



Welcome!

Welcome to Paradise!

Over one hundred years ago on July 1, 1917 Paradise Inn first opened its doors. Guests were greeted, "Welcome to Paradise!" and ushered into the newly built Paradise Inn. With the smell of freshly cut Alaskan Cedar still in the air, those first guests were surely impressed. In 1921, the Annex was built, adding an additional 79 rooms with private bath to the Paradise Inn. Although much has changed since those early days, the simple beauty of Paradise Inn remains quite the same.

As the concessioner for this remarkable national park, we are committed to making your stay at the Paradise Inn comfortable and memorable. From lodging to dining, we are redefining the guest experience to meet safety guidelines while maximizing your vacation. We ask for everyone's patience as we navigate these times together. Our goal is to ensure that your vacation with us is safe and enjoyable, allowing you to make the memories of a lifetime in Mount Rainier National Park.

Take some time to relax on the mezzanine or enjoy the fresh air outdoors with a glass of wine or coffee. Visit the Tatoosh Café for grab and go meal options, espresso, wine and beer. Order lunch from the café and take a short hike to visit stunning Myrtle Falls or one of the many other trails with majestic views Paradise has to offer, head back to our lobby to try one of our mountain inspired drinks. Spend a cozy evening by the fire, bring your own book, favorite game or visit our gift shop for a variety of games and campfire stories as well as unique souvenirs to make your stay memorable. Step outside the Inn for some stargazing and enjoy the majestic night sky filled with thousands of stars on a moonless night.

If there is anything we may do to assist you, please do not hesitate contacting our front desk staff and ask for the manager on duty. Thank you for visiting the Paradise Inn and Mount Rainier National Park.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Kortlever".

Derek Kortlever

General Manager
Paradise Inn

Mission of the National Park service



The National Park Service (NPS) 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.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

Shared stewardship: We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.

Excellence: We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.

Integrity: We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.

Tradition: We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.

Respect: We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow, and as of this printing comprises 407 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

The Story of Mount Rainier National Park

Establishment of Mount Rainier as the 5th National Park

The rugged glacier clad mountain which dominates the eastern skyline from the Puget Sound metropolitan region became Mount Rainier National Park on March 2, 1899. The story of how it became a national treasure had as much to do with trees as it did tourism. It took the efforts of a very diverse group of people who lobbied Congress for six years before they succeeded.

The first national parks in America owe much of their development to investments made by the railroads. The railroads built hotels and spur lines to carry tourists to see the wonders in parks like Yellowstone and Glacier, but Rainier was different. Congress gave large land grants to the railroads in the late 1860's and 1870's to help finance building of transcontinental lines. In 1864 Congress gave the Northern Pacific Railroad (NPR) nearly 40 million acres which included about one half of Mount Rainier.

It didn't take the NPR long to realize they could make more money in land and trees than in carrying passengers. They convinced Congress to swap acre for acre unusable land, such as the ice and rock covering Mount Rainier, for fertile forest-covered land on the coastal plains.

The prominence of Mount Rainier attracted an assorted group of devotees, all of whom sought to protect it. Adventurist mountain climbers were the first. Successful climbers such as Hazard Stevens, P.B. Van Trump and Fay Fuller became public heroes because of their fearless exploits into the dangerous unknown. To the people in the Puget Sound area, Mount Rainier was "The Mountain" as if none other existed. Rainier symbolized the ultimate challenge for adventure and endurance.

For some the rugged beauty of the mountain beckoned them to come and bask in the revitalizing tranquility of the ever changing mountainscape while others were interested in profits they could make catering to them. James Longmire was one who typified a combination of these. After successfully climbing the peak in 1883, Longmire discovered a mineral spring meadow at the foot of the mountain. He filed a mineral claim for the land, constructed a small hotel and opened a

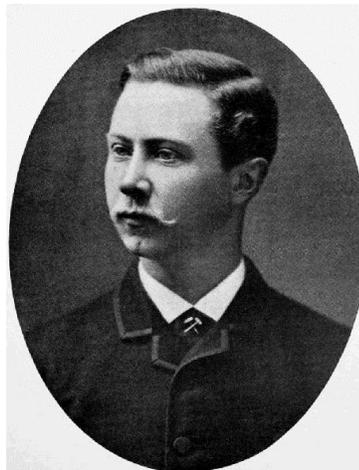


The dominating presence of Mount Rainier as seen from downtown Seattle

health resort in 1890. He also constructed the first road into what is now the park and charged a toll to use it.

The most influential advocates for the park were a group of scientists and university professors. Mount Rainier's forests were some of the few remaining virgin timber stands in Western Washington. The scientists and teachers wanted them preserved as a laboratory for studying the flora and fauna in the varying climatic zones up the mountain. Additionally, having an active volcano so close to a growing population caused them concern for public safety but at the same time afforded an opportunity for studying the little understood dynamics of volcanism.

Bailey Willis, who spent considerable time on Rainier while employed by the NPR and then later the United States Geological Survey (USGS), was a leading figure in getting Mount Rainier recognized as a national park. Willis' accomplishments and connections made him a natural link between the varied groups. He was one of the earliest successful climbers of Rainier. He was an explorer, geologist and scientist, having done extensive mineral research and mapping of the glaciers on the mountain. He was also well acquainted with many of the people trying to encourage tourism to the mountain.



Bailey Willis (1883)

The first mention of establishing Mount Rainier as a national park was in 1883. That was the year the NPR finished their transcontinental line. The railroad realized they could greatly increase their profitability by having a destination tourist site at the end of their line. To promote their cause they assigned Bailey Willis to tour a group of European dignitaries around the mountain. They were so impressed that soon after their return to the East, they wrote to Henry Villard, President of the NPR.

However, publicity of the NPR's one-sided land swap with the government turned the public sentiment against them.

Ten years later, in 1893, efforts were renewed to petition Congress to establish the park. The impetus was President Benjamin Harrison's

proclamation of Rainier as the "Pacific Forest Reserve." Within a year Congress was presented with a formal request to establish the park. The proposal, written by Bailey Willis, was sent by the National Geographic Society. It spoke on behalf of not only the Society but also the USGS, the American Geological Society, the Universities of Michigan, Wisconsin and Washington, mountaineering clubs in Seattle and Tacoma, the Sierra Club and various business entities. Willis clearly laid out Mount Rainier's "many features of unique interest and wonderful grandeur, which fit it peculiarly to be a national park, forever set aside for the pleasure and instruction of the people." Willis skillfully tied together the varying interests for whom he was writing—tourism, science, recreation and education.

It took six Congresses before the bill establishing the park finally passed. One semantic issue which was debated was the need to distinguish between "preservation" and "conservation." The Pacific Forest Reserve was a conservation act. To conserve meant to manage the resources in such a way as to not deplete or misuse them, whereas preservation implied insuring that the resource remain unchanged by human intervention. One positive outcome of Rainier's Congressional saga was establishing the need for an agency to oversee preservation within the national parks.

Prehistoric human use of Mount Rainier

Until about 12,000 years ago much of the area which is now the park was covered by glacial ice. It took a few centuries after that before the mountain's subalpine slopes were able to support vegetation and

Letter to president of Northern Pacific Railroad from European dignitaries (1883): *"We have seen nothing more beautiful in Switzerland or Tyrol, in Norway or in the Pyrenees . . . The combination of ice scenery with woodland scenery of the grandest type is to be found nowhere in the Old World . . . We hope that the suggestion will at no distant date be made to Congress [that] Mount Rainier should . . . Be reserved by the Federal Government and treated as a national park.*

animal life. There is substantial archaeological evidence that human populations began using mid to upper elevation landscapes on the mountain shortly after these places were capable of supporting productive plant and animal habitats. Presently, the oldest known sites on Mount Rainier indicate more than 9000 years of human connection with the mountain.

Aside from their seasonal hunting and gathering benefits, Native American people also regarded the Cascade volcanoes, and especially Rainier, as sacred places. Their folklore has a number of stories about the mountains, such as how they were formed, and on occasion, what happened to those who ventured too far toward the summit. In 1870, for example, Sluiskin, an Indian guide who led a small group of white men who intended to climb Rainier, warned them that an angry spirit lived in a lake of fire in the summit crater. Sluiskin guided them to a waterfall on the Paradise River which bears his name today but refused to lead them further.

At the beginning of the historic-period, people linked to at least six modern Native American tribes frequented Rainier: the Nisqually, the Cowlitz, the Squaxin, the Yakama, the Muckleshoot and the Puyallup. While people moved widely over the mountain landscapes, each group had their own traditional areas for hunting and gathering food, medicinal plants, and weaving materials. Many of the sites to which the ancestors of these people returned for thousands of years have been identified by the park's archaeologists.

The 1854-5 treaties with local tribes established modern reservations, but reserved for them the right to continue traditional activities in places, like Rainier, where they had performed them in the past; so long as the areas remained open and unoccupied. Though such use was prohibited for many years, some of the park's resources now provide material, spiritual and cultural sustenance to the contemporary descendants of those that have used the mountain for millennia.

Naming the Mountain

Captain George Vancouver who sailed into Puget Sound in 1792 named the mountain. Since he was the first person to fix the



Artifacts from an archeological site in a subalpine region on Mount Rainier

mountain with his navigational instruments and recorded the information in his ship's logs, custom allowed him to name the peak. He named it after Rear Admiral Peter Rainier, a friend who had fought against the Americans in the Revolutionary War. Peter Rainier never saw the mountain that bore his name.

Local native peoples had many names for the mountain. Most were some variation of Takhoma such as Tahobah, Tacob, Tacobet, Dahkobeed or more distantly, Puakcoke. The one thing the native population seemed to agree upon was the meaning that the mountain held for them, "the source of nourishment from the many streams coming from the slopes."

