Pardon our dust! Shuttle service routes are subject to change as pavement rehabilitation and road work is completed throughout 2017. Expect temporary delays.
Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

Earth Day Everyday!
On April 22, 2017, Yosemite National Park enthusiastically celebrated Junior Ranger Day and Earth Day with visitors. Fun was had by all while learning about how to protect bears, how to be safe while recreating in the park, and how to be good park stewards, and more. At Yosemite, park management aims to exercise Earth Day practices everyday. For instance, the Zero Landfill Initiative at Yosemite National Park has reduced the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year! Join us in being a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country.

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

Stroll with a Ranger
Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 for details.)

Visit the Yosemite Museum
Visit the Yosemite Museum Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9.

Go to the Theater
After a day filled with exploring, relax and enjoy a show at the Yosemite Theater. Yosemite Theater presents a variety of performances, including lively discussions with an expert from The Ansel Adams Gallery. Some have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

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 have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Go outside and enjoy your park!
Summer offers spectacular views of waterfalls, great hiking, and other endless opportunities for recreation. Find the adventures that will make lasting Yosemite memories for years to come.

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 have fees, some are free. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Village. Shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 5 and 6.)

Yosemite Art Center
Yosemite Conservancy invites you to participate in one of our enriching and fun plein air art sessions held Monday-Saturday from 9:45am to 2pm in Yosemite Valley. There is a registration fee of $15 per workshop/person. To register in advance, call 209/372-4207. Walk-ins are welcome when space is available. Workshops begin at the Yosemite Art Center located next to the Village Store. Come by and browse our selection of art supplies, gifts, and original art. Open daily 9am to 4pm (closed at 12pm for lunch). See page 6 for details.

Get Outdoors with Yosemite Conservancy
Are you looking for a memorable way to explore Yosemite, tailored to your interests and ability? Our expert guides will enhance your understanding of the park as you walk among Yosemite’s famous cliffs, trees and waterfalls. Whether you’d rather explore the park’s flora and fauna during a gentle saunter along the river or learn about Yosemite’s geology while taking an exhilarating and rigorous hike, we’ll help you create the perfect outdoor experience. Contact us to plan a Custom Adventure for your family or group. Visit yosemticconservancy.org/advntures or 209/379-2317 x10 to find your adventure today. See page 6 for details.

Yosemite Conservation Heritage Center
Formerly known as LeConte Memorial Lodge, the Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm. Free evening programs occur on Friday and Saturday evenings at 8pm. Seating is available for 50 guests. The Center, located at shuttle stop #12, has a natural history library, a children’s corner, and historical exhibits. Call 209/372-4542 for program details.

Volunteer Drop-In Program
Be part of the solution and keep your park beautiful! Join park staff 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 and closed-toe shoes. A hat and sun protection are 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 volunters@nps.gov or 209/379-1850.

What’s Inside:

01 Seasonal Highlights
04 Yosemite Valley
08 Wawona
09 Tuolumne Meadows
12 Become a Junior Ranger
13 Wildlife
16 Camping
17 Hiking
18 Feature Story
19 Supporting Your Park
Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

**Entrance Fees**

Non-commercial car, truck, RV, or van with 15 or fewer passenger seats. Valid for 7 days:
- $30/person (no per-person fee)
- Vehicle: Valid for 7 days: $30/Vehicle
- Motorcycle: Valid for 7 days: $25/motorcycle

Individual: Valid for 7 days: $15 (in a bus, on foot, bicycle, or horse)

Yosemite 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. (Annual) For active duty U.S. military and dependents.

Interagency 4th Grade Pass: Free
(For fourth graders and their families. Must present paper voucher

**Reservations**

Campground Reservations
888/444-6777
www.recreation.gov

Lodging Reservations
888/413-8869
www.travelyosemite.com

Group Sales Office: 888/339-3481

Yosemite National Park

**Regional Info**

Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)
www.yarts.com

Highway 120 West
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce
820/445-9120 or 209/962-0429

Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429

Highway 41
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau
800/444-6777
www.yosemite-sierray.com

Highway 120 E
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center
760/647-6629
www.leevining.com

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 a 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 3,593 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.

