Yosemite Name Changes
Be aware that the names of the following facilities have been changed, the new names include:
• Half Dome Village (formerly Curry Village)
• Yosemite Valley Lodge (formerly Yosemite Lodge)
• The Majestic Yosemite Hotel (formerly The Ahwahnee)
• Big Trees Lodge (formerly Wawona Hotel)
• Yosemite Ski & Snowboard Area (formerly Badger Pass Ski Area)
• Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge)

Yosemite Shuttle System

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day. See schedule posted at shuttle stops.

In the event of snow and ice, busses may suspend service to shuttle stops #15 - #19.
Celebrating 100 Years of Service
The National Park Service turns 100-years-old on August 25, 2016! The Centennial will kick off a second century of stewardship of America’s national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs. Join the celebration to explore, learn, discover, be inspired, or simply have fun in over 400 national parks. Visit www.nps.gov/yose/anniversary or FindYourPark.com to find more information about celebration events happening in Yosemite throughout the year.

NPS Centennial at Yosemite Calendar
April 16-24, 2016
National Park Week
Free admission to all National Parks.

National Park Week is America’s largest celebration of national heritage. It’s about making great connections, exploring amazing places, discovering open spaces, enjoying affordable vacations and enhancing America’s best idea—the national parks!

April 23, 2016
Yosemite Earth Day and Junior Ranger Day celebration
Enjoy games, interactive activities, volunteer opportunities and demonstrations that allow you to experience how the park and its partners practice sustainability in Yosemite.

May 29, 2016
90th Anniversary of the Yosemite Museum
In honor of the 90th anniversary of the museum and the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, there will be a special museum exhibit this summer.

June 4, 2016
National Trails Day
Join in on the country’s largest celebration of trails. More details to come.

August 25, 2016
NPS 100th Anniversary
Celebrate with us. More details to come.

August 25-26, 2016
NPS Birthday Weekend
Free admission to all National Parks in honor of the NPS Centennial.

September 21-25, 2016
NPS Birthday Weekend
Several classes are offered each week. Some require fees. Learn more and sign up at the Village Store, and is open daily from 9am to 4:30pm (closed at noon for lunch). See page 6 for details.

September 24, 2016
National Public Lands Day
Free admission to all National Parks.

November 11, 2016
Veterans Day
Free admission to all National Parks.

FREE Interagency 4th Grade Pass
A free annual pass for 4th grade students to have free access to any federal land or water during the school year from September 1 to August 30. Present a paper voucher at any park entrance to obtain the pass. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for details.

Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy
Are you looking for a memorable way to experience Yosemite, tailored to your interests and ability? Our expert naturalist-guides will enhance your understanding of the park as you walk among Yosemite’s famous cliffs, trees and waterfalls. Whether you want to explore the park’s flora and fauna while taking a gentle saunter along the river or learn about Yosemite’s geology during an exhilarating hike, we’ll help you create the perfect outdoor experience. Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or 209/375-2317 x10 to find your adventure today.

Go to the Theater
After a day filled with exploring the park, head to the Yosemite Theater to relax and enjoy a show! Celebrate Yosemite’s culture and history as you meet the park’s first guardian, Galen Clark; join a ranger to explore nature through a famous work of art; hear true tales from Search and Rescue missions; or discover the Valley’s vertical landscape through a rock-climber’s eyes.

See page 6 for details.

Yosemite Art Center Workshops
Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching artist-led workshops, held Monday-Saturday from 9:45am to 2pm in Yosemite Valley. Meet at the Yosemite Art Center in the morning, then head outside (weather and media permitting) to capture the park’s beauty in your art. Registration is $10 per person per day. Call 209/372-4207 to sign up; walk-ins welcome when space is available. Can’t make it for a workshop? Stop by to browse our selection of art supplies, gifts and original artwork! The Art Center is located next to the Village Store, and is open daily from 9am to 4:30pm (closed at noon for lunch). See page 6 for details.

Take a Photography Class
Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Some require fees. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. See pages 4 and 5.

 Lose Something in Yosemite?
For items lost or found in the park, file a lost/found report by emailing yose_lostandfound@nps.gov.
Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. It is open year round and may be reached via Highway 41 from Fresno, Highway 140 from Merced, Highway 120 West from Manteca, and via the Tioga Road (Highway 120 East) from Lee Vining. The Valley is known for massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, its plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and its attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls will be dry until rain and snow recharge it, a moderate hike will take you to Vernal and Nevada Falls. Yosemite’s meadows are great places to see wildlife and to photograph the winter scenery. Admire El Capitan, the massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the Valley by foot, car or with a tour, the scenery will leave you in awe and eager to see what’s around the next corner.
Glacier Point Road

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley. The road stays open as weather permits, however, overnight parking along it ends October 15. Glacier Point Road closes beyond the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area after the first significant snow fall. When the road is snow-covered and conditions permit, a system of cross-country ski tracks are maintained on it. From Yosemite Valley, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), then turn left onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, when the road is open, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating view looking down 3,214 feet into Yosemite Valley.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1½ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s south entrance station. As of July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is closed for restoration, see page 7 for details. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. For more information about hiking trails in the Wawona area, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio, adjacent to the Big Trees Lodge. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill.

Crane Flat and Tuolumne Grove

Crane Flat is located 16 miles from Yosemite Valley at the junction of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads. A number of hikes through pleasant meadows are available—when snow covers the ground these turn into delightful ski and snowshoe tracks. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area located on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias. Or, park at Merced Grove trailhead and walk two steep miles down to this small grove. These groves north of Yosemite Valley are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off limits to vehicles. Remember that the walk down is easier than the walk back up.

