parks and Forests Association, a non-profit organization created to benefit visitors to National Parks and National Forests of the Northwest. Memberships and donations are tax deductible.

Pacific Northwest National Parks & Forests Association
A day with a naturalist ensures your enjoyment and understanding of volcanic and biologic phenomena rarely witnessed by visitors. Come along and enjoy an exciting day with a naturalist.

The towering trees in old-growth forests! If the cool, dark interior of a cave sounds inviting, then begin your day with a naturalist-led lantern walk in Ape Cave. Later in the afternoon, continue your day with a naturalist at the Lahar Viewpoint for an exciting walk along a mudflow or an adventure through an old-growth forest at Cedar Flats. Finish the day with a relaxing evening at a campfire program at Swift Camp, Cougar Camp, or Iron Creek Campground.

Mount St. Helens crater views, the lava dome, Spirit Lake, and blowdown forest will be found on the north side. Begin your day at Meta Lake. Discover the pre-eruption environment determined which plant and animal communities survived the eruption, and how new life has returned to the gray, fallen forest. Then take the shuttle bus to the Harmony Falls trailhead and enjoy an easy one-mile stroll with a naturalist to explore the Spirit Lake basin. Continue down Deschutes Viewpoint. Sit down and relax while a naturalist unravels the complex, fascinating 1980 eruption story. Shuttle buses and larger crowds don’t suit your fancy, but crater views do, meet a naturalist at the Nisqually Pass trailhead. They will take you to a trailhead where you can hike out and enjoy the everchanging landscape of Mount St. Helens.

Come and spend a day or two of fun with a naturalist.

HARMONY FALLS TRAIL

Enjoy an easy one-mile walk to the shores of Spirit Lake where spectacular views of Mount St. Helens’ crater and lava dome await you. As you stroll through blown-down forest, search for life emerging from the ashes of the fallen trees. When you reach the shoreline, look above to the barren cliffs where a thundering wave of water, caused by a massive landslide, raced nearly 300 feet up the forest slopes. The floating forest now lies on the sparkling blue waters of Spirit Lake. Only the upper portion of Harmony Falls remains. The lower portion of the falls is buried beneath landslide deposits and the cool waters of Spirit Lake. Experience this incredible trail, where one breathtaking view after another unfolds in front of your eyes.

VISITORS AND PUMICE

You have probably come to see and experience the effects of Mount St. Helens’ volcanic eruptions. The natural features: pumice, blast stumps, blown-down trees, dome rocks, old rocks, new rocks, flowers and wildlife are what make an experience here real and meaningful. These are the features that most people come to see. Unfortunately, they are disappearing into the pockets and hands of thoughtless visitors at alarming rates. This is ILLEGAL and destructive to this delicate environment. Pumice provides tiny homes for shade-loving insects, seedlings and other plants. As it decays, it will become the basis of the forest to follow. Please help protect your National Monument. Take only pictures, leave only footprints.

Interpretive Naturalists Activities June 22 Through September 7, 1987

"Every natural area speaks for itself, but in a language most visitors don’t understand." The Interpretive Naturalists have scheduled a diversity of talks, hikes, and campfire programs to help you understand and enjoy Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. These activities provide you with an unrivaled opportunity to ask all those questions you were afraid to ask and to open new windows of discovery for you. Most activities require no special equipment. For your comfort and safety, however, please be prepared with proper clothing for the weather and sturdy shoes for the tasks.

LOCATION ACTIVITIES

MON. TUES. WED. THUR. FRI. SAT. SUN.

VISITOR CENTER

VISITOR CENTER: Interstate 5, Exit 49, Castle Rock, WA, next to Southeast State Park.

Exhibits include historical artifacts, a walk through a scale model of a volcano and audio-visual programs that highlight the geology and biology. Seminars, book sales, stroll around measuring devices and barrier-free access add enjoyment to your visit. Open year-round.

9:00-10:00 9:00-10:00 9:00-10:00 9:00-10:00 9:00-10:00 9:00-10:00

VISITOR CENTER DECK

See bulletin board for daily naturalist talks, slides, programs, and other activities.

SCHEDULED DAILY

EAST SIDE

META LAKE TRAILHEAD: Road junction 26/99. Meet at Lake end of 1/4-mile trail.