Eastern view of Yosemite Valley with Lupine. 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 ½ 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, or hike 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 feet to nearly 10,000 feet. 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. Tioga Road may not be open in May and June due to snow and ice.

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 Tuolumne Meadows Hikers’ Bus from Yosemite Valley. Tioga Road may not be open in May and June due to snow and ice.

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. 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 ½-hour drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, RVs and other vehicles over 8 ft. wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.

DID YOU KNOW

• Drownings are the number one cause of accidental death in the National Park Service and at Yosemite National Park.
• Most Yosemite drowning victims were not swimming or boating but accidentally slipped into the water.
• Yosemite’s swift water is more powerful than any swimmer and streams are full of dangerous entrapments.
• Yosemite’s highly trained swift water rescue team members are not allowed within one body length of swift water unless they are wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) and helmet, and are tethered to keep out of the water in the event of an accidental slip. (Hint: how close should you be to swift water?)
• Next to drowning, motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of accidental deaths in the National Park Service.
• A little planning and preparation for your outdoor activities can make the difference between your success and failure.

ZERO LANDFILL INITIATIVE

Be a steward of Yosemite by helping make Yosemite the first Zero Landfill park in the country.

Through the Zero Landfill Initiative, Yosemite National Park is reducing the amount of trash that goes to the landfill every year. In partnership with Yosemite Hospitality, we are making it easier for visitors and staff to participate by adding more recycling containers with better labels. We are also working to reduce the amount of waste we generate in park management operations.

Here are 3 things you can do to help:
1. Get rid of excess packaging by repacking food in reusable containers before you leave home.
3. Put trash and recycling in the right containers.
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.

TOURS

Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Valley Lodge and are weather dependent.

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 any Tour and Activity Desk for times. Be sure to ask about Moonlight Tours and Starry Skies Tours, as well!

The Glacier Point Tour leaves Yosemite Valley Lodge at 8:30am, 10am, and 1:30pm 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 to make reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Village, and Half Dome Village.

RAFTING

Rafting is a great way to see Yosemite Valley from a different angle. You can rent a raft from Yosemite Valley Lodge, Yosemite Village, and Half Dome Village.

BICYCLING

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Valley Lodge or Half Dome Village, open 8am to 7pm, weather permitting. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

SIGHTSEEING

Some 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 3,593 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. Cross the footbridges onto the isles or wander through indoor and outdoor exhibits detailing Yosemite’s geologic story.
- 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.

YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE 32

The Yosemite Renaissance 32 exhibit left Yosemite in late April and is moving on! It has been a great honor to present the Yosemite Renaissance 32 Exhibition in Yosemite Valley. The exhibit has since moved on to the Kings Art Center in Hanford, CA, and will open on June 3. For details, see pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

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.

The Majestic Yosemite Hotel

Phone: 209/372-1489

FOOD & BEVERAGE

- The Ansel Adams Gallery
  8am to 6pm
- Yosemite Bookstore
  Inside Yosemite Visitor Center
  9am to 5pm
- Yosemite Museum Store
  9am to 5pm
- Valley Wilderness Center
  8am to 10pm
- Yosemite Village Store
  8am to 10pm

The Gift Shop

8am to 10pm

The Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

Phone: 209/372-1489

Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

Mountain Shop

8am to 10pm

Half Dome Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 10pm

Nature Center at Happy Isles

9am to 5pm; beginning May 26
Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore
The Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore are open from 9am to 5pm. 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, in the Theater behind the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

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
Open daily from 9am to 5pm, may close for lunch. Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite’s Miwok and Paute people from 1850 to the present.

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

Wilderness Center
Open daily from 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.

