About the roads
Road construction is perennial in Yellowstone. In general, park roads have either recently been repaired or reconstructed, or are scheduled for repair or reconstruction. Approximately 80% of main park roads (about 185 miles) are in a structurally deficient state—with poor quality road bases failing under the weight, speed, and volume of modern traffic for which they were not designed. Harsh winter weather and short construction seasons provide additional challenges.

These needs are now being addressed under a 20-year, $300 million Federal Lands Highway Program for Yellowstone National Park. In addition to the major construction described to the right, road repair crews will be working in other areas of the park throughout the 1995 season. Thank you for your patience with our road construction efforts.

Other road closures or delays are possible. For current road information, call (307) 344-7381 (long distance from some park locations).

Madison-Old Faithful
Major construction begins this year on the Madison to Old Faithful road on the park’s west side (see arrow). Through May 31, this section of road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Starting June 1, the road will be open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with up to 30 minute delays; it will be closed all other times. See the map on the back page for the full 1995 construction schedule.

East Entrance
Road construction on the East Entrance Road (see arrow) will continue this year. Through June 15, the road will be open with up to 30 minute delays. Starting June 16, the road will be open from 9:00am to 9:00pm with up to 30 minute delays; it will be closed all other times. See the map on the back page for the full 1995 construction schedule.

Hikers and Anglers: For information on trailhead access, please ask a ranger at the Old Faithful Visitor Center, the Old Faithful Ranger Station, or the Madison Information Station.

Cyclists, walkers: please beware!
Motorcyclists and bicyclists: Yellowstone roads can be very rough, with large potholes. Please ride with care!
Pedestrians: Be cautious when walking, especially near roadways and/or in congested areas. Please walk with care!

Note: Construction will affect only the section from East Entrance to Sedge Lake. Lake Butte Overlook is closed for the year. Facilities at Fishing Bridge will operate as usual (see p. 15).

Emergency—dial 911
Contact a ranger—344-7381

Wildlife needs your help
Needed: Park visitors who care about Yellowstone’s wildlife enough to not disturb them. The wildlife of Yellowstone is a special treasure—shared by every past, present, and future visitor to the park. In order to thrive—and in some cases, in order to survive—these animals need our respect. You can help by following the simple rule below, and by encouraging other park visitors to do likewise. Do not approach wildlife at close range. Their most basic needs include space to feed and roam, free from the influences of humans. When denied this, they may become stressed.

There’s a simple way to know if you are disturbing wildlife: if you cause an animal to move, you are too close.
Some things all visitors must know... hazards in Yellowstone National Park

Emergency—dial 911

Contact a ranger 344-7381

Yellowstone is a wilderness filled with natural wonders that are also potential hazards. There is no guarantee of your safety. Regulations are strictly enforced to protect you and the park’s wonders. All wildlife, especially bison and bears, are unpredictable and dangerous. View animals at a distance or from your car. Keep a safe distance from all wildlife. It is against the law to approach within 100 yards of bears or within 25 yards of other wildlife or within any distance where harassment occurs. For your safety and the animals' welfare, avoid all wildlife with young.

Avoid these situations

- camping violations
- pets off leash
- littering
- swimming in thermal pools
- removal of natural features
- approaching wildlife too closely
- spotlighting (viewing animals with artificial light)
- boating and fishing violations
- driving in the park with detachable side mirrors when not pulling trailers.

Beware of falling trees

Following the fires of 1988, thousands of dead trees, known as snags, were left standing in Yellowstone. These snags may fall with very little warning.

Be cautious and alert for falling snags along trails and roadways, and in campgrounds and picnic areas. Avoid areas with large numbers of dead trees. Again, there is no guarantee of your safety.

Scalding water can ruin your vacation

Stay on boardwalks and designated trails; watch for treaty and icy trails and boardwalks, especially in the morning. Scalding water underlies thin, breakable crusts; pools are near or above boiling temperatures. Each year, visitors of trail in thermal areas have been seriously burned, and people have died in the scalding water.

Thermal features are easily destroyed. Visitors throwing objects into these features have damaged a number of geysers and hot springs. Walking on them, carving or defacing them, or removing souvenirs pieces of formations destroys decades or centuries of intricate natural processes. It is illegal to throw objects into features, deface them or remove natural features from the park. Yellowstone’s thermal features are extraordinary natural wonders. Please help us to keep them that way.

Pets are prohibited in thermal areas. Swimming or bathing in thermal pools or streams whose waters flow entirely from a thermal spring or pool is prohibited. Thermal waters may contain organisms known to cause infections and/or amoebic meningitis, which can be quickly fatal. Swim at your own risk; for more information, ask at visitor centers.

Animals are unpredictable

Animals who are fed often become demanding and aggressive, cause personal injury, and must be destroyed. Dispose of garbage in bear-proofed trash or garbage cans. To decrease the likelihood of personal injury, store all food and cooking utensils in a secure place such as:

- the trunk of your car
- suspended 10 feet above the ground and 4 feet horizontally from a tree or post
- a food storage box, available in selected sites in campgrounds.

If you are involved in a conflict with a bear, (regardless of how minor) or if you observe a bear or bear sign, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Someone’s safety may depend on it.

Bears are dangerous

All of Yellowstone is Bear Country. People have been seriously injured, maimed, and killed by bears. Do not approach bears! Observe them at a distance (you are at greatest risk if you are closer than 100 yards). Bears may appear tolerant of people but are known to attack without warning. Feeding wildlife is unlawful. Animals who are fed often become demanding and aggressive, cause personal injury, and must be destroyed.

Odores attract bears! Bears need your concern—not your food. Never leave food or garbage unattended. Dispose of garbage in bear-proofed trash or garbage cans.

Warning: Bison are more dangerous than they appear. Each year visitors approach bison too closely and are gored. People have been killed by these animals which weigh up to 2,000 pounds and sprint at 30 mph, three times faster than you can run.

All wildlife are unpredictable and dangerous. Do not approach bison or any wildlife. View and photograph them from the safety of your vehicle. If an animal reacts to your presence, you are too close.

Watch your children

Your hand and your voice may be too far away once your child leaves your side. Please—protect yourself and your park.
Exploring Yellowstone; getting started

"Now that I'm here, where do I go?" It's not an unusual question, especially for first time visitors. Consider the facts: Yellowstone is one of the largest national parks in the lower 48 states, encompassing 2.25 million acres or 3,472 square miles. It is larger than the states of Delaware and Rhode Island combined and spreads across the borders of three states—Wyoming, Montana and Idaho. Thoroughly fifty miles of paved road wind through the park, crossing the Continental Divide three times. Elevations range from approximately 3,500 feet at the North Entrance almost 12,000 feet at Eagle Peak on the park's east boundary; mostly lie at 7,500-8,000 feet. Historically, visitors often referred to Yellowstone as "Wonderland," and that may be even more appropriate today. An unparalled array of geothermal phenomena—geysers, hot springs, steam vents and mud pots—are preserved here, evidence of a volcanic past (and future?).

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is famous for its colors, shapes, and waterfalls (the Lower Falls, at 308 feet, is the highest in the park). The park shelters a variety and abundance of wildlife found in few other places. Yellowstone Lake and numerous rivers, streams, and waterfalls constitute a major resource.

With so much to see and do, it's easy to be overwhelmed. The following tips and information will help you plan your time so that you can see as much as possible. Rangers at visitor centers can fill in the details and help you make the best of your visit to Yellowstone.

The park's major scenic attractions are located along the Grand Loop Road which roughly figure-eight shaped road in the center of the park. The total mileage around the Loop is 142 miles. The distance around the Upper Loop is 70 miles; the Lower Loop, 96 miles. Actual driving time is difficult to estimate because the maximum speed limit is 45 mph or lower where posted, roads may be narrow, winding, and full of pot holes and frost heaves, and traffic may be heavy and slow moving. Road construction is also a factor (see front and back of this guide). While this guide outlines the Grand Loop in a day, major attractions like Old Faithful Geyser and the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone can only be seen by driving a parking area and walking to the feature.

If you have limited time, consider spending it at just one area instead of trying to "see the park" from the road. Many people believe that to fully appreciate just the major attractions in Yellowstone requires a minimum of three days.

GEYSERS AND HOT SPRINGS

Yellowstone's volcanic past is evidenced in its geysers and hot springs. The world's greatest concentration of thermal features is located in Yellowstone; about 10,000 thermal features are known, of which 200 to 250 are geysers. Many of the most famous features can be found along the fifty mile road between Mammoth Hot Springs and Old Faithful. Areas of the rich activity include the Mammoth Hot Springs Terraces, Norris Geyser Basin, Fountain Paint Pot, Firehole Lake Drive, Geyser Basin, Biscuit Basin, Black Sand Basin, and the Old Faithful area. Visitor centers along this road are located at Mammoth Hot Springs, Norris Geyser Basin, and Old Faithful. An information station is found at Madison. Geysers and hot springs are also found at West Thumb Geyser Basin.

Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone extends from Canyon Village north to Tower Junction. However, the most famous and spectacular section, including the Upper and Lower Falls of the Yellowstone River, is seen from overlooks along the North and South Rim Roads in the Canyon Village area. The northernmost extent of the canyon is visible from Tower Fall and Calcite Springs overlooks 15 miles north of Canyon.

The drive between Tower Junction and Canyon Village goes over Dunraven Pass, the highest road in the park at 8,859 feet. Along the way you will find spectacular views of the Absaroka Mountains, the Yellowstone caldera, and, on a clear day, the Teton, Yellowstone, and, on a clear day, the Teton Mountain ranges. The southernmost extent of the canyon is visible from Tower Fall and Calcite Springs overlooks 15 miles north of Canyon.

LAKES

Yellowstone Lake, with 110 miles of shoreline and a 139 square mile surface area, is North America's largest mountain lake. Its relatively high elevation (7,783 feet) is one reason why the lake is locked at least half of the year. The area is prime habitat for a variety of birds and mammals, and spectacular scenery plus fishing and boating have long made the area popular with visitors. Nearby, Mud Volcano and West Thumb Geyser Basin hint at a complex geologic history; present activity is unique and ever-changing. A visitor center is located at Grant, an Information Station is found at West Thumb.

ACCESSIBILITY

These highlights will help you plan your visit to Yellowstone, but much is left for you to discover. If you supply the time and curiosity, Yellowstone's wonders will be revealed to you. May your visit be safe, rewarding and memorable.

YELLOWSTONE PARK MEDICAL SERVICES

We're there when you need us!

A Division of West Park Hospital—Cody, Wyoming

COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL CARE IN A WILDERNESS SETTING...

Lake Clinic, Pharmacy & Hospital Emergency Room, 24-hour service Clinic visits: Monday-Saturday 8:30am–6:30pm, daily
May 22-September 15
Phone (307) 242-7241

EMERGENCIES—DIAL 911

OLD FAITHFUL WILLIAMSON-

Old Faithful Clinic
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm, May 5-Oct. 22; closed Thursday and Friday prior to May 27 and after September 15; Phone (307) 545-7325

Mammoth Family Clinic
Hours: 8:30am-5:00pm; Monday-Friday, year round
June-August, phone (307) 344-7965

YELLOWSTONE PARK MEDICAL SERVICES

For more information, write the Park Accessibility Coordinator, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf only) (307) 344-2386.

Figuring out entrance fees

Entrance fees are $10 for a private, noncommercial automobile, or $4 for each visitor (ages 17-61, inclusive) entering by bicycle, bus, bicycle, or on foot. Fees are paid at several locations, including: West Thumb and Grand Teton entrances. A $15 annual pass (good from January 1 to December 31) can be obtained at any park entrance. The $25 Golden Eagle Passport, valid for one year, allows you to bring your vehicle, plus all passengers in a private noncommercial vehicle to any park location for which entrance fees are charged. The Golden Eagle Passport can be obtained for a one-time $10 fee. The Golden Access Passport (for the disabled) is still offered free of charge. The Golden Age Access Passports (for those 62 and older) can be obtained for a one-time $10 fee. The Golden Access Passport (for the disabled) is still offered free of charge. The Golden Age and Access Passports admit the holder and accompanying passengers in a private, noncommercial vehicle to national parks plus provide a 50 percent reduction in camping and other fees.

If you did not pay your entrance fee as you entered the park, please be prepared to pay it as you exit Yellowstone.

YELLOWSTONE PARK MEDICAL SERVICES

If you have been injured and need professional care, call the Park's Medical Clinic at (307) 344-7325. See the guide available for detailed information. Please use pullouts when viewing wildlife, and remember that Yellowstone's wildlife are wild; use binoculars or telephoto lenses for safe viewing and to avoid disturbing them.

History

Mammoth Hot Springs is park headquarters. It is also the site of Fort Yellowstone, built during the Army era (1886 to 1918) of park administration. The former Bachelor Officers' Quarters is now the Abingdon Visitor Center where a story of Yellowstone's colorful history is told.

The Museum of the National Park Ranger is located at Norris.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

See page 15 for a directory of commercial services. All facilities, accommodations and services are limited before and after that period. Please note opening and closing dates.

General park information is available by calling National Park Service headquarters at (307) 344-7381 or check the nearest newspaper for some park locations). Reservations for lodging, camping and use of equipment such as bus tours, horse rides, boat rental, etc. may be made through TW Recreationals Services, Inc. (call (307) 344-7321.

YPMS provides medical services to over 10,000 visitors and employees each year. Routine problems as well as unique cases are treated, including scalds, super-heated waters of thermal features; goings by bison, moose or elk; or, very rarely, lake monster sightings. Care is carefully and cautiously throughout your visit.

For more information, write the Park Accessibility Coordinator, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190; TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf only) (307) 344-2386.
**Other Useful Information**

**ACCIDENTS** Report all accidents or injuries to a park ranger.

**BICYCLING** Bicycling is permitted on established public roads and parking areas, and designated routes. There are no bicycle paths along roadways. Bikes are prohibited on backcountry trails and boardwalks. We strongly recommend that safety gear, including helmet and high visibility clothing, be worn by all bicyclists. Park roads are narrow and winding; most do not have a shoulder, or sidewalks are covered with snow. During April, May, and June, high, snow-capped mountains often create dangerous. Road elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet and relatively long distances exist between services and facilities. Motorists frequently do not see bicyclists and/or tied to an object is prohibited. Trails into the backcountry and areas near fire grates are provided.

**BOATING** A permit is required for vesseis, including float tubes, and must be obtained in person at any of the following locations: South Entrance, Lewis Lake Campground Visitor Center, Bridge Bay Marina and Lake Ranger Station. Non-resident boating permits only are available at the Canyon and Mammoth Visitor Centers, Northeast Entrance and Beecher Ranger Station. The fee is $20 (annual) or $10 (7 day) for motorized vessels and $10 (annual) or $5 (7 day) for non-motorized vessels. A Coast Guard approved personal flotation device is required for each person on boating.

**CAMPING** The maximum speed limit is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Drive defensively and wear seat belts. The maximum speed limit is 45 mph unless otherwise posted. Drive defensively and wear seat belts.

**CAMPSITES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>No. of Sites</th>
<th>Approx. Dates</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Elev (ft)</th>
<th>Toilet</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bridge Bay*</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>5/26-9/25</td>
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<td>7800</td>
<td>Flush</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canyon**</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>6/21-10/10</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6800</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mammoth</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>All Year</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>6200</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norris</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>5/19-9/18</td>
<td>7.50</td>
<td>7500</td>
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<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian Creek</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>6/9-9/1</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>7300</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Lake</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>6/9-10/31</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>7800</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pebble Creek</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>6/9-9/5</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>6900</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>Slough Falls Tower</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>6/25-9/11</td>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>6600</td>
<td>Pit</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fishing Bridge RV**</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>5/19-10/18</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>7800</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(8:00am-8:00pm)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shower/ Laundry</strong></td>
<td>Nearby Station</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Generator Dump</strong></td>
<td>Permit Station</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Defacing Park Features** Climbing is not recommended in designated campgrounds and in picnic areas. Most picnic areas have pit toilets, but none have drinking water. **Should you drink the Water?** Intestinal infections from drinking untreated water are increasingly common. Waters may be polluted by animal and/or human wastes. When possible, carry a supply of water from a domestic source. If you drink water from lakes and streams boil it a minimum of two minutes to reduce the chance of infection.

**STORMS** Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable. A sunny warm day may become fiercely stormy during the summer season—Lake, Mammoth, and Old Faithful (see pages 3 and 15 for more information). In case of medical emergencies while in the park, dial 911.

**Motorcycles** Motorcycles, motor scooters, and motor bikes must be operated on park roads; no off-road or trail travel is allowed. Operators must carry a valid state driver's license and vehicles must display valid state license plates.

**Permits** Permits required for boating, fishing, or overnight backcountry use; ask at visitor centers or ranger stations. Please carefully read the regulations and safety information you receive with your permit.

**Pets** Pets must be leashed and are allowed only within 25 feet of roads and parking areas. Leaving a pet unattended and/or tied to an object is prohibited. Pets are also prohibited on trails, in the backcountry, on boardwalks and in thermal areas.