Tuolumne Meadows and Tioga Road

The Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. The road closes after the first big snowfall, and overnight parking ends on October 15. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 to just under 10,000 feet. Tuolumne Meadows embodies the high-country of the Sierra Nevada. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. In winter, Tuolumne Meadows is often reached by skiers via the Snow Creek Trail from the Mirror Lake trailhead, a short distance east of Yosemite Valley.

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hyroelectric power for the City of San Francisco, is home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. The area’s low elevation makes it a good place to hike in autumn and winter. The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles (1 hour 15 minutes) from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120W) and the Evergreen Road. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open from 5am to 7pm through April 30, then 7am to 9pm through September 5. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available while the road is open. Vehicles and/or trailers over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not permitted on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Visitors to Yosemite leave behind 2,200 tons of garbage per year. That is equal to 3,919 dumpsters filled with trash.
- Yosemite already diverts 60 percent of waste collected in the park from the landfill, which puts it above the average 50-percent diversion rate for the rest of the parks managed by the NPS.
- Proper waste management protects park wildlife. Through the efforts of staff and visitors, Yosemite has reduced the number of bear incidents; things such as bears breaking into cars for human food, and stealing food from campsites went from a peak of about 1,600 in 1989 to just 76 in 2015. Please use proper storage containers and always clip the dumpsters.
- Yosemite’s tap water is some of the best water in the State – enjoy it by filling your reusable water bottle!

Winter Weather and Driving in Yosemite

The Tioga, Glacier Point, and Mariposa Grove Roads are closed each year from after the first significant snowfall to late May or early June. Other roads are generally plowed and maintained, but can close or present delays during storms. Motorists are advised to always carry chains and check weather and road conditions before travel. Icy and wet roadways can exist throughout the park! To check road conditions, call 209/372-0200 for roads inside the park and 800/427-7623 or visit www.dot.ca.gov for highways connecting to Yosemite, outside the park.

**Chain Control Information:**

You must have tire chains or cables in your possession when entering a designated chain control area, even if you're driving a four-wheel drive or rental vehicle.

- **R1** - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,000 pounds AND your car or pickup has mud/snow tires installed, (look for “M+S” on the wall of the tire).
- **R2** - Chains Required, unless you are driving a car, pickup truck, or SUV weighing less than 6,500 pounds AND your car has snow tires installed on all four wheels AND has four-wheel drive or all-wheel drive engaged.
- **R3** - Chains Required, on ALL vehicles (chains on 2 wheels of a 4-wheel drive).
Yosemite Valley

Experience the Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world’s most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the National Park movement.

Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. They are located west of the main post office, near shuttle stops #5 and #9. The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits and learn how Yosemite’s landscape formed and how people interact with it.

YOSEMITE FILMS

Two films are shown daily, every half-hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. Ken Burns’ Yosemite: A Gathering of Spirit plays on the hour and The Spirit of Yosemite plays on the half-hour in the Theater behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, and jewelry. Open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery is open daily from 9am to 5pm, from 9am to 6pm beginning May 18. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 5 for photo walk and other event times. For more information call 209/372-4211 or visit www.anseladams.com.

EXHIBIT

Charles Cramer: 40 Years of Photography

March 6, 2016 - April 23, 2016

Charles Cramer is widely regarded as one of the great photographers still actively working today. He’s a master printer known for his use of Gelatin Silver and Dye Transfer and his digital printing methods. For 40 years, Mr. Cramer has explored and photographed the iconic mileuks of Yosemite, Zion and the new frontiers of Antarctica. In celebration of his momentous career, The Ansel Adams Gallery will be hosting a new exhibition titled “Charles Cramer: 40 Years in Photography,” which will feature works made between 1976 and 2016. The exhibition will open on March 6 and go through April 23. We hope you can stop by and see Mr. Cramer’s work in person while in Yosemite.

NEW EXHIBIT

James McGrew: The Yosemite Anniversary Paintings

April 24, 2016 - June 4, 2016

In the tradition and style of early paintings that helped spread awareness for Yosemite and lead to its protection and management as a National Park, James McGrew’s solo show features all original oils painted during the Yosemite anniversaries including Yosemite N.P. 125 year (2015), and National Park Service 100 year (2016). Most paintings were produced entirely en plein air (on location in Yosemite).

The exhibition will open on April 24 and run through June 4 at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. We hope you will join us as we continue to celebrate the anniversary of Yosemite National Park and The National Park Service.

Yosemite Renaissance 31 Art Exhibition

Yosemite Renaissance is an annual exhibit, now in its thirty-first year, which encourages diverse artistic interpretations of Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada. Its goal is to bring together the works of serious contemporary artists that do not simply duplicate traditional representations but establish a continuum with past generations of Yosemite artists. For this year’s competitive exhibit there were 973 entries, resulting in an exhibition of 55 paintings, photographs and three-dimensional works by artists throughout the country. Yosemite Renaissance 31 opens on February 27 at the Yosemite Museum Gallery and continues through May 1, 2016. The Museum Gallery is open from 11am to Noon and 1pm to 4pm daily.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center. The museum is open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paute people from 1850 to the present. The Indian Cultural Museum is open from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch.