NATURE CENTER AT HAPPY ISLES
Open 9am to 5pm, beginning May 26. Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. Located a short walk from shuttle stop #16.

YOSEMITE CONSERVATION HERITAGE CENTER
Open Wednesday through Sunday from 10am to 4pm, with free evening programs Friday and Saturday at 8pm. The center has a library, a children’s corner, and a new climate change exhibit. The center is located at shuttle stop #12.

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.

EXHIBIT:
Celebrating Wildness: Photographs by Bob Kolbrener
April 16, 2017 - May 27, 2017
The wilderness instills in us the feeling of being uninhibited, creative and free; we are completely reliant on collective abilities in these places to undertake, protect and enjoy such an experience. And in turn, the wilderness shows us the meaning of grandeur and wonder and self. In this tradition, Bob Kolbrener has been exploring the wilderness through his lens since a discovery of Ansel Adams and Mr. Adams’ landscape legacy that was at its own apogee in the Yosemite backcountry. Together with his wife Sharon, Bob continues to seek out adventure which has continued for 50 years. The Ansel Adams Gallery is excited to exhibit a collection of Mr. Kolbrener’s work with “Celebrating Wildness.” Original silver gelatin photographs on display will include a number of larger scale images made in Yosemite as well as the American West, showcasing the landscape in its grandest form.

NEW EXHIBIT:
Keith Walklet
May 28, 2017 - July 8, 2017
Keith S. Walklet is recognized as one of the most prolific photographers to have ever entered Yosemite National Park, and throughout his career, Double Rainbow, Tunnel View (See Cover Photo) has become his most successful, collected fine print, as well as finding its way into books and multiple presentations about the rewards and challenges of photographing an aesthetic icon like Yosemite Valley.

To celebrate that image and the many memorable moments that he was fortunate to witness during those years, The Ansel Adams Gallery will feature a collection of Keith’s most popular images in the exhibit Chasing Rainbows - A Thirty-Year Arc. True to the exhibit’s name, there will be rainbows, such as El Capitan, Rainbow, recorded in the midst of the wild thunderstorm that punctuated a historic ascent of Half Dome by Mike Corbett and Mark Wellman in September of 1991, and another bow echoing the dramatic gesture of the iconic Jeffrey Pine on the summit of Sentinel Dome. Other favorites will be featured, such as Frosty Pines, Yellowstone, taken just weeks before Keith and his sweetheart Annette Bottaro-Walklet left Yosemite to live in their new home of Boise, Idaho in 1998. Keith has written: “As I photographed that rainbow thirty years ago, I was wondering how I could consider going anywhere else. I’m fortunate that I get to come back so often to teach for the Gallery and continue to share the park’s beauty. It’s transformative.” The Gallery will be hosting an Artist’s Reception for Keith, which will be open to the public, on June 3 between 3pm and 5pm.
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<td>Jr. Ranger Walk - Rivers and Waterfalls</td>
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<td>Family Ranger Walk - Meet Your Yosemite 15</td>
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<td>4:30pm</td>
<td>Discovery Hike - Less Traveled Lower Valley Loop 1</td>
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<td>Jr. Ranger Walk - Wildlife</td>
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**June 7 and 14 Only**

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**2:30pm**

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**11:00pm**

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**December 31 Only**

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**January 3 Only**

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Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.
Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point

Experience 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 cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or to get other questions answered. See page 9 for schedule.

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 stories from Yosemite’s past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite or the history of Wawona with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

WAWONA VISITOR CENTER AT HILL’S STUDIO
The Bookstore only is open daily from 9am to 5pm. On May 19, Hill’s Studio will be open daily from 8:30am to 5pm. The visitor center offers information about park activities, wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. 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. Walks from the lodge or park at the Big Trees Lodge Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. Until May 19, 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.

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. Five dollars for adults and $4 for children ages 3 to 12-years-old.

