The 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.

The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 30 minutes. **Begins May 20, 2016**

The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 20 minutes. **Begins May 21, 2016**

Preparing to Lower Rescuers to an Injured Climber on Washington Column/ Nevada Fall. NPS Photo
2016 Centennial Highlights

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 www.FindYourPark.com to find more information about celebration events happening in Yosemite throughout the year.

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 25-28, 2016
NPS Birthday Weekend
Free admission to all National Parks in honor of the NPS Centennial.

September 21-25, 2016
Yosemite Facelift
Join the National Park Service and the Yosemite Climbing Association for this official National Public Lands Day event, volunteering to pick up litter and performing special projects to help clean up Yosemite.

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

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

Find Your Park
The National Park Service and the National Park Foundation invite you to Find Your Park and discover the national parks and programs in your own backyard. Visit www.FindYourPark.com to find more information about NPS Centennial events happening in a national park near you.

Every Kid In A Park
Fourth graders, grab your family and go enjoy your national parks for FREE! The Every Kid In A Park initiative was launched to help the next generation of park visitors and supporters create positive attitudes towards public lands and to give every child the chance to explore America’s great outdoors and unique history. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov for more information.

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.

Adventure Out with the Yosemite Mountaineering School
Yosemite Mountaineering School provides outdoor adventures for people of all experience levels. We are here to help you learn how to enjoy Yosemite safely and responsibly. Give us a call to join one of our group classes or schedule a custom outing designed specifically for your group. We offer professional guides for hiking, backpacking and rock climbing. Reservations required. Call 209/372-8344 or email yms@aramark.com.

The Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center
The Yosemite Conservation Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge) is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am until 4 pm. Free evening programs are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Center, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, a children’s corner and library, and historical exhibits. Call 209/372-4542 for program details.

Celebrate the Centennial – On Stage!
After a day of exploring the park, join Yosemite Conservancy to relax and enjoy a show! Grab a seat at the Yosemite Theater to catch a variety of performances and films, including shows that celebrate the NPS Centennial by bringing the park’s past to life. Meet historical figures such as John Muir and Galen Clark, or hear from present-day park rangers. Proceeds from the theater and all Conservancy programs help preserve and protect Yosemite. 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.

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Guide May 18, 2016 - June 21, 2016

Access for People with Disabilities
Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.

Find Your Park
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Yosemite Name Changes
Be aware that the names of the following facilities have been changed:

• 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)

Visit nps.gov/yose for more information.
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

Entrance Fees
Non-commercial car, pickup truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats Valid for 7 days (no per-person fee) $20/motorcycle
Individual Valid for 7 days $15 (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)
Yosemite Park Pass $60
Valid for one year in Yosemite.
Interagency Annual Pass $80
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.
Interagency Senior Pass $10
(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.
Interagency Access Pass (Free)
(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
Interagency Military Pass (Free)
(U.S. citizens or permanent residents. (Lifetime) For active duty U.S. military and dependents.
Interagency 4th Grade Pass (Free)
(Annual) For fourth graders and their families. Must present paper voucher.

Reservations
Campground Reservations 877/444-6777
www.recreation.gov
Lodging Reservations 888/813-8893
www.travelyosemite.com
Group Sales Office: 888/339-3481

Regional Info
Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com
Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
820/449-9120 or 209/962-0429
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/446-1333
www.tcbi.com
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
559/883-4638
www.yosemitethisyear.com
Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
209/742-4567
www.homeofyosemite.com
Highway 120 East
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629

Yosemite Valley
Yosemite Valley, open all year, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. You can get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteo, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/Highway 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,993 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, raft, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.

Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. Photo by Christine White Loberg
Glacier Point

Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite’s high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.

Wawona and Mariposa Grove

The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park’s South Entrance. As of July 6, 2015, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is closed for restoration, see page 8 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. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride, watch blacksmiths at work at the blacksmith shop, or bike one of the scenic trails. For more information, 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.

Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through sometime in November. The road’s elevation ranges from 6,200 to nearly 10,000 feet, so it offers an opportunity to experience many of Yosemite’s habitats. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember: walking down is easier than walking back up.

Tuolumne Meadows

Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for information about hiking to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Dog Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Take advantage of the shuttle service in Tuolumne Meadows or the Tuolumne Meadows Tour and Hikers’ Bus from Yosemite Valley. (Begins June 10.)

Hetch Hetchy

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 7am to 9pm, May 1 through Labor Day, with reduced hours during the rest of the year. Wilderness permits and bear canisters are available while the road is open. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ¼-hour drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

DID YOU KNOW...