YOSEMITE FILMS

Two films are shown daily, every half-hour beginning at 9:30am (except on Sundays when the first showing is at noon). The last film is at 4:30pm. Ken Burns’ Yosemite: A Gathering of Spirit plays on the hour and The Spirit of Yosemite plays on the half-hour in the Theater behind the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

WILDERNESS CENTER

Beginning April 29, the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, and a variety of maps and books are available. Until April 29th, wilderness permits and bear canisters can be obtained at the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center seven days a week from 9am to 5pm.
Events and Programs

Where to go and what to do

Yosemite Valley

9:00am JUNIOR RANGER TALK 15 min. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, near shuttle stops S89, NPS.
10:00am Ranger Walk - Bears (April 10, 17 and 24 Only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stops S89, NPS.
12:30pm Ask A Climber (May Only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitain and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS)
1:00pm Yosemite Art Center - Photography Workshops 3 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. Free. Registration required. Contact Yosemite Art Center (209) 372-0200. Purchase tickets at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC)
3:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH)
4:00pm John Muir and Teddy Roosevelt in Yosemite (May 8 Only) 1 hr. Sign up and meet at Yosemite Museum. Purchase tickets at LaCorte Memorial Lodge. Limited to 50 guests. Shuttle Stop #12, (SC)
9:00pm Night Prowl 1 hr. Explore the night on a hike with a trained Naturalist! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YC) $
9:00pm Starrry Night Skies Over Yosemite 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YH) $

9:30am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (TAAG) (YH)
10:00am Ranger - Yosemite’s First People (May 2, 9 and 16 Only) 1.5 hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum, near shuttle stops S89, NPS.
12:30pm Ask A Climber (May Only) 4 hrs. Join a ranger at the El Capitan Bridge for this informal program. Use telescopes to observe climbers on El Capitain and learn about climbing in Yosemite. (NPS)
1:00pm Ansel Adams’ Legacy and Your Digital Camera Photography Class 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) (YH)
3:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH)
7:00pm Starry Night Skies Over Yosemite 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YH) $

8:30am Yosemite Bird Walk 1.5 hrs. Meet at Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to discover the Valley’s springtime birds. (YC) $
9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) (YH)
9:45am Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) $
10:00am Ranger Walk - Generations 4 hrs. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) (YC)
1:00pm Yosemite Plant Walk 2 hrs. Meet at Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to discover the Yosemite’s springtime plants and flowers. (YC) $
2:00pm Ranger Walk - Bears (May 5 and 12 Only) 1.5 hrs. Lower Pines Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19. (NPS)
3:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH)
7:00pm Yosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue 90 mins. Presentation by Ranger Alan Hageman. Purchase tickets at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
9:00pm Hors d’Oeuvres and Owls 1 hr. Discover owls up close! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YC) $

9:45am Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) $
10:00am Ranger Walk - Yosemite Art Center - Exploring Nature with Ranger Erik 90 mins. Interactive family-friendly show with Ranger Erik Westendahl. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
1:30pm Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) $
4:00pm Ranger Walk – Trees 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) $
11:00am Yosemite Theater - Return to balance: A Climber’s Journey 1 hr. Jeremy Evans, Nature Photographer, Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge). Purchase tickets at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
1:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH)
7:00pm Yosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue 90 mins. Presentation by Ranger Alan Hageman. Purchase tickets at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
9:00pm Starry Night Skies Over Yosemite 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YH) $

Saturday

8:30am Yosemite Bird Walk 2 hrs. Meet at Yosemite Art Center for an easy stroll to discover the Valley’s springtime birds. (YC) $
9:00am Camera Walk 1.5 hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery. (TAAG) (YH)
9:45am Art Workshop 4 hrs. Yosemite Art Center. See page 6 for more information. (YC) $
10:00am Ranger Walk - Yosemite Art Center - Exploring Nature with Ranger Erik 90 mins. Interactive family-friendly show with Ranger Erik Westendahl. Purchase tickets at Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
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1:00pm Historic Majestic Hotel Tour 1 hr. Immerse yourself in the history of and meaning behind The Majestic Yosemite Hotel. Sign up at the Majestic Yosemite Hotel. (YH)
7:00pm Yosemite Theater - Yosemite Search and Rescue 90 mins. Presentation by Ranger Alan Hageman. Purchase tickets at the Valley Visitor Center Bookstore. (YC) $
9:00pm Hors d’Oeuvres and Owls 1 hr. Discover owls up close! For tickets and information please call or visit any tour desk. (YC) $
Yosemite in Winter

NATURALIST PROGRAMS
Naturalists give walks and talks about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history, every day. See page 5 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

RANGER PROGRAM—YOSEMITE INSIDE
Join a ranger in an indoor venue for an in-depth look into a Yosemite topic. Topics will vary from Yosemite wildlife, to climbing, to Yosemite artists. See page 5 for schedule and visit the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for specific topics.

WALKING AND HIKING
Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. Stop by a visitor center for trail maps and current trail conditions. For trail maps and current trail conditions, or visit the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center for specific topics.

Yosemite artists. See page 5 for schedule and register for purchase. Workshops are typically held outside (weather and media permitting). Find detailed information at yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center.

Yosemite Conservancy invites you to join one of our celebrated artists for a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Art workshops are offered Monday through Saturday, starting at 11am and ending at 2pm.

TOURS
Tours listed depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge, weather permitting. Check the Tour and Activity Desk for times.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily. The four-hour Glacier Point Tour begins May 13, weather permitting. Call 209/372-1240 or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 8:30am to 7pm.

Yosemite Conservancy Outdoor Adventures (YC)
Yosemite Conservancy is passionate about sharing the wonders of Yosemite through our year-round Outdoor Adventures. From backpacking to botany and birding, our wide range of programs offers something for every Yosemite adventurer.

Spring is just around the corner in Yosemite Valley. Photo by Faith Moore

TOURS
Tours listed depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge, weather permitting. Check the Tour and Activity Desk for times.

The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour, guided tour of Yosemite Valley. It departs several times daily. The four-hour Glacier Point Tour begins May 13, weather permitting. Call 209/372-1240 or inquire at the Tour and Activity Desk in the Yosemite Valley Lodge between 7:30am to 7pm.

Yosemite Conservancy Art Center Workshops (YC)
Yosemite Conservancy invites you to join one of our celebrated artists for a hands-on art experience in Yosemite Valley. Art workshops are offered Monday through Saturday, starting at 9:45am and ending at 2pm.