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 began with hopes to re-open in late 2017. 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, ranger walks, and sunset talks are all offered for your enjoyment at this stunning location. See next page for times and for more information.
### WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (May 28, June 4, 11, and 18 Only) 10 mins. 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>Blacksmashing Demonstration (June 11 and 18 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00pm</td>
<td>Campfire Talk (June 18 Only) 1 hr. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. Topics vary nightly. (NPS)</td>
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### GLACIER POINT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Hike to Hidden Illiouette Fall (Except May 21 and 28) 1.5 hrs. Moderately difficult. Meet at Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45pm</td>
<td>Sunset Ranger Talk (Except May 21) 30 mins. Glacier Point raling, overlooking the Valley. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00pm</td>
<td>GLACIER POINT STARRY NIGHT SKIES OVER YOSEMITE (June 4, 11, and 18 Only) 1 hr. Discover the stories of the night sky at Glacier Point Advanced registration required, tickets, and information are available at any tour &amp; activity desk. Shuttle services available. (YH) $</td>
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### Monday

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (June 14 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $5 adult / $4 child 3-12. (NPS) $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm - 5:00pm</td>
<td>Blacksmashing Demonstration (June 7 and 14 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>Vintage Music 4 hrs. Pioneer Ranger Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite’s past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom’s performing.</td>
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<td>2:00pm - 4:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (June 15 Only) 10 mins. 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>Blacksmashing Demonstration (June 8 and 15 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30pm</td>
<td>Vintage Music 4 hrs. Pioneer Ranger Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite’s past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom’s performing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (May 26, June 2, 9 and 16 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $5 adult / $4 child 3-12. (NPS) $</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00am - 1:00pm</td>
<td>Blacksmashing Demonstration (June 9 and 16 Only) Pioneer Yosemite History Center. (NPS)</td>
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<td>Vintage Music 4 hrs. Pioneer Ranger Tom Bopp performs songs and stories from Yosemite’s past in the Big Trees Lodge lobby. Historical programs available by request are usually given at 8:30pm. For details or to request a program, drop by the piano before 8pm, while Tom’s performing.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger (Hot Cocoa too) (June 17 Only) 1/4 hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Nature Walk with a Ranger (June 17 Only) 2 hrs. Meet at the Redwoods In Yosemite Vacation Home Rental office on Chilnualna Falls Road. For questions please call 855-290-3499. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM (June 10 and 17 Only) 1.5 hrs. Especially for ages 7-12. Meet at Wawona Campground Amphitheater. (NPS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00am - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides (May 27, June 3, 10 and 17 Only) 10 mins. each. Purchase tickets in Pioneer Yosemite History Center. $5 adult / $4 child 3-12. (NPS) $</td>
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### Sunday

**Programs printed in ALL CAPS AND COLOR are especially for children and their families.**

**GROceries**

Big Trees Store & Pioneer Gift Shop
8am to 8pm

**GiFTS & APPEARAL**

Big Trees Store & Pioneer Store
8am to 8pm

Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio Bookstore
8am to 5pm

Gift Shop
9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

Snack Stand
9am to 7pm, conditions permitting

**POST OFFICE**

Wawona Post Office
Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm
Saturday: 9am to noon

**GAS STATION**

Big Trees Lodge
8am to 6pm, diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**Golf**

Big Trees Lodge Golf Course
8am to 6pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course. Phone: 209/375-6572

**StABLES**

Icicle Stable
7am to 5pm, Beginning June 2
Hidden in Yosemite National Park’s peaceful northwest corner, Hetch Hetchy Valley is a treasure worth visiting in all seasons. Hetch Hetchy boasts one of the longest hiking seasons in the park and is an ideal place for spring waterfalls and wildflower displays.

Programs start May 28, conditions permitting. See local postings for additional naturalist walks and campfire programs.

