Jasper is a priceless treasure, a hedge against human ignorance and destructive impulses. Parks like Jasper present opportunities for people to renew a fundamental connection with nature that we too often forget.

David Suzuki, Canadian scientist

Our environment

We’re in this together!

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The Amethyst Lakes and The Ramparts, in Jasper's Tonquin Valley.

Cette brochure est également disponible en français.
The management word

On the trail to the 21st century

These days the mountain sunrise is looking a little crisper—for a new day has dawned upon Jasper.

To begin with, Jasper National Park has a new park management plan, which came into effect last fall.

The plan calls for protective land use zoning, coordination with agencies along the park’s boundaries, definition of Jasper townsite’s boundaries and better information about things to do in the park. This plan, with few changes, will lead Jasper into the 21st century.

Backing up the management plan is a revised National Parks Act. The new NPA, signed into law last fall, emphasizes conservation as a priority. Penalties for poaching are now stiffer; limits to development in our national parks are now enshrined. Jasper, a national park since 1907, will be governed with laws suited to today’s pressures, problems and potentials.

Accompanying the new NPA is the first ever Canadian Environmental Protection Act, also proclaimed last year. CEPA provides the clout to nail polluters. It is designed not only to protect our habitat but to safeguard our health.

Canadians have a right to a clean environment everywhere. Overcoming damage done by toxic chemicals is not only a challenge, it’s a necessity. We’re in this together; parks, cities, industry and farms share the land, air and water.

In preparing the 1989 guide, we asked several prominent Canadians the question “What do parks like Jasper mean to Canadians?” We trust their replies will make interesting reading!

Their challenge to you: to take this special Rocky Mountain wilderness feeling home—and to try to apply it to your part of the world. Enjoy your visit to Jasper.

Jasper’s rough-cut leader packs it in

When his wife gave birth to their second child in Banff 35 years ago, young George Balding was an assistant park warden at Saskatchewan Crossing, 77 km north of the nearest open road.

Hearing the news, he rose with the first light, strapped on his skis and broke a solitary trail down the unplowed Banff-Jasper Highway to join his family.

In those days, roughing it was the joy of a park service posting.

If you’d told Balding that one day he’d be the top man in the largest national park in the Rocky Mountains, grappling with zoning, jurisdiction and land rent issues, he might have thrown a pack box at you.

“Times have changed,” says Balding, who steps down as Jasper’s superintendent this year.

“Back then, the national parks were regarded simply as developed recreation areas, with nothing but wilderness around them. Now, we’re the islands of wilderness in a sea of development. “The decisions have become a little more complex.”

In a way, reflects Balding, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

“When I started, Parks had this two-pronged mandate: wilderness and recreation. We had to strike a balance. We still have to.

“The link is that recreational opportunities depend on the natural resource: the mountains, the forests, the clean-flowing rivers. To keep it as inviting to use as it was 35 years ago, we must conserve it.”

It’s human nature to take things for granted until they’re in short supply, says Balding.

“Well, true wilderness is dwindling. Without it, where would tourism be? Will future generations even know what wilderness is?

“My wish for my great great grandchildren is that they’ll be able to say: ‘Hey, we know what wilderness is all about. We still have it—some of it in the parks.’”

Where to find it

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We're in this together!

Conservation charts a wider orbit

More than just parks can be green

I t has been in magazines, newspapers and documentaries. It’s made the rounds in election campaigns. The verdict is in: our earth is on thin ice.

In the 20 minutes you spend lighting a campfire, almost 200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide are spewed by cars, factories and power plants into the air—enough, scientists say, to warm global climates 4°C over the next 60 years, creating floods, droughts and deserts.

In the quarter-hour you pass gazing at a herd of elk, another species of plants and animals becomes extinct—a species that might have provided a cure to the common cold, AIDS or cancer.

During your 10-minute stroll to the park garbage bin, humanity is piling up about 30,000 tonnes of waste—choking the habitats of beluga whales, seals, birds and people.

And in the few seconds you take to roast a marshmallow, another 50 people are added to the human race, many of whom who will have no choice but to destroy their own environment to feed themselves.

Being inside a national park tends to soften the blow.

Even though slash burning smoke and pulp mill pollutants sometimes defile Jasper’s skies, the air is generally still fresh and clean.

Although an average two large animals a week die on the park’s roadways, few species here face the threat of extinction.