For 50 years the mountain was called by two names, Tacoma and Rainier. On several occasions the city of Tacoma petitioned Congress to change the name from Rainier to Tacoma. Finally in 1924 a bill that changed the name to Mount Tacoma passed the US Senate but the House referred it to the Board on Geographic Names. Research by the board revealed the name "Takhoma" meant "a snowy peak" and not the unique name for the mountain. The board voted against the name change. It has not been contested since.

Early Climbers

We will never know for sure who the first people were who summited Mount Rainier. For the Native Americans of the area the mountain's upper slopes were a sacred place, not to be desecrated. Yet, there are legends in their lore of those who ventured up and what the consequences were.

A party of six led by Lieutenant August V. Kautz in 1857 made the first documented summit attempt. They attempted the glacial route that now bears Kautz's name and were *almost* successful. From Kautz's description of where he turned around, some think he got to the 14,000 ft. level.

The first successful climb for which there are reliable records was made by Hazard Stevens and Philemon B. Van Trump in 1870. They left their camp at 6 am on 17 August taking a route close to what is now called Gibraltar Ledges. Eleven hours later they reached the summit. That they survived is miraculous. They were forced to spend the night on the summit. Fortunately they found an ice cavern in the summit crater which was hollowed out by the many steam fumaroles within the crater.

Stevens and Van Trump were celebrated as conquering heroes when they returned to Tacoma. Their fame encouraged others to emulate their feat. Among other famous climbers in the pre-park days was John Muir (1888), pioneer ecologist, writer and founder of the Sierra Club; and Fay Fuller, the first woman to summit (1890). After the climb in a letter to his wife Muir wrote, "I didn't mean to climb it, but got excited and soon was on top."



Admiral Peter Rainier (1741—1808)

Geology of Mountain Rainier

The volcanoes of the Cascade Range are the result of colliding tectonic plates. The Juan de Fuca plate, a small oceanic plate off the coast of Washington and Oregon, is sliding beneath the large North American Continental plate, a process called subduction. These plates are converging at the rate of 1 – 2 inches/year. As the oceanic plate subducts into the earth's mantle, great pressure and temperature builds. The subducting plate melts and the trapped water becomes superheated. All this causes the overlaying rocks to crack and allow the gasses and magma to rise some of which eventually breaks the surface making a volcano. This type of volcanism has been shaping the Cascades for the last 37 million years. The modern Cascade volcanoes however, are less than 1 million years old and are built upon the much older ones. Rainier

has been building for 500,000 years on top of the 18 – 14 million year old Tatoosh Range which forms the southern border of the park.

Mount Rainier is still an active volcano. The most recent large scale activity was about 1,100 years ago. More recently, observers from various locations witnessed what they thought were volcanic events between 1820 and 1854 and again in 1894 but geologists have not found physical evidence to substantiate these claims.

The Cascades Volcano Observatory in Vancouver, Washington is continuously linked via telemetry to a network of seismometers that measure earthquake activity and to meters that detect any sliding or bulging due to rising magma.

At one time Rainier may have been as much as 2000 feet

How is "Rainier" pronounced?

John Landen Rainier, great grandson of Peter Rainier's elder brother (Peter never married), visited the park in 1935. He was the first member of the Rainier family to visit the mountain named for his ancestor. When asked how to pronounce his surname, he responded, "Rain-i-e-r, as in rainy - er weather."

Volcanologists are certain Mount Rainier will erupt again but no one knows when. They are confident however, that they will be able to predict a major volcanic event months before it happens.

taller. 5,600 years ago the top NE portion of the mountain collapsed, an event called the Osceola Mudflow. Debris from the mountain flowed as far as Auburn and Tacoma. Geologists determined that the collapse was due to the metamorphosis of rocks on the upper mountain. Water which percolated into the mountain became superheated and dissolved sulfuric compounds making sulfuric acid. Thousands of years of extreme temperature, pressure and exposure to this sulfuric acid, changed the hard rock to crumbly clay-like composition. A slight earthquake or the weight of the altered rock itself made it collapse. The same scenario has been repeated several times since the Osceola Mudflow. The latest was the Electron Mudflow about 500 years ago. That inundated the Orting valley. Today over 100,000 people live on the mudflow flood plains from Rainier's past.

The Park Today

Mount Rainier National Park is truly "an arctic island in a temperate sea" (Bailey Willis, 1894). The terrain climbs from the park entrances on the northwest and southeast sides over 12,500 feet to the summit, 14,410 feet. The glacier covered summit is surrounded by lush old growth conifer forests.

Mount Rainier is a destination recreation spot. The mountain presents a world class challenge to those who would like to experience technical glacial climbing. It has served as the training gym for many epic mountaineering expeditions. Jim Whitaker, first American to climb Mt. Everest, guided on Rainier years before his attempt on Everest. The whole American expedition of which he was a member trained here. Eric Simonson, leader of over 30 expeditions to the Himalayas, exclaimed "Thirty years of climbing and guiding at Mount Rainier taught me everything I needed to climb the world's highest mountains. It remains one of the finest training opportunities in the world for aspiring mountain climbers."

One doesn't need to aspire to conquer the peak to enjoy recreating in the park. There are 260 miles of trails in over 228,000 acres of wilderness. The Wonderland Trail is the premier trail within the park. It is a 93 mile loop around the mountain with 25,000 feet of elevation change.

Neither does one need to be a long distance trekker to enjoy the park. Floyd Schmoie, the first park naturalist (1924), was right when he claimed the park was probably better known for its beautiful subalpine meadows of wildflowers than it was for

the mountain. Even the roads through the park were specially engineered to maximize views of the mountain.

The Longmire area is rich in mountain history and in picturesque buildings. Stephen Mather, first director of the National Park Service, felt strongly that, in a park where preserving the natural scenery was a primary purpose, the necessary buildings should not detract from that beauty but rather appear to belong to the setting. The massive log and glacial boulder buildings at Longmire epitomize Mather's ideal for structures within a park. Because of that, the buildings at Mount Rainier became the models for other parks to emulate. In 1997 much of Mount Rainier National Park was designated a National Historic Landmark District. A fun and educational activity is to take the Longmire Historical District Walking Tour. Ask for a brochure at the Museum to guide you on the walking tour.

The park's proximity to major metropolitan areas, along with ease of access to the many climatic zones as one ascends in elevation, makes it an ideal location for research. Some subject areas that scientists are currently studying include climate change, volcanology, glaciology, geohazards and plant phenology.



Subalpine meadow with Hellebore, Bistort, Paint Brush, and Lupine (Photo NPS/Steve Redman)

If you have questions about the park, the mountain or the trails, please visit the ranger's desk in any visitor center or talk to the ranger on duty at the Paradise Inn. You can also call 360-569-2211 for further information or visit the park's website: <http://www.nps.gov/mora>



Frequently Asked Questions

ABOUT THE PARK

1. When was the park established?

Congress established Mount Rainier National Park on March 2, 1899, reaffirming the nation's intent to set aside certain areas of outstanding scenic and scientific value for the enjoyment of present and future generations. It is America's fifth oldest national park, after Yellowstone (established in 1872), and Yosemite, General Grant (now part of Kings Canyon), and Sequoia (all established in 1890).

2. How big is the park?

Mount Rainier National Park encompasses 236,381.49 acres or 369.35 square miles within the legislative park boundary, with an additional 140 acres lying outside the boundary. Of that amount 228,480 acres (97% of the park) has been designated by Congress as Wilderness. The park's National Historic Landmark District includes 2.7% of the park. The park has over 260 miles of maintained trails and 147 miles of roads.

3. What is the annual visitation to Mount Rainier?

Generally, 1.5-2 million people visit Mount Rainier each year. In 2014, the park had 1,875,651 visitors.

4. Is the park open all year?

Yes, but some areas of the park, including Sunrise, White River, Ohanapecosh, State Routes 410 and 123, and the Stevens Canyon Road close for the season in mid-October or early-November and do not reopen until summer. You may view road status online at www.nps.gov/mora or call 360-569-2211 for a recorded message on road conditions. Longmire is open all year. The road from Longmire to Paradise is generally open on winter days, although it is closed and gated at Longmire every evening and anytime snow, ice, or potential avalanches make travel to Paradise unsafe. Follow MountRainierNPS on twitter for daily updates on the open/close status of the Paradise road during winter.

The Longmire Information Center is open year-round. The Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise is open weekends and holidays in the winter and daily from early May through early October. The National Park Inn at Longmire is open year-round. The Paradise Inn is open from mid-May to October only.



THE MOUNTAIN

1. How tall is Mount Rainier?

The official measurement is 14,410 ft. above sea level.

2. How old is Mount Rainier?

Scientists believe the volcano was built up above the surrounding country by repeated eruptions and successive flows of lava. It is a relatively young volcano, only about 500,000 years old. By contrast the mountains of the Cascade Range that Mount Rainier looks down upon are believed to be at least 12 million years old!

3. How many people climb the mountain each year?

In 2010, 10,643 people attempted to climb Mount Rainier; 4,920 of them actually reached the summit.

4. Is Mount Rainier an active volcano?

Geologists consider this mountain to be an 'episodically active' volcano, meaning one that will erupt again some time in the future even though it may be quiet now. Mount Rainier is the tallest volcano and fifth highest peak in the contiguous United States.