**HETCH HETCHY, HODGDON MEADOW, AND CRANE FLAT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td><strong>JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM</strong> 1 hr. All ages welcome. Exploration of the Hodgdon Meadow area, games, stories, etc. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear and be prepared to walk. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>Hetch Hetchy Wildflower Bloom Monitoring Walk 2 hrs. Join a ranger-naturalist to learn to identify wildflowers and help update a weekly bloom list for the first mile of trail towards Wapama Falls from the O’Shaughnessy Dam. Wear sturdy footwear and bring sun protection and water. Meet at the dam at 9am or catch up along the way. (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Twilight Meadow Observation and Sketching Walk 1 hr. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle near the group campsites. Leisurely walk with stops. Wear sturdy footwear. Supplies provided if needed. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger on the Dam Stop by anytime during this hour and talk with a ranger-naturalist to learn about the Hetch Hetchy Valley and O’Shaughnessy Dam. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
<td>Yosemite Night Sky 2 hrs. Crane Flat area. Make reservations at the Big Oak Flat info station 209/379-1899. (NPS)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>2:00pm -- 4:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger in the Grove Anytime during this 2 hours, meet up with A ranger-naturalist in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these amazing trees. One mile hike downhill from trailhead to grove. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Fire and Sequoias Walk 2 hrs. Join a Ranger Naturalist for a walk into and through the Tuolumne grove. Meet at the model of the cross-section of a sequoia tree at the parking lot. Moderately difficult, 2.5 miles round trip. Wear sturdy footwear and bring drinking water. (NPS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Waterside Chat 1 hr. O’Shaughnessy Dam. A ranger-naturalist will discuss a range of topics relevant to the natural and cultural history of the Hetch Hetchy area. Bring a chair if you’d like. Allow 45 mins. drive-time from Big Oak Flat Visitor Information Station. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
<td>Bears and Other Wildlife Walk 1 hr. Learn about some of the amazing creatures who call Yosemite home. Meet at the Hodgdon Meadow Campground campfire circle, near the group campsites. Wear sturdy footwear. (NPS)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00am -- 9:00am</td>
<td>Coffee with a Ranger Stop by anytime during this hour to learn about the park. Bring your own mug and your questions. Hodgdon Meadow Campground. Check kiosk posting for location. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Wildflower Walk 2 hrs Meet at the O’Shaughnessy Dam. 2 miles round trip. Moderately difficult. Wear sturdy footwear and bring sun protection and water. (NPS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Ranger in the Grove Anytime during this 2 hours, meet up with A ranger-naturalist in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to learn about these amazing trees. One mile hike downhill from trailhead to grove. Wear sturdy footwear and bring water. (NPS)</td>
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</table>
Tuolumne Meadows

*Due to the amount of snow, it is very likely that Tuolumne Meadows programs, services, and trailheads may not be available before May or June.

When Can I Go To The High Country?

You may be wondering when Tioga Road will open and when those high country adventures can commence in Tuolumne Meadows. Fortunately, Yosemite National Park has experienced record snowfall this past winter, aiding in the recovery from the drought conditions the park has been experiencing for the past four years. Here is a glimpse at the winter stats as of April 26, 2017:

Season Totals: Nov 1, 2016 - April 26, 2017
Total Snowfall: 493 inches
Total Water: 51.13 inches

*Most recorded in Tuolumne Meadows

So, although the birds are singing and flowers are blooming at lower elevations, spring will arrive later than usual in the Tuolumne Meadows vicinity. What does this mean? Well, to those dreaming of high country adventures, be advised that there is still over 100 inches of snow on the ground in late April, which means it will take time for the snow to melt and for those high elevation areas to be reachable.

Those planning treks in the Sierra Nevada this summer should anticipate many hazards. High water crossings, snow bridges, hard snow on mountain passes, are just a few of the hazards visitors may encounter. Please, come prepared, make good decisions and do not put others at risk when visiting the wilderness this summer.