April 4-9  Dramatic Watercolor with Thor Ericson
April 11-16  Catch Yosemite’s Light in Watercolor with Steve Carlu
April 18-23  Charcoal Landscape with Jeff Hemming
April 25-30  Impressions of Yosemite in Acrylic with Marcy Wheeler
May 2-7  Plein Air Treasure: Yosemite in Watercolor with Gert Medway
May 9-14  Sketching Nature with Floy Hemming
May 16-21  Painting Spring in Watercolor with Sonja Hamilton

All workshops meet at the Yosemite Art Center, located next to the Village Store in Yosemite Village. The registration fee is $10 per participant per day, and art supplies are available for purchase. Workshops are typically held outside (weather and media permitting). Find detailed information at yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center.

Yosemite Theater (YC)
Yosemite Theater offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances, educational presentations and beautiful films. Revel as actors, rock-climbers and rangers bring the park’s adventures, culture, nature and history to life! Tickets: $10 (FREE admission for children under age 12), available at the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore in the Valley Visitor Center or at any Yosemite Tour & Activity Desk. All shows start at 7pm at the Yosemite Theater (shuttle bus stops #549, Valley Visitor Center).

Tuesdays (April 12 - October 25)
Yosemite Search and Rescue
Join Yosemite Search and Rescue ranger Alan Hageman to hear true stories from rescue missions and learn about the park’s highly skilled emergency response team.

Wednesdays (April 6 - May 18)
Exploring Nature with Ranger Zittin
Enjoy a family-friendly show with ranger Erik Zittin, who uses art, music and games to explore Sierra Nevada plants, animals, geology and more.

Thursdays (April 7 - May 18)
Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite’s First Guardian
Climb the National Park Service Centennial with naturalist and historian Pete Devine, who brings history to life through his portrayal of Galen Clark, Yosemite’s first appointed guardian.

Fridays & Saturdays (April 8 - October 29)
Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey
See Yosemite’s year-round beauty in this stirring film, which is followed by a discussion with renowned rock-climber Ron Kauk.
Visitor Services

Beyond Yosemite Valley

Wawona & Mariposa Grove

Visitor Center at Hill's Studio

Beginning May 4, the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore (only) will be open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Visitor Center offers general information and a variety of books and maps. Wilderness permits for Wawona trailheads can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch of Hill’s Studio. Please come prepared with your own bear canister.

Evening Program

Join Pianist/Singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby (formerly the Wawona Hotel) from 5:30pm to 9:30pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and tells stories from Yosemite’s past. Historical programs are available by request and are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano early in the evening when Tom’s performing.

Pioneer Yosemite History Center

Go back to a time of horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and log cabins. A visit to the Pioneer Yosemite History Center explores Yosemite’s history and explains how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world. The center is open throughout the year.

Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite’s South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. The Mariposa Grove is the park’s largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees.

Great things are happening in the Mariposa Grove

The Restoration of the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias Project is now underway! On July 6, 2015, a temporary closure of the grove for up to 24 months began. The restoration project will improve the habitat and restore the hydrology of the Mariposa Grove and improve visitors’ experience and enjoyment of the grove. Trails will be improved providing universal access along with improved restrooms.

The Mariposa Grove Road is closed to all public access, including bicycle and pedestrian traffic. Hiking trails within the grove are also closed.

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station

Beginning May 4, the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore (only) will be open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. The Information Station offers general information and a variety of books and maps.

Yosemite’s quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of approximately 20 big trees accessible only on foot. It’s a three-mile round-trip hike, sli, or snowshoe into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles, making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion.

Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for this grove of approximately 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The moderately strenuous trail leads downhill from the parking area into the grove and drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail.

Although the Mariposa Grove is closed for restoration, the Tuolumne and Merced Groves remain open and are considered park highlights. NPS Photo
ENJOYING SPRING IN YOSEMITE

Every season in Yosemite presents us with unique beauty but for many visitors the heart of spring is a particularly special time to visit the Park. Every living thing seems to be awakening following a winter’s slumber. The high Sierra snowpack is rapidly melting creating full waterfalls and raging streams and rivers. The sound of running water can be an enchanting as its sight and reminds us of the life it brings to Yosemite and California’s rich farmlands below.

Yosemite’s streams are also a temptation for the curious, the photographer, and the weary hiker simply wanting to cool tired feet. However, Yosemite’s water can be deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Yosemite’s visitors are strongly urged to enjoy any flowing or falling water from a safe distance. Please ENJOY THE WATER FROM THE SAFETY OF THE TRAIL. OR IN DEVELOPED AREAS ONLY.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

This is important enough to mention again; rain and melting snow fill our rivers and streams to their greatest volume and flow velocity in spring, creating beautiful accents in sight and sound to Yosemite’s landscape. Do not be fooled. Currents are too forceful for the strongest swimmers to survive even a shallow water plunge. Waters that appear still and green can have powerful unseen currents. The granite rocks in and near the water are slippery. In short, stay away from streambanks where a simple slip can have disastrous consequences and never attempt a water crossing except in safe and designated areas.

YOSEMITE ROADS

Snow and ice, while less frequent than late winter, remain a possibility. Plan for all potential road conditions, call ahead to our recorded number (209) 372-0200 +1 for current road conditions and restrictions. See page 1 for chain control information. Also, rock fall occurs throughout the year and wildlife, including deer and bears, can all create driving hazards. There are many sites to distract drivers. If you cannot devote 100% of your attention to your driving, please pull completely off the road into designated pull-offs and parking areas.