5. Is it safe to visit Mount Rainier?

New research indicates Mount Rainier is far more active than previously believed. We now understand there are risks associated with the volcano and its glaciers that require visitors and staff to be aware and prepared. Mud flows (also known as lahars) and glacial outburst floods can occur without warning and could damage roads, invade campgrounds, and cause enormous injury to park visitors and staff. The Longmire Historic District, Cougar Rock, Ohanapecosh, Sunshine Point, Isput Creek and White River campgrounds are all vulnerable to geologic hazards. While many people believe the danger to be minimal, only you can decide if you want to spend time in this unpredictable and changing landscape. If you choose to visit, be sure to review information posted at park campgrounds and inns.

6. When did the volcano last erupt?

The last estimated eruption was between 1820 and 1894. Observers reported at least 14 eruptions. Some of these may have been just large dust clouds caused by rock fall which were mistakenly called eruptions.

7. How much snow and ice is on Mount Rainier?

Over 35 square miles of permanent ice and snow cover Mount Rainier. Of all the glaciers in the contiguous U.S., Mount Rainier's Emmons Glacier has the largest surface area (4.3 sq. mi.). Carbon Glacier is the longest (5.7 mi.), thickest (700 ft.), and has the lowest terminus elevation (3,500 ft.) in the contiguous U.S.



THE WEATHER

1. How is the weather at Mount Rainier?

Weather patterns at Mount Rainier are strongly influenced by the Pacific Ocean, elevation, and latitude. The climate is generally cool and rainy, with summer highs in the 60s and 70s. While July and August are the sunniest months of the year, rain is possible any day, and very likely in spring, fall, and winter.

2. How much rain falls at Mount Rainier?

The east side of the mountain is much drier than the western, rainy side. Weather stations are maintained at three locations within the national park: At Paradise (elevation 5,400 ft.) an average of 126 inches of rain falls annually. At Longmire (elevation of 2,761 ft.) an average of 87 inches of rain falls annually. At Ohanapecosh (elevation 1,900 ft.) an average of 75 inches of rain falls annually.

3. How much snow falls at Paradise?

Paradise snowfall records are legendary. The snowfall year is recorded between July 1 and June 30: Maximum annual snowfall: 1,122 inches (93.5 ft.) fell during the winter of 1971-1972 and set the record. Minimum annual snowfall: A new record was set in 2014-2015 with only 266 inches of snow. The previous minimum record was 313 inches during the winter of 1939-1940. Maximum snowpack: 357 inches (30 ft.) fell in March 1955.

4. Does the snow at Paradise ever melt?

Although Paradise is the snowiest place on earth where snowfall is measured regularly, it does enjoy a brief but glorious snow-free season. In most years, the area is snow-free from about mid-July through late September. October snowfall usually melts in between storms. The ground is usually completely snow covered for the winter by Thanksgiving.

ACTIVITIES AT THE PARK

1. Where can I camp?

Three campgrounds are available for car camping. These campgrounds offer 480 campsites during the summer. No RV hookups or showers are available. Campgrounds may fill on summer weekends and holidays. While there are limited first-come, first-serve camp sites during summer months available at Cougar Rock and Ohanapecosh campgrounds, most camp sites require reservations. To make reservations call 877-444-6777; international 518-885-3639; TDD 877-833-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov website. Bring your own water and firewood. Firewood is also available at the campgrounds through a vendor for the summer months. Gathering firewood anywhere in the park is prohibited.



2. Where can I walk my dog?

Basically, your pet can only go where your car can go: on roads, in parking lots and campgrounds. Your pet must be on a leash (not more than 6 ft.) and under your control at all times and may not be staked. Pets are not allowed on trails, snow, in any buildings or amphitheaters, or in the wilderness. The only exceptions are service animals such as seeing-eye and hearing-ear dogs. However, dogs on a leash (not more than 6 ft.) are allowed on a small portion of the Pacific Crest Trail near the park's eastern boundary.

3. Can I fish in the park?

Many of the rivers flowing off Mount Rainier contain glacial silt; fish are not abundant in park waters. Fishing with a line and hook is permitted in most lakes and rivers. No license is required. The use of live bait is prohibited; you must use artificial flies, lures or preserved salmon eggs.

4. Where can I ride my bicycle?

Park roads are narrow with heavy summer traffic. Helmets are required. The Westside Road and the Carbon River Road, provide good bicycling opportunities. However, the Carbon River Road is very rough and caution is advised. Bicycles are not permitted on any park trails.

5. What kind of winter recreation is available in the park?

As one of the snowiest places on earth, Paradise is worthy of a winter visit. From November to late May, expect to find 10 to 20 feet of snow on the ground. Approximately 630" of snow falls in an average winter at Paradise, and snowshoeing, cross country skiing on ungroomed trails, and sledding opportunities abound. Winter requires special precautions for safety. *All vehicles are required to carry tire chains when traveling in the park during the winter season (Nov 1– May 1). This requirement applies to all vehicles (including four-wheel drive), regardless of tire type or weather conditions.* Before skiing or snowshoeing, check, avalanche conditions at a ranger station or visitor center. Be prepared to choose a safer activity if avalanche danger is high.

6. How long does it take to hike the Wonderland Trail?

The time required to complete this 90-mile hike around the mountain varies depending on weather, snow conditions, and the abilities of each hiker. Most people require at least ten days to complete the loop and average eight miles a day without snow and six miles a day with snow. Always check current trail and weather conditions when planning any hike in the park.

7. Can I fly my drone in the park?

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft (drone) from or on lands and waters administered by the National Park services within the boundaries of Mount Rainier National Park is prohibited (36 CFR 1.5 (a)(1) Superintendent's Compendium).



PLANTS & ANIMALS

1. How many species of plants are in the park?

There are approximately 900 plant species in the park, including over 100 exotic species.

2. When will the wildflowers peak?

The “peak” bloom for wildflowers is heavily dependent on weather and precipitation patterns, so accurate predictions are difficult. However, by mid-July, many flowers will be blooming in most years, and by the first of August the meadows should be very impressive. Frost can occur by late August, but even after light frosts the meadows continue to be very beautiful, thanks to changing leaf colors and seed pod development that take the place of colorful blossoms.

3. How many animal species live in the park?

Mount Rainier National Park is home to approximately 54 species of mammals, 126 species of birds, and 17 species of amphibians and reptiles.

4. What’s that grayish animal with the pointy nose we see along the roadside?

That’s a red fox, sometimes called a ‘silver phase’ red fox, referring to the charcoal coloring in its fur. The gray and black fur mixed with the redder fur is normal for the red fox population here, and the coloration doesn’t change from season to season.

5. What’s the chunky animal that we see along the trails? It’s shaped sort of like a beaver.

That’s a hoary marmot, one of the meadow residents that’s easy to see during the summer months. Marmots generally like to stay in the subalpine meadows rather than the lower forests, and they hibernate in the winter.

GETTING AROUND THE PARK

1. How far is it from _____ to _____ (one way)?

Longmire to Paradise: 12 miles (19 km)/25 minutes..

Paradise to Ohanapecosh: 23 miles (37 km)/45 minutes.

Ohanapecosh to the Sunrise/White River turnoff: 17 miles (27 km)/30 minutes

The Sunrise/White River turnoff to Sunrise: 14 miles (27 km)/45 minutes

Seattle to Paradise via SR 706: 99 miles (159 km)/2.5 hours

Seattle to Paradise via SR 410 and Enumclaw: 109 miles (175 km)/ 3 hours

Yakima to Paradise: 99 miles (159 km)/2 hours



2. How far is it to Mount St. Helens?

Should we visit the west side or east side of Mount St. Helens? It takes about 3 hours to drive from Paradise to the west side of Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, and about 2.5 hours to drive to the east side. First time visitors should try to schedule a visit to the Johnston Ridge or Coldwater Ridge Visitors Centers on the west side of the monument, to learn the most about the eruption and subsequent changes to the plant and animal life.

3. Is gas available in the park?

Gas is NOT available in the park, but there are gas stations in nearby communities. Make sure you have plenty of gas before you begin your exploration of the park!

4. Where can I find food, gifts, lodging?

Rainier Guest Services, LLC operates the Paradise Inn, National Park Inn, and Sunrise Day Lodge. The Paradise Inn is open late May to early October for lodging, meals, and gifts. The National Park Inn in Longmire is open year-round for food lodging, and gifts. The Sunrise Lodge is open for meals and gifts July through September. There are no over night accommodations at Sunrise. Rainier Guest Services also operates a food service and gift shop in the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise. Lodging, groceries, and meals are also available in nearby communities including Ashford, Elbe, Packwood, Enumclaw.

5. How much does it cost to get into the park?

For private, non-commercial vehicles the fee is \$25 for an entrance pass that is good for up to seven consecutive calendar days. Annual passes are available for \$50. Pedestrians and bicyclists pay \$10 per person and motorcyclists pay \$20 for an entrance pass that is good for up to seven consecutive calendar days. Special passes are available for disabled visitors and U.S. residents aged 62 and over. For information on annual passes and commercial tour bus fees call 360-569-6621. Camping fees are not included in the entrance fee.

6. Where can we park at Paradise?

Parking is limited at Paradise, and finding a parking place on sunny summer days can be frustrating. To minimize your frustration, visit on a weekday if possible, arrive at Paradise early in the day or in late afternoon, and carpool from Longmire or Ohanapecosh if you and friends are traveling in more than one vehicle. Resist the temptation to park unsafely or illegally. Once the parking areas are full, there is no additional parking. You can drive through Paradise but will not be able to park there.

Keep Wildlife Wild

National Parks are places established to protect and provide for the enjoyment of many generations of visitors. Mount Rainier National Park protects the habitat of many wildlife species that are at risk and have limited habitat outside the park. Because the park is so important, we all need to take responsibility for the wild animals whose habitat we share. When humans are careless with food garbage, wild animals pay the price and often die as a result.