• Yosemite National Park has conducted up to 250 search and rescues in a year?
• Annual search and rescue costs have reached $1,250,000 in Yosemite?
• Two out of three Yosemite search and rescues are for injured hikers?
• Your possibility of surviving a climbing accident are better than surviving an accident in Yosemite’s swift water?
• Traffic and water related mishaps are the leading causes of accidental deaths in National Parks?
• Search and rescue cases in Yosemite have slowly declined over the past several years even as visitation has increased?

Burgens providing deadline support to a seriously injured scrambler/NPS Photo
Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

Naturalist Programs
Naturalists give walks and talks every day about Yosemite’s natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

Walking and Hiking
From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall, Cook’s Meadow, and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

Bicycling
Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Valley Lodge (open 9am to 6pm) or Half Dome Village (open 10am to 4pm). Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

Tours
Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge. Tours may be weather dependent.

- **Yosemite Falls**
  - The Valley Floor Tour is a 26-mile, two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs Yosemite Valley Lodge several times daily, Check Tour & Activity Desk for times.
  - The Glacier Point Tour leaves Yosemite Valley Lodge at 8:30 am, 10 am, and 1:30 pm daily when the Glacier Point Road is open. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.
  - Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Village, Half Dome Village, and The Majestic Yosemite Hotel.

- **Rafting**
  - Rafting is a great way to see Yosemite Valley. Rafts can be rented at Half Dome Village (open 10am to 4pm, conditions permitting). If you plan to bring your own raft, please see page 15 for important safety and regulatory information.

- **Sightseeing**
  - Some of the famous landmarks in Yosemite Valley include:
    - **Yosemite Falls** gives the Valley an extra touch of life when it’s flowing with spring runoff. You can walk to its base or take the strenuous trail to its top (see page 17).
    - **Half Dome**, Yosemite’s most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped this famous feature into what we see today. Cook’s Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.
    - **El Capitan**, a massive granite monolith, stands 5,993 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.
    - **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Half Dome Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.
    - **Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.

**Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park**

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 is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Half Dome Village. Cross the footbridges onto the isles of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.
VALLEY VISITOR CENTER AND BOOKSTORE
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore (inside Visitor Center) are open from 9am to 5pm. (9am to 5:30pm starting June 3.) The visitor center is west of the main post office (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. Valley Visitor Center Theater. Please note, films will be shown next door in the Yosemite Auditorium on June 6 and 7.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM
Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT
Open 9am to 5pm. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

YOSEMITE MUSEUM GALLERY
Why Yosemite Collects: 90 years, 90 objects, 90 stories
This exhibit celebrates the 90th anniversary of the opening of the Yosemite Museum and features a display of the wide variety of artifacts, documents and specimens that the museum preserves. Why do parks have collections? What does the museum have to do with the beginnings of philanthropy in National Parks, the development of interpretive programs or scientific research? Stop by and see, and vote for your favorite artifact while you are visiting. This special summer exhibit was made possible through the generous support of Yosemite Conservancy donors. Join us on Thursdays for a ranger stroll highlighting this special exhibit.

WILDERNESS CENTER
Open 8am to 5pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent bear canisters. The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village in between the post office and the Ansel Adams Gallery

THE YOSEMITE CONSERVATION HERITAGE CENTER
The Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center (formerly LeConte Memorial Lodge) is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am until 4 pm. Free evening programs are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Center, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, a children’s corner and library, and historical exhibits. Call 209-372-4542 for program details.

THE ANSEL ADAMS GALLERY
In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9am to 6pm. The gallery offers the works of Ansel Adams, contemporary photographers, and other artists. See page 6 for photo walk times. For more information, call 209-372-4413, or visit www.anseladams.com.

EXHIBITS
James McGrew: The Yosemite Anniversary Paintings
In the tradition and style of the early paintings which 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 is open through June 4th at The Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. We hope you will join us as we continue to celebrate the anniversaries of Yosemite National Park and The National Park Service.

Michael Fry: Elements
Photographer Michael Fry has been working in and around Yosemite National Park for close to three decades, and in that time has explored the area to an unprecedented extent. He is well known and respected for his meticulous calculations of light and for his unique and artful compositions, essentially covering the full spectrum of photographic liturgy. During his career, the arc of creative photography has grown broad, while at the same time, Yosemite National Park has become more iconic than ever—a concept in 2016 which stands as a testament to the importance of conservation as the National Park Service celebrates their 100th anniversary. The Ansel Adams Gallery is therefore thrilled to host our new exhibition “Elements: Photographs

of by Michael Fry,” which showcases the result of an artist’s unwavering dedication to vision, craft and place, as well as the essential parts of our consequential, natural world. “Elements” will open on June 5th and run through July 31st. We invite you to visit The Gallery during your stay in Yosemite so that you may enjoy these works in person.

