

YELLOWSTONE Today



Winter 2005–2006

Official Newspaper of Yellowstone National Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Yellowstone National Park’s Mission

Preserved within Yellowstone National Park are Old Faithful and the majority of the world’s geysers and hot springs. An outstanding mountain wildland with clean water and air, Yellowstone is home of the grizzly bear and wolf and free-ranging herds of bison and elk. Centuries-old sites and historic buildings that reflect the unique heritage of America’s first national park are also protected. Yellowstone National Park serves as a model and inspiration for national parks throughout the world.

Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

NPS/Keller



Roaring Mountain, on the road from Mammoth Hot Springs to Norris Geyser Basin

Safely Enjoy Yellowstone’s Winter Wonderland

Snow and cold combine with natural wonders to create an incomparable winter experience in Yellowstone. Prepare yourself well to enjoy your winter visit safely.

- ◆ Use extra care near canyons, waterfalls, hydrothermal areas, overlooks, and wildlife.
- ◆ Watch your children. Your hand and voice may be too far away once your child leaves your side.
- ◆ The only road open for year-round automobile travel is the Gardiner, MT–Cooke City,

MT road (North Entrance to 7 miles east of the Northeast Entrance). Mud/Snow tires or chains are recommended and may be required.

- ◆ Before beginning your trip—whether by car, skis, or snowshoes—obtain current road and weather reports.
- ◆ Dress for winter—wear wool or synthetics, never cotton. Layer clothing so you can adjust to the weather and your level of exertion. For more winter gear tips, see page 5.

- ◆ Plan outings to match your group’s abilities so everyone can enjoy themselves and stay safe. For more winter safety tips, see page 5.
- ◆ Keep your distance from wildlife—100 yards from bears, 25 yards from bison, elk, bighorn sheep, deer, moose, wolves, coyotes—and never feed them or other animals, including birds. For more park safety tips and regulations, see page 2.



©C. Duckworth

SPEED KILLS

more than 100 deer, moose, bears, elk, bison, wolves each year

SLOW DOWN
and save a life

Help Protect Wildlife Near Roads

- ◆ Always expect animals to be on or near the road.
- ◆ Follow the speed limit (maximum 45 mph unless otherwise posted).
- ◆ Increase caution at night and during wet or wintry conditions.

Be Safe & Legal



NPS/T.Madsen

SCALDING WATER

Beautiful but deadly: Yellowstone’s hydrothermal features can kill you. Their waters are frequently near or above boiling. Their crust is thin, breaks easily, and often overlies scalding water.

- ◆ **Stay on boardwalks and designated trails.** They protect you and delicate formations.
- ◆ **Keep your children close to you at all times;** make sure they understand the danger.
- ◆ **Pets are prohibited** in hydrothermal areas.
- ◆ **Swimming** or bathing is prohibited in hydrothermal pools or streams where water flows entirely from a hydrothermal spring or pool.
- ◆ **Where swimming is allowed, swim at your own risk.** Yellowstone’s natural waters tend to be very hot or very cold, and immersion in extreme temperature water can be fatal. Thermal water can also harbor organisms that cause a fatal meningitis infection or Legionnaires’ disease. Exposing your head to thermal water by immersion, splashing, touching your face, or inhaling steam increases your risk of burns and infection.

TOXIC GASES

Toxic gases exist in Yellowstone. Dangerous levels of hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and carbon monoxide have been measured in some hydrothermal areas. *If you feel sick, leave the location immediately.*

CAUTION: Wildlife Jams

Habituated wild animals are dangerous because they learn people are not a threat and will tolerate people at close distances. Many animals—including bears, bison, coyotes, elk, and bighorn sheep—become habituated. To protect yourself and wildlife, follow these guidelines when viewing or photographing roadside wildlife, whether you are alone or in a wildlife jam:

- ◆ Park in established turnouts and make sure your car is completely off the paved roadway.
- ◆ Make sure you put your vehicle into park, and engage your parking brake.
- ◆ If you exit your vehicle, stay near your vehicle so you can get inside if the bear or other wildlife approaches.
- ◆ Avoid being struck by a moving vehicle, do not stand in the roadway to view or photograph wildlife.
- ◆ Never surround, crowd, approach, or follow wildlife.
- ◆ Don’t block an animal’s line of travel.
- ◆ Do not run or make sudden movements—this may cause predators to attack.
- ◆ If other people in the area are putting you in danger, leave the scene and/or notify a park ranger.
- ◆ Do not ever feed wildlife, including birds.

Watch for Ice on Roads and Trails

Only two park roads are plowed:

- 1 Between the North Entrance and Cooke City, Montana
- 2 From Mammoth Hot Springs to the parking area at the Upper Terraces

- ◆ They are maintained only during daylight hours and may close during severe storms.
- ◆ Expect snowpack, ice, frost heaves, drifts.
- ◆ Mud/snow tires or tire chains may be required and are recommended always.
- ◆ Speed limit for all vehicles, including snowmobiles, is 45 mph (73 kph), lower where posted.
- ◆ Do not stop on the road or block traffic when viewing wildlife or scenery. Use pullouts.
- ◆ Trails and overlooks may be snow-covered, icy, and dangerous.
- ◆ Obey trail closures. Proceed cautiously at all times and watch your children.

Other Rules and Safety Information

Attention Anglers The fishing season in Yellowstone National Park is open late May through early November.

Backcountry Permits Permits are required for overnight backcountry use. Obtain them in person up to 48 hours in advance from any ranger station. Rangers will provide information on weather, trails, snow conditions, and any special winter hazards. Backcountry winter campers must carry stoves and fuel for cooking and melting snow; no wood fires allowed.

Falling Trees Avoid areas with dead trees (snags). They may suddenly fall, especially on windy days.

High Altitude Most of the park is above 7,500 feet (2,275 m). Allow time to acclimate; be aware of your physical limitations; don’t overexert. Drink plenty of water to forestall dehydration from altitude and dry climate. Stop and rest often.

Hypothermia & Frostbite Hypothermia is a rapid loss of body heat that can cause death if not treated. Early warning signs include shivering, slurred speech, memory lapses, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Know these warning signs and how to treat them. Seek help as soon as you can. Frostbite can permanently damage tissue and

affect use of fingers, toes, nose, ears, or other extremities. Protect yourself with warm, layered clothing, and frequent stops to warm up.

Lost & Found Call 307-344-2109 to report or retrieve lost items.

Pets Pets must be leashed. They are prohibited on all trails, in the backcountry, and in hydrothermal basins. Pets are not allowed more than 100 feet from a road or parking area. Leaving a pet untended and/or tied to an object is prohibited.

Winter Camping Winter car-camping is available only at Mammoth Campground. Heated restrooms and water are available; wood fires are allowed. No overnight camping or stopping allowed elsewhere. Primitive winter camping is available at Old Faithful on a limited basis and at backcountry sites. No facilities. Permit required.

Seat Belts Each vehicle occupant must have a safety belt or child restraint system fastened when the vehicle is in motion.

Theft Lock your vehicle; keep all valuables hidden; label all valuable property with your name, address, or identification number; report theft or vandalism to a ranger.

Additional safety tips for winter on page 4.

These Actions Are Illegal

- ◆ speeding (radar enforced)
- ◆ driving while intoxicated (open container law enforced)
- ◆ leaving detachable side mirrors attached when not pulling trailers
- ◆ traveling off-road by vehicle, snowmobile, or bicycle
- ◆ improperly storing food
- ◆ violating camping regulations & rules
- ◆ having pets off leash or on trails and boardwalks
- ◆ littering
- ◆ swimming in hydrothermal pools
- ◆ traveling off
- ◆ boardwalks in hydrothermal areas
- ◆ removing or possessing natural (antlers, etc.) or cultural (artifacts) features
- ◆ violating fishing regulations
- ◆ feeding or approaching wildlife
- ◆ spotlighting (viewing with artificial light) elk, deer, or other animals
- ◆ calling in elk by imitating their calls or using buglers
- ◆ imitating wolf howls
- ◆ using electronic equipment capable of tracking wildlife

Know These Numbers

25

= the number of YARDS you must stay away from all wildlife—except . . .

100

= the number of YARDS you must stay away from a bear

45

= the maximum speed limit in the park unless otherwise posted

911

= the number to call in an emergency

Visiting in Winter

Winter 2005–2006

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Courtesy C. Duckworth

You may see new snowcoaches on Yellowstone's roads that resemble this test vehicle.