You may not realize a simple bag of garbage, bowl of pet food, handful of nuts, or unsecured food left on your picnic table can cause severe harm to wildlife. It may take just one time being fed for an animal to learn that people=food. Once this happens the animal becomes “food-conditioned” and will seek out food any way it can. This behavior can put the animal, you, and other visitors at risk.

There are many human/animal risks to feeding wildlife:

- Food-conditioned animals will beg aggressively for food and may bite, causing serious injury and possible infection.
- Feeding wildlife increases the risk for spreading disease between animals and to people.
- Food-conditioned animals attract large predators, putting people and pets at risk.
- Food-conditioned animals are at a higher risk of suffering death or injury from vehicle collisions.
- Feeding attracts large numbers of jays and ravens to areas, which then prey on other song birds’ young.
- When stored for the winter, human food has the potential to spoil, causing animals to starve.
- Human food often cannot be digested properly or does not provide the nutrition the animal needs, causing it to get sick and in some cases die.

To protect you and preserve wildlife for future generations, please follow these suggestions:

- Always store food, beverages, and toiletries in closed cars or bear-proof containers.
- Resist the temptation to feed wildlife and keep a safe and respectful distance.
- Keep a clean campsite and pack out all food and garbage from the backcountry.
- Place all garbage inside an animal-proof garbage can or dumpster.
- Report all violations to a ranger.

Feeding wildlife and leaving food unsecured are park violations (36 CFR 2.2 a2) and are subject to fines.



Hours of Operation

Paradise Inn	May 22-June 18/Sept. 6-Oct. 3	June 19-Sept. 5
Hotel Front Desk	24 hours daily	Same
Dining Room Breakfast *	7:00 am—9:30 am	Same
Dining Room Lunch *	12:00 pm—2:00 pm	Same
Dining Room Dinner	4:00 pm—8:00 pm	Same
Tatoosh Café	7:00 am—10:00 pm	Same
Gift Shop	9:00 am—8:00 pm	8:00 am—8:00 pm

* Breakfast and Lunch are pre-paid, pre-ordered To Go.

Paradise Inn closes after breakfast on Monday, October 4, 2021

National Park Inn	Jan. 1-June 18/Sept. 6-Jan 2022	June 19-Sept. 5
Hotel Front Desk	7:00 am—10:00 pm	Same
Dining Room To Go Only	7:00 am—7:00 pm	7:00 am—8:30 pm
Dining Room To Go Only (Fri/Sat/Holidays)	7:00 am—8:00 pm	7:00 am—8:30 pm
Longmire General Store	10:00 am—5:00 pm	9:00 am—7:00 pm
Winter Ski Rental Early Hrs. (Approx. Nov.-April or when Winter ski rentals begin)	8:30 am—6:00 pm (Sat., Sun., Holidays)	N/A

Jackson Visitor Center	May 15-June 19	June 20-Oct. 11
Snack Bar and Gift Shop	11:00 am—4:45 pm (Daily)	10:00 am—5:45 pm (Daily)

Oct. 14-January 2022
11:00 am—4:00 pm (Saturday/Sunday/Holidays)

Sunrise Day Lodge	June 30-September 12
Gift Shop	10:00 am—6:00 pm (Daily)

Paradise

Get out and Explore the breathtaking Paradise area!

VISITOR INFORMATION

JACKSON VISITOR CENTER

The Park's main visitor center, the new Paradise Jackson Visitor Center, is located in the upper parking area and offers general information, exhibits, the new park film, guided ranger programs, gift shop and Paradise Camp Deli.

- This visitor center is usually open daily from May to early October. From mid-October through April, it is usually open only on weekends and holidays.

PARADISE WILDERNESS INFORMATION CENTER

Located in the upper parking area between Jackson Visitor Center and Paradise Inn. The building houses the Paradise Climbing Information Center, where visitors can obtain climbing permits, hiking and backcountry camping information.



Jackson Visitor Center

Hiking and Trails

A memorable park experience is right out our front door!

Paradise is famous for its breathtaking views of Mount Rainier, subalpine wildflower meadows, wildlife, and glaciers.

EASY HIKES

Myrtle Falls (1 mi/1.6 km): From the Paradise parking area, you'll hike along the Skyline or Golden Gate trails heading east on the paved route for 0.4 miles. This trail is wheelchair accessible with assistance.

- ◇ Hikers' notes: Notice the beautiful flowers that line the trail but be sure not to pick or step on any of them. Myrtle Falls is reached by crossing a small footbridge over Edith Creek Basin and taking a left off the path, looking for the Myrtle Falls viewpoint and one of the trail's best sights.

Nisqually Vista Trail: From the lower parking lot a signboard there marks the trail head. Climb the stone stairs to the asphalt path above. Go left at the junction to Nisqually Vista. Distance, round trip: 1.2 miles. Elevation gain: 200 feet. Highest Point: 5400 ft.

- ◇ Hikers' notes: The trail climbs briefly then descends to another signed junction. You have a choice here; either direction takes you in a loop. If you wish to save the best viewpoint for last, go straight and walk the gently descending path counterclockwise, passing a few viewpoints along the way.



Myrtle Falls

Hiking and Trails (Cont.)

A memorable park experience is right out our front door!

Paradise is famous for its breathtaking views of Mount Rainier, subalpine wildflower meadows, wildlife, and glaciers.

EASY HIKES (Cont.)

Alta Vista Loop: This trail system is known for fantastic displays of wildflowers in the summer and dramatic panoramic views of Mount Rainier and the surrounding foothills. The trail is easily accessed by either the upper or lower parking lot. Distance, round trip: 1.7 miles. Elevation gain: 560 feet. Highest Point: 5960 ft.

- ◇ Hiker's notes: There are a handful of interconnecting and crossing trails of varying length and difficulty, but each intersection is well marked with signs, and Alta Vista is the first trail you will encounter. It is easy to navigate. Just keep heading straight north and uphill until you hit the trail summit--5,960 feet—in a copse of fir trees around the halfway point. Continue down the path that winds through a rocky ledge. If you wish to extend your hike, here is an opportunity to connect with one of the other trails at the junction. Otherwise, continue on the Alta Vista trail which loops back south here.

Deadhorse Creek Trail & Moraine Trail: From the stone staircase at Paradise, climb steeply on the asphalt Skyline Trail. Follow signs to stay on the Skyline Trail for .5 miles to the Deadhorse Creek Trail sign. The reward is a view down into the immense Nisqually River Valley from the very edge of its moraine. Distance, round trip: 2.5 miles. Elevation gain: 400 feet. Highest Point: 5850 ft.

- ◇ Hiker's notes: Pass through a small stand of trees then descend gently into the open. A ridge to your right now separates you from the often-crowded area you just left. Continue gently downhill on pleasant trail. When you see the trail divide, avoid the left (lower) trail. Both paths go to the same place, but the lower trail drops steeply through treacherously loose and slippery terrain. Instead just continue straight on the upper trail.



Deadhorse Creek Trail

Hiking and Trails (Cont.)

MODERATE TRAILS

Skyline Trail: The trailhead is located near the entrance to the Jackson Visitor Center at Paradise, marked by stone steps inscribed with a quote by John Muir. The trail offers stunning displays of subalpine wildflowers, a close-up look at Mount Rainier and the Nisqually Glacier, and, on a clear day, views of peaks as far south as Oregon's Mount Hood. Distance, round trip: 5.5 miles. Elevation gain: 1700 feet. Hiking time, round trip: 4.5 hours

- ◇ Hikers' notes: Hiking the loop clockwise, the trail climbs 2 miles until reaching Panorama Point, where a toilet is provided for hikers. Past Panorama Point use of the High Skyline Trail avoids a dangerous icy slope that does not melt. This connects back to the Skyline above the junction with Golden Gate trail (an alternative for a shorter hike). Another 0.75 mile and the Skyline Trail reaches the Stevens-Van Trump Memorial and its junction with the Paradise Glacier Trail. From there it descends into the Paradise Valley, then climbs slightly to Myrtle Falls and finally back to Paradise

DIFFICULT TRAILS

Camp Muir: From the stairs behind the visitor's center, follow the Skyline Trail past Glacier Vista and through a hairpin switchback. Shortly thereafter, turn left along a small creek—a sign points to Pebble Creek and Camp Muir. At roughly two miles, pass through the Pebble Creek drainage. This rocky gully is your last source of water, short of melting snow. In the soft light of dusk or dawn, it is an enchanting spot, filled with the gentle sound of Pebble Creek spilling over the plate-like rocks. Distance, round trip: 8 miles. Elevation gain: 4640 ft. Highest Point: 10080 ft.



Muir Snowfield

- ◇ Hikers' notes: Even in late summer, the trail is snow-covered upon reaching the Muir Snowfield. The snowfield undulates, at first quite steeply, over mounded snow. Mount Adams, Mount St. Helens, and Mount Hood come rapidly into view above the Tatoosh Range to the south. The terrain flattens out somewhat above 8,000 feet but offers little relief as the air grows noticeably thinner. Camp Muir comes into view around 9,000 feet. The last 250 vertical feet, marked by a rocky ridge to your right, feel endless, even for strong climbers. The way down is often more treacherous than the way up. In good weather, the snow will have warmed to the consistency of soft ice cream. In bad weather, it can be easy to lose your way. Bring a GPS device or download compass bearings from the park website as a backup.