As far as the roads, beginning in late April, road crews started the tedious job of clearing snow from Tioga Road, a process that could take anywhere from one to two months. It is impossible to predict when the road may open, even in late spring, due to spring weather affecting the plowing process. As soon as the road is cleared and open, there’ll be additional time needed to get services up and running.

Don’t fret. It won’t be long before the animals are scrambling about, working quickly to get their seasonal tasks done before winter sets in, once again, and before you’ll be able to view those high country vistas along Tioga Road.

Big Oak Flat

Big Oak Flat Information Station

On May 19, 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.

Tuolumne Grove

The trailhead for the Tuolumne Grove, which consists 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 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return.

The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile nature trail. There is no potable water available. 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.

The grove is located 3.5 miles north of Crane Flat and 4.5 miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10. Tuolumne Grove.

SERVICES AT CRANE FLAT

*Due to the amount of snow, it is very likely that Tuolumne Meadows programs, services, and trailheads may not be available before May or June.

GROCERIES

Crane Flat Store
8am to 7pm, (conditions permitting)

GAS STATION

Crane Flat
8am to 7pm, conditions permitting
Diesel & propane available.
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.
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:

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**

Illustrations by Tom Hillsworth

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**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.

If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people.

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 marks 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 that 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 unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Food Storage</th>
<th>Why?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Your Vehicle</td>
<td>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, garbage, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food or food wrappers in the trunk.</td>
<td>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, garbage, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats. Never leave unattended food or food wrappers in the trunk. Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</td>
<td>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 fitted boxes with windows closed.</td>
<td>Bears can enter campsites when people are present, and some will even steal food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin. Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even steal food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin. Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Areas &amp; on the Trails</td>
<td>Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm’s reach. Don’t turn your back to your food. Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert. Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backpacking in the Wilderness</td>
<td>Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite. Be sure to store your food in a canister that bears cannot open. Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even steal food lockers to see if they’re secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin. Bears can smell food, even if it’s sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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!
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 YOSEMITE IN LATE SPRING
Late spring is a vibrant season in Yosemite. Every detail of nature seems to be reaching its peak. Streams and waterfalls are at peak flow, refreshing life throughout the Park. This is a gorgeous time to visit Yosemite and create wonderful safe and healthy memories.

WEATHER
While there is ample snow still on the ground in the higher elevations—it is unlikely to fall from the sky this time of year. Hotter and drier weather is more likely at all elevations. Prevent dehydration by sipping lots of water throughout the day and frequently eating salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Thunderstorm season is here. Remember, there is no safe place outside when you can hear thunder. Follow the saying, “when thunder roars, go indoors.”

If you cannot reach a building or car (with a hard top), hike down and away from ridges and outcroppings. Do not be the tallest object or near a tall object.

RIVERS AND STREAM
Yosemite's streams are a huge temptation for the curious, the photographer, and the overheated and weary hiker simply wanting to cool tired feet. Do not be fooled! Yosemite’s water is deceptively dangerous and unforgiving. Visitors are strongly urged to enjoy moving or falling water from a safe distance. Please DO NOT LEAVE THE TRAIL OR DEVELOPED AREAS.

BOATING / FLOATING
Before boating or floating, please check the Park’s website at https://www.nps.gov/yose for allowable locations and conditions. We strongly urge you to wear a Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD) when on the water. Mishaps occur so suddenly that you will not have time to put on your PFD. Lastly, make sure your watercraft is suitable for water conditions.

YOSEMITE’S ROADS
What does your home town and Yosemite National Park have in common? Answer: the traffic can be just as dangerous here plus we have other hazards such as rock fall and abundant wildlife, including deer and bears. Moreover, there are many sites to distract drivers. If you cannot devote 100 percent of your attention to your driving, please pull completely off the road into designated pull-offs and parking areas. Also, Buckle up! 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.

Remember, there is no safe place outside when you can hear thunder. Follow the saying, “when thunder roars, go indoors.” If you cannot reach a building or car (with a hard top), hike down and away from ridges and outcroppings. Do not be the tallest object or near a tall object.