Despite the fact that people in the park create 14 tonnes of trash on an average summer day, we somehow manage to find places for it.

And while two million of us a year visit the park, we don’t have to hunt sheep, pick berries or raze the forests to stay alive.

Things here are much as they’ve always been. We’re fortunate to be able to escape to a place like Jasper.

But why should we have to “escape” to a clean environment? Why can’t we live in one?

Can it be that in setting aside park lands, we’ve assumed we can trash the remainder?

It is now clear that the earth and its inhabitants cannot get by on the protection of just a few isolated green patches.

Contaminated mother’s milk, garbage barges, widening deserts, oil-soaked birds and rising cancer rates tell the sad truth: the principles of conservation must not stop at the boundaries of national parks.

To make the earth green again will require considerable resolve. In some cases, the challenges are humbling.

But working alone and together, we can at least make a change.

Clean up! Conserve! Prevent! Adapt! Each is a stepping stone to a healthier earth.

Come along through these pages. And think about what you can do. After all, we are in this together!

What can I say about the environment? I mean, that’s motherhood. The bottom line is that’s what we live with and in.

Jasper is one of the most beautiful places in the world. I hope we take steps, not only on a government level but at the individual level, to keep places like Jasper special.

I think we have to care about the outdoors as much as we care about our own living rooms.

Al Waxman, Canadian actor

Little of the undisturbed backcountry wilderness Jasper is known for now exists outside parks.
Snow- and ice-clad mountains of the Great Divide—the spine of the continent.

The air we share was sweeter once

Acid rain is ruining sugar maple groves in Quebec, forests in the eastern United States and lakes in Ontario.

Is Jasper National Park safe?

For now, yes. Acid rain is most severe where you find more upwind smokestacks, more automobiles and soil more naturally acidic than in Jasper. For now, our ecosystems are not threatened.

But acid rain is only one form of air pollution. And while Jasper has some of the sweetest high-mountain air anyone could ever hope to breathe, it isn’t as sweet as it used to be.

Each fall, Jasper’s scenery disappears into the smoke of slash fires from countless logging operations in British Columbia.

Winter blizzards are heralded by the odor of pulp mill emissions carried on the north wind.

On still summer evenings, a pall of woodsmoke envelops Whistlers and Wapiti campgrounds.

Acid rain, the greenhouse effect, ozone depletion: the earth’s great air systems are starting to choke on our waste. Even at the summit of the continent, in one of Canada’s best-preserved national parks, we witness the signs.

Fortunately, we can still make a difference. From an act as simple as putting one less log on the fire to as ambitious as petitioning the government to investigate an alleged infraction under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, every little bit helps.

It’s in the air; we can make air pollution a part of our past, rather than a threat to our common future.

I have had the rare privilege of seeing the planet Earth from space in all its fragile beauty, and I care a great deal about our world and its environment.

I’ve been going to Canadian national parks for years. I go to them to get away from cement and lie under the stars, to enjoy the silence and to while, I begin to relax and my dulled senses leave, I feel incredibly refreshed.

Jasper is one of Canada’s most spectacular parks do all in our power to preserve it for the benefit of all beauty of the great out-of-doors.

Marc Garneau, Canadian astronaut

Roadside herds await world vision

The sentiments behind OUR COMMON FUTURE, as courageously voiced by Norway’s prime minister Gro Brundtland, collide starkly with figures detailing deaths on Jasper National Park roadways.

In 1987, 75 large animals died in collisions with vehicles. Last year, motorists took their biggest toll yet: 36 deer, 33 elk, 29 bighorn sheep, 4 moose and 3 mountain goats—105 known large-animal kills in this park alone.

Countless other species were bumped or squashed as they crossed the road—everything from bears to birds.

It’s a sad commentary on the gulf that still separates reality from the visions of sustainable development expressed by Brundtland’s 1987 World Commission on Environment and Development.

The commission calls for a stop to the “downward spiral” of environmental degradation. When it comes right down to it, it’s up to us to apply the brakes.

World Commission on Environment and Development

The commission calls for a stop to the “downward spiral” of environmental degradation. When it comes right down to it, it’s up to us to apply the brakes.

Alert for natural predators and, in many cases, attracted to the roadside by the promise of unlawfully offered chips, peanuts and other handouts, wild animals become sitting ducks for unwary drivers.

People continue to come to the park—and so we should. There is much to appreciate, enjoy and learn here.