**Picnic Areas** Overnight camping is not allowed in any of the park's picnic areas. Fires may be built only in fire rings permitted in picnic areas at Snake River, Grant Village, Bridge Bay, Cascade, Norris Meadows, Yellowstone River, Spring Creek, Nez Perce, and the east parking lot of Old Faithful. Liquid fuel stoves are prohibited. Rocks within the backcountry and in thermal areas. Pet rock is dangerous due to loose, crumbly rock. Climbing is not recommended in areas where fire grates are provided. All campfires and chimneys are prohibited on backcountry trails and in designated routes. There are no established public roads, parking areas, and designated routes. You are strongly encouraged to wear helmets and high visibility clothing. Because of potential hazards, we strongly recommend that all bicyclists ride carefully and defensively. Road elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet and relatively long distances exist between services and facilities. Motorists frequently do not see bicyclists and/or tied to an object is prohibited. Trails into the backcountry and designated routes. There are no established public roads, parking areas, and designated routes. You are strongly encouraged to wear helmets and high visibility clothing. Because of potential hazards, we strongly recommend that all bicyclists ride carefully and defensively. Road elevations range from 5,300 to 8,860 feet and relatively long distances exist between services and facilities.
Hiking in Yellowstone country

Yellowstone National Park, encompassing 2.2 million acres, is one of America’s premier wilderness areas. Most of the park is backcountry and managed as wilderness. Over 1,200 miles of trails are available for hiking. However, there are dangers inherent in wilderness: unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, remote thermal areas, cold water lakes, turbulent streams, and rugged mountains with loose, "rotten" rock are among them. Visiting wilderness means experiencing the land on its terms. You have chosen to explore and enjoy the natural wonders of Yellowstone, but there is no guarantee of your safety. Be prepared for any situation! Carefully read all backcountry guidelines and regulations.

Backcountry rules

To preserve Yellowstone’s backcountry and enhance your wilderness experience, the National Park Service has established the following regulations. Contact a park ranger before you begin a day hike or overnight trip.

PERMITS

Permits are required for some day hikes and all overnight trips. Yellowstone Park has a designated backcountry campsite system and a non-fee permit is required for overnight stays. Permits can be obtained only in person and no more than 48 hours in advance. Each designated campsite has a maximum limit for the number of people and stock allowed per night. The maximum stay per campsite varies from 1 to 3 nights per trip. A day-use permit is required for some areas.

Bear country

Yellowstone National Park is home to both grizzly and black bears. Although the chance of an encounter with a bear is low, there are no guarantees of your safety. Minimize your risks by following the guidelines below.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

Do not leave packs containing food unattended, even for a few minutes. Allow a bear a chance to live on its own. Bears have even once often results in the bear becoming aggressive about obtaining such food in the future. Aggressive bears present a threat to human safety and eventually must be destroyed or removed from the park. Please obey the law and do not allow bears or other wildlife to obtain human food.

WHILE HIKING

Make bears aware of your presence on trails by making loud noises such as shouting or singing. This lessens the chance of sudden encounters, which are few and inconclusive. If a woman chooses to hike or camp in bear country during menstruation, a basic precaution should be to wear internal lampongs, not external pads. Used tampons should be double bagged in a zip-lock type bag and stored the same as trash.

WHEN Camping

Never camp in an area that has obvious odors of bear activity such as digging, tracks, or scat.

Odors attract bears. Avoid carrying or cooking odorous foods. Keep a clean camp; do not cook or store food in your tent. All food, garbage, or other odorous items used for preparing or cooking food must be secured from bears. Hang all food, garbage, and odorous items at least 10 feet above the ground and at least 4 feet out from tree trunks. Treat all odorous products such as soap, deodorant, or other toiletries in the same manner as food.

Sleep a minimum of 100 yards from where you hang, cook, and eat your food. Keep your sleeping gear clean and free of food odors. Don’t sleep in the same clothes worn while cooking and eating; hang clothing worn while cooking and eating in plastic bags.

BEARS AND MENSTRUATING WOMEN

Considering bears’ highly developed sense of smell, it may seem logical that they could be attracted to odors associated with menstruation. Studies on this subject are few and inconclusive. If a woman chooses to hike or camp in bear country during menstruation, a basic precaution should be to wear internal lampongs, not external pads. Used tampons should be double bagged in a zip-lock type bag and stored the same as trash.

REPORT YOUR ENCOUNTER

If you are involved in a conflict with a bear, report it to a park ranger as soon as possible. Another’s safety may depend on it.

BEAR MANAGEMENT AREAS

Exceptional combinations of food, water, and shelter that draw grizzlies to some parts of Yellowstone more than others. In these Bear Management Areas, human access is restricted to reduce impacts on the bears and their habitat. Ask at ranger stations and visitor centers for more information.

Bear facts: characteristics of grizzly & black bears

Grizzly Bear

( Ursus arctos horribilis Ord)

COLOR: Varies from black to blonde; frequently with white tipped fur, giving a grizzled "silvertip" appearance.

HEIGHT: About 3-1/2 feet at the shoulder; reaches 8 to 7 feet when standing on hind legs.

WEIGHT: Adults range from 200 to 700 lbs. and average 350 lbs. Females are generally smaller than males.

HOME RANGE SIZE: Males: 621-2,096 sq. mi. (2,106-5,374 sq. km); Females: 211-542 sq. mi. (541-1,391 sq. km.)

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 15 to 20 years in the wild, 30 or more in captivity.

A small grizzly is often difficult to distinguish from a large black bear. However, all bears are dangerous; treat them with extreme caution. Sows with cubs are especially ferocious when protecting them from real or perceived danger. If you discover an animal carcass, be alert; these are important sources of food, especially during spring, and bears will aggressively defend their caches.

Black Bear

( Ursus americanus pallas)

COLOR: Varies from pure black to brown, cinnamon or blonde; in the Rocky Mountains about 60 percent are black with a brown muzzle.

HEIGHT: About three feet at the shoulder.

WEIGHT: Adults range from 135 to 300 lbs. Females are generally smaller than males.

HOME RANGE SIZE: Males: 6-124 sq. mi. (15-318 sq. km); Females: 2-45 sq. mi. (5-115 sq. km.)

LIFE EXPECTANCY: 15 to 20 years in the wild, 30 or more in captivity.

A line drawn under big toe across top of pad runs through top 1/2 of little toe on black bear tracks and through or below bottom 1/2 of little toe on grizzly tracks.

Sanitation

Bury human waste 6 to 8 inches below the ground and a minimum of 100 feet from a watercourse. Waste water should be disposed of at least 100 feet from a watercourse and a basic precaution should not pollute lakes, ponds, rivers, or streams by washing yourself, clothing or dishes in them.
**When bears leave the park...**

Wild, free-ranging bison have been a part of the Yellowstone landscape since prehistoric times. Primarily because of poaching and market hunting, the bison population declined until just after the turn of the century when less than 50 bison were known to exist in Yellowstone National Park.

In this century, bison populations have made a remarkable recovery, now numbering over 150,000 animals in private and public herds nationwide. Bison are not listed as federally endangered or threatened species. By 1994, the Yellowstone bison population increased to about 4,000 animals.

**Where are the bears?**

Until about 20 years ago, bears were a common sight in Yellowstone—along the roads, in campgrounds and developed areas. Massive traffic "bear jams," personal property damages, and injuries caused by bears were also common. From 1931 through 1969, bears, both black and grizzly, caused an average of 136 property damages and 48 personal injuries. Since 1975, when bears were protected, accidental bear deaths are essentially limited to vehicles, and aggressive bears involved in personal property damage or injuries had to be destroyed. The situation was not good for either people or bears, and the National Park Service sought to correct it.

What caused this situation? Bears were associating people with mealtimes. The presence of open garbage dumps and the willingness of travelers to stop and feed bears along the roadways only encouraged this situation. Simply put, bears had come to depend on peoples' food and garbage as a substitute for their natural diets.

During the late 1960s, an intensive bear management program began with the goals of restoring and maintaining natural populations of grizzly and black bears as part of the park's native fauna, and providing for visitor safety. The following objectives were designed to accomplish these goals:

1. **Public awareness:** Inform and educate people about the natural history and behavior of bears, how to minimize conflicts, and the importance of eliminating unnatural food sources.

2. **Eliminate unnatural food attractants:** All human food and garbage is secured and made unavailable to bears. Bearproof garbage cans, strict food security regulations, prohibitions on feeding wildlife, frequent garbage pick-ups, and hard-to-get garbage out of the park daily are measures taken to prevent bear-human conflicts from its first contact. Bear and human safety of other park visitors is insured through the cooperation of the Yellowstone National Park and the Department of the Interior.

3. **Prompt management response:** When prevention does not deter a bear from frequenting an area where people congregate, we try to modify the bear's behavior. Trapping and relocation to an area away from people is the most common method used. If attempts fail and the bear continues to pose a threat to people, it may be removed from the population.

4. **Continued research on and monitoring of bears and their activities:** Facts about bear distribution, population dynamics, behaviors, and the ecology of bear-human interactions are essential for evaluating the effectiveness of management programs.