YOSEMITE MOUNTAINEERING SCHOOL
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VALLEY SERVICES

GARAGE
Yosemite Village
8am to 10pm

POST OFFICES

Yosemite Village
Main Office
Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm
Saturday: 10am to noon

Post Office
Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

GROCERIES AND TOILEtries

GROCERIES AND TOILEtries

Yosemite Village
Village Store Gift/Grocery
8am to 10pm
Degnan’s Deli
7am to 5pm
Tour Desk - Village Store
7:30am to 3:30pm
Yosemite Village
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm
Tour Desk
7:30am to 7pm
Hexagon Post Office
Gift/Grocery
8am to 5pm/Tour Desk
7:30am to 3pm
Hexagon Post Office
Gift/Grocery
8am to 8pm

SHOWERS, LAUNDRY, AND INTERNET

Half Dome Village
Showers 7am to 10pm
Laundry 8am to 10pm

Hexagon Post Office
Showers open 24 hours
Yosemite Art Center (YC)
Join an expert artist for a creative experience in the Valley. Yosemite Conservancy art workshops are offered Monday through Saturday (9:45am-2pm). Registration is $10/person.

Workshops are held outside, weather permitting, and start at the Yosemite Art Center (open 9am-4pm, closed at noon for lunch). Stop by to browse our selection of art supplies, gifts, and original artwork! Find detailed information at yosemiteconservancy.org/yosemite-art-center.

SCHEDULED EVENTS
IN YOSEMITE VALLEY
May 18, 2016 - June 21, 2016

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May 16-21 Watercolor Spring in Yosemite with Sonja Hamilton
May 23-28 Impressionist/Expressionist Painting in Yosemite with Paula Sugarman
May 30-June 4 Rushing Water Still Stone: Yosemite Watercolor with Roger Folk
June 6-11 Painting from the Heart: Watercolor with Robert Devers
June 13-18 Watercolor Yosemite: As You See It with Jamie Ferrara
June 20-26 Abstract Yosemite Landscape in Acrylic with Byron Spurrier

Yosemite Theater (YT)
Yosemite Theater offers live performances, educational presentations and beautiful films that bring adventure, nature and history to life. Tickets: $10 (FREE admission for children under age 12), purchase at the Yosemite Conservancy Bookstore in the Valley Visitor Center or at any Yosemite Tour & Activity Desk. Shows start at 7pm at the Yosemite Theater (shuttles stop S & G)

Yosemite Search and Rescue (YSR)
Join Yosemite Search and Rescue ranger John Dill to hear stories from rescue missions and learn about the park’s highly skilled emergency response system.

Exploring Nature with Ranger Erik (Wednesday, May 18 only)
Enjoy a family-friendly show with ranger Erik Westerlund, who uses art, music and games to introduce visitors to the wild wonders of Yosemite.

Yosemite Outdoor Adventures (YOA)
From birding and botany to hiking and birding, Yosemite Conservancy’s expert-led Outdoor Adventures offer something for every park explorer. Experience packages include park entry (as needed) and camping, other lodging options are available. Custom Adventures can be arranged. For more information, visit yosemiteconservancy.org/adventures or call 209-539-2317 x10.

May 18-24: Yosemite Photography: Park Overview
May 21: Yosemite Photography Magic of the “Moonbow”
May 21-22: Herb Hetchy: Water Exploration and Wildflowers
June 1-3: Yosemite Birding: Insiders Look
June 15-19: Yosemite Mosaic-Paint Basketry: Two-Day Workshop

Looking for a quick adventure? Join our resident naturalists on Tuesdays and Thursdays for guided walks in the Valley to learn about birds (8:30-10:30am) or plants (1-3pm). $10/person, at the Yosemite Art Center. No sign-up needed.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES
YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday, 9:15am Sunday School Available
11am (Memorial Day Labor Day Only), no Sunday School
6:30pm Sunday Evening Service/Bible Study
Women’s and Men’s Bible Studies, Tuesday 7-9pm
call church for times and locations. 209-372-4831, Pastor Brent Moore Residency Minister

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS
Yosemite’s Catholic Community
Sunday, 10am at East Auditorium behind Yosemite Valley Visitor Center, shuttle stop #99.
Saturday, 6pm, lower Pines Amphitheater, shuttle stop #819 Memorial Day to Labor Day.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
El Portal Chapel: Worship Sunday 11am
209/379-9710

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Christian Sabbath Worship at Lower Pines Amphitheater, Saturday May 23-Sept 5
9:45am Music/Sabbath School
9:45am-1:00pm (starting July 26), Meet in the church lobby of the Visitor Center, near shuttle stop #16.