FOR ALL SEASONS

• Stay on established trails – do not take shortcuts.
• Rock scrambling – leave this to the critters.
• Water and food – Carry more water than you need, stay hydrated and snack frequently – make sure you have plenty of food and water. If you are sweating, replace lost salts with salty, easy-to-digest snacks.
• “10 hiking essentials” – including a flashlight or headlamp, sunglasses, sunscreen, navigation, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle)
• Let someone know – always leave your travel and hiking plan, including your intended route and estimated time of return, with a trusted person. If no one knows you are missing, no one is going to be looking for you.

WILDERNESS PERMIT DETAILS

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into Yosemite’s Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent in Yosemite Valley (see page 4) and at the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Wilderness permits are also available at Hill’s Studio in Wawona and at the Big Oak Flat Information Station (see page 7). Call the park’s main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm for additional information. For summer trips, reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of $5 per permit plus $5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park’s website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740.

HALF DOME PERMIT INFORMATION

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are required seven days a week when the cables are up for 2016, May 27 through October 1. Conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2016. In addition, approximately 50 permits will be released by daily lottery throughout the season based on estimated under-use and cancellation rates (exact number may change throughout the summer). Applications for daily lotteries will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1 pm. To apply, visit Recreation. gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee of $5 and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 73 Half Dome permits will be available to overnight users with an appropriate wilderness permit (use fee applies). These permits may be acquired through early reservations (50 per day) or day before walk-up (25 per day). Rock climbers who reach the top of Half Dome without entering the subdome area may descend on the Half Dome Trail without a permit. More information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm. For backpackers more information is available at: http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdwildpermits.htm.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases that are harmful to humans. Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) is a rare but serious disease spread to humans via the droppings, urine, or saliva of infected rodents. Not all rodents are infected with hantavirus, but infected rodents have been found throughout the US. In California, deer mice are the primary carrier of the virus that causes HPS.

You may come into close proximity to rodents during your visit, so it is important you take steps to protect yourself from HPS. HPS risk is greater inside of buildings or other enclosures where deer mice are present. If staying in guest lodging, please tell the housekeeping staff if you see evidence of mice in your accommodations. Do not clean up the area yourself. Keep doors to guest lodging shut and do not bring food into your cabin that is not in a sealed container. If you are camping and backpacking, do not pitch tents near rodent burrows or droppings.

HPS often begins with flu-like symptoms such as aches, fever, and chills one to seven weeks after exposure, progressing to coughing and difficulty in breathing. Seek medical attention immediately if you experience these symptoms, and mention any potential rodent exposures to your physician. For more information on hantavirus and other environmental safety hazards visit: http://www.nps.gov/yose/ planyourvisit/yoursafety.htm. PLAGUE

Plague is an infectious bacterial disease that is carried by squirrels, chipmunks and other wild rodents and their fleas. When an infected rodent becomes sick and dies, its fleas can carry the infection to other warm-blooded animals including humans. To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scraps that attract rodents when eating outside, avoid pitching a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows, wear insect repellent with DEET, and tell a park ranger immediately if you see a dead animal. Early symptoms of plague may include high fever, chills, nausea, weakness, painful swelling at the site of an insect bite or lymph node, and other flu-like symptoms. If you develop any of these symptoms within 6 days of visiting an area at risk for plague in the park, see your doctor and inform them you may have been exposed. Plague is treatable with antibiotics if given in time.

AVOID CONTACT WITH WILDLIFE AND KEEP FOOD AND TRASH STORED PROPERLY.

Wild animals in Yosemite can transmit numerous diseases, including plague, rabies, and hantavirus. Keeping your distance and your food from wildlife not only protects them, it also protects you from injury and exposure to diseases. If you encounter a mammal, particularly a raccoon, skunk, fox, coyote, or bat, that is behaving erratically, don’t touch the animal. Instead, report the sick animal to a park employee. In addition to keeping bears away, storing your food properly also reduces your exposure to rodents and their fleas, which may carry plague.

PROTECTING YOURSELF WHEN COLLECTING WILDERNESS SUPPLIES AND CAMPING

• Let someone know – always leave your travel and hiking plan, including your intended route and estimated time of return, with a trusted person. If no one knows you are missing, no one is going to be looking for you.
• Rock scrambling – leave this to the critters.
• Water and food – Carry more water than you need, stay hydrated and snack frequently – make sure you have plenty of food and water. If you are sweating, replace lost salts with salty, easy-to-digest snacks.
• “10 hiking essentials” – including a flashlight or headlamp, sunglasses, sunscreen, navigation, and a signaling method (mirror and whistle)
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PROTECTING YOURSELF...
Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Fall</td>
<td>Bridalveil Fall Parking Area</td>
<td>0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock</td>
<td>Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Upper Yosemite Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 2,700-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirror Lake (a seasonal lake)</td>
<td>Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17</td>
<td>2 miles round-trip, 1 hour</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vernal Fall Footbridge</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 400-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Vernal Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 3–4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point (Closed in winter)</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>6.8 miles one-way, 5–7 hours</td>
<td>Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5–7 hours full loop</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Black bears may still be active during the winter months. Please, keep Yosemite’s black bears wild and alive, while protecting yourself and your property.

Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park’s most important guardians. With nearly 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities
- Possessing or using marijuana, including medical marijuana
- Operating an unmanned aircraft system (“drone”)

If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

For More Information

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/stayoursafety.htm and find a copy of the Superintendent’s Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.
A little over four million visitors come to Yosemite National Park each year. Combined with staff from the National Park Service (NPS) and the concessioner, about 2,200 tons of garbage are left in the park as a result. This is not the legacy any of us intends to leave behind. This year, Yosemite National Park is launching an exciting new program to do something about it.