To ensure the safety of people and protection of bears, areas with high levels of bear activity are patrolled by rangers and posted with warning signs or restricted. Most information about bear activity comes from people who report sightings or signs of a bear such as tracks or scat. Anyone who sees a bear, or is involved in a bear incident, should report it to a park ranger. The welfare of the bear and safety of other park visitors may be at stake.

As garbage was eliminated from bears' diets, most bears switched to natural foods. As the program progressed, the numbers of property damages and injuries were reduced, and the need to remove problem bears declined.

Today, bear management is no longer focused on correcting a problem but at preventing problems from developing. As of 1994, the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone area is believed to be stable or slightly increasing, compared to its declining status ten years ago (see article below).

**Are grizzlies nearing recovery?**

On July 28, 1975, under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service listed the grizzly bear (Ursus arctos horribilis) as a threatened species. A primary goal of the Endangered Species Act is to recover populations of species listed as threatened or endangered and to sustain, viable populations that no longer need protection under the Act. As part of this goal, recovery plans have been prepared for the grizzly bear and the grizzly bear was established in the 1993 Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan.

Under this plan, three population recovery goals must be achieved before the grizzly is removed from the threatened species list. The conservation strategy will also contain population triggers that will initiate relisting if the grizzly bear population falls below certain threshold levels.

If the three population parameters are still being achieved after the conservation strategy has failed to meet its goals, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may consider delisting grizzly bears.

Grizzly bears now roam wild and free in Yellowstone National Park.

**Wild, free-ranging bison have been a part of the Yellowstone landscape since prehistoric times.**

**In this century, bison populations have made a remarkable recovery, now numbering over 150,000 animals in private and public herds nationwide.**

**Bison are not listed as federally endangered or threatened species.**

**By 1994, the Yellowstone bison population increased to about 4,000 animals.**

**What caused this situation? Bears were associating people with mealtimes. The presence of open garbage dumps and the willingness of travelers to stop and feed bears along the roadways only encouraged this situation. Simply put, bears had come to depend on peoples' food and garbage as a substitute for their natural diets.**

**Grizzly bears now roam wild and free in Yellowstone National Park.**

**As garbage was eliminated from bears' diets, most bears switched to natural foods. As the program progressed, the numbers of property damages and injuries were reduced, and the need to remove problem bears declined.**

**Today, bear management is no longer focused on correcting a problem but at preventing problems from developing. As of 1994, the grizzly bear population in the Greater Yellowstone area is believed to be stable or slightly increasing, compared to its declining status ten years ago (see article below).**

**Bean continue to be observed in Yellowstone, many from the roadways. Most bear observations occur during early morning or evening hours near tree cover along the edge of open areas.**

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**Grizzly bears now roam wild and free in Yellowstone National Park.**
Join a ranger-naturalist...

If you think that "ranger-led activity" only means viewing a slide inventory of park plants and animals, think again! A variety of activities and programs led by ranger-naturalists are offered throughout the summer in Yellowstone. Activities vary from short talks and demonstrations at visitor centers to walks and hikes. Watch for roving rangers throughout the park. Many activities are handicapped accessible.

Program schedules change daily and weekly. To find out what is happening during your visit, purchase Discover Yellowstone, a magazine featuring schedules of ranger-led activities plus other information about the park. Discover Yellowstone is available at visitor centers, hotel or lodge gift shops, and Hamilton Stores throughout Yellowstone. Campground and visitor center bulletin boards are also a good source for program information.

Special Note: Ranger programs begin the week of May 29 and continue until Labor Day. Here are a few highlights, presented by area:

**CANYON**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (8:00pm starting August 6) at the Canyon Campground Amphitheater. During the day, join a ranger for activities along the canyon rims or in Hayden Valley.

**OLD FAITHFUL**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:00pm at the Old Faithful Visitor Center Auditorium. Every day, rangers lead other activities in and near the Old Faithful area.

**MADISON**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Madison Campground Amphitheater.

**MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Mammoth Campground Amphitheater. Rangers lead walks through the Mammoth Hot Springs Terraces; other history and wildlife activities are also offered.

**TOWER-ROOSEVELT**
Evening programs are offered at Tower Campground Amphitheater. Check locally for dates and times.

**LAKE-FISHING BRIDGE**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Fishing Bridge Amphitheater and Bridge Bay Campground Amphitheater. During the day, rangers lead a variety of activities including wildlife watches, explorations of Mud Volcano and the lakeshore, and more.

**GRANT**
Evening programs are offered nightly at 9:30pm (9:00pm starting August 6) at the Grant Village Amphitheater. During the day and early evening, join a ranger to explore West Thumb Geyser Basin. Other activities highlight wildland fire and Yellowstone Lake.

**NORRIS GEYSER BASIN**
Evening campfire programs are offered at 8:00pm at the Norris Campfire Campfire Circle; check locally for dates. During the day, explore the geyser basin with a ranger.

**ROVING RANGER-NATURALISTS**
Look for ranger-naturalists roving through areas near major park features. Feel free to ask them your many questions about Yellowstone!

**NORRIS GEYSER BASIN MUSEUM**
Brand new exhibits describe the geothermal features of the intriguing Norris Geyser Basin, features found elsewhere in Yellowstone, and the significance of these features worldwide.

**NORRIS BOOKSTORE**
An enhanced bookstore facility serves visitors to this interesting geyser basin.

**Kids—become a Junior Ranger**
Yellowstone National Park has an official Junior Ranger Program open to kids between 7 and 12 years of age. The goal of the program is to introduce children to the natural wonders of Yellowstone and their role in preserving them for the future.

Yellowstone's Nature also contains tips for predicting Old Faithful and a journal page to use and enjoy in the park or back at home. In the future we will expand the Junior Ranger program to include kids of different ages and abilities. Both kids and adults will benefit by sharing the fun of becoming a Junior Ranger.

**Contents**
- Ranger-led Activities
- Junior Ranger Program
- Visitor Centers
- Self-guiding and other trails
- Exhibits
- Artist-in-Residence
- Area Museums
- Yellowstone Association & Institute
- Concessions Activities
- Grand Teton National Park
Do-it-yourself... discover Yellowstone's wonders at your own pace

Visitor centers & museums

ALBRIGHT VISITOR CENTER, MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS Open year round. Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, and exhibits of the early history, exploration, and establishment of Yellowstone National Park. "The Challenge of Yellowstone," a film on the national park idea is shown throughout the day. Call (307) 344-2263 for more information.

OLD FAITHFUL VISITOR CENTER Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications, and exhibits on geothermal features open to the public in summer 1995. Call (307) 344-2812 for more information.

FISHING BRIDGE VISITOR CENTER Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information and publications. Exhibits on Yellowstone's birds and animals will help you identify some of the wildlife you may see in and around Yellowstone Lake. Call (307) 242-2450 for more information.

GRANT VISITOR CENTER Hours 9:00am-5:00pm through May 28; 8:00am-7:00pm May 29-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications. Kodak-sponsored park orientation slide program. Yellowstone and Fire exhibit and film tell how fires have been a part of Yellowstone's history for thousands of years. Call (307) 242-2650 for more information.

MADISON INFORMATION STATION Hours 8:00am-7:00pm May 27-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications. Call (307) 344-2821 for more information.

WEST THUMB INFORMATION STATION Hours 8:00am-7:00pm May 27-Labor Day; check locally for autumn hours. Information, publications.

Self-guiding trails

With the aid of a 25c trail guide, explore the park's features on foot. Stay on trails and boardwalks; watch your step in thermal basins and along steep drop-offs.

MUD VOLCANO Located approximately 6 miles north of Fishing Bridge Junction (approximately 10 miles south of Canyon Junction). Intriguing and explosive mudpots such as the Mud Volcano and the Dragon's Mouth have captured the imagination of park visitors through the years.

WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN Situated on the shores of Yellowstone Lake, boiling springs meet icy lake water. View West Thumb Bay, a volcanic explosion crater (or caldera).

ROADSIDE EXHIBITS You can find out about Yellowstone's fascinating geology, wildlife, scenery, and history on location! At scenic turnouts, points of interest, or trailhead parking areas, roadside exhibits give you on-the-spot information.

OTHER TRAILS Calcite Springs Overlook & Tower Fall Trail is located approximately 1-1/2 miles south of Tower Junction. From the trail you can see Calcite Springs' activity plus unique geological formations in the northernmost extent of the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone. Two miles south of Tower Junction is the Tower Fall area. A short trail leads from the parking lot to an overlook of the 132 foot waterfall. Bunsen Peak Trail provides a winds, sometimes steep, gravel surface for hikers and experienced cyclists.

FIRE TRAILS Located 6 miles east of Mammoth Hot Springs on the Mammoth-Tower road, the Children's Fire Trail is a good place to look at the effects of fire on an easy, level trail. After the fires of 1988, contributions from children, educational groups, and other organizations helped build this trail; trail development and enhancement continues today. The short, accessible Two Ribbons Trail winds its way through burned forest along the Madison River, about five miles east of the West Entrance.