But to make our use of the park “sustainable,” we must use special caution, especially on Jasper’s roads.

Only then can our common future become a here-and-now reality.

See Park Pointers, page 12, for hints on how to help stem the tide of road kills.
Nature overlooks our lines

The boundary around a national park: an absurd concept? To grizzly bears, the berries on one side of the boundary taste no different than those on the other. The great weather systems from the west drop their rain and snow as freely on one side of the boundary as on the other.

A park boundary is an artificial thing, an arbitrary creation of man. We have tried to inflict a certain reality upon it by slashing cutlines through the forest and erecting markers. But the animals, forests, rivers and air know better. They cross our lines at will, reflecting the simple truth that political distinctions cannot change the fact that we live in, and share, one world.

Elk and mice, orchids and whitefish, people and trees: we all occupy the same thin envelope of life wrapped around a small planet in a lonely corner of the universe. It's all we have; it's all precious.

Nonetheless, Canadians have drawn lines around 34 patches of landscape representing less than two per cent of our country's area, called them national parks and proclaimed them protected for all time.

Can we call a national park's forests and lakes protected when the wind brings air pollutants and acid rain?

Can we say our wildlife is safe, when their natural movements bring them into logged-off valleys sown with traplines, four-wheelers and rifles?

Our national parks should not be the sole examples of our natural heritage. They should be models of what we're aiming to preserve throughout our nation. Only then can we begin to view places like Jasper as true landscapes of hope, rather than the final futile refuges of the natural diversity that defines the Canada we love.

If each visitor returns home inspired to preserve the health and natural wealth of every little corner of this nation we call home, then—perhaps—Jasper can be a park without boundaries.

Making friends with the environment

Does your cookware kill beluga whales? Were the bargain products you buy made at the expense of polluted rivers, contaminated soil, poisoned air or mowed-down forests?

Most Canadians care enough to spend an extra $10 to $40 a week if it means preventing the degradation of their environment, a national poll has revealed.

You'll soon be able to spot "environmentally friendly" products at a glance. Just look for the birds in the maple leaf; if a product has survived the rigors of an independent testing board, then it qualifies for this environmental seal of approval under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.

Before long, by buying wisely and controlling our consumption, we'll all be environmentally friendly!

Jasper Park is one of Canada's most important natural resources. All Canadians must be concerned with such environmental issues as acid rain which affect the life and stability of such wonderful resources as Jasper National Park.

If we as Canadians have anything to give the future of this country, it is certainly our concern and our input into making the environment a harmonious place to live. Protecting a resource like Jasper National Park is part of that responsibility.

Karen Rain, Principal dancer, The National Ballet of Canada

Visitors' guide a model of teamwork

Cooperation, collaboration, teamwork: if we're all in the same bowl of stew, these ought to at least add flavor. In the case of the production of PROFILES, they really stick to the ribs.

This year, concerned businesses have joined forces with the Canadian Parks Service to make sure PROFILES gets distributed to more Jasper visitors.

See who they are on pages 14 and 15. Jasper schools have also helped out, by submitting drawings for use in the guide.

Check winning drawings on pages 8, 9, 13, 14 and 16. Local photographers have donated their work to the guide; see various credits. Prominent Canadians have also pitched in, offering their thoughts on Jasper and the environment.

Read their thought-provoking comments scattered throughout. It may be that we're in this stew together. But with teamwork like this, at least we're in good company!
Yellowstone forest fire highlights burning need in mountain parks

In the wake of last summer's massive fire in Yellowstone National Park, Canadian park wardens are forging ahead with their program to intentionally burn parts of Jasper's forests.

"There's no question about it: there will always be fires in the park," says Jasper fire management warden Brian Wallace.

"The question is: Are the fires going to be lit by us and controlled, or are they going to be wildfires, potentially destructive and out of control?"

It's an opinion shared by an increasing number of conservation officers since raging fires burned half of the American national park, damaging public facilities and denting the tourist trade.

There, as here in Jasper, effective fire suppression over the years created a dangerous build-up of dry wood and leaf matter. Forests spread and encroached on grasslands, cutting down on grazing habitat for elk and deer.

"It was a disaster waiting to happen. And it happened," says Wallace. "Once that fire got wound up, there was no stopping it."

"If a big fire ever got going here in Jasper, it would do the same thing."

To combat that possibility, Jasper wardens are still fighting unplanned fires caused by lightning strikes or careless visitors. They're also developing a facility protection plan to combat the potential loss of buildings to wildfire.