LATTER-DAY SAINTS
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints SACRAMENT MEETING, Sundays 1PM-1:45PM Mountain Time, Yosemite Valley Chapel

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS
Saturdays: 8-9pm

LIONS CLUB
First and Third Thursday of each month at noon, The Majestic Yosemite Hotel, Call 229/972-4470.

MONDAY RANGER WALK
1hr (Except May 22 and 27) The Merced River, near shuttle stop #108 (NPS)

TUESDAY RANGER WALK
1hr (Except May 21 and 27) The Merced River, near shuttle stop #108 (NPS)

WEDNESDAY RANGER WALK
1hr (Except May 20 and 27) The Lower Yosemite Fall, near shuttle stop #106 (NPS)

THURSDAY RANGER WALK
1hr (Except May 21 and 27) The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, near shuttle stop #156 (NPS)

FRIDAY RANGER WALK
1hr (Except May 20 and 27) The Ahwahnee Creek, near shuttle stop #106 (NPS)

SATURDAY RANGER WALK
3hrs (Except May 21 and 27) The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, near shuttle stop #156 (NPS)

SUNDAY RANGER WALK
3hrs (Except May 20 and 27) The Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, near shuttle stop #156 (NPS)
Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.
Experience Your America    Yosemite National Park

Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point

Explore History, Discover Giant Trees, and Find Amazing Vistas
These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

Wawona
Coffee with a Ranger
Grab your mug and join a ranger in the Wawona Campground Amphitheater for coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or to get other questions answered. See page 9 for scheduled programs.

Evening Programs
Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Big Trees Lodge lobby 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.

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill’s Studio
The Bookstore only is open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. On May 20th, Hill’s Studio will be open daily from 8:30 am to 5 pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. (Until May 20th wilderness permits for Wawona trailheads can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch of Hill’s Studio and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore.) Located on the grounds of the Big Trees Lodge, Hill’s Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona store parking area and follow the path up the hill. Until May 20th wilderness permits for Wawona trailheads can be obtained by self-registration on the front porch of Hill’s Studio.

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 always open, and interpretive signs and brochures are available.

Experience Horse-Drawn Travel
Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations. $5/adult and $4/child (ages 3-12)

Blacksmith Shop
Smell the burning coal, hear the ring of the hammer on the anvil, and watch a demonstration of the ancient art of blacksmithing. See page 9 for dates, times, and locations.

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

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.

Glacier Point
Evening Programs
Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered, as well. Details on next page.

Road Map

To Wawona Campground & Yosemite Valley

To Mariposa Grove

To Chilnualna Falls Trailhead and The Redwoods in Yosemite

Parking
Accessible Park
ATM
Visitor Information
PAD Program (Public Access Defibrillation)
Rectopets
Hiking Trail
Road
### WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (June 5, 12, 19 only) 10 min each Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center $5 adult / $4 child 3-12 (NPS) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am - 1:00pm</td>
<td>2:00pm to 5:00pm Blacksmithing Demonstration (June 12 &amp; 19 only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Campfire Talk (June 12, 19 only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GLACIER POINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Hike to Hidden Illiouette Fall 5 hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45pm</td>
<td>Sunset Ranger Talk 1 hr. Glacier Point raling, overlooking the Valley (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (Except May 22 and 29) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point (elevation: 7,214 ft; 2,199 m). Advanced registration required, tickets and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. Shuttle service available.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

- **Wawona Post Office** Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm  
  Saturday: 9am to 7pm, conditions permitting  
  Post Office

- **Wawona Food & Beverage** 8am to 8pm  
  Groceries

- **Big Trees Lodge**  
  - Dining Room: 7:00 to 10am  
  - Lunch: 11am to 3pm  
  - Lounge Service 5pm-9:30pm  
  - Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm  
  - Reservations taken for 6 or more  
  - Saturday BBQ: 5pm-7pm  
  - Golf Shop & Snack Stand 8am to 6pm weather and conditions permitting  
  - Snack Stand 9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

---

**GROCERIES**

- **Big Trees Lodge Store and Pioneer Gift Shop** 8am to 8pm

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**GIFTS & APPAREL**

- **Big Trees Lodge Store and Pioneer Gift Shop** 8am to 8pm  
  - Pioneer Yosemite Gift Shop

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**POST OFFICE**

- **Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio** 9am to 5pm Bookstore only  
  - 8:30 to 5pm beginning May 20  
  - Pioneer Point  
  - Gift Shop 9am to 7pm

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**GAS STATION**

- **Big Trees Lodge Service Station** 8am to 5pm Diesel & propane available  
  - Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card

---

**GOLF**

- 8am to 6pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course.