LESS TRAVELED ROADS Off the beaten path, one-way drives of several miles beckon to the Yellowstone visitor who has a bit more time to explore the park's offerings. These include the Old Gardiner Road, which starts in Mammoth, traverses open sage grasslands with great views, and ends in Gardiner, Montana. The Blacktail Plateau Drive, with aspen, wildlife and open views, provides another auto tour opportunity in northern Yellowstone. Other less-traveled roads include Virginia Cascades Drive and Gull Point Drive. These rough roads, most of which are gravel, may be closed throughout the summer for resource management or weather reasons. Please check locally for locations and current information.

CYCLING OPPORTUNITIES Bicycling is yet another mode of transportation used in Yellowstone. Please see page 4 for information and regulations relevant to your cycling experience. A map and additional information on bicycling opportunities in Yellowstone are available at visitor centers.

Locator map

Roadside exhibits and more
Other exhibits, programs, activities

Artist-in-Residence

As part of the National Parks Touring Artists Program, Yellowstone National Park is sponsoring an artist-in-residence Sidney Wildesmith this summer. An artist and naturalist, Mr. Wildesmith combines an understanding of the natural world with hands-on artistic learning. His three- and four-day drawing and landscape painting workshops cost $75 and $150, respectively. These classes are open to all students, from beginning to advanced.

Yellowstone Institute

In 1978, the Yellowstone Association expanded its educational role in the park by sponsoring the Yellowstone Institute. Conceived to offer in-depth educational programs for the public, the Institute has grown from the first year's schedule of a dozen or so courses to the more than 70 courses offered in 1985. The Institute is based at the historic Buffalo Ranch in the Lamar Valley, but courses are conducted throughout the park. Among the topics you can explore are wildlife, grizzly bear ecology, birds, geology, nature photography, writing, art, fly fishing, lake canoeing, and Native American and mountain man history. The Institute program also includes a variety of backcountry experiences in alpine flowers, photography, bear safety and history.

Area museums

Like what you've seen? Here's more!

Five museums within a half-day's drive of Yellowstone's boundaries provide opportunities for continued knowledge and understanding of the natural wonders and history of the park.

The story of Yellowstone continues at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming. There, a new natural history exhibition called "Seasons of the Buffalo" focuses on the ecological history of the American bison. The Center's Plains Indian Museum tells the story of early humans in the area and the collection of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art provide visitors with artists' interpretations of Yellowstone's landscape and unusual features.

The story of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem begins with dinosaurs and paleontology and geology exhibits at The Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Montana. The museum houses the area's only planetarium for visitors who are interested in learning more about the universe. The City-County of the Whitney Gallery of Western Art provide visitors with artists' interpretations of Yellowstone's landscape and unusual features.

And in nearby Pinedale, the Museum of the Mountain Man examines the life of Jim Bridger, one of the first Euro-Americans to visit Yellowstone, and tells the story of early explorers, mountain men, and fur trappers.

The National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center, located in Dubois, Wyoming, draws you into the world of the bighorn. Exhibits highlight habitat, predator-prey relationships, lambing, and lamb survival behaviors.

Visits to museums outside and within park boundaries will enhance the Yellowstone experience and perhaps even provoke further reading and investigation.

For more information about special exhibitions, hours of operation, and admission fees, contact each museum independently, as follows:

- Buffalo Bill Historical Center
  - (307) 587-4771
- Museum of the Rockies
  - (406) 994-3456
- National Wildlife Art Museum
  - (307) 733-5771
- Museum of the Mountain Man
  - (307) 367-4101
- National Bighorn Sheep Interpretive Center
  - (307) 455-3439

 Yellowstone Association

The Yellowstone Association was founded in 1933 to assist with educational, historical and scientific programs for the benefit of Yellowstone National Park and its visitors. Among the Association's past and present projects are:

- A way for visitors to support educational, historic and scientific programs in Yellowstone.
- An informative newsletter and a subscription to Yellowstone Today, the park newspaper.
- A 15% discount on books sold by the Yellowstone Association in all visitor centers; discounts at many association bookstores in other national parks.
- Discounts on Yellowstone Institute class tuition.
- Memberships are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. For more information about the Yellowstone Association, write P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-2296.

You are invited to become a member of the Yellowstone Association. Membership benefits include:

- A way for visitors to support educational, historic and scientific programs in Yellowstone.
- An informative newsletter and a subscription to Yellowstone Today, the park newspaper.
- A 15% discount on books sold by the Yellowstone Association in all visitor centers; discounts at many association bookstores in other national parks.
- Discounts on Yellowstone Institute class tuition.
- Memberships are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law. For more information about the Yellowstone Association, write P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call (307) 344-2296.

I want to help educate people about the natural wonders of Yellowstone. To receive all the benefits of membership, complete and mail this form with your dues to: The Yellowstone Association, P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 (or leave at any Visitor Center sales desk).

Name
City
State Zip Phone

Annual Dues: Associate . . . . $25 Patron . . . . $250
Contribution . . . $50 Sponsor . . . . $500
Sustaining . . . $100 Benefactor . . . $1000

Make checks payable to "The Yellowstone Association"
Charge to Visa □ Mastercard □
Expiration date □ Signature

The printing of the Around the Park supplement to Yellowstone Today has been funded by a generous donation from the Yellowstone Association.

iMAGiNEYELLOWSTONE

Young artists and writers from across the country have expressed their appreciation of the park and its wild inhabitants in the juried 1995 iMAGiNEYELLOWSTONE art and writing exhibit. Endangered Species: Why Should We Care? Showing at the Canyon Visitor Center this summer, the exhibit celebrates the most outstanding of these creations.

The IMAGINEYELLOWSTONE Exhibit encourages lifelong appreciation of natural areas and involvement in preserving the values parks represent.

We hope you will take the opportunity to participate in IMAGINEYELLOWSTONE. Let your imagination soar and join us in the celebration!

Concessioner activities

Park concessioner TW Recreational Services offers a variety of activities including:

- Guided horseback rides
- Old West dinner cookouts
- Lake cruises and guided fishing trips
- Sightseeing bus tours
- Self-guided and group rentals
- Historic tours of the Old Faithful Inn and Lake Hotel

For information and reservations, contact any lodging front desk or activities desk throughout the park, or call (307) 344-7311.
To the south of Yellowstone, Grand Teton National Park provides spectacular scenery, numerous hiking opportunities, and its own set of campgrounds, exhibits, ranger-led programs, and other activities. Pick up a copy of the park newspaper, the Tetonwind, for complete information about services and facilities, and a more detailed map of Grand Teton National Park. Newspapers are available at the Colter Bay, Jenny Lake and Moose Visitor Centers, at the Flagg Ranch Information Station, and at the Moran Junction and Moose entrance stations.

### Camping

Five National Park Service campgrounds are available in Grand Teton National Park. The camping fee is $10.00 per night per site. Jenny Lake Campground is open to tents only. Other campgrounds will accommodate tents, trailers and recreational vehicles. All campgrounds have modern comfort stations, but none has utility hookups. The maximum length of stay is 7 days at Jenny Lake and 14 days at all other NPS campgrounds.

NPS campgrounds operate on a first-come, first-served basis. Advanced reservations are not accepted. Campgrounds fill to capacity during July and August; see chart below for approximate filling times and closing dates. For current status of campgrounds, ask at entrance stations or visitor centers in Grand Teton National Park. Additional camping facilities are available in nearby national forests and other areas outside the park.

Camping is not permitted along road-sides, in overlooks, nor in parking areas. Doubling up in campsites is not permitted; there are no overflow facilities.

Trailer Villages: Colter Bay and Flagg Ranch Trailer Villages are concessioner-operated facilities with full utility hookups, showers and laundry. Colter Bay has 112 sites; Flagg Ranch has 100 trailer sites and 75 tent sites. Advanced reservations are advisable. Call (307) 543-2861 for Flagg Ranch; call (307) 543-2811 for Colter Bay.

### Lodging & Clinic

**Lodging**—Several different lodging options are available in Grand Teton National Park. Please make your reservations directly with the service providers listed below:

- **Jenny Lake Lodge** (307) 733-4647
- **Colter Bay Cabins** (307) 543-2865
- **Flagg Ranch Village** (307) 543-2861 or (800) 443-5311
- **Jackson Lake Lodge** (307) 543-2865 or (307) 543-2811
- **Signal Mtn. Lodge** (307) 543-2831
- **Dornan’s Spur Ranch** (307) 733-2522

Other lodging can be found in Jackson and Dubois, Wyoming and in other areas surrounding Grand Teton.