Highlights

Geysers & Hot Springs

In addition to Old Faithful, the world's most famous geyser, Yellowstone contains thousands of other geysers, hot springs, mudpots, and steam vents. They all provide evidence of the active volcano beneath our feet. You can see travertine terraces at Mammoth Hot Springs, acidic features at Norris Geyser Basin and Mud Volcano, mudpots and geysers at Fountain Paint Pot and West Thumb, and giant hot springs at Midway Geyser Basin. Old Faithful itself is just one of the hundreds of hydrothermal features in the Upper Geyser Basin.

In winter, the clash of extreme heat and cold creates extraordinary beauty—ghost trees, ice cones, eruptions seemingly amplified in the frigid air. Warm ground, steam, and hot water create microclimates where plants grow. Animals are drawn to these sources of food and warmth.

Puffs of steam reveal tiny hydrothermal features that elude summer visitors. Other clues include patches of bare ground, ice-free streams or ponds, and frozen spray.

Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River

In this spectacular canyon, snow clings to canyon walls in patterns determined by pinnacles, ridges, gullies, and slopes. Steam plumes mark locations of hot springs, geysers, and fumaroles. Massive sheets of ice muffle the roar of the Upper and Lower Falls. At the base of the Lower Falls, spray freezes and grows into an ice cone that sometimes reaches half the height of the falls. Overlooks along the North and South Rims offer views of the canyon and the falls.

Lake Area

Yellowstone Lake is North America's largest high-altitude lake. Set against the Absaroka Mountains, it defines the essence of winter—a wilderness snowscape, harshly beautiful.

On average, the lake is ice-locked by December 25. Between freeze-up and the accumulation of insulating snow, solar radiation causes heating and expansion of the vast sheet. The lake "sings" as ice creaks, pops, and groans. Its surface freezes solid except for isolated spots of hydrothermal activity.

Winter Planning In the Park



NPS Photo/Peaco

The National Park Service works with local governments and businesses, concessioners, conservation and other interest groups, industry, visitors, and the public to build a sustainable future for winter use while preserving park resources and providing high quality visitor experience. This year, winter operations are guided by a Temporary Winter Use Plan Environmental Assessment, which requires all snowmobilers be part of a guided trip and all snowmobiles be Best Available Technology (BAT).

Goals of a Winter Use Plan

- ◆ Provide a high quality, safe, and educational winter experience for all visitors.
- ◆ Provide for visitor and employee health and

safety.

- ◆ Preserve pristine air quality.
- ◆ Preserve natural soundscapes.
- ◆ Mitigate impacts to wildlife.
- ◆ Minimize adverse economic impacts to gateway communities.

The Future of Winter Use

The National Park Service (NPS) is preparing a long-term Winter Use Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway. The EIS will consider alternatives for managing winter use, including limits on the number of snowmobiles entering the parks, guiding requirements (including allowing some unguided or non-commercially guided snowmobile use), and allowing only mass-transit snowcoaches. It will also include alternatives with varying road segments left ungroomed for experimental purposes to address bison use of groomed roads. The EIS will evaluate the environmental effects of winter use on air quality and visibility, wildlife, natural soundscapes, employee and visitor health and safety, visitor experience, and socioeconomics.

A draft EIS is expected to be released in spring 2006 for public review. The NPS intends to complete the EIS process and issue new regulations (if necessary) prior to the start of the 2007–2008 winter season.

For more information about winter use planning, go to www.nps.gov/yell/winteruse.htm.

Enjoying Winter

In a car You can drive from the North Entrance to Cooke city, MT, year-round. You will see spectacular scenery and probably pronghorn, elk, bison, and possibly wolves.

On skis or snowshoes You have many trails to choose from in the park. Information is available at visitor centers, warming huts, winter trailheads, and at www.nps.gov/yell.

In a snowcoach Enjoy the warmth and comfort of a snowcoach. You can book a trip with snowcoach operators listed at www.nps.gov/yell.

On a snowmobile You can book a snowmobile trip with a guide. A limited number of snowmobiles will be allowed in the park each day. Reservations ensure entrance on the days you prefer. A list of authorized commercial guides is at www.nps.gov/yell.

Staying in Yellowstone Xanterra Parks & Resorts provides winter lodging in the park. Visit www.TravelYellowstone.com or call 307-344-7311.



Questions?

Ask a ranger at these locations!

Albright Visitor Center, Mammoth

Information, bookstore, and exhibits on wildlife and history. Films on the park and the national park idea. Call 307-344-2263. Open daily, year-round, except Thanksgiving (Nov. 24): 9 AM–5 PM

Old Faithful Visitor Center

Information, bookstore, and geyser eruption predictions. Award-winning film about hydrothermal features. Call 307-545-2750. Open daily, Dec. 21–March 12: 9 AM–5 PM

West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center

Information, publications. West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce staff available year-round, Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM. Call 406-646-7701.

NPS rangers available daily, Dec. 21–March 12: 8 AM–8 PM. Call 406-646-4403.

Warming Huts

Warming huts provide shelter for skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers. They are open 24 hours a day, except for Mammoth and Old Faithful.

Canyon

Dec. 21–March 12
Vending machine snacks available any time.

Fishing Bridge

Dec. 21–March 12
Vending machine snacks and cold drinks available.

West Thumb

Dec. 21–March 12
Not staffed.

Indian Creek

Dec. 21–March 5
Not staffed.

Madison

Dec. 21–March 12
Light snacks and hot drinks sold during the day; vending machine snacks available any time.

Mammoth

Dec. 21–March 5
8 AM–5 PM
Vending machine snacks and cold drinks available.

Old Faithful

Dec. 21–March 12
Daytime only.
Vending machine snacks available.

Winter Safety Tips

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Winter 2005–2006

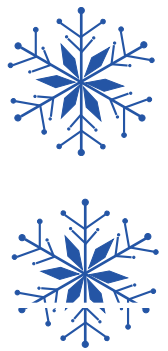


NPS photo/Peaco

Please leave the ski tracks for the skiers; don't walk or snowshoe in them.

Weather

Yellowstone's weather is unpredictable and changes suddenly. Obtain current weather conditions and forecasts at visitor centers or ranger stations. Be prepared for a range of conditions, whether you are out for several hours or overnight. Know the locations of warming huts and phones (map on the back page). Plan your trip and follow your plan.



Avalanches

- ◆ Avalanche hazard can be high on roads between the East Entrance and Fishing Bridge Junction, on Dunraven Pass, on trails in the Cooke City vicinity, and in many areas of the backcountry. Learn about avalanche mechanics, safe travel methods, and rescue procedures before going into the backcountry.
- ◆ Avalanches most commonly occur on hillsides or in canyons with slopes of 30–45°, but can happen on any slope.
- ◆ When travelling through such areas, cross the slope one at a time while others watch.
- ◆ Avalanches are more likely to occur during or after heavy fresh snowfall, high winds, or extreme temperature changes.
- ◆ Check the Gallatin National Forest Avalanche Center, 406-587-6981 or www.mtavalanche.com, for avalanche advisories for Bozeman, Livingston, West Yellowstone, Cooke City, and Gardiner; or check with a local ranger for a current forecast.

For Skiers and Snowshoers

- ◆ Evaluate your party's capabilities. Plan your outing so that everyone will enjoy it.
- ◆ Know your equipment's capabilities and weaknesses and be prepared to make repairs.
- ◆ Never go close to geysers, hot springs, or mudpots. You may fall through overhanging snow ledges or thin crust. Do not leave designated trails in hydrothermal areas.
- ◆ Beware of icy conditions on downhill grades leading into hydrothermal areas. Side-step or walk down the hill rather than risk skiing out of control into a boiling pool.
- ◆ When crossing frozen lakes, use extreme caution and check ice thickness by prodding with a ski pole. Ice, snow covered or not, may be thin, especially near inlets, outlets, and waters warmed by hydrothermal activity. Crossing rivers may be dangerous; some have bridges and some do not. Ask a ranger about local crossings.
- ◆ Do not approach wildlife. Wild animals are unpredictable; if they charge, you can't outrun them, especially in deep snow. If they run, you are forcing them to use energy they need to survive.
- ◆ When passing through areas of dead trees (snags), stay on established trails and be alert. Snags can fall with little warning.
- ◆ Exertion in dry mountain air can dehydrate you. Drink two quarts of water a day. Carry gear to melt water from snow or dip it out of a stream from a safe distance with a ski pole. Boil water from lakes or streams to reduce the chance of infection from water-borne diseases.
- ◆ Learn as much as you can about winter survival. Talk with park rangers before you leave on any trip. Many good books are also available on this topic.
- ◆ Follow basic ski etiquette: skiers going uphill yield to those going downhill.
- ◆ Let someone know where you are going.
- ◆ On groomed roads used by snowmobiles, keep to the right.
- ◆ Orange trail markers attached to trees may be difficult to find in winter. Even on a well-marked trail, you can become lost easily in a whiteout or blizzard.
- ◆ If you venture into the backcountry, carry a USGS topographic map and a compass—and know how to use them.
- ◆ Attempt off-trail travel only if you are completely familiar with the specific area where you will be skiing.
- ◆ Obtain specific information on conditions at the area's ranger station, backcountry office, warming hut, or visitor center.
- ◆ Most of the park is above 7,000 feet. If you are coming from lower elevations, acclimate yourself and test your capabilities by taking short day trips before considering longer excursions.