Subaru of America (SOA), a Centennial partner of the National Park Service, was approached by the National Park Conservation Association (NPCA) to see if the corporation’s expertise in waste management could be used to help the national parks. Subaru of Indiana led the auto industry in reducing waste by becoming the first zero landfill auto assembly plant in the United States in 2004. Since that time, Subaru has been consulted by many businesses for advice on how to follow in its footsteps. Over the next three years, in partnership with the National Park Service, become a “Yosemite Zero Hero” through eliminating unnecessary waste and re-use of materials. These efforts also helped protect wildlife, especially bears, by keeping them from eating trash. In 2015, this resulted in the lowest number of bear incidents – 76 total since the park started tracking these cases.

The Zero Landfill Initiative at Yosemite will build on these achievements and the work of our active Sustainability Team, which addresses a wider range of sustainability efforts. Initially, we will upgrade many of the trash and recycling cans seen around the park, which were among the first wildlife-proof containers used in a national park setting. More water bottle refilling stations are in the plans, too. We also hope to eventually expand collection of compostable food waste for both park employees and visitors. In addition, with help from Subaru, we are working with other community partners and tour companies to provide more information about what and how to recycle in the park as well as how to reduce the amount of waste visitors bring with them on trips to the park.

To get to Zero landfill, we will all need to work together, employees and visitors alike; there are many things you can do to help.

When planning your visit to the park, think of what you can do to reduce your environmental footprint. Bring as many reusable items as possible, such as water bottles, coffee cups, silverware, food containers, cooking gas canisters, and reusable bags. Choose gear and food with the least amount of packaging. Do your best to avoid buying single use products.

While in the park find the proper place to dispose of your recycling and trash. In places managed directly by park staff, such as campgrounds, the visitor center, museum, bus stops, and day use picnic areas, Yosemite has “co-mingled recycling.” This means it all goes in just one bin unless otherwise labeled. Glass, aluminum, tin, paper, cardboard, and recyclable plastics can all go in these recycle bins. (Styrofoam is not recyclable in our system.) At our hotels and eating establishments operated by the concessioner, there are separate recycling containers for each type of material collected (paper, glass, aluminum, and plastic). However, at these facilities, you can go even further by using one of the “organic waste” cans at the food establishments to reroute the compostable organic material. (This includes the biodegradable tableware like paper napkins and biodegradable silverware.)

In celebration of Earth Day and the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service, become a “Yosemite Zero Hero” and reduce, reuse, and recycle.

In partnership with Subaru of America and the National Park Conservation Association, Yosemite will help launch the Zero Landfill Initiative to reduce waste in the park and continue protecting Yosemite. NPS Photo
Enhance the Visitor Experience

It takes a legion of people working together to protect this special park for you and future generations of visitors. You too can extend your connection to Yosemite well after you return home by getting involved with the organizations that partner to preserve Yosemite.

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit www.yosemitepartners.org to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.

The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery, owned by the family of photographer Ansel Adams since 1962, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world by offering visitors a unique variety of literature and art, as well as programs that inspire creativity. Visit online at: www.anseladams.com.

Yosemite Hospitality LLC

Yosemite Hospitality, a division of Aramark, operates lodging, food and beverage, retail, recreational activities, tours, interpretive programs, transportation, and service stations under contract with the U.S. Department of Interior with a focus on delivering authentic and memorable guest experiences. Yosemite Hospitality encourages employees to immerse themselves in the Park and all of the experiences offered.

For more information on employment opportunities with Yosemite Hospitality at Yosemite National Park visit www.yosemitehospitalityjobs.com.

NatureBridge

NatureBridge provides residential field science programs for youth in the world’s most spectacular classroom—Yosemite National Park. Through active student engagement, our faculty teaches science, history, and the arts and gives these subjects context through personal experience. A NatureBridge learning adventure strives to foster a lifelong connection to the natural world and responsible actions to sustain it. Find out more about our year-round programs for schools and summer programs for individual teens at www.naturebridge.org/yosemite

Yosemite Conservancy

Through the support of donors, Yosemite Conservancy provides grants and support to Yosemite National Park to help preserve and protect Yosemite today and for future generations. Work funded by the Conservancy is visible throughout the park, in trail rehabilitation, wildlife protection and habitat restoration. The Conservancy is also dedicated to enhancing the visitor experience and providing a deeper connection to the park through outdoor programs, volunteering, wilderness services and its bookstores.

Thanks to dedicated supporters, the Conservancy has provided more than $100 million in grants to Yosemite National Park.

Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 415/434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 10,400 volunteers donated more than 163,000 hours of service to Yosemite last year, restoring native habitat, working in visitor centers, serving as camp hosts, studying wildlife, cleaning up litter and more. Would you like to serve? We have group and individual volunteer opportunities, both short term and long term. Learn more at www.nps.gov/yose/getinvolved/volunteer.htm or call the volunteer office at 209/379-1850.

Contact Us

Yosemite National Park
9039 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-0200
http://www.nps.gov/yose/contact.htm

The Ansel Adams Gallery
PO Box 455
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-4413
209/372-4714 fax
www.anseladams.com

Yosemite Hospitality L.L.C.
PO Box 307
Yosemite, CA 95389
888/304-8993
www.aramarkleisure.com

Yosemite Conservancy
101 Montgomery Street,
Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104
415/434-1782
415/434-0745 fax
www.yosemiteconservancy.org

NatureBridge
PO Box 487
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/379-9511
209/379-9510 fax
www.nbi.org

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Subscribe to us on YouTube
youtube.com/yosethenationalpark

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Follow us on Instagram
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Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park

Spring showers bringing moisture to Indian Paintbrush above Yosemite Valley. Photo by Christine Loberg

Special Events Calendar

NATIONAL PARK WEEK RANGER PROGRAMS
Yosemite Valley Lodge - Cliff Room (topics subject to change)

Sunday, April 17th
8pm to 9pm
This is America
Join Ranger Shelton Johnson for this special showing of Ken Burns’ movie “This is America.” Explore the story of the National Park Service through many varied perspectives, and then meet with Ranger Shelton afterwards for a question and answer time.