HANTAVIRUS INFORMATION
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 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

PLAGE
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.
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 2017, May 26 through October 10, conditions permitting. A daily total of 225 preseason lottery permits have already been issued for 2017. 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 lottery permits will be accepted 2 days prior to the desired hiking date between midnight and 1pm. To apply, visit Recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777. A non-refundable application fee applies to all submissions and a use fee applies to winning applicants. Finally, a daily quota of 75 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

Rafting

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

• The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all flotation devices whenever the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6.5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
• You must wear or have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device immediately available.
• Fallen trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

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 garment, or on a pole, handle, or line. A valid California or other state sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older. 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.

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.

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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 7am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

For campground reservations, visit www.recreation.gov or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 from 7am to 9pm, Pacific time, March through October, or from 7am to 7pm, November through February. Call 518/885-3639 if you’re dialing from outside the U.S. and Canada.

Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite
The U.S. Forest Service 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 campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group sites.

Camping in Yosemite National Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campgrounds</th>
<th>Open 2017 (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>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>All Year</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Pines</td>
<td>Mar 29 - Nov 1</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Pines</td>
<td>Apr 3 - Nov 6</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 4</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>No RV/trailers</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>All year</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>April 10 - Oct 9</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridalveil Creek</td>
<td>Aug 1 - Sep 18</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>NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hodgdon Meadow</td>
<td>All year</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Apr 10 - Oct 10</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Flat</td>
<td>Jul/Aug - Oct 9</td>
<td>40 ft</td>
<td>30 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamarack Flat</td>
<td>Jul/Aug - Oct 15</td>
<td>No RV/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Creek (ball)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Wolf</td>
<td>Jul/Aug - Sep 25</td>
<td>27 ft</td>
<td>24 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$18</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yosemite Creek</td>
<td>Jul/Aug - Sep 4</td>
<td>No RV/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (ball)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porcupine Flat</td>
<td>Jul/Aug - Oct 15</td>
<td>No RV/trailers</td>
<td>First-come, first-served</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Creek (ball)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne Meadows</td>
<td>Aug 1 - Sep 25</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>35 ft</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>$26</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Tap</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions.
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 to 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, 8 to 10 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 to 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 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,000-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Nevada Fall</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>7 miles round-trip, 5 to 6 hours</td>
<td>Strenuous, 1,900-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top of Half Dome</td>
<td>Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16</td>
<td>14 miles (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 miles (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10 to 12 hours</td>
<td>Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley Floor Loop</td>
<td>Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6</td>
<td>13 miles full loop, 5 to 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>5.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours</td>
<td>Easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swinging Bridge Loop</td>
<td>Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite History Center Parking Area</td>
<td>4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wapama Falls</td>
<td>O’Shaughnessy Dam</td>
<td>5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours</td>
<td>Easy to Moderate</td>
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</tbody>
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It’s still winter!

Yosemite received more than double the average amount of snow this past winter, making for winter-like conditions in areas around Tuolumne Meadows and Glacier Point—even now. If you plan to hike or backpack above 8,000 feet, expect snowy, flooded, and/or muddy conditions. (Go to a visitor center or wilderness center to check current conditions.) When hiking in snowy conditions, the trail may be completely obscured by snow, requiring navigation by map and compass (even if you have a GPS). Hiking in snow is difficult, slow, and can be dangerous; postholing is not only frustrating, but can lead to serious leg injuries.

FEATURED 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/3.9km round-trip; 3 hours with 1,000 ft./586 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Nevada Fall: 5.4 miles/8.7km round-trip; 5 to 6 hours with 2,000 ft./610 m. elevation gain (via Mist Trail)

Begin at Happy Isles (shuttle stop #16)

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 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.
Preventive Search and Rescue: Volunteers Making Yosemite A Safer Place

Story by Alan Hageman

What draws you to Yosemite National Park? Is it the stunning scenery? How about the park’s outdoor recreational opportunities? Yosemite certainly offers some of the finest scenery and recreation anywhere. However, the very features that draw us to this outdoor paradise can also threaten our safety and health.