---

**SHUTTLES**

- **Shuttle Service from Yosemite Ski and Snowboarding Area**  
  - Open May 27, conditions permitting  
  - 10am-6pm (free)

---

**Glacier Point Starry Night Shuttle from Yosemite Valley**  
Open June 7, conditions permitting  
Visit any tour/activity desk for information.
Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat

Tuolumne Meadows

Please walk on official trails to protect fragile meadow ecosystems.

Dogs, bicycles, and strollers are only allowed on roads open to vehicles.

Day-hikers and backpackers must go to the bathroom at least 100 feet away from water, trail, and camp areas; bury human waste six inches deep; pack out toilet paper and all other trash.

Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center
Once open for the season, hours will be 9am to 5pm. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays available.

Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs
Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge will be open from 10am to 4pm beginning June 25. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

Just for Kids
Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids. Program schedule begins June 25.

Ranger Walks
Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy. Program schedule begins June 25.

Evening Activities
Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics vary and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program—bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. Program schedule begins June 25.

Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center
The center is scheduled to open along with the Tioga Road. Please check the website for hours of operation. Wilderness permits, bear canisters, information, books, and maps are available.

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station
The bookstore only will be open daily from 9am to 5pm. On May 27th the Information Station will be open daily from 8am to 5pm. The station offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Until May 27th wilderness permits for the Big Oak Flat Road and Tioga Road trailheads are by self-registration on the front porch of the Information Station and bear canisters can be rented inside the bookstore.

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 former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 600 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile long nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.

Merced Grove
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 (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.
FOOD & BEVERAGE

Tuolumne Meadows
(Open May 22, conditions permitting)
Tuolumne Meadows Grill
(Open June 3, conditions permitting)
8am-6pm
Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room
(Open)
Breakfast: Reservations recommended: 7am-9am
Dinner: Reservations Strongly recommended: 5:30pm - 8pm
209/372-8413

White Wolf
(Open June 10, conditions permitting)
Breakfast: 7:30-10am
Take-out Lunch: Noon - 2pm
Dinner: 5:30-8pm

GROCERIES

Tuolumne Meadows
Store
(Open May 27, conditions permitting)
8am-8pm
Crane Flat
Store
8am -5pm
24 Hour Pay at the Pump available

GIFTS & APPAREL

Tuolumne Meadows
Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore
Inside the Visitor Center
9am to 5pm, once Visitor Center is open
Tuolumne Meadows Store
(Open May 27, conditions permitting)
8am to 8pm

POST OFFICE

Tuolumne Meadows
Post Office
Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to 1pm

GAS STATIONS

Crane Flat
8am to 5pm
Beginning May 26, 8am to 8pm
Diesel & propane available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

SHUTTLE BUS

Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass
Shuttle service scheduled to begin June 10, conditions permitting.
See map, page 10. Shuttle service is available along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass. Service begins when conditions permit.
Shuttles travel between Tuolumne Meadows Lodge and Olmsted Point with stops along the Tioga Road, including Tuolumne Meadows Campground and the visitor center. The shuttle also makes morning and afternoon runs to Tioga Pass.
Service begins at the Lodge at 7am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7am and 7pm. Stop times posted at bus stops.

Spring in the High Country

Welcome to Tuolumne Meadows. You have made your way up the highest road in Yosemite. Take a breath of the thin air and notice how different it is here. At this elevation, spring arrives late. As soon as the ground is clear of snow, plants send up leaves, then flowers to make the most of the short season. Here at 8,600 feet (2621m) above sea level, winter is the longest season, lasting for as many as eight months. Look around as you walk the trails and see if you can find early signs of spring.

Plants and animals must act quickly to get their seasonal “work” done. You may see birds courting or building nests or feeding babies in late June or July. If you are lucky you might catch a glimpse of a coyote, bear or deer in search of food in this sparse, subalpine habitat. Maybe you will witness tiny, young squirrels in the meadows chasing each other or a chubby marmot soaking up the morning sun on a boulder. You may find green shoots of sedge or miniature wildflowers pushing up through the soft meadow soils, hoping to be found by busy pollinators. There is so much to do before winter comes again in September or October.

HETCH HETCHY, HODGDON MEADOWS, CRANE FLAT, WHITE WOLF
Programs start June 1, conditions permitting.
See local postings for additional naturalist walks and campfire programs.