**Climie**—Grand Teton Climie, located near Jackson Lake Lodge, is open 10:00am-6:00pm May 26-October 15. Call (307) 543-2814 or after hours (307) 733-8002.

**Flagg Ranch Village** (307) 543-2861

- **Signal Mtn. Lodge** (307) 543-2831
- **Dornan’s Spur Ranch** (307) 733-2522

### Activities

**Ranger-led Activities**—A full schedule of ranger-led activities is available throughout the summer. These range from short talks at visitor centers to hikes, kids programs, and much more! To find out what is going on during your visit, stop at Colter Bay, Jenny Lake, or Moose Visitor Centers or Flagg Ranch Information Station, or pick up a copy of the Tetonwind, Grand Teton’s park newspaper.

**Other Activities**—Summer visitor activities include hiking, sightseeing, boating, floating the scenic Snake River, horseback riding, and fishing. High elevation hiking trails are usually snow-covered until July. Backcountry camping requires a free permit that can be obtained at the Moose Visitor Center year round. Boating requires a Grand Teton boating permit, sold at visitor centers. A Wyoming fishing license is required in Grand Teton National Park.

**Grand Teton Campgrounds Summary**

- **Gros Ventre**
  - 360 sites
  - Evening or may not fill
- **Jenny Lake**
  - 49 sites
  - Restricted to tents
- **Signal Mountain**
  - 86 sites, trailer dumping station
  - 10:00 a.m.
- **Colter Bay**
  - 310 sites, showers, laundry trailer dumping station, propane
  - 12:00 noon
- **Lizard Creek**
  - 60 sites
  - 2:00 p.m.

**Approximate Filling Time**

- Evening or may not fill
- 8:00 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m.
- 12:00 noon
- 2:00 p.m.

**Approximate 1995 Season**

- April 24-October 6
- May 20-Sept. 25
- May 6-October 11
- May 20-Sept. 25
- June 3-Sept. 5

**Visitor Centers**

- **Moose Visitor Center**—Open year round. Hours 8:00am-5:00pm through June 3; 8:00am-7:00pm, June 4-Sept. 4; 8:00am-5:00pm starting Sept. 5. Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits, permits, publication sales. Park orientation video shown throughout the day. Telecommunications device for the deaf only (TDD): (307) 739-3400. Phone (307) 739-3369 for more information.

- **Colter Bay Visitor Center**—Open May 13-October 1
  - Hours 8:00am-5:00pm May 13-21; 8:00am-7:00pm, May 22-June 3; 8:00am-8:00pm June 4-Sept. 4; 8:00am-5:00pm Sept. 5-October 1
  - Information, audiovisual programs, exhibits, permits, publication sales. The Indian Arts Museum, opened by the David T. Vernon collection of Indian Art. Native American guest artists demonstrate traditional craftwork daily, June-Sept. Phone (307) 739-3594 for more information.

- **Jenny Lake Visitor Center**—Open June 4-Sept. 4
  - Hours 8:00am-7:00pm
  - Information, exhibits.

- **Flagg Ranch Information Station**—Open June 4-Sept. 4
  - Hours 9:00am-6:00pm.

**Emergency:** dial 911 or 739-3301
Wolves return to Yellowstone

This past March, 14 gray wolves (Canis lupus) were released from three fenced enclosures in Yellowstone National Park. The releases represent one tangible outcome of a plan developed over nearly two decades under the authority of the Endangered Species Act, with input by more than 100,000 people, to restore wolves in Yellowstone.

This plan, evaluated in an environmental impact statement (EIS) in 1992-1994, and under rules published in the Federal Register in November 1994, is to restore wolves to Yellowstone and central Idaho by establishing experimental populations of gray wolves in both areas. Copies of the rules, and of a summary of the final EIS, are available at park visitor centers or by calling (307) 344-2033.

The goal for Yellowstone wolf recovery is to establish 10 packs of wolves reproducing in the area for three consecutive years by the year 2002. The plan is to place approximately 15 wolves from Canada in three enclosures—about five wolves per one acre—each year for 3-5 years. Each group of wolves will be allowed to acclimate to their new surroundings in enclosures for several months before being released into the wild. The purpose of the acclimation period is to let them recover from the stresses of being captured and moved, and to reduce the likelihood that wolves might wander widely or try to return to their former homes.

The first group of wolves were captured and moved from Alberta in January, 1995. The removal of wolves for this restoration project will not significantly affect abundant wolf populations there. The gray wolves of western Canada are the same as those naturally recolonizing northern Montana, and that might have eventually returned to Yellowstone on their own. They also feed primarily on elk and deer. Wild wolves are shy, and may become frantic if unable to retreat. For this reason, the three acclimation sites were closed to the public when occupied by wolves. The areas were posted against entry, and park rangers were on duty 24 hours daily when wolves were in the pens.

While the wolves were temporarily penned, they were fed road-killed deer, elk, moose and bison. Security boxes, like large dog houses, were provided in the acclimation enclosures so the wolves could hide from humans or other wolves.

The reasons for winter release are numerous. Deep snow may discourage the wolves from attempting long distance dispersal. Nearly 20,000 elk, many of them vulnerable to wolf predation, are within a 30-mile radius of the 34 wolves. Pups born in spring are large and strong enough to make a living on their own after release. And, historic denning sites are located within a few miles of the release sites. Wolves could possibly recover these historic den sites.

Biologists speculate that, after release, some wolves may remain near the enclosures and establish pack territories. Some may move to other wild parts of the Greater Yellowstone area, and still others may come into conflict with livestock. Some may be killed by accidents, people, or other animals.

This spring, movements of released wolves have followed many of the expected patterns. From March through early May, the movements of all three packs of wolves varied greatly. Some stayed relatively close to the pen sites, while others, at times, have explored 50 miles from the release points, often over rugged, mountainous terrain. Although no wolves had come into conflict with livestock in the Greater Yellowstone area, one wolf was missing and presumed dead, with foul play suspected. In late May, the mate of the missing wolf gave birth to a litter of wolf pups.

All released wolves have been and will be radio collared, and biologists will monitor their movements from the ground and from aircraft as regular as weather permits. Information gained from these monitoring efforts will enable managers to evaluate the success of this reintroduction effort, and to modify the effort in future years, if necessary. This re-introduction will provide valuable insights about how to restore wolves and other large canids into other habitats.

Although setbacks are to be expected, most experienced wolf biologists in North America believe the restoration plan is practical, and will result in a recovered wolf population, possibly within the next decade.

The chances of visitors seeing wolves in Yellowstone are very slim. There won't be many of them here, and it is unlikely they will be very visible, especially during the first year. After wolves have had time to establish territories and reproduce, visitors may be more likely to hear or see wolves or wolf sign. In Denali National Park, Alaska, about 15% of park visitors see wolves.

Prior to 1870, gray wolves were common in the northern Rocky Mountains, including Yellowstone. By the 1930s, government predator control programs had eliminated wolves from Yellowstone.

Restoring wolves to Yellowstone is in keeping with national park goals to perpetuate all native species and their natural interactions with other species and their environment. As with other park wildlife programs, management emphasizes minimizing human impacts on natural animal population dynamics.

Whether visitors observe wolves or not, once again the greater Yellowstone area has a nearly complete complement of the native wildlife found here long before Yellowstone became the world's first national park.

Coyote or wolf?: identification facts

Chances are slim that you will see a wolf during your visit to Yellowstone. Chances that you will see a coyote are much better.

It can be difficult to distinguish between coyotes and wolves. In general, wolves are much larger than coyotes. The wolf track prints here is actual size; tracks can be even larger. The legs and muzzle of a coyote are particularly delicate in appearance; the legs of a wolf appear much longer in proportion to its body. Coyotes are rarely pure black or white in color and are often light to dark gray with rust or brown. Both animals live in packs and can prey on small as well as larger animals, such as elk.

The National Park Service monitors wolf activity in Yellowstone. Wolf observations from park visitors play a major role in detecting wolves in the park. If you think you see a wolf, you can keep your eyes out or ask a ranger at the nearest visitor center. For a look at mounted wolves, visit the second floor of the Albright Visitor Center in Mammoth Hot Springs.