For Snowmobilers

Dress for Extreme Cold

Essential items: helmet, face mask, heavily insulated gloves or mittens, felt-lined boots, and a heavily insulated snowmobile suit. Avoid tight-fitting garments; they restrict circulation and increase the possibility of frostbite.

Wild Animals Have the Right of Way!

Your guide will know what to do if you encounter wild animals on the road. Recommendations include:

- ◆ If bison or other wildlife are on the road, stop at least 25 yards away and/or pull your machine as far as possible to the opposite side of the road; give them a chance to move off the road.
- ◆ Do not make sudden or erratic movements; use groomed pullouts where possible.
- ◆ Do not chase animals or cause them to stampede.
- ◆ If an animal appears agitated, do not attempt to pass—it may cause the animal to charge.
- ◆ If animals run toward you and you can confidently turn around, do so, moving to a safe place while your guide reassesses the situation.
- ◆ If animals walk or run toward you and you cannot turn around, get off your machine and stand to the side of it, keeping the machine between you and the animals.
- ◆ If animals are standing calmly, your guide may inch toward them and assess their behavior. If they remain calm, you may be able to pass on the opposite side of the road at a slow speed.

Regulations

Your guide knows the regulations, but you should be aware of them too:

- ◆ Snowmobile operators must have a valid state motor vehicle driver's license in possession.
- ◆ Roads are open only 7 AM to 9 PM. Snowmobiles are not allowed to operate in the park between 9 PM and 7 AM.
- ◆ Maximum speed limit is 45 mph or less where posted or as conditions warrant.
- ◆ Speed limit is 35 mph West Entrance to Madison, Madison to Old Faithful.
- ◆ Use hand signals when turning or stopping.
- ◆ Allow enough distance between snowmobiles when traveling.
- ◆ Pass only when safe.
- ◆ If you turn around, stay within the road width.
- ◆ Drive on the right side of the road even if the road is rough.
- ◆ Drive in single file.
- ◆ Do not idle your machine more than 5 minutes.
- ◆ When stopping, pull to the far right and park in single file.
- ◆ Stay on designated roads. Sidehilling, bermriding, or any off-road travel is prohibited and carries a fine of up to \$5,000.
- ◆ Report accidents to a ranger.
- ◆ Operating a snowmobile while intoxicated is illegal. Possession of open alcoholic beverage containers, including bota bags, is illegal.

Skiing & Snowshoeing

Winter 2005–2006

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Yellowstone's 2.2 million acres provide miles of trails for the adventurous skier and snowshoer. Whether you are skiing a groomed trail in a developed area or venturing into the backcountry, remember that you are traveling in wilderness with all its dangers: unpredictable wildlife, changing weather conditions, hydrothermal areas, deep snow, open streams, and avalanches. You have chosen to explore and experience the land on its own terms, but your safety is not guaranteed. Be prepared for any situation. Carefully read the safety information on the previous page, understand all backcountry guidelines and regulations, and know the limits of your ability.

Skiing and Snowshoeing Trails

You have a choice of ski trails throughout the park—a few are described here. Maps and trail brochures are available for trails in the Mammoth, Tower, Northeast, Canyon, Old Faithful, and West Yellowstone/Gallatin areas. These trails range from easy to difficult.

Northern Region

See map below.
Skiing opportunities abound along the plowed road between Mammoth and the Northeast Entrance.

Upper Terrace

In winter, Upper Terrace Drive becomes a groomed 1.5-mile ski trail. You'll have views of the steaming lower terraces and historic Fort Yellowstone. This is a hydrothermal area; please stay on the trail.

Bunsen Peak

This 6-mile trail follows the old Bunsen Peak road; in places it is steep and has sharp turns. Catch the concessioner-operated ski shuttle from Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel to the trail's upper end, south of Rustic Falls. Along the trail, you will have views of the Gallatin Mountains and the Gardner River Canyon. The trail ends in the Mammoth maintenance area.

Blacktail Plateau

This trail begins 8 miles east of Mam-

moth and follows an unplowed 8-mile road. Enjoy vistas of meadows surrounded by mountain peaks, and look for elk, deer, coyotes, and bison scattered throughout their winter range.

Tower Fall

This trail begins at Tower Junction and follows the unplowed Tower–Canyon road for 2.5 miles past the Calcite Springs Overlook to Tower Fall. You'll have views of the Yellowstone River Canyon and you might see bison, bighorn sheep, or bald eagles. Continue on the 5.5-mile Chittenden Loop Trail or return to Tower Junction.

Barronette

This 3.5-mile trail follows Soda Butte Creek along an abandoned roadway that parallels the Northeast Entrance Road at the base of Barronette Peak. It travels through a forest and offers spectacular scenery and consistent snow conditions.

Old Faithful

Lone Star Geyser

This moderate 9-mile trail begins at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and takes you to Kepler Cascades. From there, you follow an unplowed service road alongside the Firehole River to Lone Star Geyser. The geyser erupts about every three hours from a 12-foot high cone. Beginning skiers should return the same way; more advanced skiers might like to return via the Howard Eaton Trail, which is steep and requires caution.

Fairy Falls

Catch a snowcoach shuttle at Old Faithful Snow Lodge to the southern end of the Fairy Falls trailhead at the steel bridge. From here you can ski to one of the most spectacular ice-encrusted falls in the park. You will be skiing through areas of burned forest so be alert for falling trees. You can ski back to Old Faithful by following the trail next to the

snow vehicle road until you reach the Biscuit Basin Trail, which takes you through the Upper Geyser Basin past Morning Glory Pool and Geyser Hill. The entire trip is about 11 easy miles.

West Yellowstone Riverside

This trail begins on Boundary Street and heads one mile through forest to the Upriver and Downriver loops. Both loops provide scenic views of the Gallatin Range and Madison River. Total distance varies from 2.5 miles to 4.5 miles, depending on your route.

For more details about these and other ski trails, check at the visitor centers and Bear Den Ski Shops at Mammoth or Old Faithful or at the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center.



