



Winter Camping

Camping on snow is allowed almost anywhere in the park once snow depth has reached 5 feet at Paradise and 2 feet elsewhere in the park. A snow depth of 8 feet is recommended before constructing snow caves at Paradise.

In selecting your campsite, choose a location that is a minimum of 300 ft. from plowed roads and parking areas (to avoid being buried by snowblowers), marked routes, trails, and buildings and at least 100 ft. from water. Maximum group size is up to twelve people.

Group Campsites

Groups of more than 12 people can snow camp only at Paradise. Groups must camp in 1 of the 3 designated group camping areas and are required to use restrooms to dispose of human wastes. Maximum group size is 100. Because of limited group sites in winter, it is recommended that groups of 13 or more make reservations. To make a reservation, call (360)569-6003, Monday-Friday between 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Pacific Time. Make reservations at least two weeks in advance. Reserved group site permits can be picked up at the

Longmire Museum by 4 p.m. on the day your group arrives in the park.

Blue bags, for human waste, can be obtained from the ranger station or visitor center. Using blue bag use keeps water clean, protects fragile vegetation from digging, and allows more people to use this area without impacting it. A blue bag barrel is available in the tunnel to the restrooms in the upper parking lot for disposal of used blue bags. Please dispose of blue bags properly.

Camping in the Backcountry

Backcountry permits are required year-round. If you plan to winter camp in the backcountry, permits are available at the seven days a week at the Longmire Museum. On weekends and holidays, permits can also be obtained at the Jackson Visitor Center.

In selecting your campsite, choose a location that is a minimum of 300 ft. from plowed roads and parking areas, marked routes, trails, and buildings and at least 100 ft. from water.

Regulations

Pets are allowed only in the plowed parking lots and sidewalks and must always be on a leash.

Remember to pack out all trash. Trash you leave behind may be buried by subsequent snowfall, but melts out in early summer to form unsightly piles of debris.

To preserve Mount Rainier's scenery and splendor, the following are prohibited:

1. Cutting vegetation (e.g., tree boughs). Use sleeping pads for insulation instead.
2. Campfires of any type. The charcoal and unburned debris will melt out in an ugly mess in the spring.
3. Drying clothing and gear in the restrooms or the visitor center.
4. Camping or cooking in any building or in the restroom tunnel.
5. Collecting or gathering of wood, rocks, plants or other park resources.

Parking for Winter Campers

Those planning to camp must park vehicles in the designated overnight parking areas at Paradise, Narada Falls or Longmire. If designated areas are full, contact a ranger. Parking outside these areas impedes snow

plowing operations. Regardless of where you park, avoid setting your emergency brake if possible - it may freeze solid.