Programs in TUOLUMNE MEADOWS are scheduled to begin June 25, conditions permitting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Ranger on the Dam 1hr. (drop-in) Meet a Ranger on the O’Shaughnessy dam (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Bats Join a Ranger and help with acoustical monitoring of bats in Hodgdon Meadows. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat info station (209) 379-1899 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>Starry, Starry Night 2hr. Crane flat area. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat info station (209) 379-1899 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger 1 hr. (drop-in) Bring your own mug. Hodgdon Meadows campground site 77 (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger in the Grove 2hr. (drop in) Interact with the Ranger in the Tuolumne Grove of Sequoias. Wear good walking shoes and bring drinking water. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 of the Guide for program descriptions:

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 Junior Ranger badge? Are you ready for more Junior Ranger activities? Drop by a visitor center desk and pick up the free PSAR Junior Ranger booklet or Legacy Junior 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.
Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly

Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyote, deer, and grey squirrels are just a few of the many animal species in the park that are active year round. Learn how to help protect Yosemite’s wildlife.

Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that’s the typical daily diet of most bears. It’s a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can’t, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away. Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear. Bears that become comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

Red Bear, Dead Bear

Did you notice the red bear markers as you drove through the park? Each of them mark a place where a bear was recently hit. Every year bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals are killed while trying to cross park roads. Many of these deaths could have been avoided if drivers observed posted speed limits.

Please remember that Yosemite National Park is a wildlife preserve: by driving the speed limit you are helping to protect the park and its wildlife.

Backpackers: Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

Report Bear Sightings!

To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park’s website (www.nps.gov/yose/bears).

Coyotes

Watching a coyote hunting for mice in one of Yosemite’s many meadows can be an amazing wildlife experience. Coyotes are opportunistic carnivores that primarily prey on small mammals. Like bears, their diets change throughout the year with food availability.

Unfortunately, coyotes sometimes change their natural behavior to try to obtain human food. Approaching, and/or feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Please do not stop to feed coyotes you see along the sides of the roads. This encourages them to frequent roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

How to Store Food

*Food* includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unsoused items used for preparing or eating meals.

**Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize loose and bagged potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!**

**Location**

**Your Vehicle**

You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark. Use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food unattended food locked to the outside of a vehicle or in a pickup truck bed.

**Your Campsite or Tent Cabin**

You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided fits with windows closed.

**Picnic Areas & on the Trails**

Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food.

**Backpacking in the Wilderness**

Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.

Mountain Lions

Mountain lions are a normal and important part of the park ecosystem. They are attracted to areas with healthy deer and raccoon populations, which include many areas of the park. Although lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, they are possible, just as is injury from any wild animal.

For your safety:

Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended. Pets can attract mountain lions.

Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind on the trail. Teach children what to do if they see a lion.

What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

Never approach one, especially if it is with kittens. Most lions will avoid confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.

Don’t run. Stay calm. Hold your ground, or back away slowly. Face the lion and stand upright. Do all you can to appear larger. Raise your arms. If you have small children with you, pick them up.

If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout, and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you may be dangerous. If attacked, fight back!

Mountain lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!
Protect Yourself...

Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

There are many ways to experience the wildness of Yosemite. While the forces of nature can create unexpected hazardous conditions, with a little common sense and some pre-planning, you can minimize the risks associated with many activities.

Enjoying the beauty of Yosemite

Late spring and early summer is a vibrant time in Yosemite. Every detail of nature seems to be reaching its peak. Streams and waterfalls are still flowing, refreshing life throughout the Park. We are also reaching peak visitation during this season and not just because this is traditional summer vacation time but also because it is a wonderful season to visit your National Park, especially during our centennial year. Make it your goal to arrive with excited anticipation and leave with wonderful memories, but this will only be possible if you and your companions stay safe and healthy.

Weather

Snow in the high Sierra, though infrequent, is still possible, however, hotter and drier weather is more typical. Prevent dehydration by sipping plenty of water throughout the day and frequently eating salty, easy-to-digest snacks. This is thunderstorm season. Remember, there is no safe place outside when thunder is audible. Follow the saying, “when thunder roars, go indoors.” If you cannot reach a building or car (with a hard top), descend to lower elevations and away from ridges and outcrops. Do not be the tallest object or near a tall object.

Rivers and Streams

Yosemite’s streams present a huge temptation for the curious, the photographer, and the overheated and weary hiker simply wanting to cool tired feet. Hot weather only worsens this temptation but it does not diminish the danger of Yosemite’s swift water. Yosemite’s water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy any moving or falling water from a safe distance.

PLEASE: Enjoy the water from the safety of the trail or in developed areas only!

Yosemite’s Roads

What does your home town and Yosemite National Park have in common? Answer: the traffic can be just as dangerous here, however, we also have added hazards such as rock fall and abundant wildlife, including deer and bear. Moreover, 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-off and parking areas. Park rangers enforce California’s Motor Vehicle Code on park roads.

For all seasons...

- Stay on established trails or in developed areas – do not take trail shortcuts or approach the water. Almost all of Yosemite’s non-traffic related serious injuries occur off trail.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

Hantavirus

Mice are an important part of the ecosystem, but can carry diseases 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.