Roadside Attractions

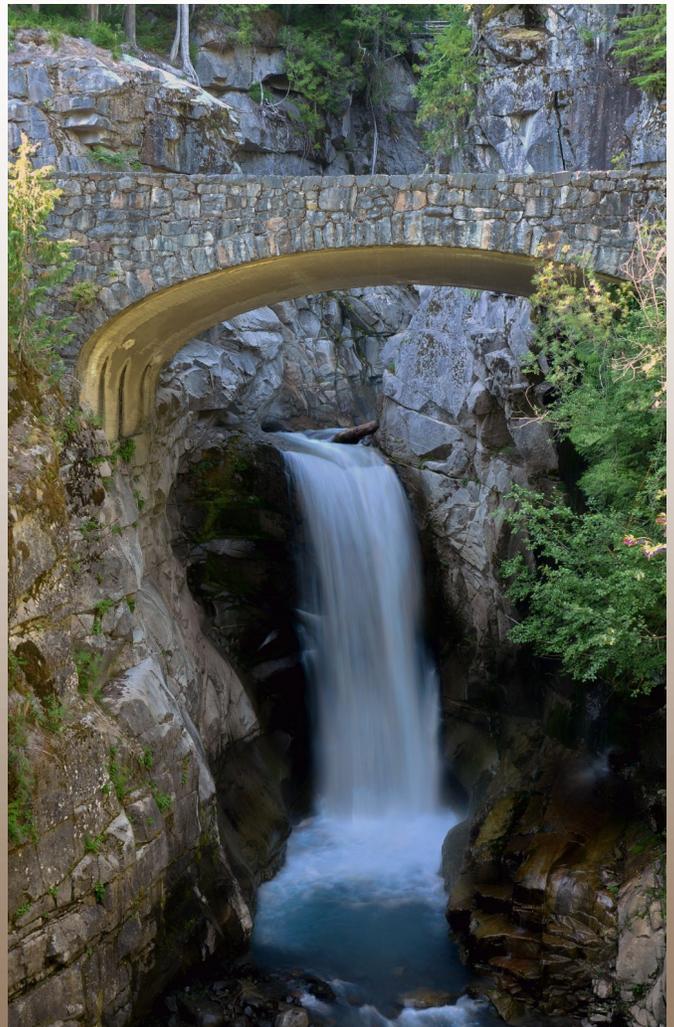
Paradise Valley Road - Start next to the Paradise Inn to follow this one-way road through a beautiful meadow filled valley.

Christine Falls - Located 7 miles (11.2 km) west of Paradise, a short walk from the pullout offers a classic view of the falls below the rustic stone bridge. Be aware that parking is limited. For your safety, do not walk or stop your car on the bridge.

Glacier Bridge - 6 miles (9.6 km) from Paradise heading towards Longmire, look up the valley when crossing the bridge for a view of the Nisqually Glacier.

Reflection Lakes - Drive 3 miles (4.8 km) east of Paradise on Stevens Canyon Road for a possible glimpse of Mount Rainier's reflection in these subalpine lakes.

Inspiration Point - Just east of Paradise Valley Road on Stevens Canyon Road, this large pullout offers spectacular views of Mount Rainier and the Tatoosh Range.



Christine Falls

Camping

Cougar Rock Campground and Picnic Area - Located, 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Longmire, the campground is at 3,180 feet in elevation. Cougar Rock is relatively rustic, but has drinking water, flush toilets and picnic tables at all 173 campsites. This facility is one of only two campgrounds in the park with campsites that can be reserved. Visitors must use extra caution with food storage, as foxes and other animals have been known to frequent the campground looking for food.

Amenities:

- ◇ Picnic Tables
- ◇ Amphitheater
- ◇ Campfire Rings
- ◇ Drinking Water
- ◇ Dump Station
- ◇ Ranger Station
- ◇ Educational Programs
- ◇ Flushing and Vault Toilets
- ◇ Firewood sales nightly from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend.



Wilderness Camping - A wilderness permit is required for all overnight camping in the wilderness of Mount Rainier National Park. Your permit reserves you a specific wilderness camping site for the night you want to stay. Permits can be obtained at the Longmire Ranger Station. About 70 percent of the available wilderness permits are reserved in March while the remaining 30 percent are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reservations are not accepted after September 28, and all permits after that date are first-come, first-serve. Mount Rainier National Park has thousands of visitors during the peak summer months and backcountry camping sites can fill up quickly.

Some backcountry camps are closed for hazard tree mitigation. Visit the Longmire Ranger Station for more information.

Those wishing to climb above 10,000 feet or onto any glaciers must pay the climbing cost recovery fee. Climbers who wish to camp overnight must also get a Wilderness Permit in order to acquire a camp site.

History of National Park Inn

For James Longmire the sight must have been awesome as he approached Mount Rainier on a crisp morning in 1883. Imagine steam vapor billowing about the ferns and evergreens of the ancient forest, revealing the location of mineral hot springs and a place of amazing beauty. Longmire and his friends, George Bayley and P.B. Van Trump, were returning from a successful climb of the mountain. They were camped by the Nisqually River when their horses wandered off. When Longmire went looking for them, he found them in a meadow full of bubbling springs. The discovery of the hot springs was too good to pass up. He filed a mineral claim for 20 acres, constructed a rudimentary trail and hand crafted a small cabin. His family, who had traveled west on the Oregon Trail

with him 30 years earlier, joined him to build and operate the first tourist inn on Mount Rainier. The rustic accommodations were regularly filled after the first few years of operation.



James & Virinda Longmire



The Longmire Springs Hotel

In the summer of 1890 Longmire opened the Longmire Springs Hotel, a small two-story building made of split cedar with five small guest rooms upstairs and a lower floor lobby. Several bathhouses were built by digging out springs and sinking tubs into the ground. In addition to the mineral baths, reputed to have curative powers by the local Indians, guests enjoyed mud baths and sulfur plunges.

James Longmire never lived to see the complete fruition of his dreamed development of Longmire Springs. He died in 1897. Two years later Mount Rainier became the fifth national park. The Longmire family faced their first competi-

tion in 1906 when the Tacoma Eastern Railroad Company built the National Park Inn, a first class three-story resort hotel that accommodated 60 guests. Undoubtedly the greatest boon to park visitation occurred in 1907 when Mount Rainer became the first national park to allow horseless carriages in the park! Anyone who could afford an automobile could afford the toll, \$5.00 per vehicle per year. By 1910 automobile stages were carrying the tourists in comfort from the railroad terminal in Ashford to Longmire Springs.



Rainier Guest ServicesSM

The Rainier National Park Company (RNPC) was formed in 1916 at the encouragement of Steven Mather, the first director of the National Park Service. Mather's plan was to bring the hodge-podge of vendors in the park under one company who was contracted by the park. Soon after it was formed, the RNPC obtained an exclusive 20 year concession contract for the whole park. The Paradise Inn was completed within a year. Soon thereafter the RNPC purchased the Longmire family's business and buildings and the National Park Inn from the railroad. The company intended to market the hot springs as a health resort but was prohibited by the Park Service when the waters were tested and proved to have no medicinal value. RNPC decided to burn down the old Longmire Springs Hotel and move a newly built annex to a location next to the National Park Inn. Fire completely destroyed the original National Park Inn in 1926 but the annex was untouched. The annex exists today as the National Park Inn.



The original National Park Inn

RNPC sold their buildings to the park in 1952, but retained a contract for all business within the park. In 1968 the RNPC was dissolved. Government Services Incorporated obtained the contract to operate the concessions at Mount Rainier National Park in 1973. This same company, now known as Rainier Guest Services, operates the concession activities in the Paradise Inn, Jackson Visitor Center, National Park Inn and Sunrise Lodge today.



The Annex; currently the National Park Inn today.

The National Park Inn underwent renovation in 1936 and 1990. It and the adjoining General Store are on the National Historic Registry and are part of the Longmire Historic District. Today, the National Park Inn offers 25 guest rooms, casual dining restaurant, a guest lounge and country store. Open year round, visitors from around the world stay at the National Park Inn to enjoy spectacular views, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and legendary hospitality.

Longmire has undergone many changes since that chilly morning in 1883. Gone are the bathhouses, wagon trails and antiquated facilities. But the lush vegetation, stunning vistas, abundant wildlife and majestic splendor of Mount Rainier still endures.

History of Paradise Inn

One can easily get lost in rapture among the fields of flowers and fragrances of the Paradise meadows. The bright magenta-red of the paint brush bracts along with the delicate light pink blossom of the heather colonies mingle among the ever present carpet of purple lupines. This massive floral array sits as a beautiful bouquet beneath the glacier shrouded throne of majestic Mount Rainier, king of the Cascades. John Muir eloquently described the scene in 1889 as "... the most luxuriant and the most extravagantly beautiful of all the alpine gardens I ever beheld in all my mountain top wanderings." One can whole-heartedly agree with Virinda Longmire, wife of James, when she named these beautiful meadows *Paradise*!

Paradise was a popular destination even before Rainier became a park. Many early visitors were not content to end their trip at Longmire Springs, 12 miles below Paradise. They wanted to see the panoramic views and meadows of wildflowers that made Paradise so stunning. At Longmire Springs they willingly paid a fee to the Longmire's to take a trail the Longmires had built to Paradise.

As early as 1895, entrepreneurs were providing services for visitors to Paradise. That year a coffee shop called the Paradise Hotel and a tent camp were established. These were sold a few years later to John L. Reese who called his enterprise "Camp of the Clouds." When Rainier became a National Park in 1899, there was little control over Reese and others doing business in the Park. This resulted in a menagerie of schemes, devastation of the natural resources and substantial sanitation problems.

Steven Mather, first director of the National Park Service, offered a group of Tacoma businessmen an exclusive contract for all guest services in the park. His only requirement was they would build a first-class resort hotel at Paradise. They agreed and formed the Rainier National Park Company (RNPC) in 1916. Later that same year they began construction of the Paradise Inn. The Inn was built in less than a year for \$91,000. It opened for business in July 1917.