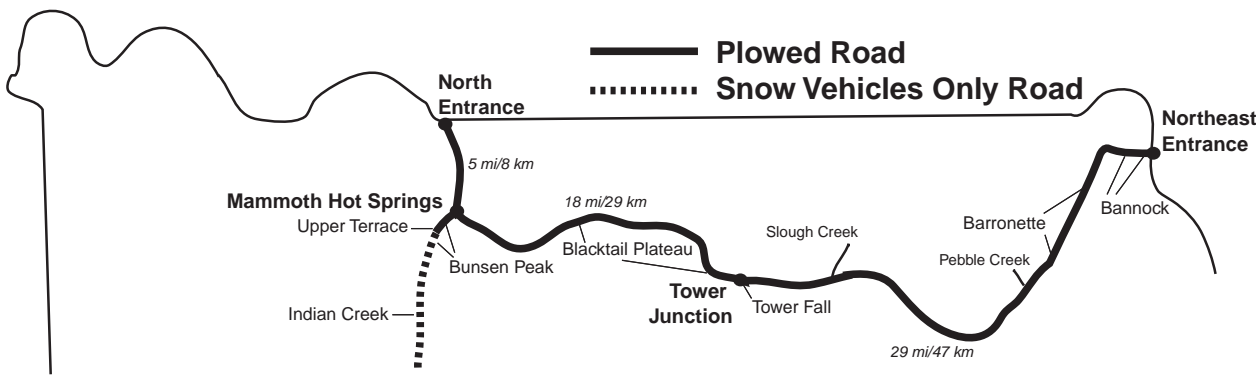
NPS photo/Balthis

Winter Gear Guide

- ◆ Before you rent or borrow equipment, check for fit and suitability for wilderness use. Choose skis and boots made for touring or mountaineering. Narrow racing skis may not give you enough surface area to break trail and low shoes may not give you enough ankle support.
- ◆ Even in severe winter temperatures, you can be comfortable and safe if you dress properly to prevent chilling and overheating.
- ◆ Wear clothes in several adjustable layers:
 - ✓ windproof, hooded outer layer
 - ✓ wool or other insulated garments underneath
 - ✓ wool or synthetic trousers
 - ✓ wool or synthetic long underwear
 - ✓ wind or rainpants for warmth on windy days
 - ✓ wool socks
 - ✓ gaiters or overboots
 - ✓ gloves or wool mittens with shells
- ◆ Do not wear cotton clothes of any kind, including jeans, sweatshirts, underwear, socks. They retain moisture and put you at risk for hypothermia.
- ◆ Protect yourself from the sun:
 - ✓ wear dark sunglasses on sunny days
 - ✓ apply sunscreen lotion to avoid sunburn
- ◆ As you plan your trip, allow for limited daylight, changing snow conditions, temperature extremes, and the number of people in the group and their experience and physical condition.
- ◆ On day trips, consider taking some or all of these items to increase your safety:
 - ✓ extra clothing
 - ✓ water & food
 - ✓ matches or lighter
 - ✓ map
 - ✓ compass
 - ✓ ski repair kit
- ◆ If you are planning an overnight ski trip, carry all of the above, plus:
 - ✓ backcountry permit
 - ✓ repair parts and tools
 - ✓ sleeping bag & closed-cell sleeping pad
 - ✓ shovel
 - ✓ easily-prepared food
 - ✓ small tarp
 - ✓ first-aid kit
 - ✓ stove and pots
 - ✓ knife
 - ✓ tent or bivouac bag
 - ✓ probe pole
 - ✓ transceiver

Rent skis & snowshoes at the Bear Den Ski Shops, Mammoth and Old Faithful.

Winter Trails in Northern Yellowstone



- ◆ A permit is required for all overnight trips in the Yellowstone backcountry. Inquire about backcountry permits at visitor centers or ranger stations.
- ◆ Pack it in—Pack it out: No matter what trail you are on or its length, you must pack out all refuse.

Learn & Explore

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Winter 2005–2006

Xanterra Parks & Resorts

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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INTERPRETIVE SNOWCOACH TOURS

Full and half-day adventures in heated over-snow vehicles.

From West Yellowstone to Old Faithful: \$51	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM	12:30 PM–3:30 PM
From Old Faithful to West Yellowstone: \$51	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM	8–10:30 AM
From Mammoth to Old Faithful: \$60	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon	8 AM–Noon
From Old Faithful to Mammoth: \$60	2–6 PM	2–6 PM	2–6 PM	2–6 PM	2–6 PM	2–6 PM	2–6 PM
From Old Faithful to Flagg Ranch: \$60	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM	9–11:45 AM
From Flagg Ranch to Old Faithful: \$60	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM	1–4:45 PM
Canyon Day Tour, from Old Faithful: \$115	8:30 AM–6 PM	8:30 AM–6 PM		8:30 AM–6 PM	8:30 AM–6 PM		8:30AM–6 PM
Canyon Day Tour, from Mammoth: \$110	8:30 AM–5 PM		8:30 AM–5 PM	8:30 AM–5 PM	8:30 AM–5 PM		
Old Faithful Day Tour, from West Yellowstone: \$102	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM	8:30 AM–4:30 PM
Firehole River Wildlife Tour, Old Faithful only: \$27.50	1–4 PM	1–4 PM	1–4 PM	1–4 PM	1–4 PM	1–4 PM	1–4 PM
Norris Geyser Basin Tour, from Mammoth: \$50 <i>strenuous, if you choose to walk around the geyser basin</i>		12:30–5:30 PM				12:30–5:30 PM	
Steam, Stars, and Winter Soundscapes, from Old Faithful: \$30	7–9 PM	7–9 PM	7–9 PM	7–9 PM	7–9 PM	7–9 PM	7–9 PM

INTERPRETIVE BUS TOURS

Lamar Valley Wildlife Tour, Mammoth Hotel only: \$24 Guided tour to Lamar Valley via bus or van				1–4 PM			
Lamar Valley Daybreak Tour, Mammoth Hotel only: \$27 Ranger-led tour to Lamar Valley via van or bus, with continental breakfast		7–10:30 AM					
Lamar Valley Daybreak Tour, Mammoth Hotel only: \$27 Guided tour to Lamar Valley via van or bus, with continental breakfast						7–10:30 AM	7–10:30 AM

SKI AND SNOWSHOE TOURS

Grand Canyon Ski Tour, from Old Faithful: \$115			8 AM–6 PM			8 AM–6 PM	
Grand Canyon Ski Tour, from Mammoth: \$115							8 AM–6 PM
Afternoon Ski-Daddles, Old Faithful to Fairy Falls: \$40							Noon–5 PM
Afternoon Ski-Daddles, Old Faithful to DeLacy Creek: \$40				Noon–5 PM			
Cooke City See and Ski, from Mammoth: \$66.50						8:30 AM–5 PM	
Guided Snowshoe Tour, Old Faithful: \$27 tour with snowshoe rental; \$22 without snowshoe rental	8:30–11:30 AM				8:30–11:30 AM		

EVENING PROGRAMS

Illustrated program about early visitor experiences in Yellowstone Mammoth Map Room	8:30 PM	8:30 PM	8:30 PM	8:30 PM			
Live Piano Music in the Mammoth Map Room	5 PM	5 PM	5 PM	5 PM	5 PM		

SKI/SNOWSHOE DROPS

Have a snowcoach drop you off for a day of skiing Yellowstone’s backcountry.

Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel to Indian Creek: \$13.75

Daily.
Departs Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel 8:30 am, 10:15 am; 12:15 pm, 2 pm, 3:45 pm
Departs Indian Creek 9:15 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 2:45 pm, 4:30 pm
No pickup for 3:45 PM drop.

Old Faithful Snow Lodge to either Divide or Fairy Falls: \$12.75

Daily.
Departs Snow Lodge 8 AM, 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM
No pickups, you must return by ski or snowshoe.

Winter Getaway Packages

Yellowstone National Park Lodges is again offering Winter Getaway value packages, which make it easier to enjoy the park under its frosty cover. Mammoth packages include a 1-hour hot tub rental and unlimited ice-skating. Old Faithful packages include unlimited ice-skating, round-trip snowcoach transportation per person. Plus, each package includes 2 nights lodging, 2 breakfasts per person, a welcome gift, and a Snow Card (good for 10% off of meals, select gifts, in-park transportation, tours, ski shop services and snowmobile rentals. The Snow Card is valid all winter, so keep it for your next visit!) Rates listed here are valid January 1–March 12, 2006, and do not include tax.

Visit our website at www.TravelYellowstone.com for details. To reserve, stop by one of the hotel front desks or call us at 307-344-7311.

Frosty Fun Package

Mammoth:
\$99 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$166 Single Occupancy

Old Faithful:
\$229 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$348 Single Occupancy

Nordic Heaven—Includes components of Frosty Fun plus 1-day ski rental and ski drop per person.

Mammoth:
\$119 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$186 Single Occupancy

Old Faithful:
\$249 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$368 Single Occupancy

Snowmo-Deal

Includes components of Frosty Fun plus 1-day snowmo-bile rental (1 machine) and clothing package.

Mammoth:
\$189 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$346 Single Occupancy

Old Faithful:
\$319 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$528 Single Occupancy

Extra snowmobile and snowmobile clothing package:
\$180 additional



ACTIVITIES WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

You can also enjoy winter activities with National Park Service rangers. Pick up a winter activity schedule at visitor centers or look on the web at www.nps.gov/yell.

Learn & Explore

Winter 2005–2006

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With the National Park Service

Windows Into Wonderland

Attention all middle school students!
Now loading the cyber-bus to adventure!

Attention middle school students! Climb aboard our electronic bus and look through its *Windows Into Wonderland!* Your passport to adventure is www.windowsintowonderland.org.

Windows Into Wonderland is featuring “Where the Bison Roam” through the remainder of 2005. Meet Rosie, a young bison alone in a Yellowstone winter wonderland, and learn how she is affected by the park’s unique geologic features. How will hydrothermal areas influence Rosie’s behavior or sway her migration patterns? Will hot springs and geyser basins offer Rosie critical winter habitat or dire perils? What other living things use these special areas and why?