Tuesday, April 19
8pm to 9pm
The National Parks: America’s Best Idea
Episode 1, The Scripture of Nature
Join Claire Finn for an abbreviated showing of Ken Burn’s documentary highlighting the history of national parks in the United States. Episode 1 features Yosemite’s key role in the beginnings of America’s Best Idea.

Wednesday, April 20
8pm to 9pm
First come, First Served
Join Ranger Ben Cunningham-Summerfield, for a program of the visitor’s choosing. Ranger Ben has been working in the park for many years, in many capacities, most recently as the lead at the Indian Cultural Museum.

Thursday, April 21
8pm to 9pm
Creative Fusion-Exploring the Nature of the Sierra Nevada
Join Ranger Erik Westerlund to explore the confluence of art and Yosemite, highlighting the work of Charley Harper. Find out more about the legacy of wildlife in the National Parks

Saturday, April 23
8pm to 9pm
The Call: Lessons from the Wall
Join Ranger Brandon Adams for an inside look at the world from a climber’s perspective. Learn what geologic forces created the Valley that is now so special to climbers around the world, as well as the different ecosystems that call vertical cliffs home.

National Park Week
National Park Week, April 16 to 24, 2016, is America’s largest celebration of national heritage. It’s about making great connections, exploring amazing places, discovering open spaces, enjoying affordable vacations, and enhancing America’s best idea—the national parks! It’s all happening in your national parks. Here are some highlights during National Park Week:

April 16–24: Visit for free!
Throughout National Park Week in 2016, every national park will give you free admission!

April 23: National Junior Ranger Day at Yosemite
Explore, Learn, Protect! Kids can take part in fun programs and earn a junior ranger badge or become a Centennial Junior Ranger.

April 23: Celebrate Earth Day at Yosemite
On Earth Day, if you want to roll up your sleeves and pitch in with a project, look for a park where you can help out.

Share Your Yosemite Experience on Social Media
During National Park Week we encourage you to share your love of the parks on social media. Be sure to use the hashtags #FindYourPark, #NPS100, and #YosemiteAmbassador when you share your photos!
Friday, April 22, 2016
8:30pm to 10pm.
Full Moon Photography Hike, 1.5hrs.
Join NPS Centennial partner REI for a photography hike where you can find Yosemite under the full moon. Experience the magic of a Full Moon in the valley. REI’s Professional Photographer will take you on a short hike and will teach you tips on taking amazing photos of the Valley. Space is limited to 25 participants, first come first served. No pre-registration required. Meet in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center.

Saturday, April 23, 2016
10am to 3pm
YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK EARTH DAY FESTIVAL AND JR. RANGER DAY!
Wander around Yosemite Village where interactive, kid-friendly activities and demonstrations allow you to experience how the park and its partners are implementing sustainability practices. Explore booths and activities presented by the National Park Service, Yosemite Conservancy, Nature Bridge, Yosemite Hospitality, Balanced Rock Yoga, and more. There will be abundant earth-friendly crafts, music, games, and fun. Visit the Earth Day Stage in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center to find out the detailed schedule of presentations and activities throughout the day. Don’t forget to become a Jr. Ranger!

10am to 2pm
Drop-in Earth Day Litter Pick Up
Come to the Volunteer Program booth on the mall to register as an official Earth Day hero! We will give you the equipment you need to pick up litter and care for your Yosemite. All abilities and ages 3 and up welcome.

10am to 3pm
Propane Canister Trade-in
Get a Refillable Canister! Come to the Zero Landfill Booth on the mall to trade in your one-time use propane canister for a refillable canister. Why throw away when you can reuse – it’s cheaper, too!

12pm to 4pm
Universal Waste Collection at the Yosemite Village Recycling Center.
Doing a spring cleaning? Bring your universal and electronic wastes to the Village Recycling Center. Items accepted at the Recycling Center include TV sets, computers and monitors, small electronics, spent fluorescent bulbs, spent batteries, and ink cartridges. Please make sure to wipe your personal data from these items before turning them in for recycling. Household hazardous waste will note be accepted (e.g. paints, solvents, pesticides).

10am to 11am
JR RANGER WALK
Meet at the Earth Day Stage, in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Come join a ranger for an interpretive talk about Yosemite’s rocks, trees, and wildlife. Have fun looking for tracks, scat, and animals in Yosemite. Children that complete the one-hour walk will receive a junior ranger badge. Adult supervision and accompaniment is requested. All ages welcome!

10:30am to 11:30am
Earth Day: You Can Make a Difference!
Meet at Earth Day Stage in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Join Yosemite Conservancy naturalist Pete Devine for a walk about individual empowerment and information surrounding Earth Day.

11:15am
JR RANGER Swear-in Ceremony
Meet on Earth Day Stage, in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Come be sworn in by a ranger as an official Jr. Ranger and receive your Jr. Ranger badge.

11am to 12pm
RANGER WALK
Meet at Earth Day Stage, in front of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Join Ranger Chris Raines for a special Earth Day themed nature walk.

12pm to 1pm
JR RANGER WALK
Meet at Earth Day Stage, in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Come join a ranger for an interpretive talk about Yosemite’s rocks, trees, and wildlife. Have fun looking for tracks, scat, and animals in Yosemite. Children that complete the one-hour walk will receive a junior ranger badge. Adult supervision and accompaniment is requested. All ages welcome!

1:15pm
JR RANGER Swear-in Ceremony
Meet on Earth Day Stage, in front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Come be sworn in by a ranger as an official Jr. Ranger and receive your Jr. Ranger badge.

2:00pm
Ceremony commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the California State Park Ranger
2016 marks the 150th anniversary of the first California State Park Ranger (Yosemite’s very own Galen Clark!). Join park staff at the Earth Day stage for a special commemoration.