Historic Paradise Inn and Annex in background



Rainier Guest ServicesSM

The Paradise Inn was designed by Tacoma architect, Frederick Heath. His vision was to use local materials so the structure would blend with its background. The timber used for the interior décor of the building was cut inside the park, not too far from the construction site of the new inn. Three decades before, a



*President Harry Truman playing
the Piano at Paradise Inn*

forest fire killed a large stand of Alaska yellow cedars. Over the years the trees, still standing, had lost their limbs and seasoned to a light silver hue. Those trees are the same long pillars and exposed timber frame beams in the lobby of the Inn today.

A skilled German artesian woodworker, Hans Frahnke, approached the RNPC about creating unique furnishings for the massive lobby in the Inn. He was hired and spent seven summers and one winter constructing his masterpieces. His remarkable craftsmanship is still used in the lobby today: the regal throne like cedar chairs and enormous 1,500 pound tables, the Bavarian castle like piano, the 14 foot tall grandfather clock, the log façade on the registration desk and the bear carved out of a stump mail drop.

When Paradise Inn opened, it had 37 guest rooms and a dining capacity for 400 guests. Thinking that not everyone could afford the nice hotel, the RNPC built platforms for tents behind the Inn. The Inn was popular from the beginning. Demand for rooms was so great that in 1920 RNPC completed an annex wing adding 104 rooms. Surprisingly, the Inn was more popular than the tents so in 1930 the tents were removed and replaced with 275 cabins. At the same time the Paradise Lodge was built which served as a central service center, housed a cafeteria, a camp store, and 40 more guest rooms.



Third Green at Mount Rainier

The boom days ended with the advent of the Great Depression followed immediately by World War II. During those years most visitors coming to Paradise could not afford a room in the Paradise Inn. Only a few could afford the small cabins. RNPC faced serious revenue shortfalls. They tried many things to attract guests, such as constructing a nine-hole golf course behind the Inn. The course was short lived because the snow didn't melt until late July or early August and returned in late September or October.



Rainier Guest ServicesSM

A decline in visitors during the war essentially prolonged the economic depression. RNPC closed the Paradise Lodge. In 1943 they sold the cabins for \$160 each to real estate companies. The cabins were moved to alleviate housing shortages among war industry workers in the Puget Sound area and migrant workers in Yakima Valley. The RNPC never recovered from the double economic calamities. At the same time the park realized the essential need for visitor services. In 1952 the National Park Service bought all of the buildings owned by the RNPC. The RNPC in turn, maintained their exclusive right to all concession services located in the park.

Though the Paradise Lodge was burned to the ground in 1965 to create more parking, the NPS was committed to retaining the Paradise Inn in its classic rustic park hotel style. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991 and is an integral part of the park's National Historic Landmark District



Housekeeping Cabins at Mount Rainier Paradise Area

status. The building has undergone several rehabilitations over its nearly 100 years of use. The most recent was a two year (2006 – 2007), much needed structural upgrade.

In spite of many changes the Paradise Inn remains in its grand old state, barely changed from the 1920s when travelers came looking for a place to stay amidst the great beauty and grandeur of Mount Rainier. Visitors continue to come from around the world to experience spectacular views of massive glaciers, meadows lush with a rainbow of wildflowers, climb the mountain and trek some of the 263 miles of trails all in this glorious mountain "Paradise."



Wildflower Fields

History of Sunrise Lodge

The most stunning views of Mount Rainier are from Sunrise. The massive Emmons Glacier, largest glacier in the 48 contiguous states, dominates the mountain's northeast side. Dry, crisp weather, characteristic of leeward sides of mountain ranges, often allows the mountain to be visible from Sunrise when it's cloaked in clouds on the other sides. Sunrise is the highest point one can reach in the park by vehicle, 6,400 feet. The road leading to Sunrise offers one of the most scenic mountain drives in the country. The pullover at Sunrise Point offers views of five volcanoes: Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, Glacier Peak, Mount Adams, and Mount Hood. For those looking for that iconic sunrise or sunset picture on the mountain, the pullout at Sunrise Point is one of the best spots!

The popularity of automobiles contributed more to the visitation growth of the park than anything else. Mount Rainier was the first park to allow automobiles, 1907. The first roads were on the southwest side of the park. Paradise, the only road accessible high mountain destination, was being loved to death. The public clamored for more roads to open other areas of the park. The Park Service concurred. The northeast side was the next to be opened because of an existing wagon trail built by a mining company. That road followed the White River as far as Glacier Basin. As early as 1918, people were driving on this rough one-lane path. The Rainier National Park Company (RNPC) who had an exclusive contract to provide all guest services inside the park, ceased the opportunity in 1921 to develop the White River Camp, seven miles up the road.



Sunrise Lodge 1932

The public clamored for more roads to open other areas of the park. The Park Service concurred. The northeast side was the next to be opened because of an existing wagon trail built by a mining company. That road followed the White River as far as Glacier Basin. As early as 1918, people were driving on this rough one-lane path. The Rainier National Park Company (RNPC) who had an exclusive contract to provide all guest services inside the park, ceased the opportunity in 1921 to develop the White River Camp, seven miles up the road.

The Park Service together with the RNPC made detailed coordinated plans to develop a new destination for visitors, a subalpine meadow above White River known as Yakima Park. Their plans called for elaborate developments as soon as the road was completed. A state-of-the-art road with beautiful scenic turnouts, rustic guardrails and stone overlaid bridges was finished in 1930. The same year a power plant, water supply and sewage system were built by the Park Service. RNPC's part was to build a mountain resort hotel and cabins. They planned a hotel with 300 rooms and 600 cabins.



Rainier Guest ServicesSM

With the economic downturn in 1930, RNPC had a difficult and frustrating search for investors. They thought their \$2 million budget would be snatched up by the railroads but were greatly disappointed when they received only a few thousand dollars as a token offering from them. They reduced their plans, borrowed heavily and built anyway. When Sunrise opened for tourists, there was no hotel, only 215 cabins and the Sunrise Lodge serving as a central service building containing a cafeteria, camp store, post office, storage, and employee dormitories.

Thronges of tourists drove up the new road to Sunrise after its opening on July 15, 1931. Each succeeding weekend brought more visitors to Sunrise, exceeding that at Paradise on many weekends. Park officials were confident that visitors at Sunrise would eventually double what Paradise received. That never happened. After the novelty of the new road wore off, visitation stabilized at about twice the number of visitors to Paradise as to Sunrise.



View of the Sunrise Lodge & Housekeeping Cabins circa 1930s

Development in all areas of the park was greatly augmented by the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) during the 1930s and early 1940s. They developed an extensive network of hiking trails radiating from Sunrise. These trails are among the most popular in the park with easy access to alpine meadows and awe inspiring views of the massive glaciers on Mount Rainier's north face.



South Blockhouse at Sunrise

The RNPC was in deep debt from their new developments at Sunrise. Visitor spending was down because of the Great Depression. To attract business, the RNPC decided to market Sunrise as a dude ranch. They exaggerated or invented stories about lost gold mines and shootouts between lawmen and cattle rustlers. These were mere ploys to market their horse trips. Though this theme did not fit

the purpose of the park, the park service nonetheless reinforced the theme by designing their new administrative buildings in a frontier-blockhouse style reminiscent of the defense fortifications built by early trappers and pioneers during the Indian uprisings of the previous century.



Rainier Guest ServicesSM

Though the economics of the Great Depression hurt RNPC's business ventures, more visitors came to the park than ever. Visitation to the park grew by 71% during the decade of the 30s. The difference was that the typical visitors spent their money on transportation rather than lodging, food and services. Rather than the "for fee guide service" offered by the RNPC, people opted for the Park Service's ranger led free nature walks and lectures. In 1934 a popular free public campground and picnic area was opened near Shadow Lake, less than a mile from Sunrise Plaza.

The cabins at Sunrise were not popular and did not weather well in the rugged high elevation climate. The cabins were sold to real estate companies in 1944 for \$110 each and moved to alleviate housing shortages among war industry workers in the Puget Sound area and migrant farmers in the Yakima Valley.

Today the cabins and campground are gone so no overnight accommodations exist at Sunrise. The Sunrise Lodge, now operated by Rainier Guest Services, provides cafeteria style dining and a gift shop and

bookstore. One of the blockhouses is a newly remodeled visitor center.

The season is short at Sunrise, early July through mid-September, because of the severe mountain weather and prohibitive cost to keep the roads clear. So, if you're in the park when it's open, we *highly recommend* you visit Sunrise!



Current picture of Mount Rainier from Sunrise Point on the road to Sunrise

Environmental Stewardship

Rainier Guest Services, LLC is certified in the International Standard for Organization (ISO) 14001 as well as ISO 45001. These are two internationally recognized standards in environmental, and health and safety, respectively.

Our mission is to provide quality products and services to our guests and visitors in a manner which preserves our environment. As stewards of this land, we will meet the needs of the present while not compromising the ability of future generations to meet their resource needs.

We will be vigilant in assessing ways to improve our sustainability practices, balancing environmental responsibility with economic viability. We will recycle, reduce waste and water consumption while conserving energy. We will educate our employees, guests, and visitors in sustainable practices and environmental awareness.

Our Environmental, Health and Safety Policy, Boundary Statement and Green Purchasing Policy are posted for the public at each of our operations. Copies of these items are available at the front desk along with specific information on contacting us with comments, concerns or suggestions regarding our Environmental, Health and Safety programs. We invite your feedback.