In February, join us on an electronic investigation of research in the park. Discover how early studies were conducted in Yellowstone and how new technology has provided fresh tools and methods. Learn about recent exciting discoveries and ongoing investigations into the geologic forces of this vast living laboratory. “Yellowstone Exposed” is scheduled to premiere February 14, 2006. Both of these Yellowstone adventures are funded by the National Science Foundation through a generous grant to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

Journey through earlier eTrips and learn more about Yellowstone’s natural and cultural resources. Topics include fire ecology, history, geology, the park’s wildlife, microorganisms, and more! *Windows Into Wonderland* eTrips are free and always available.



Bring Your Class to Yellowstone & Let Us Do the Teaching!

Teachers, how would you like to spend 4 or 5 days and nights in Yellowstone with your 4th–8th grade students? We invite you, your students, and parent chaperones to participate in *Expedition: Yellowstone!*—our long-standing, curriculum-based residential program. Through field investigations, hikes, creative dramatics, journal writing, and group discussions, students learn about the natural and cultural history of the park and the current issues affecting the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

The park charges a nominal fee to cover faculty salaries and instructional supplies. Financial aid is available for qualifying students through the Yellowstone Park Foundation’s *Expedition: Yellowstone!* scholarship fund. For more information, please write: *Expedition: Yellowstone!* Coordinator, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190. The coordinator will work with you to tailor an itinerary for your students that best meets their educational needs.

Become a Junior Ranger

Children, invite your family to join you on an unforgettable adventure—Yellowstone National Park’s official Winter Junior Ranger Program. Hike, ski, or snowshoe a trail, attend a ranger-led program, and complete fun-filled activities designed for students 5–12 years old.

Simply purchase your copy of *Yellowstone’s Nature*, the 8–page Junior Ranger activity paper, for \$3 at the Albright Visitor Center in Mammoth, the Old Faithful Visitor Center, or the West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center.

Once you have completed the program requirements, stop back into one of these locations so a ranger can review your work and award you a patch like the one shown here.

Participate in this winter program and join more than 17,000 children who became Junior Rangers last year.



Yellowstone Association/Pflughoft

Explore the Park with the Yellowstone Association Institute

The Institute is a nonprofit field school operated in partnership with the National Park Service. We provide visitors with outstanding opportunities to experience Yellowstone in a small group with an expert instructor. We offer four types of educational programs:

Lodging & Learning is an award-winning series of educational programs based at park hotels. Participants explore the park with an Institute naturalist and return to the hotels for lodging, meals, and evening programs. Winter Lodging & Learning programs include:

- ◆ Winter Wolf Discovery—two or three days learning about Yellowstone’s charismatic wolves with an Institute naturalist.
- ◆ Winter Wildlife Expedition—two days learning about the abundant and varied wildlife of Yellowstone’s northern range.
- ◆ Wonderland—five days exploring Yellowstone’s winter environment including wildlife watching, skiing, snowshoeing, and interpretive snowcoach trips to Old Faithful and Canyon.
- ◆ Yellowstone on Skis—five days of interpretive ski tours exploring the geyser basins, the wildlife-rich northern range, and Yellowstone’s Grand Canyon.
- ◆ Old Faithful Winter Adventure—four days exploring the Old Faithful area including skiing, snowshoeing, and an interpretive snowcoach trip to Canyon.
- ◆ Northern Yellowstone Adventure—three days of world-class skiing and wildlife watching in the park’s northern range with a special snowcoach tour to Canyon.

Field Seminars are short courses that provide a closer look at specific subjects, from nature writing to wolf biology. College professors, research scientists, park staff, and other experts teach these programs. These one-to-three day courses are based at the Institute’s Buffalo Ranch Field Campus in the Lamar Valley and throughout the park.

Group Programs are field-based educational programs for your college, environmental organization, or other group of eight or more people. Our program manager will be glad to discuss program and facility options.

Personal Ed-Ventures are private natural history tours and hiking trips designed for families and other small groups. A flat fee of \$350 for up to seven people includes a full day of instruction along the northern range plus in-park transportation and the use of professional spotting scopes.

To obtain information or register for a course, contact the Institute registrar at 307-344-2294 or registrar@yellowstoneassociation.org. Complete information for all Institute programs is available online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org.



ACTIVITIES WITH THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

You can also enjoy winter activities with National Park Service rangers. Pick up a winter activity schedule at visitor centers or look on the web at www.nps.gov/yell.

In our increasingly crowded and developed world, Yellowstone National Park provides a source of refuge and renewal for those who enter its quiet places. The park's magnificent wilderness areas offer a glimpse of what our continent was like when humans first gazed in wonder upon its steaming geysers, thundering waterfalls, and abundant wildlife. However, Yellowstone exists today only because generations who came before us understood its value and made its preservation a priority.

Because so many visitors who love Yellowstone want to help ensure that it stands wild and unimpaired for our future, two separate organizations have been established. The Yellowstone Park Foundation and the Yellowstone Association work in partnership with the National Park Service and each other to provide a means for visitors to contribute to Yellowstone's preservation. Please help us protect and preserve this national treasure. Your contribution to either organization will designate you as a true friend of Yellowstone; contributors of \$1,000 or more will have their names displayed on the park's Honor Wall at Old Faithful, receiving special recognition as stewards and benefactors of Yellowstone National Park. Yellowstone will exist tomorrow as one of America's most treasured places only if our generation understands its value and makes its preservation our priority.

The Yellowstone Park Foundation was founded in 1996 to help address Yellowstone's growing needs and shrinking federal budgets.

The Foundation's mission is to fund projects and programs that protect, preserve, and enhance Yellowstone National Park, today and for future generations.

With the help of generous donations from individuals, foundations, and corporations, the Yellowstone Park Foundation has successfully funded more than 125 projects that directly enhance your visit to Yellowstone. Examples include wildlife conservation, trail reconstruction, and new educational exhibits.



But, there is so much more to do.

Now, more than ever,
Yellowstone needs *your* help!

Please join us in protecting the wonders and wildlife of Yellowstone. With a donation of \$25 or more, you will become a Friend of Yellowstone.

Once you're a Friend of Yellowstone, you'll receive our semiannual newsletters and annual report, keeping you up-to-date on how your contribution is making a difference.

You will also receive a static window decal, and you will be recognized in the Honor Book at Old Faithful for one year.

YES! I Want to be a Friend of Yellowstone National Park.
Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

- ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other

NAME _____

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

E-MAIL

- ☐ Enclosed is my check. *Please make check payable to the Yellowstone Park Foundation.*
- ☐ Please charge my credit card (*choose one*):
- ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ AmEx ☐ Diners Club

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE _____

- ☐ I want to help, but do not want to receive a thank-you gift.

Mail donations to: The Yellowstone Park Foundation
222 East Main St., Suite 301, Bozeman, MT 59715 • 406.586.6303