Every year, trained park rangers respond to more than 200 search and rescue (SAR) calls within the park. SARs range from dehydrated hikers to water emergencies to ground level falls to lost hikers. More important than what happens is what you can do to enjoy your Yosemite experience and not become the subject of a SAR. Because the park contains hazards of which not every visitor is aware, Yosemite developed a Preventive Search and Rescue (PSAR) program to help visitors understand and avoid unsuspected hazards. However, even though PSAR seeks to prevent injuries and illnesses, the constant which remains is that you are responsible for your safety.

PSAR volunteers provide safety messages. What are the messages that our volunteers find themselves discussing with visitors? Number one is to stay on the trail or developed areas. Yosemite’s most serious injuries occur when someone leaves the trail. Hikers sometimes abandon the trail to approach Yosemite’s unforgiving waters. Accidental slips too close to the water have caused disastrous consequences. Other hikers have left the trail to seek a shortcut and have become lost or ended up in dangerously steep terrain. Off trail travel is not only dangerous but it also permanently damages vegetation. Trails promote safety and protect our scenery.

Another frequent and necessary PSAR message is to always have plenty of water and salty, easy-to-digest snacks. Yosemite’s most common SAR calls are from hikers who are dehydrated, exhausted, or have fallen causing a broken bone, sprain, or dislocation. Lots of ground level falls are probably secondary to diminished physical performance from being dehydrated or exhausted. Although most of these on-trail SARs are not life threatening, they are miserable and often extremely painful experiences and a sure recipe to destroy an otherwise perfect vacation.

How do you avoid becoming one of Yosemite’s on-trail SAR statistics? Drink lots of water. One quart or liter of water for every two to three hours of physical activity is reasonable but do not ration water and when your water is half gone, your hike should be past the half way point. Frequently enjoy light salty snacks to replace salts lost through sweating. Also, hike within your physical limitations. Do not let your brain write checks that your body cannot cash; the fastest and fittest person should not set the pace.

The most important measure you can take is your preparation before you start out for your activity. There is plenty of easy to locate Yosemite information in the visitor centers, book stores, and reliable websites including the Yosemite website at https://www.nps.gov/yose. Goals are fine but how much effort is it going to take to reach your destination and what will you need to pack? It is important to know distance but also know how much elevation you need to gain; the higher up you are, the faster you will tire which will degrade your performance and judgment. Always check the latest weather forecast. Did you leave your hiking plan, which includes your route, destination, and when you are due to return, with a reliable person? Just a little pre-planning for your park adventure can make the difference between a terrific outing and a miserable experience.

Back to Yosemite’s PSAR volunteers, please say “hi” if you encounter one. They are giving their own time to promote your Yosemite experience. Most of all, do stay safe and healthy and enjoy your Yosemite experience.
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 environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world environment. It is committed to providing park stewardship in collaboration with the National Park Service in efforts to protect and preserve the park for millions of park visitors to enjoy. Visit www.TravelYosemite.com for more information.

Yosemite Hospitality LLC

Yosemite Hospitality, a subsidiary 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 is committed to providing park stewardship in collaboration with the National Park Service in efforts to protect and preserve the park for millions of park visitors to enjoy. Visit www.TravelYosemite.com for more information.

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 experiences. 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 $113 million in grants to Yosemite National Park. Learn more at www.yosemiteconservancy.org or call 415/434-1782.

Yosemite Volunteers: Serving Yosemite

Over 12,407 volunteers donated more than 174,885 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.

Yosemite Name Changes

The names of the following facilities in Yosemite have changed. The changed names are:

- 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)

Lost and Found

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite’s restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001 or email yose_lostandfound@nps.gov.