2:30pm
Earth Day Cupcakes
Enjoy an Earth Day cupcake at the Earth Day Stage in front of the Valley Visitor Center.

3pm to 9:30pm
Camp Fire Dessert: S’mores and Beyond
Meet at campfire in front of Museum. There is more to campfire desserts than the classic S’more. Join REI around the campfire and cook up some different dessert ideas or invent a new kind of s’more. Food provided while supplies last. No pre-registration, first come first served.

Join NPS Centennial partner REI for a special treat!

How to Become a Centennial Jr. Ranger at the Yosemite Earth Day Festival
Step 1: Attend a Jr. Ranger Walk from 10 am to 11am or 12pm to 1pm. Meet in front of Earth Day Stage.
Step 2: Get sworn-in as a Jr. Ranger and receive your badge on the Earth Day Stage at 11:15 or 1:15.

AND/OR
Step 3: Get a Jr. Ranger packet at the Earth Day Festival’s Jr. Ranger booth.
Step 2: Learn something from a ranger at one of the booths.
Step 3: Go to the volunteer booth to pick up litter and be an Earth Day hero.
Step 4: Complete the Jr. Ranger packet and have a ranger sign it.
Step 5: Get sworn-in as a Jr. Ranger and receive your badge on the Earth Day Stage at either 11:15am or 1:15pm.

*Are you a fourth grader? If so, don’t miss out on getting your Every Kid in a Park Pass! This pass lets you and your family enjoy all of your public lands for free. Learn more and get your pass at the Anniversary booth on the mall, between 10am and 3pm.

The Yosemite Earth Day Festival will be a Zero Landfill Event!
This means we will consciously try to create less waste and divert created waste away from the landfill. So, bring your refillable water bottle, leave food packaging at home, and take informational pictures instead of pamphlets. Learn more about the Zero Landfill initiative in this guide’s feature article on page 10.
Every Kid In A Park

Yosemite Launches “Open the Gateway to Yosemite” for all Program

In March, three buses full of excited 4th grade students (and chaperones) arrived at Yosemite National Park. This event starts the beginning of a month long program to have all 4th graders (1,100 students, most of them having never been to Yosemite) from Merced City Schools come free to the park for a day long educational trip. Yosemite is quite spectacular right now, with recent snow gracing the high granite cliffs and the waterfalls cascading at full throttle. The awe-inspiring scenery is incredible. Highlighting the program is the energetic organization provided by talented Pathways student rangers of the UC Merced Wilderness Education Center. These exceptional students wrote the grant for the program, designed curriculum and are leading the 4th graders around the park. The goal of the program is to “Open the Gateway to Yosemite” for all.

A lot of hard work created this student centric program. The rangers first visited all 13 Merced-area schools to introduce the students to the National Park System and Yosemite. Next, during the nine field days in the park, the students will rotate through three different ranger programs focusing on Ecology, Geology and Cultural History. Each school will also have their EKiP vouchers exchanged for the authentic passes on the day of their field trips. The final components are class assemblies that will focus on the ideas of protecting national parks and preserving them for the future. Discussion was centered on different threats to national parks and all of the different ways that 4th grade students can protect public spaces, both when visiting parks and when at home.

Both the school district and the rangers are hoping to make this opportunity an integral part of the 4th grade curriculum and continue to provide opportunities for every kid in a park. The National Park Foundation provided the grant to cover costs for transportation. The Yosemite Conservancy helps fund the UC Merced Wilderness Program. Thank you to the National Park Foundation and the Yosemite Conservancy.

Fourth graders from Merced Public Schools explore the park with Park Ranger Aricia Martinez during their visit to Yosemite in March as part of the NPS’s Every Kid in a Park Program. NPS Photo

FREE Interagency 4th Grade Pass
A free annual pass for 4th grade students and their family, to have free access to any federal land or water during the school year from September 1 to August 30. Present a paper voucher at any park entrance to obtain the pass. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for details.

“Because no matter who you are, no matter where you live, our parks, our monuments, our lands, our waters — these places are your birthright as Americans” - PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
Become a Junior Ranger

Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Guide for program descriptions:

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for Children and their Families.

**Be a naturalist.** Look for these common Yosemite wild animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal’s picture below. If you don’t see any of these wild animals during your visit, choose one you did see and draw it in the box on this page. Where did you see it? What was it doing? Also, remember never to feed or approach an animal.

- **Coyote**
- **Black bear**
- **Golden-mantled ground squirrel**

Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.*

Did you already finish this page and earn your Jr. Ranger badge? Are you ready for more Jr. Ranger activities? Drop by a visitor center desk and pick up the free PSAR Junior Ranger booklet or Legacy Jr. Ranger page to earn special patches!

1. With an adult, pick a trail to walk. See page 17 of this Guide or stop by a visitor center to choose your trail. As you go, walk quietly, watch, listen, and think.

   Write the name of the trail you walked.

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.

   I see: ____________________   I hear: ____________________

   I smell: ____________________   I touch: ____________________

3. Leave no Trace! If you see trash or rubbish, pick it up. Junior Rangers learn to be good park stewards by bringing in a bag of trash. Recycle any recyclable materials you pick up or bring along.

4. Ask a Ranger! What President signed the Yosemite Grant Act on June 30, 1864, setting aside Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove for special protection?

5. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. What program did you attend? Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.

   Signed by: ___________________________________________________

6. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator.

   ________________________________________________________________

7. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?

   ________________________________________________________________

8. When you complete this page, take it to a visitor center. There you will take your oath and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

   *Expanded Junior Ranger and Little Cub programs (and the chance to earn a patch) are available in the Junior Ranger or Little Cub Handbooks, which can be purchased at any Yosemite Conservancy bookstore.