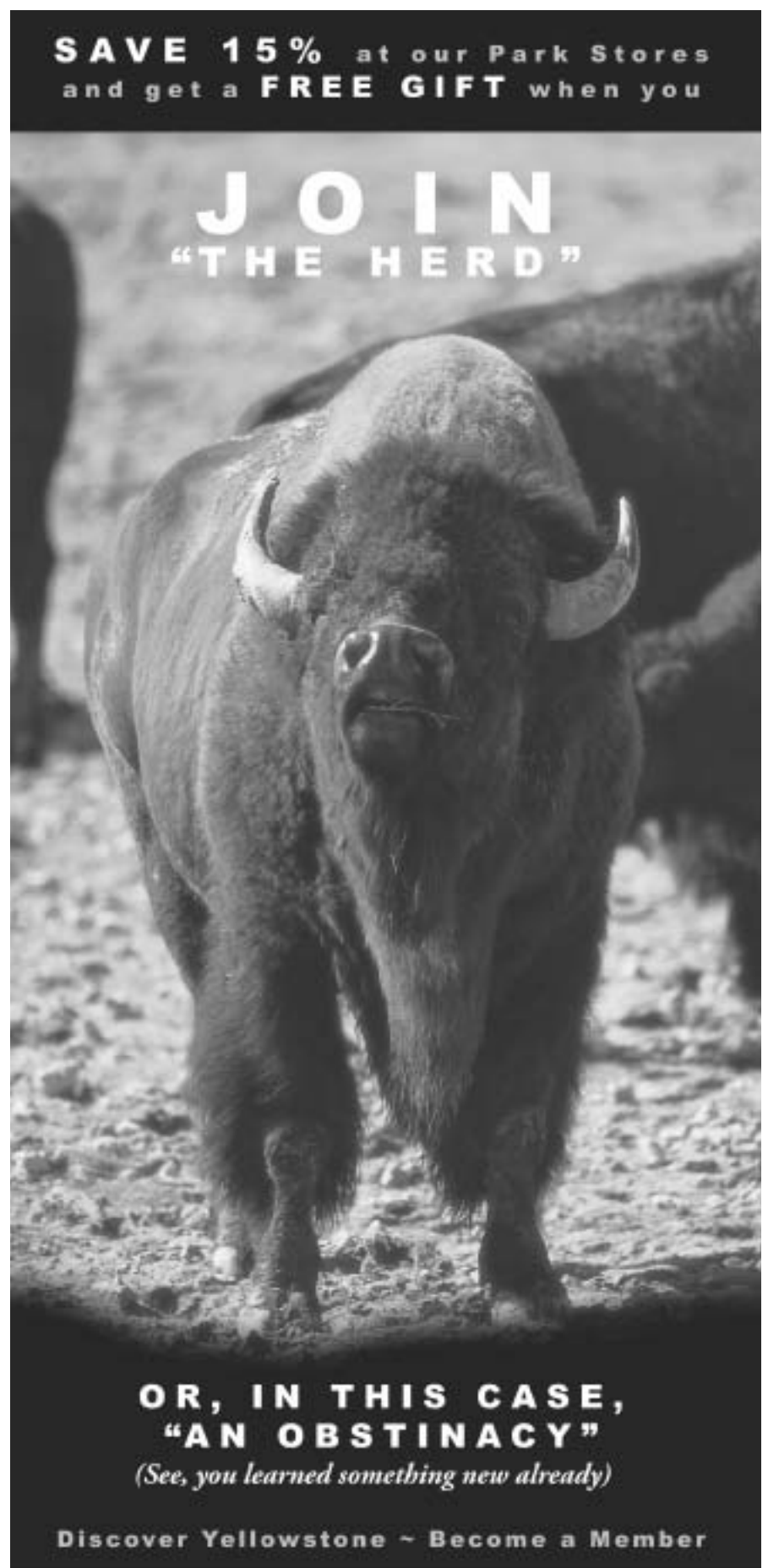


Photo: Carol Polich



**YELLOWSTONE
ASSOCIATION**
Preserving Yellowstone Through Education

www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

The “Secret” Season

Winter 2005–2006

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Yellowstone National Park’s quietest time arrives after the winter season ends and as early spring begins. During this special time, visitors can see things that you don’t see in other seasons and can do things you can’t do any other time.

- ◆ Look for black and grizzly bears newly emerged from their dens. They will be searching for food, such as the carcasses of animals that did not survive winter. Keep your distance, though—stay away from carcasses and at least 100 yards of any bear.
- ◆ You may see adult wolves hunting for food to carry back to the den where pups wait.
- ◆ Look for newborn bison calves—their orange coats are bright against the landscape.
- ◆ After roads are plowed, they open for bicycling and walking. It’s just you and park administrative vehicles. Check at visitor centers for dates when roads open for bicycling and walking.
- ◆ Enjoy a spring snowshoe or ski near Cooke City and in the Canyon area.
- ◆ Visit the mudpots at Mud Volcano, West Thumb, and Fountain Paint Pot. Melting snow makes these features wetter and noisier than in summer or fall.
- ◆ Begin your hiking season early by exploring the trails near Mammoth; they usually dry earlier than others.
- ◆ Look for migrating waterfowl on open water.
- ◆ Be safe! Check at a visitor center or with a park ranger about current conditions of trails, boardwalks, and roads. Also ask about avalanche hazards.
- ◆ Watch the weather. Carry winter and rain gear, and be ready for falling temperatures, strong winds, snow, rain, and even lightning.

Services Available in Spring

- Camping:** Mammoth Campground, open all year
- Clinic:** Mammoth Clinic, open weekdays 8:30 AM–1 PM and 2–5 PM; closed Friday afternoons
- Lodging:** Estimated opening dates—Old Faithful Snow Lodge, May 5; Mammoth Hotel, May 12; Lake Hotel, May 19. Most other facilities follow within a few weeks. Confirm schedules at www.nps.gov/yell.
- Store/Food:** Yellowstone General Store at Mammoth Hot Springs, generally open year-round, might be closed on Sundays and some holidays.
- Visitor Center:** Albright Visitor Center (Mammoth) open daily, 9 AM–5 PM.

Spring Road Openings—Weather Permitting

- | | |
|----------|---|
| April 21 | Mammoth to Old Faithful; Madison Junction to West Entrance |
| April 21 | Norris Junction to Canyon |
| May 5 | Canyon to Lake, Lake to East Entrance |
| May 12 | Lake to South Entrance, West Thumb to Old Faithful, Tower to Tower Fall |
| May 26 | Beartooth Highway |



NPS photo/Jones & Austin

Look for glacier lilies blooming as the snow melts.

Your Fee Dollars at Work



Yellowstone National Park participates in the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA). The program authorizes participating parks to keep 80% of the fees collected. These funds are used for maintenance, repair projects, public service programs, and natural and historical resource preservation. The remaining 20% of the revenue generally goes to parks that do not collect fees, but have similar needs, and to fund other servicewide initiatives.

Why have recreational use fees?

Managing public lands requires a major financial investment, which comes mostly from general tax revenues. Recreational use fees assure that actual users pay an increased share of operational costs, and these fees are applied to projects at the area where they were collected.

The Recreational Fee Program:

- ◆ Allows a significant portion of the fees collected at a public area to be spent directly on behalf of that area.
- ◆ Encourages each agency to develop fair and equitable fee collection programs, whether the public areas are large or small, urban or wilderness, natural or historical.
- ◆ Promotes the collection of fees where such fees can cover the cost of a new activity. In some cases, visitors will have to pay for activities that previously were free.

Your Fee Dollars at Work in Yellowstone

- ◆ Replacement of boat launch ramps at Grant and Lewis lakes.
- ◆ Reconstruction of the Canyon Visitor Center, including new exhibits about the park’s geology.
- ◆ Repair and replacement of exhibits.
- ◆ Studies on pronghorn ecology and other wildlife and natural resources.
- ◆ Preservation of rare books, journals, and manuscripts.

Save On Park Entrance Fees



The National Parks Pass provides a way to save money when visiting national parks. For one annual fee of \$50, you can enter all National Park System areas. You receive a great value and you also support your favorite national parks. A full 70% of the proceeds from the sales of passes at Yellowstone will go directly

to projects that help visitors experience the area. The remaining proceeds go to a national fund that supports projects at any of the national parks in the system. To obtain your pass, stop by one of Yellowstone’s entrance stations, or purchase the pass online at www.national-parks.org or call toll-free: 1-888-GO-PARKS (1-888-467-2757). For an additional \$15, you can upgrade your National Park Pass to a Golden Eagle Pass, which provides admission to all national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other federal fee areas. (Neither pass is good for user or parking fees, such as at Mount Rushmore.)

Entrance fees will increase on May 1, 2006. Until then:

Private, noncommercial automobile	\$20 (7 days, both Yellowstone and Grand Teton)
Individual motorcycle	\$15 (7 days, both parks)
Single entry (foot, bike, ski, etc.)	\$10 (7 days, both parks)
Annual Pass, both parks	\$40 (valid one year from date of purchase)
National Parks Pass	\$50 (valid one year from date of purchase for entrance fees at National Park Service areas)
Golden Eagle Pass	\$65 (valid one year from date of purchase at most federal fee collection areas)
Golden Age Pass	\$10 (one-time fee for lifetime pass—available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. 62 years of age and older)
Golden Access Pass	Free (available to those citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. who have been determined to be blind or permanently disabled)

Remember to keep your admission receipt to re-enter the park.

Services in the Park

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Winter 2005–2006

“The ballet of fire and ice begins with a whisper. A trickle of water.

A wisp of steam. Bison huddled like frosty boulders nearby seem unimpressed. We are mesmerized by every gurgle as the performance builds to a crescendo. Soon thundering plumes play leapfrog in the air, turning the blue sky as white as the landscape. When the last puffs drift away, we do too. Inside the lodge for a hearty meal before our next adventure in this winter wonderland.”

YELLOWSTONE
NATIONAL PARK LODGES

Operated by **Xanterra** Parks & Resorts®

BEAUTIFUL PLACES ON EARTH.®

WWW.XANTERRA.COM

LODGING & LEARNING PACKAGES

Yellowstone on Skis
Wonderland
Winter Wolf Discovery
Winter Wildlife Discovery
Old Faithful Winter Adventure
Northern Yellowstone Adventure

WINTER GETAWAY PACKAGES

Guided Snowmo-deal
Nordic Heaven • Frosty Fun

*Yellowstone.
Don't just see it,
experience it.*

For information
or reservations visit
www.TravelYellowstone.com
or call 307-344-7311 today.