META LAKE TALK: Scientists wondered how life could survive the searing heat and force of the eruption. Come hear fascinating stories about survivors and new creations. 20-minute talks.

11:30 11:30 11:30 11:30 12:00 12:00

DONNYBROOK VIEWPOINT: Take shuttle bus.

THE MOUNT ST. HELENS STORY: What did volcano watchers see during the Mount St. Helens eruption? Join a Naturalist to retell the incredible power unleashed on May 18, 1980, and find out what’s happening now.

12:00-4:00 11:30-4:00 12:00-4:00 12:00-4:00 12:00-4:00 12:00-4:00 12:00-4:00

HARMONY FALLS VIEWPOINT: Take shuttle bus.

HARMONY FALLS WALK: Discover the fascinating hide-away of those who survived the Spirit Lake basalt prior to the eruption. Join a Naturalist for a view into the crater and a walk back in time to the shores of Spirit Lake. 2 miles round trip. Allow 1 hour.

1:00 1:00 1:00 1:00 1:00 1:00 1:00

3:30 3:30 3:30 3:30 3:30 3:30 3:30

NORWAY PASS TRAILHEAD: Four miles south of Ryan Lake, Road 26. Meet at trailhead.

NORWAY PASS HIKK: Hike through blown down forest to see the best views of the growing lava dome inside Mount St. Helens’ crater. 2.2 miles, 1,000’ elevation gain. Allow 2 hours one-way.

7:30 1:00 1:00

IRON CREEK CAMPGROUND: Ten miles south of Randle on Road 25.

CAMPFIRE PROGRAMS: Come join us for an evening of sing-a-longs, local legends and volcano viewing tips.

8:30 JUNE-JULY 7:30 AUGUST

SOUTH SIDE

PINE CREEK INFORMATION STATION: Next to Road 20 Junction.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS: Book sales and videos.

7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00 7:00-8:00

APX CAVES: 3 miles north from 83/93 Junction. Meet at the cave entrance. Come and explore the underground world.

LATERN NIGHT: What is it like for the scout troop that first explored this cave? Join a Naturalist to experience the mystery and beauty of the underground world.

12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00

LAHAR VIEWPOINT: On Road 83, 11 miles east of jct-83/90. Meet at parking lot.

LAHAR WALK: Imagine how a mudflow ramped down the side of a volcano. Could life return to such an area? Join a Naturalist and discover a living laboratory for volcanologists, students, and scientists. 45 minutes.

12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00

CEDAR FLATTS: Trailshead is 4 miles south of Pine Creek Information Station, Road 25.

OLD-GROWTH FOREST: How does an old-growth forest affect your life? Join a Naturalist on a stroll and discover why society is realizing the importance of these giants from the past. One-mile loop, easy.

12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00 12:00

SWIFT CAMP: ¾ mile west of Pine Creek Information Station, Power Power & Light campground near road entrance.

EVENING CAMPFIRE PROGRAM: Bring your favorite chair and sing along as you sit around a fire while learning more about time of song, legends, and volcanic stories. Program titles are posted in the campground. 45 minutes.

8:00 PM JUNE-JULY 7:00 PM AUGUST

COUGAR CAMP: Yale Reservoir, east from Cougar, WA, Pacific Power & Light camp.

EVENING CAMPFIRE PROGRAM: A potpourri of evening walks, stargazing, sing-a-longs, and slide programs. Programs posted at campground.

8:30 PM Wednesdays & Saturdays JUNE-JULY 8:00 PM Wednesdays & Saturdays AUGUST

TRAIL OF TWO FORESTS

This easy ¼-mile boardwalk trail was constructed in 1986-87. Enjoy this exciting self-guided interpretive trail as you walk one of Mount St. Helens many lava flows. You will be amazed to see how nature has hidden the 2,000-year-old lava flows. As you walk along the boardwalk, pause under the cool shade of the present forest while peering down into the tree molds of a forest from the past. Please help protect the delicate plants and fragile lava features by staying on the boardwalk.

MAPS AVAILABLE

A Mount St. Helens Map is available showing trail, travel routes, and things to do in the monument. Maps may be purchased for $1.90 at the Visitor Center, Information Stations or Monument Headquarters Office.

Come join us!