SPECIES: COYOTE (Canis latrans) WOLF (Canis lupus)
APPEARANCE: delicate massive
HEIGHT: 16-20 in (0.4-0.5 m) 26-34 in (0.6-0.9 m)
LENGTH: 3.5-4.2 ft (1.1-1.3 m) 5-6 ft (1.5-1.8 m)
WEIGHT: 27-33 lbs (12-15 kg) 70-120 lbs (32-54 kg)
COLOR: varies from gray to tan with rust, varies from white to black to silvery gray; EARS: long and pointed long and pointed
MUZZLE: long and narrow thick and bushy
LEGs: thin and delicate thick and bushy
FEET: small—2.5 in (6.5 cm) wide very large—5.5 in (14 cm) long
TAIL: hangs straight down or out hangs straight down or out
The 1995 fishing season opens on some park waters as early as May 27, 1995. Anglers 16 years of age and older are required to purchase a Special Use Permit for fishing. Implemented in 1994, the permit system includes a $5 seven-day permit and a $10 season permit. Anglers 12-15 years of age are required to purchase a Special Use Permit, supervised by an adult who knows the fishing regulations. Permits are available at ranger stations, visitor centers and Hamilton Stores throughout the park. In addition, some sporting goods stores in surrounding communities will offer the permits for sale. Visitors wishing to obtain a permit by mail can write and request information from the Visitor Services Office, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

Recent legislation authorized the National Park Service to issue such Special Use Permits for certain park activities and to charge and recover the costs associated with those activities. All fees collected remain in the park to support the management of fisheries. The park's fisheries program includes research, education, and enforcement programs to manage aquatic systems as an integral part of the park ecosystem, preserve and restore native species and aquatic habitats, and provide recreational fishing opportunities for the enjoyment of park visitors. In a separate policy change, Yellowstone has implemented lead-free fishing (see box at right).

The 1995 fishing season in Yellowstone National Park opens on some waters on Saturday, May 27. However, Yellowstone Lake opens June 15. Streams flowing into and out of Yellowstone Lake and the Yellowstone River upstream from Canyon open July 15.

**Lake trout threaten Yellowstone Lake**

Non-native lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush) were discovered in Yellowstone Lake late last summer. They pose a serious threat to the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (Oncorynchus clarki bouvieri) population.

If lake trout succeed in spreading throughout Yellowstone Lake, they could replace the native cutthroat trout, with grave effects on the many animals that depend on cutthroat for their survival. Grizzly bears, bald eagles, white pelicans, osprey, cormorants, otters, and many other animals are all at risk.

This means we want your help to remove these fish from the lake. As of August, 1994, fishing regulations were modified to require that anglers keep and kill all lake trout of any size caught in Yellowstone Lake. Regulations for native cutthroat trout have not changed. Regulations for lake trout in other park waters also have not changed.

Please help us prevent further ecological harm. Keep and kill any lake trout you catch in Yellowstone Lake. Then help us learn more about this invasion. Present any lake trout caught in Yellowstone Lake to the ranger stations at Grant Village, Bridge Bay, or Lake for examination. Anglers may be asked to turn fish in for additional study, but may keep the fish if they prefer.

A panel of cutthroat trout and lake trout biologists met this winter to discuss options for maintaining a robust cutthroat population. Although it may be impossible to eliminate lake trout from Yellowstone Lake, we hope to control their numbers.

A longterm management plan, which will likely include mechanical removal of lake trout using nets, is being developed. All options considered will attempt to minimize impacts on the native cutthroat trout population of Yellowstone Lake.

**Fire: always a force in Yellowstone**

Naturally caused fires have occurred in the Yellowstone area as long as there has been vegetation to burn—at least since vegetation appeared following the retreat of glaciers about 12,000 years ago. Fire, climate, erosion, and a vast assortment of lifeforms ranging from microbes to mammals have all played roles in the creation of the vegetative landscape of Yellowstone.

During several thousand years of intermittent occupation of the Yellowstone area, Native Americans may also have influenced the vegetation in many ways—for example, by setting fires (accidental or intentional), moving seeds (in plant foods), or influencing the numbers or movements of plant-eating animals.

After the park was established in 1872, park managers gradually improved their ability to monitor and control fires. Virtually no effective fire fighting was done until 1886, when the U.S. Cavalry was placed in charge of protecting the park. In fact, these soldiers marked the date of federal involvement in fighting wildfires in the U.S.

In the early days, fire suppression was most effective on the park’s northern grasslands, where fires were not allowed to burn freely for nearly a century. Over the rest of the park, which is largely covered by forest, reliable and consistent fire suppression had to wait until modern airborne firefighting techniques became available in the late 1940s. As we saw in 1988—a year of unusually dry and windy conditions—even now, fires sometimes start during times when they cannot be controlled until the weather changes.

You can obtain more information on fires in Yellowstone, as follows:

- View roadside exhibits which explain particular aspects about fire and Yellowstone, at several sites throughout the park.
- Ask a ranger at any visitor center.
- Purchase a book or videotape about the fires at any Yellowstone visitor center.

**- What burned in 1988?**

How much of Yellowstone National Park burned in 1988? Unfortunately, the answer is not simple because wildland fire is not a simple phenomenon.

People tend to think of the effects of fire in extreme terms—all or nothing—when, in fact, a wide variety of effects are observed. Fire may consume all the needled and small branches of the tree canopy over a large area, or it may creep around on the surface of the ground and cause very little change in the forest. Usually there is a combination of burn types—for example, a central area of canopy burn and a fringe area of creeping surface fire. Outside this area will be a number of isolated spots where canopy burn or surface burn occurred. In addition, total fire perimeter acreage rarely reflects the "mosaic" nature of the burn (that is, the pattern of burned and unburned areas).

Detailed mapping of burned areas, which began in October 1988, used aerial photography, Landsat imagery and sophisticated computer analysis of images. Data indicate that the total area affected by fire in Yellowstone National Park was 793,880 acres. Translated into percentages, the figures show that a total of 25% of Yellowstone National Park was affected in some way by the fires of 1988. Of the various types of burn, 15% was canopy, 13% was mixed, 2% was nonforest, 2% was undifferentiated, and 4% was undetermined.
Yellowstone National Park is home to 1,050 species of plants. These species have evolved together over the last 10,000 years into the complex and interesting plant and animal communities that we see today. The park's native plant communities, and the wildlife populations they support, represent the core of the largest, nearly intact natural ecosystem in the temperate zone of the earth.

However, the future of this natural ecosystem is uncertain. The park is now threatened by at least 164 non-native plant species that have invaded over the past hundred years. Some of the more aggressive exotic species have become permanently established and are displacing native species at an alarming rate. If this invasion is permitted to continue, the park's native plant communities, wildlife populations, and even geothermal areas could be seriously impacted.

To address this threat park staff are working cooperatively with adjacent county, state and federal managers to help prevent the spread of non-native plants (noxious weeds) throughout the ecosystem.

Major potential sources for the spread of non-native plant seeds include:
- vehicles, including ORVs, that have driven through "weedy" areas with seeds dropping off hundreds of miles from the weed source;
- muddy shoes and boots;
- weed infested hay;
- dirty construction equipment;
- weed infested hay;
- and contaminated sand and gravel used in road projects.

Yellowstone Park Activities
-Capture the Adventure!

Guided Horseback Rides at Roosevelt; Stagecoach Rides at Roosevelt; Lake Cruises, Boat Rentals, Guided Fishing Trips at Bridge Bay Marina on Yellowstone Lake; Sightseeing Tours from all major locations; Self-guided auto tour rentals.

For information and reservations, contact any lodging front desk or activities desk located throughout the Park or call (307) 344-7311.

Yellowstone Today is produced by the Division of Interpretation, Yellowstone National Park, in cooperation with the Yellowstone Association and park concessionaires. For more information, call (307) 344-2258.
As you drive through the world's first national park today, imagine it covered by a thick blanket of snow. A winter visit to Yellowstone will provide you with an unforgettable vacation where cross-country skiing and snowcoach touring are without equal. Enjoy all that Yellowstone has to offer during this season...wildlife in abundance, frozen lakes, icy waterfalls, the Old Faithful panorama.

On June 2nd of this year, the Yellowstone Nature Shop will open its doors for the first time. Devoted to the many natural facets of Yellowstone and its surrounding ecosystem, this shop will concentrate on products which showcase the uniqueness and beauty of this special place.

In an effort to encourage all visitors to enjoy their stay as fully as possible, a small "Participatory" area will feature items helpful in preparing for a hike in Yellowstone. Products to enhance the photographic opportunities will help you capture the uniqueness of Yellowstone on film.

Hamilton Stores, Inc. extends both an invitation to visit the Nature Shop and a wish for a happy and memorable park visit.

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Directory of Commercial Services

Facilities & Services offered in Yellowstone National Park by Hamilton Stores, Inc. * TW Recreational Services, Inc. * Yellowstone Park Service Stations

Yellowstone Park Medical Services

Dates may be subject to change

Reservations are suggested for dining, lodging & activities; inquire at any lodging front desk or activities desk, or call TW Recreational Services at (307) 344-7311 or TDD (307) 344-5395.

**Accommodations**

OLD FAITHFUL INN - Rooms, May 5-October 22
OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - Rooms and cabins, May 12-October 8
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, cabins, May 13-October 1
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - Cabins, May 19-September 17
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL - Rooms, May 19-September 17
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, May 13-October 1
CANYON LODGE - Rooms, cabins, June 3-Aug. 28
LAKE LODGE - Cabins, June 10-September 18
ROOSEVELT LODGE - Cabins, June August 28

**Restaurants, Cafeterias**

Dinner reservations required at starred locations. Inquire at any lodging front desk or dining room host stand.