Xanterra Parks & Resorts is
an authorized concessioner of
the National Park Service.

Preserving Yellowstone's Resources Through Ecologix

As the operator of lodging, restaurants, gift shops, and activities in Yellowstone National Park, we know how important it is to continue making significant strides in our environmental programs. All of our environmental programs are components of “Ecologix,” our company’s comprehensive, company-wide Environmental Management System.

Xanterra and Yellowstone National Park recently received the 2005 National Park Service Environmental Achievement Award for design and construction of sustainable employee housing. Located in Gardiner, MT, the employee houses are certified by the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. Xanterra is the first hospitality company to receive this certification. The houses are the first buildings in the state of Montana and the first concession buildings in any national park to be LEED-certified.

Our other environmental efforts include:

- Committing to target reduction in greenhouse gas (carbon dioxide) emissions through a partnership with the World Wildlife Fund and the Center for Energy & Climate Solutions.
- Publishing a Sustainability Report documenting specific results of our environmental management system. This report is available in our hotel rooms.
- Receiving the “Chain of Custody” certification from the Marine Stewardship Council, guaranteeing our wild Alaskan salmon came from a sustainable fishery.
- Receiving the prestigious ISO 14001 International Environmental Management System Standard Certification.
- Using alternative fuels in company vehicles whenever possible and purchasing new vehicles that are the most fuel efficient in their class, as designated by the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Recycling 64 percent of our waste, including separating compostable from non-compostable materials.
- Annually recovering and recycling the 3,000+ discarded one-pound propane cylinders from our campgrounds.
- Using a “Fuel Meister” machine to convert 11,000 gallons of kitchen grease into Biodiesel fuel.

At Xanterra, we’re proud that our environmental initiatives are reflected in every aspect of our operations. From food to fuel, construction to composting, and from recycling to recovery, we continue to evaluate how we do things. We intend to leave our Beautiful Places on Earth® even better than we found them, for future generations.

Visitors’ Guide to Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park

Yellowstone National Park is improving accessibility for all visitors. Most vault toilets in the picnic areas and campgrounds are accessible. Some self-guiding boardwalk trails, picnic tables, campground sites, fishing areas, and backcountry campsites are also accessible.

For more details, ask for the *Visitor’s Guide to Wheelchair Accessible Features in Yellowstone National Park*, available free at all entrance stations, visitor centers, and on the park’s website.

For more information:

Park Accessibility Coordinator
P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-2017
TDD only (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)
307-344-2386
www.nps.gov/yell



NPS



Yellowstone Park Service Stations has been serving Yellowstone visitors since 1947. Since 1972, we have also served winter travelers, offering quality petroleum products at four winter locations.

Snowmobile fuel is available via 24-hour credit card fueling at Old Faithful, Canyon, and Fishing Bridge
December 21–March 12

and 8 AM–5 PM at Mammoth Hot Springs, December 23–March 5

Conoco, Master Card, Visa, Discover, and American Express credit cards are accepted.

YPSS Celebrates Yellowstone Explorers of Yesteryear and Today

One of the most interesting visitors to the Yellowstone area in 1865 was Father Francis Xavier Kuppens, a Belgian priest of the Jesuit Order, who offered this recollection 32 years later:

About the years 1865–66 I was stationed at the old Mission of St. Peter’s on the Missouri River near the mouth of Sun River. A great part of that winter and spring I spent with the Pigeon [Piegan] Indians roaming from place to place south . . . It was while leading this nomad life that I first heard of the Yellowstone. Many an evening in the tent of Baptiste Champagne or Chief Big Lake the conversation, what little there was of it, turned on the beauties of that wonderful spot. I do not know that the narrator always adhered strictly to facts, but making allowance for fervid imagination there was

sufficient in the tale to excite my curiosity and awaken in me a strong desire to see for myself this enchanted if not enchanting land. In the spring with a small party of Indians hunting buffalo, I persuaded a few young men to show me the wonderland of which they had talked so much. Thus I got my first sight of the Yellowstone. I shall not attempt to describe it, that has been done by many abler pens than mine; but you may be sure that before leaving I saw the chief attraction—the Grand Cañon, hot and cold geysers, variegated layers of rock, the Fire Hole, etc. I was very much impressed with the wild grandeur of the scenery.

May your wanderings in and reflections of Yellowstone bring you the simple peace and lasting memories experienced and recorded by Father Kuppens.



Services in the Park

Winter 2005-2006

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YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Medical Services Guide
2005 Season



MEDICAL SERVICES AT YELLOWSTONE

Emergencies


Dial "911" or contact any National Park Service ranger within the park boundaries. Specially trained rangers provide rescue, emergency medical care, and ambulance service.

Medical Clinics

Medcor operates three urgent-care clinics within the park. The clinic at Mammoth is open year round, staffed by a board-certified physician and a team of experienced RN's. The clinics at Lake and Old Faithful are open seasonally (see below for schedules).

All of these clinics are open to the public and are staffed and equipped for most medical emergencies as well as for routine care. Services include injury and illness treatment, x-rays, and some lab and pharmacy services.

If in-patient care or advanced services are required, the clinic staff can stabilize patients and arrange for appropriate transfer to a hospital outside the park.



CLINIC	DATES	DAYS	HOURS
Mammoth Open Year Round (307) 344-7965	January 1 – May 31	Monday – Friday Closed May 30	8:30 am – 5:00 pm; closed Fridays at 1 pm
	June 1 – September 4	7 days a week Closed Sep. 5	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
	September 6 – December 31	Monday – Friday Closed 11/24, 11/25 & 12/26	8:30 am – 5:00 pm; closed Fridays at 1 pm
Lake Open Seasonally (307) 242-7241	May 19 – September 30	7 days a week	8:30 am – 8:30 pm; On-call after hours through 911
Old Faithful Open Seasonally (307) 545-7325	May 6 – May 19	Monday – Friday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
	May 20 – September 15	7 days a week	7:00 am – 7:00 pm; On-call after hours through 911
	September 16 – October 23	Thursday – Monday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Yellowstone Medical Providers

National Park Service Rangers

Professionals trained in fire, rescue, emergency medicine, law enforcement, and wilderness operations. www.nps.gov

Medcor

Medical staff, systems, software and services on-site and on-line across the country. www.medcor.com

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center

Air ambulance, emergency medical direction, training, and trauma/specialty care from one of America's top 100 hospitals. www.eirmc.com

Stay Safe & Healthy at Yellowstone

Yellowstone is a large wilderness area with many natural hazards, including wild animals, scalding hydro-thermal features, freezing temperatures, blinding snow, thin ice, deep and running water, and high altitude. Please follow all national park regulations and common-sense precautions to stay safe and healthy while enjoying your visit to Yellowstone.

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Yellowstone General Stores

Yellowstone General Stores (YGS) is a division of Delaware North Companies Parks and Resorts, a leading hospitality company managing concession operations in Yosemite National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, Sequoia National Park, and numerous other unique locations in North America. Yellowstone General Stores operates 12 general merchandise stores located throughout Yellowstone National Park.

YGS makes every attempt to cater to all of your needs while in Yellowstone National Park. Many YGS stores offer a book section that carries volumes about geothermal features, geology, Old Faithful, and the park itself, as well as themed postcards, posters, and other items that let you take away more than a memory. Personal memories can be preserved at photo centers, which offer film processing, digital card downloads, and photographic supplies for documenting your trip on film.

YGS' apparel departments provide numerous items bearing designs relating to the themes of the park. Guests can find articles to wear now or give later. Collectors will want to explore the wide spectrum of collectibles and novelties in our souvenir sections.

Campers can find everything needed for the evening's cookout to a snack for the road. YGS fountains provide a variety of foods to satisfy any wilderness hunger. Fisherman will find what fly is hot this week, or a great backpack for their next outing.

Visitors can enjoy a nice respite from travels. Settle down in sitting areas and relax with a nice cup of coffee and read about Yellowstone National Park. Visitors will find our staff to be very helpful in assisting with scenic stops or the latest wildlife sightings.

Yellowstone Adventures, previously known as Canyon Nature, is located in Canyon Village. Yellowstone Adventures offers all the latest in outdoor gear and apparel. Find the top brand gear to keep comfortable in Yellowstone's constantly changing weather.