Environmental, Health and Safety Policy

Rainier Guest Services, LLC is a U.S. based hospitality management company with a long history of providing food and beverage, lodging, retail, and recreational services for visitors to Mount Rainier National Park. As a result, we have many opportunities to positively impact the quality of our environment and to protect our visitors and employees from health and safety risks. To this end, we have dedicated ourselves to being a model of environmental, health and safety stewardship in our workplaces and surrounding communities.

To support this culture, we are committed to providing resources, and we have established a team of dedicated people who continually seek out best business practices and new technologies, implement new initiatives and report on our annual progress.

The following guidelines serve to direct our energies:

- Comply with all applicable environmental, health and safety laws and regulations
- Promote environmental, health and safety awareness among our guests and peers
- Prevent pollution by implementing policies to achieve the goals set forth in ISO 14001
- Prevention of injury and ill health to achieve the goals set forth in ISO 45001
- Continued assessment of current hazards and risks to reduce or eliminate if possible
- Continually improve the performance of our Environmental, Health and Safety Management System

Because new opportunities present themselves with every goal we attain and target we reach, Rainier Guest Services, LLC holds meetings inclusive of workers or workers representatives to serve as a forum for examining, and promoting the environmental, health and safety, achievements and shortfalls, and for providing a framework for defining environmental/safety objectives/risks and planning upcoming initiatives.

Our policy will be communicated to employees, stakeholders, and the public.

Through successful use of our Environmental, Health and Safety Management Systems, we will become a leader and will implement this management system so that it can be used effectively by our current and future employees and support staff.



Brandy Frederich
Managing Director

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Environmental, Health and Safety Boundary

Rainier Guest Services, LLC boundaries include three developed areas assigned under the National Park Services Concession Contract as well as administrative facility outside the park.

The Paradise area is located at the 5400 ft. level of the southwest side of Mount Rainier National Park. This area supports two operational units:

- Paradise Inn, a 121 room hotel, two hundred seat dining room, kitchen, gift shop, café and employee housing.
- The Jackson Visitor Center provides food service and a retail gift shop (shared building with NPS).
- Additional Paradise area structures include the fuel storage building, the Guide House (2nd and 3rd Floors) & the Glacier Dormitory. These last two structures are utilized for staff housing.

The Longmire area is located at the 2761 ft. level of the southwest side of Mount Rainier National Park. This area supports two operational units:

- The Longmire General Store
- National Park Inn, a 25 room hotel, dining room, guest lounge.
- Additional Longmire structures assigned for staff housing include L126, L140, and L141 as well as seasonally assigned RV spots and Rainier Guest Services owned trailers in the campground.

The Sunrise area is located at the 6400 ft. level of the northeast side of Mount Rainier National Park. This area supports one operational unit:

- Sunrise Day Lodge providing foodservice, retail shop and employee housing.

The Ashford Office Complex area is located approximately 3 miles outside of the southwest entrance of Mount Rainier National Park. This being the headquarters that supports all locations noted above and within the park boundaries. The Ashford Complex consists of a Warehouse, Offices, Industrial Laundry Facility, Transportation Fleet, Propane Fueling Station, Employee Housing/RV Spots and Employee Laundry Facility.

Outside service providers working within the boundaries listed above must comply with all applicable ISO standards.



Brandy Frederich
Managing Director

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Green Purchasing Policy

Rainier Guest Services is committed to procuring environmentally preferable products and services for our guests and visitors that meet performance, safety and regulatory requirements within all of our facilities. We will utilize Managed Order Guides (MOG) for each category of purchasing (for example, paper products or cleaning supplies) encouraging the purchase of those items that have been identified as green or environmentally friendly as part of our Green Purchasing Program through our corporate office. We require our vendors to use less packaging and/or recyclable packaging, and we do not allow Styrofoam. On an on-going basis, we will source and increase the availability and purchase of products and services that are deemed environmentally friendly; and on an annual basis we will evaluate and review the effectiveness of our Green Purchasing Program.



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Environmental Initiatives

Rainier Guest Services is embracing environmental stewardship in a variety of ways. In 2018 we installed an in-room energy management system for all guest rooms and employee housing. In 2016, we installed energy efficient boilers in our hotels which use less fuel for the heat they produce.

In 2015, five of our fleet vehicles were replaced with propane converted vehicles, and in 2019 four more were replaced, completing the conversion of our entire fleet. Propane vehicles burn cleaner than petroleum based vehicles, and produce 30-60 percent less carbon monoxide emissions, thereby reducing our carbon footprint. We are committed to purchasing propane operated vehicles for all future replacements.

In 2010, in partnership with the National Park Service, composting was started. Composting is available at Paradise Inn Café and Dining Room, and at National Park Inn.

Recycling of used cooking oil was started in 2009. All used cooking oil generated in Rainier Guest Services operations is picked up by Mahoney Environmental, a Seattle based company that converts the used cooking oil to biodiesel which can be used to run cars, trucks and heavy equipment. Biodiesel burns cleaner by up to 49% over conventional petroleum-based #2 diesels. Since 2009, Rainier Guest Services has recycled 5,096 gallons of used cooking oil which was converted to biodiesel; thereby reducing our environmental impact by approximately 105,484 pounds equivalent CO₂ emissions.

Lighting in public areas, guest rooms, exterior lights and exit signs have been converted to low energy use bulbs. Water faucets at National Park Inn have low flow devices installed to ensure less water usage. We are committed to purchasing Energy Star rated equipment whenever possible. Green cleaning products are purchased in concentrated form and mixed in reusable spray bottles. We avoid any use of Styrofoam. Takeout containers and straws are made of compostable material. Bathroom and facial tissue are made of recycled paper. Housekeepers are instructed to turn off or down all electrical equipment in guest rooms when not in use. All used bedding and other items are donated to a local homeless shelter or the Goodwill.

All used fluorescent light bulbs, mercury containing ballast and equipment are recycled through Waste Management's LampTracker program; used batteries are recycled through Waste Management's Battery Tracker program. All our electronics are reused or recycled through Washington State's e-cycle program.



What you can do to help

Help us minimize our carbon footprint! When you visit our gift shops, consider purchasing Environmentally Friendly or Made in the USA souvenirs.

Conserve energy by turning off lights and the heat down when leaving your room.

Conserve water by using sink stoppers to help minimize water waste. In an effort to reduce water waste, fresh towels/linens are supplied only upon request. Towels may be reused by hanging them on the rack to dry. Bed sheets may be reused for the duration of your stay. Should you need fresh towels or linen, simply place them outside your door in provided bag and notify housekeeping.



Help others in need while diverting waste from the landfill! All partially used hotel amenities are donated to a local homeless shelter. To participate, simply leave your partially used hotel amenities behind; they will be collected by housekeeping staff and set aside to be donated.

Help us keep trash out of the landfill by recycling! Before you leave your room for the day or check out of the hotel, please set aside your aluminum, glass and plastic for recycling. The hotel staff will collect these items. You can help by making sure these containers have been rinsed and are free of excess



Used Hotel Amenities are Donated

grime. A recycling station is also located in the hotel lobby. Please no sharp objects or broken glass. If you have a sharp object needing disposal, contact the front desk staff for proper disposal in a sharps container.



If you need to dispose of batteries during your stay, you may drop them off at any one of our gift shops. These batteries are recycled through Waste Management's Battery program.

Practice the Leave No Trace concept throughout the Park which includes staying on designated trails and discarding trash in proper receptacles. The National Park Service has a no vehicle idling policy—please do not idle your vehicle. Help out your fellow guests by adhering to the night sky program—please close your curtains after dark to minimize light pollution. For more info, see nps.gov/night skies.



Thank you for contributing to help keep our park clean and environmentally friendly!

COVID-19 Safety

The safety of our guests and associates is important to us as we continue to provide service while maintaining safety guidelines. We hope that you will feel comfortable and safe during your stay with us. All associates are required to wear masks and temperature checks are taken daily. All frequently touched items in common areas are disinfected regularly. Hand sanitizing stations are provided in the lobby and gift shop, and we encourage their use. Services have been reduced in certain areas to accommodate for COVID regulations.

Please help us create a safe and welcoming environment by adhering to the following:

- ◆ Maintain 6 feet distance from others not in your group
- ◆ Be mindful of other's need for space
- ◆ Wash your hands and use sanitizer frequently
- ◆ Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- ◆ Wear a mask (even if vaccinated) inside common areas and outdoors when you cannot maintain 6 feet distance from others



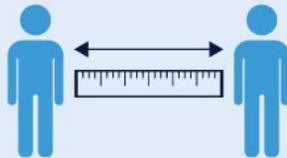
For your safety, our bottle filling stations are closed. Drinks are available for purchase in our food service areas. Bulk condiment have been changed to individual use and self-service stations are now serviced by one of our attendants. Seating in common areas and in dining rooms have been reduced to accommodate for social distancing.

The services we provide and COVID requirements are subject to change as updates are provided from the CDC, National Park Service and Washington State. We wish you a safe and enjoyable stay with us!

Wear a mask.



Stay six feet apart.



Wash your hands.





Safety & Security

The safety and security of you, our guest, and your personal property is one of the utmost concern of our staff at Mount Rainier. Even in this majestic national park, far from metropolitan life, we advise our guests to keep your vehicle locked at all times and do not leave valuables in plain view.

We will emphasize over and over, to be aware of your environment at all times. This stunning park, with unparalleled vistas and views, will capture all of your attention, but you need to watch your step, stay to established trails, and never hike alone, if possible. Please let someone in your party know where you plan to go and when you plan to return.

The National Park Service offers trail maps and information for beginning and seasoned hikers. Ask for assistance at the Longmire museum, information desk at the Jackson Visitor Center or visit with one of the National Park Service interpretive staff stationed in the lobby of the Paradise Inn (check with our front desk staff for the interpretive ranger's daily schedule). Enjoy your stay and be safe!