*OLD FAITHFUL INN DINING ROOM - May 6-October 22
OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - Rooms, May 12-October 8
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 13-October 1
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 19-September 17
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 19-September 17
GRANT VILLAGE DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 26-September 24
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 27-September 15
LAKE LODGE CAFETERIA - Rooms, May 10-August 28
GROUSE LODGE DINNER SNACK BAR - June 3-August 27

**General Stores**

MAMMOTH GENERAL STORE - Open year round
OLD FAITHFUL PROCESSED MEAT COUNTER - May 12-October 22
CANYON LODGE PROCESSED MEAT COUNTER - May 12-October 22
GRANT VILLAGE PROCESSED MEAT COUNTER - May 20-September 17
LAKE LODGE PROCESSED MEAT COUNTER - May 10-September 24
LAKE LODGE SNACK BAR - June 3-August 27

**Photo Shops, Gifts, Souvenirs**

**OLD FAITHFUL PHOTO SHOP - May 5-October 22**
**CANYON PHOTO SHOP - May 5-October 22**
**YELLOWSTONE NATURE SHOP, MAMMOTH - June 2-Sept. 6**

**Light Meals, Fast Foods**

MAMMOTH GENERAL STORE - Open year round
CANYON PHOTO SHOP - April 15-October 23
MAMMOTH GENERAL STORE - May 22-September 15
GRANT VILLAGE MINI STORE - May 5-October 10
OLD FAITHFUL BAC STORE - May 6-September 14
FISHING BRIDGE GENERAL STORE - May 13-Sept. 17
MAMMOTH TERRACE GRILL - May 13-Sept. 24
LAKE LODGE HOTEL DELI - May 13-Sept. 30
LAKE LODGE STORE - May 14-October 1
OLD FAITHFUL FOUR SEASONS DELI - May 19-September 5
TOWER FALL STORE - May 19-September 20
OLD FAITHFUL GENERAL STORE - May 20-September 25
LAKE LODGE SNACK SHOP - May 27-September 24
BRIDGE BAY MARINA STORE - May 26-September 13
ROOSEVELT STORE - June 10-August 28
CANYON LODGE SNACK BAR - June 3-August 27

**Hotel and Lodge Gift Shops**

OLD FAITHFUL INN - May 5-October 22
OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - May 12-October 8
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - May 13-October 1
FISHING BRIDGE RV PARK - May 19-September 17
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - May 19-September 17
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - May 19-October 1
CANYON LODGE - May 26-September 24
CANYON LODGE - June 3-September 10
LAKE LODGE - June 10-September 18
ROOSEVELT LODGE - June 10-August 28

**Public Showers and Laundry**

FISHING BRIDGE RV PARK - Showers and laundry, May 19-September 18
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - Showers, May 19-September 16
CANYON VILLAGE CAMPGROUND - Showers and laundry, June 1-August 5
LAKE LODGE - Laundry, June 1-August 18
GRANT VILLAGE CAMPGROUND - Showers and laundry, June 1-August 10

**Automotive Banking**

24-hour cash available at the Old Faithful Inn, Lake Yellowstone Hotel, and Canyon Lodge. CIRRUS and PLUS automatic network machines will be in service for cash anytime during these lodging facilities' seasons.

**Lightning Strikes**

LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, May 13-October 1
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE - Cabins, May 19-September 17
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL - Rooms, May 19-September 17
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, May 13-October 1
CANYON LODGE - Rooms, cabins, June 3-Aug. 28
LAKE LODGE - Cabins, June 10-September 18
ROOSEVELT LODGE - Cabins, June 10-August 28

**Restaurants, Cafeterias**

Dinner reservations required at starred locations. Inquire at any lodging front desk or dining room host stand.

*OLD FAITHFUL INN DINING ROOM - May 6-October 22
OLD FAITHFUL SNOW LODGE - Rooms, May 12-October 8
LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 13-October 1
MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS HOTEL DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 19-September 17
OLD FAITHFUL LODGE DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 19-September 17
GRANT VILLAGE DINING ROOM - Rooms, May 26-September 24
LAKE LODGE CAFETERIA - June 3-September 10
ROOSEVELT LODGE DINING ROOM - June 10-August 28
ROOSEVELT LODGE DINNER COOKOUT - June 11-August 27

**Hospital**

LAKE YELLOWSTONE HOTEL - Rooms, May 13-October 1
CANYON LODGE - Rooms, cabins, June 3-Aug. 28
LAKE LODGE - Cabins, June 10-September 18
ROOSEVELT LODGE - Cabins, June 10-August 28

**Medical Services**

MAMMOTH CLINIC - Open Sept. 1-May 31 weekdays; June 1-August 31, daily; phone (307) 344-7966
OLD FAITHFUL CLINIC - May 5-October 22; closed Thursday and Friday prior to May 27 and after Sept. 15; phone (307) 546-7295
LAKE HOSPITAL - May 22-September 15; phone (307) 242-7241

**Backcountry Tours**

PARKWIDE - Write to Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190 or call the National Park Service, (307) 344-7381, for a list of certified outfitters. June-September

**Motorcoach Tours**

LOWER LOOP TOUR - Departs from locations along the Lower Loop only.

**Upper Loop Tour** - Departs from Lake Hotel, Fishing Bridge RV Park, and Canyon Lodge.

**Grand Loop Tour** - Departs from Gardiner, MT and Mammot Hot Springs Hotel.

**Service Stations**

**OLD FAITHFUL, Lower Station - April 15-November 5**
**CANYON VILLAGE - April 21-November 5**
**GRANT VILLAGE - May 1-November 5**
**MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS - May 10-October 9**
**FISHING BRIDGE - May 13-September 30**
**OLD FAITHFUL, Upper Station - May 27-August 27**
**TOWER JUNCTION - June 10-August 30**
**Diesel fuel is available at these stations.**

**OLD FAITHFUL REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-August 27; wrecker service from Old Faithful stations April 15-September 30.**

**FISHING BRIDGE REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-September 10; wrecker service from Fishing Bridge station May 27-September 10.**

**FISHING BRIDGE REPAIR SERVICE - May 27-September 10; wrecker service from Fishing Bridge station May 27-September 10.**

**GRANT VILLAGE REPAIR SERVICE - June 3-September 4; wrecker service from Grant Village station May 1-Nov. 5.**

**FISHING BRIDGE LP GAS - May 13-September 29**

**OLD FAITHFUL LP GAS - May 27-September 27**

**GRANT VILLAGE LP GAS - June 3-October 7**

**Marina**

BRIDGE BAY MARINA - Dock rental May 29-September 24; Store and tackle rental May 26-September 13; Scenic cruises excursions June 3-September 24; Boat rental, guided fishing trips May 15-September 17

**Horse Operations**

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS - Trail rides.

May 20-September 23

CANYON LODGE - Trail rides. June 9-Sept. 9
ROOSEVELT LODGE - Trail rides. June 10-August 27; Stagecoach Rides. June 10-August 27; Old West Dinner Cookouts: June 11-August 27
Yellowstone roads and facilities

Emergency: dial 911
Contact a ranger: (307) 344-7381

Madison-Old Faithful road work
(see color on map for area affected)
Thru May 31. Open with up to
30 minute delays.

June 1-Sept. 4
Open 9:00am-9:00pm
with up to 30 minute
delays; closed all other
times.

Sept. 5-30
Weekdays: Open 7:00-
10:00am and 3:00-6:00pm
with up to 30 min. delays;
closed all other times.
Weekends: Open 7:00am
Saturday through 9:00pm
Sunday with up to
30 minute delays.

October 1
Closed for the season.

East Entrance road work
(see color on map for area affected)
Thru June 15
Open with up to
30 minute delays.

June 16-Sept. 4
Open 9:00am-9:00pm
with up to 30 minute delays;
closed all other times.

Sept. 5-Nov. 1
Open 7:00-10:00am
and 6:00-9:00pm
with up to 30 minute delays;
closed all other times.

Visitor Center or
Information Station
Campground
Campground—
Hard-sided vehicles only
Food Service
General Store
Marina
Auto Repair

Hospital or Clinic
Gasoline
Rest Rooms
Full Services*

A listing of commercial facilities and services, with opening and closing dates for the 1995 season, is found on page 15.

*Full service indicates lodging, food service, general store, rest rooms and telephone.

Other telephones are located throughout the park.

This map courtesy of Conoco—providing petroleum products since 1917. All service stations in Yellowstone offer environmentally sensitive fuels, specially formulated by Conoco to reduce hydrocarbon emissions and decrease other pollution-related problems. Conoco is also a major contributor to the Museum of the National Park Ranger.