Yellowstone General Stores is grateful for the opportunity to operate within the wonders of Yellowstone National Park, and feels an obligation to safeguard the beauty for future generations. Help us in walking the "GreenPath." Ask how when you visit any of Yellowstone General Stores locations and visit www.delawarenorthgreenpath.com.

Yellowstone General Stores was the first concessioner in Yellowstone National Park to:

- Introduce an Environmental Management System called GreenPath
- Attain ISO 14001 Registration
- Introduce hybrid vehicles
- Recycle plastic

YGS continues to walk the GreenPath, leading the way in Yellowstone National Park. Proudly, Yellowstone General Stores was awarded the NPS 2004 Environmental Achievement, Honorable Mention.

Looking toward the future, Yellowstone General Stores is excited to introduce Project 21, a corporate initiative designed to ensure a focus on corporate social responsibility and sustainability, and GuestPath, an industry leading guest service program.

To find out more about these programs, go to www.yellowstonegeneralstores.com

2004 Recycling by Yellowstone General Stores

Cardboard	149,000 pounds
Glass	41,800 pounds
Plastic #2	10,692 pounds
Plastic #1	7,146 pounds
Aluminum Cans	2,934 pounds

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY: 911

Lodging, dining, camping, activities:
307-344-7311 or
TDD 307-344-5395

Park Information:
307-344-7381

Park Tip Line
307-344-2132

Call the tip line to report a crime or criminal activity.
Leave as much detail as you can—who, what, where,
when. Leave your name and number, or you can remain
anonymous.

Use the card that protects the
wonders and wildlife of Yellowstone!


◆ No annual fee

◆ Low introductory rate

◆ No balance transfer fees for six months

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U.S. Bank National Association (NBA) is creditor and issuer of the Yellowstone Park Foundation Visa Platinum Card.

card photos by Tom Murphy

YELLOWSTONE

SPEED
KILLS
more than
100
deer
moose
bears
elk
bison
wolves

each year



SLOW DOWN
and save a life

Spring
Plowing Starts
in March

Groomed roads will close to over-snow vehicles (snowmobile and snowcoach) for spring plowing at 9 PM as follows:

March 5: Mammoth to Norris

March 7: Madison to Norris to Canyon

March 12: All other park roads close to over-snow traffic.

Roads close at 9 PM on the days listed.

Spring road opening dates on page 9.

Chambers of
Commerce

Montana

Big Sky 406-995-3000

Billings 406-245-4111

Bozeman 406-586-5421

Cooke City-Silver Gate 406-838-2495

Gardiner 406-848-7971

Livingston 406-222-0850

Red Lodge 406-446-1718

West Yellowstone 406-646-7701

Wyoming

Cody 307-587-2297

Dubois 307-455-2556

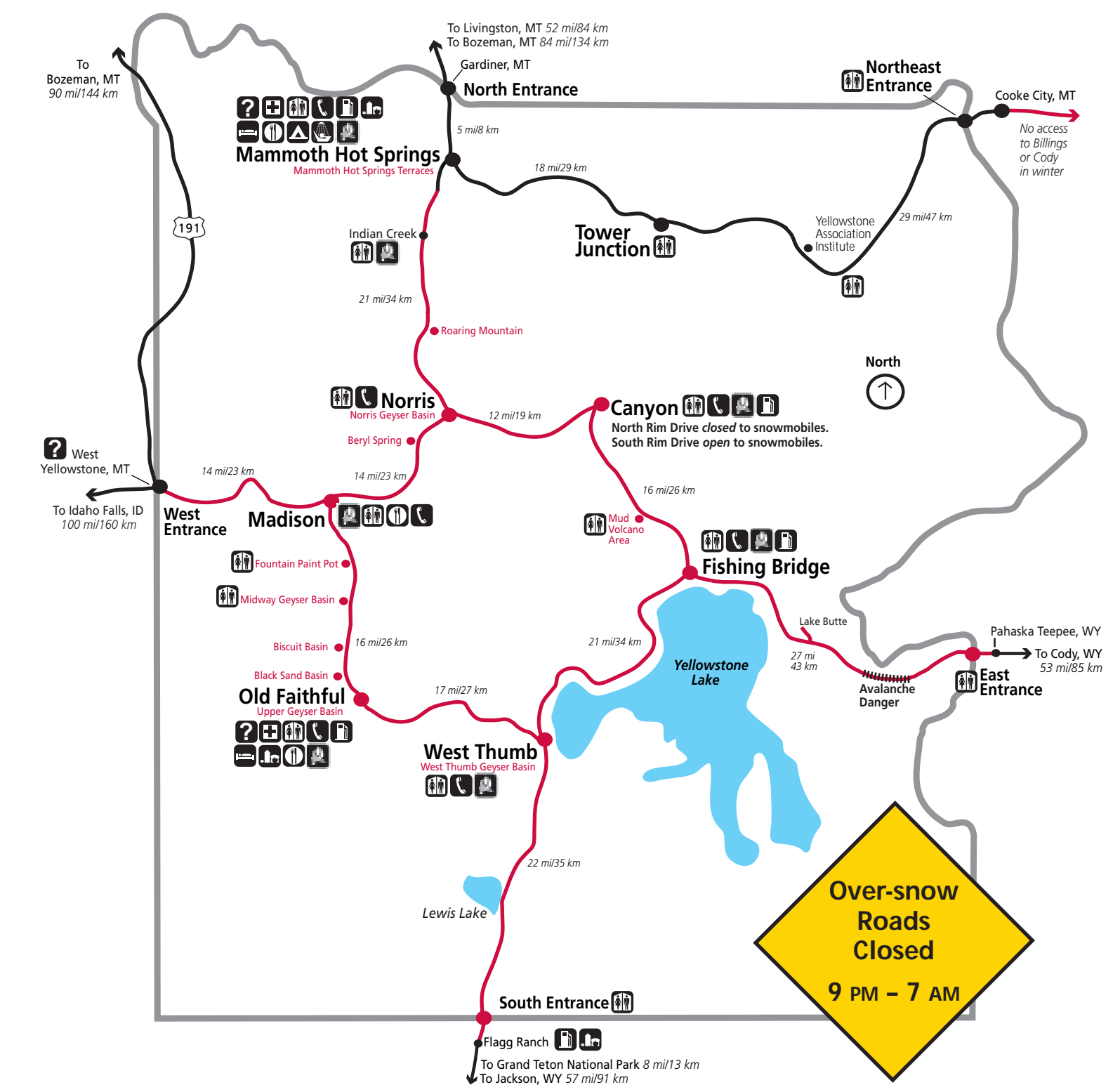
East Yellowstone/Wapiti Valley 307-587-9595


Jackson 307-733-3316


Idaho


Idaho Falls 208-523-1010


Eastern Idaho Info Center 800-634-3246





 **Mammoth Clinic**
Open weekdays 8:30 AM–5 PM; closed Friday afternoons; call 307-344-7965.


 **Old Faithful Clinic**
Open periodically from Dec. 21–March 12. Call the Mammoth Clinic for current days and times or to schedule an appointment.


 **Visitor Centers**
Mammoth Hot Springs: Open year-round, except Thanksgiving, Nov. 24
Old Faithful: Dec. 21–March 12
West Yellowstone Visitor Information Center: Dec. 21–March 12


 **Snowmobile Fuel**
Canyon, Fishing Bridge, Old Faithful (24-hour credit card fueling): Dec. 21–March 12
Mammoth Hot Springs (8 AM–5 PM): Dec. 23–Mar. 5


 **Food Service**
Dining Rooms:
Mammoth Hotel, Dec. 23–Mar. 5 (reservations recommended: 307-344-7311)
Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Dec. 21–March 12
Fast Foods: Old Faithful Snow Lodge—Geyser Grill, Dec. 21–March 12
Snack Bars: Madison warming hut Dec. 21–March 12


 **General Store**
Mammoth Hot Springs: Generally open daily; may be closed on holidays and some Sundays.


 **Restrooms**

 **Lodging**
Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel: Dec. 23–Mar. 5
Old Faithful Snow Lodge: Dec. 21–March 12 (reservations recommended: 307-344-7311)

 **Campground**
Mammoth Hot Springs: Open year-round (primitive camping at Old Faithful; permit required)

 **Warming Huts**
Dec. 23–March 5: Mammoth, Indian Creek
Dec. 21–March 12: Canyon, Fishing Bridge, Madison, Old Faithful, West Thumb

 **Telephone**

 **Over-snow routes**
no wheeled vehicles; closed 9 PM–7 AM