Emergency Information

For the safety of our guests, the Inn is equipped with a fire alarm and sprinkler system. Should an alarm go off throughout the building, DO NOT PANIC. Please exit the building in a calm and controlled manner and be alert for instructions from our staff. Please familiarize yourself with the evacuation map located in each guest room next to the entrance door. Should you have to evacuate the Inn, please take only your valuables with you. All guests are asked to meet at the Jackson Visitor Center entrance next to the flag pole. Always, keep flammable materials, like bedding, away from electric heaters, and keep passageways clear.

Medical Emergencies

In the event of a medical emergency, please seek assistance from our front desk staff who will contact the National Park Service. If you have sharps that you need to dispose of, we ask that you do not throw any needles/sharps in the trash. For your convenience a Sharps container is available at the Front Desk where you may properly dispose of sharps.

Sample Evacuation Map

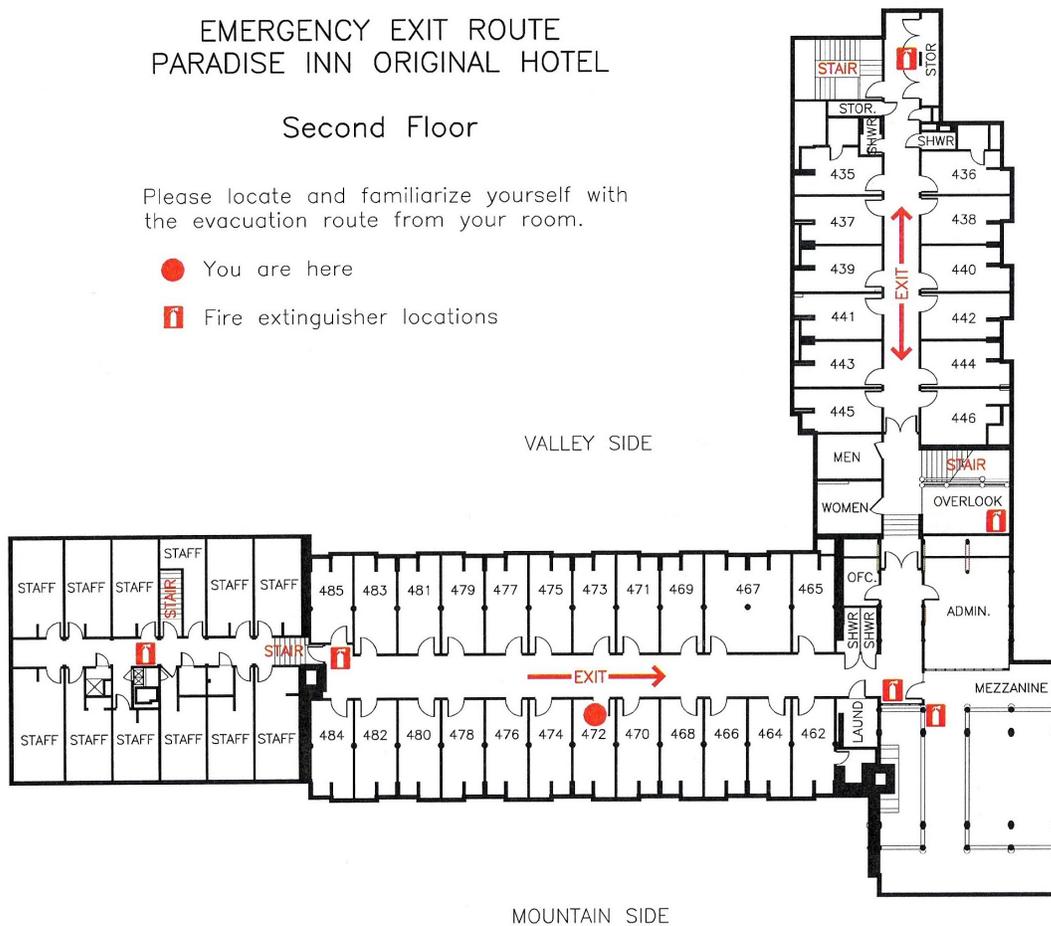
An evacuation map is located in your guestroom. Please familiarize yourself with the evacuation map located near the exit in your guestroom. Below is a sample evacuation map.

EMERGENCY EXIT ROUTE PARADISE INN ORIGINAL HOTEL

Second Floor

Please locate and familiarize yourself with the evacuation route from your room.

- You are here
- 🔥 Fire extinguisher locations



Hiking Safety

Hiking at Mount Rainier National Park can mean adventure, exploration, learning, or just plain having fun! The secret to a great hike? Staying safe! For trail information, talk with a ranger at any visitor center or wilderness information center. Use the following tips to keep your journey safe.

- Protect yourself by wearing appropriate outdoor clothing including footwear.
- Be prepared. Carry the 10 essentials even on a short sightseeing hike (see next page).
- Always tell someone of your travel plans so they can notify the park if you fail to return.
- Do not travel alone. If visibility is poor, do not travel at all.

Pay attention to the weather. At Mount Rainier, the weather can change rapidly. Hikers who aren't prepared for weather conditions increase their risk of becoming lost or injured. Avoid problems: plan and prepare for Mount Rainier's changeable weather.

Hiking the Muir Snowfield. The Muir Snowfield, a permanent field of snow, ice and rock outcrops, is located north of Paradise between 7,000 and 10,000 feet in elevation. Thousands of people hike on the Muir Snowfield each year en route to Camp Muir. On a clear day, the hike is spectacular. But when the weather deteriorates, as it often and unpredictably does, crossing the Muir Snowfield can be disastrous. Avoid the snowfield in questionable weather. Carry a compass, map and altimeter and know how to use them. Do not descend on skis or a snowboard in limited visibility—you could become lost. For your safety, always let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return, and stick to your plan.



To protect fragile alpine vegetation, hike only on official trails or snow. Be sure to talk to a ranger for current hiking conditions. Rangers are available at the Jackson Visitor Center with information regarding trails and current weather and conditions.



10 Essentials

This list of the Ten Essentials is based on the Mount Rainier National Park recommended list of items necessary to be prepared for minor injuries, sudden weather changes, or unexpected delays in your trip.

- 1. A Map of the Area:** One should always have a map of the area where one is travelling. It is important that you know where you are starting, where you are going and how to read the map. Most hikes only require a local trail map of the area. For any hiking in the woods, it is recommended that you carry a USGS topographic map of the area.
- 2. Compass:** A good compass can be invaluable with a good map in the event that you get lost. A GPS is also good to carry with you if available. Remember, a GPS requires a battery which can fail.
- 3. Flashlight with extra batteries/bulb:** Use if you are travelling on the trail and night falls and/or to serve as a signal device to rescuers if you are lost.
- 4. Extra Food/Water:** Bring emergency food in case of an emergency overnight stay. Always carry extra water for a trip and/or a proper method for filtering/treating backcountry water. Do NOT drink untreated water.
- 5. Extra clothing, including rain gear:** The weather can change rapidly; be prepared for cold, wet conditions. A hat and gloves should be carried.
- 6. Sunglasses and sunscreen:** Sunglasses and sunscreen are not just for bright sunny days. If you are hiking on snow, the sun will reflect back on you from the snow and you are more likely to get sunburn. Use sunscreen of at least 30 SPF. If you are hiking on snow for an extended period of time wear glacier glasses or dark sunglasses to prevent snow blindness.
- 7. A pocketknife:** This is a powerful survival tool and has many uses in the backcountry.
- 8. Matches in a waterproof container:** This may be used to start fires to warm individuals who have become cold due to weather conditions, if necessary. This is for emergency situations only.
- 9. A Candle or other fire starter:** This is used to help start a fire where it may be difficult due to conditions.
- 10. A First aid Kit:** A basic first aid kit should be carried for small injuries such as cuts or scrapes, until help can be reached.



Washington's National Park Fund

**Improving Visitors' Experiences in Mount Rainier National Park
A PILLAR for Washington's National Park Fund AND Guest Services, Inc.**

Each year, donors give hundreds of thousands of dollars to Mount Rainier National Park through Washington's National Park Fund. Gifts come through online donations, events, fundraising climbs, RAMROD (Ride Around Mount Rainier in One Day), in-park donation boxes, license plates, estate gifts, foundations and corporations.



***They also result from Paradise Inn and National Park Inn,
as both lodges support the park's Guest Donation Program.***

\$2/night is the amount that you as a guest of this wonderful Inn donate back to the national park that you're staying in this evening.

Every dollar counts.



So what impact is your donation having on this iconic national park? You're helping Mount Rainier National Park to enhance the experiences it's able to offer to YOU, the park visitor! Here are a few examples...

- Funding education rangers for in-park programs
- Supporting the Night Skies program
- Supporting search and rescue on the mountain
- Rebuilding trails that wash away during the rough winter months
- Improving signage in the park
- Restoring meadows that unknowing visitors trample on
- Improving campgrounds and picnic tables
- Providing emergency roadside assistance for visitors when their vehicles break down



The lists go on and on, but you get the picture.

So THANK YOU! Thank you for choosing to visit Mount Rainier National Park. Thank you for staying at this incredible park lodge! Thank you for the donation you're making to help improve visitors' experiences. When combined with the thousands of others who also give through this Guest Donation Program, GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!!

And one last thanks? Thanks to Guest Services Inc. for their strong and ongoing support of Mount Rainier National Park through Washington's National Park Fund.

For more information or to get more involved, contact us!

Call us: 206-623-2063
Email us: fund@wnpf.org
Website: www.wnpf.org
Tax ID: 01-0869799

Washington's National Park Fund
1904 Third Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98101