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 you are 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 cough 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

Physician

Physician.

To protect yourself from plague, never feed wildlife, avoid dropping food scraps that attract rodents when eating outside, and avoid pitching a tent near or disturbing rodent burrows.
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.

Permit Required to Hike Half Dome
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 10, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 permits will be released by daily lottery for backpackers 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.

Rafting
Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Stoneman Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10 am to 6 pm daily to any type of non-motorized vessel or other flotation device.

Fishing
Fishing in Yosemite is regulated by state law. A valid California sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older. When fishing, the license must be plainly visible by attaching it to an outer layer of clothing above the waistline. Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor, which opens June 15). Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used. The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

Pets
Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100 °F throughout the summer. Make sure to keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging or picnic areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning up and disposing of pet feces in trash receptacles.
- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

Bicycling
Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.

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/yoursafet.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.
An adventurous overnight experience
Yosemite National Park contains 13 popular campgrounds. Up to seven are on a reservation system, the rest are first-come, first-served. From April through September, reservations are essential and the first-come, first-served sites often fill by noon during these months.

Camping Reservations
Reservations are required March through November for campsites in Yosemite Valley’s car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 AM Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

Yosemite Valley
There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in a calendar year; however, May 1 to September 15, the camping limit is 14 days and only seven of those days can be in Yosemite Valley or Wawona.
Camp 4 is a walk-in campground and is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am each day, May through September.

Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite
The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. For additional information, contact Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

Group Campgrounds
There are group campsites at Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridalveil Creek Campgrounds. Reservations can be made the same way as individual site reservations; 13 to 30 people are allowed in each group campground. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group campgrounds.

Camping in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAMPGROUND</th>
<th>OPEN 2016 (APPROX)</th>
<th>MAX RV LENGTH</th>
<th>MAX TRAILER LENGTH</th>
<th>RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?</th>
<th>DAILY FEE</th>
<th># OF SITES</th>
<th>PETS</th>
<th>WATER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Pines</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>Feb 11 - Nov 30</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>Mar 28 - Nov 1</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>Apr 4 - Nov 7</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 4</td>
<td>No RV/Trailer</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$6/person</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>No Tap</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South of Yosemite Valley</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wawona</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>April 11 - Oct 10</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Creek</td>
<td>July - Sep 19</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hodgdon Meadow</td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Apr 11 - Oct 10</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>July 15 - Oct 10</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>July - Sep 5</td>
<td>No RV/Trailer</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>July 15 - Sep 26</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions.
Choose your adventure
With over 800 miles of hiking trails, what better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot? Ask a ranger at any visitor center for one of several free, day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are available at bookstores throughout the park.

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 #5</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, 1 hour round-trip to Mirror Lake, 5 miles, loop around lake</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, 2-3 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 5-6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Half Dome</td>
<td>Same as above</td>
<td>14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10-12 hours</td>
<td>Extrememly Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point</td>
<td>Southside Drive</td>
<td>4.8 miles one-way, 3-4 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>

Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRAIL / DESTINATION</th>
<th>STARTING POINT</th>
<th>DISTANCE / TIME</th>
<th>DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wawona Meadow Loop</td>
<td>Big Trees Lodge</td>
<td>3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite Hist. Ctr. Parking Area</td>
<td>4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taft Point</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentinel Dome</td>
<td>Sentinel Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</td>
<td>Lambert Dome Parking Area</td>
<td>4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderately Strenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Muir Trail through Lyell Canyon</td>
<td>Dog Lake Parking Area</td>
<td>8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy, 200-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lake</td>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground</td>
<td>4.8 miles round-trip, 4 to 5 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenaya Lake</td>
<td>White Wolf¹</td>
<td>5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</td>
<td>Porcupine Creek¹</td>
<td>7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Moderate, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Lukens Lake (trailhead)</td>
<td>10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</td>
<td>Tenaya Lake¹</td>
<td>19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

 Features of Hike

**The Mist Trail to Vernal and Nevada Falls**

- **Vernal Fall footbridge**: 1.6 miles/2.6 km round-trip; 1.5 hours with 400 ft./122 m elevation gain
- **Vernal Fall**: 2.4 miles/3.9 km round-trip; 3 hours with 1,000 ft./366 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)
- **Nevada Fall**: 5.4 miles/8.7 km round-trip; 5 to 6 hours with 2,000 ft./610 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

**Trail Description:**
An excellent view of Vernal Fall is visible from the footbridge at 0.75 miles (1.2 km). Beyond the bridge, at 0.2 miles, the Mist Trail and the John Muir Trail diverge. To proceed directly to the top of Vernal Fall, follow the Mist Trail 0.5 mile (0.8 km) up a steep granite stairway of over 600 steps. Prepare for slippery footing and a tremendous amount of waterfall spray in spring and early summer. The top of Nevada Fall may be reached by continuing 1.3 miles (2.1 km) along the Mist Trail.

**Things to know before you go:**
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.
- Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards. Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.
- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Never swim or wade upstream from of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.

¹These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus.
A Century of Protecting Visitors

Story by Park Ranger Alan Hagaman

The National Park Service (NPS) turns 100 years young on August 25, 2016! As we think about the NPS, what are some of its most recognizable symbols? Is one of these images the park ranger, wearing the “Smokey Bear” hat, gray and green uniform, and arrowhead patch? What is it about the work of the park ranger that makes him or her such an NPS icon?

Park rangers work hard to protect America’s most special places from any threats. However, park rangers are also recognized for protecting visitors from the very forces of nature that draw us to our National Parks to begin with. We call this part of rangering “visitor protection.”

In the early years, the NPS did not think much about visitor protection. Indeed, early park visitors often found themselves facing the same dangers as visitors do today, like getting lost, ending up in dangerous water situations, hiking or climbing in mountainous places, or suffering from medical emergencies while far from professional medical help. In these early years, rangers handled problems as they arose as best as they knew how; again, visitor protection was not a big consideration.

As the NPS matured and visitation increased, more and more people began to appreciate National Parks for more than just their unique beauty, but also as places for their unparalleled outdoor recreational opportunities.

As NPS visitation and recreation grew, so too did Search and Rescue (SAR) and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) activity. Necessity caused park rangers to assume the role of searcher, rescuer, and first aid provider. By the 1970s, Yosemite created YOSAR, short for Yosemite Search and Rescue, which today remains nationally recognized for its expertise in difficult SARs including swift water and high angle technical rescues.

Specialized rescue training, equipment, and techniques became normal in many National Parks. Real-world experience with very challenging SARs emerged as one of NPS’ strictest teachers, but out of this grew the stuff of legends and this embedded itself in the very fabric of today’s National Park Ranger.

Rangers often possess a variety of SAR and EMS skills and professional licenses, including advanced life support emergency medical technicians, general SAR, high angle technical rescue, swift water rescue, master divers, aviation operations, and so on. Rigorous training, real-world experience, and life-long professional improvement are the hallmarks of today’s park rangers.

Although we romanticize the SAR and EMS work of our park rangers, do we want the next century to be defined by a continuation of SAR and EMS activity? Keep in mind that every SAR and EMS call represents someone’s personal tragedy - a vacation or recreational activity gone awfully wrong and often beyond a park ranger’s ability to fix. SAR and EMS calls are reactive; response does not occur until after someone is already in peril. Should the NPS be content to stay reactive into the next century or should we seek to be proactive, striving to promote outdoor recreation without visitors imperiling themselves?

NPS promotion of the attitude that “I am responsible for my safety,” which is as true today as it was 100 years ago.

PSAR began as a formal program at Grand Canyon National Park a few years before Yosemite and grew in response to soaring SAR calls. As PSAR has matured, both Grand Canyon and Yosemite have seen decreases in SARs even as their visitation has increased. Our goal is to define the second century NPS by preventing SAR activity rather than continuing to be recognized as experts in reacting to it.

Have you heard of PSAR before reading this article? It is our hope that PSAR will soon become a national initiative and a household name, not as a huge caution sign but as a way to enjoy outdoor activities without experiencing fear or injury.

And what about the image of the next century National Park Ranger if we dial back the SAR and EMS activity? Well, we cannot know for sure but National Parks are about you safely enjoying your outdoor experience. Please read Page 14 in this Guide for PSAR information.
Supporting Your Park

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 1902, 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.anseladamsgallery.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 life-long 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.

Volunteer Drop-in Programs

Be part of the solution and keep your park beautiful! Join park staff in Yosemite Valley or at Tuolumne Meadows during your visit to help protect Yosemite’s habitat through ecological restoration and litter cleanup projects. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to work one to three hours. Volunteers must wear long pants, closed-toe shoes. A hat and sun protection is recommended, and we encourage volunteers to bring water and snacks. All tools will be provided. Groups larger than 10 should contact the volunteer program in advance: yose_volunteers@nps.gov or 209/379-1850.

Contact Us

Yosemite National Park
PO Box 577
9039 Village Drive
Yosemite, CA 95389
209/372-0200
http://www.nps.gov/yose/contacts.htm

The Ansel Adams Gallery

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209/372-4714 fax
www.anseladams.com

Yosemite Hospitality L.L.C.

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Common raven/Photo by Karen Amstutz