But at the core of fire management is the wardens' ambitious prescribed burn program. It began with a small fire last year. This spring, the plan called for a larger burn, up the slopes of the Colin Range from the Athabasca River, about 15 km from Jasper townsite.

With a burn unit size of 1550 hectares (about 4000 acres), it would be the second largest controlled burn in the national parks.

There is much yet to burn in Jasper. The largest Rocky Mountain park, Jasper contains 8200 square km of vegetated area, some three-quarters of it considered "fire-dependent."

That's about twice the area charred in Yellowstone last year.

"If we want to restore the balance and still avoid a conflagration, prescribed burns are the only way," says Wallace.

"I just hope we can give Mother Nature enough of a helping hand."

Park interpreters are leading hikes into burned areas this summer to examine the recovery of wildlife and vegetation.

Safeguards long time coming for icefield's Ancient Forest

After 700 years of patient waiting—700 glacial winters and 700 wind-blasted summers—the gnarly Ancient Forest of the Columbia Icefield has finally been recognized.

The forest, located behind the Icefield Centre, has won Zone 1-Special Preservation status in Jasper's park management plan.

Winter storm topples notions of invincibility

Many of the trees that lie freshly uprooted in forests along the Athabasca River near the townsite are the victims of one of Jasper's most severe blizzards in decades.

One January morning last winter, as clouds laden with warm Pacific coast moisture poured rain upon the town, winds abruptly reversed and temperatures plummeted. In a matter of minutes, drenching rain turned to snow driven by a fierce north wind.

Trees, birds and animals—indeed, everything that had been soaking wet—quickly became caked in a deadly layer of ice.

As people struggled with frozen car door locks, trees in the forests grew weighted and brittle. The storm gathered force; temperatures sank to near -30°C. Soon, trees began to topple, exposing their shallow root networks.

Within hours, hundreds of trees—from 30-metre-high Douglas-firs to spindly spruce—fell, striking power lines and cabins, blocking roads and trails and uprooting pipes.

Only the heroic efforts of power crews, wardens and volunteers kept Jasper homes and businesses from freezing solid.

In the space of a day, the storm rekindled worries about facility protection and left a cleanup job that is still going on.

It was nature's way of combing the weakest from her forests and providing, amid the windfall, varied new habitat—homes for juncos, grouse, hares, insects, woodpeckers, paintbrush and orchids. It was also a reminder of her power—and our need for respect.

Imagine! Some trees in the Ancient Forest were seedlings when the Magna Carta was signed in 1215.

When Jacques Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence River into the land that was to become Canada, they were already 300 years old.

They don't look big enough to be that old, of course. Unlike towering Sitka spruce, found on the Pacific coast, these Engelmann spruce have been stunted by barren soil and severe weather.

During the Little Ice Age 150 years ago, the Athabasca Glacier advanced right into the Ancient Forest. The glacier pushed rock rubble around and over trees. Some trees bent by the moving ice survived, but side branches took over from the main trunk.

Scientists counting growth rings later used the forest's deformities to pinpoint the Little Ice Age's peak.

Zone 1 protection is the stiffest protection offered in Jasper, ahead of Zone 2-Wilderness, Zone 3-Natural Environment, Zone 4-Outdoor Recreation and Zone 5-Park Services.

While all the protection in the world isn't going to turn these stunted old-timers into west coast giants, Zone 1 will go a long way to ensuring that the Ancient Forest is still here in another 700 years.
Jasper's mountain caribou capture world eye

They’re hardy, but they don’t haul sleighs; they’re northerly, but not North-Pole; they’re flighty, but certainly don’t fly through the air.

Yes, Santa, there are reindeer in Jasper National Park.

Around here, they go by the name of mountain caribou. They may not deliver gifts to good little boys and girls, but without a doubt they are special.

“They’re a strange and unique beast,” says wildlife biologist Kevin Van Tighem.

“They’re an archetypically northern animal—very Canadian. It surprises people to hear they can see caribou in Jasper National Park.”

We may not see caribou much longer, for their numbers in Jasper have been dwindling.

Several factors are under investigation. Inside the park, caribou encounter hikers and skiers, while outside the park, they find increased logging, mining and development, and illegal hunting. Other factors include predation, parasites and climate change.

Collared caribou

Using tranquilizer darts and nets, the research team has so far captured, recorded and collared 17 caribou. Each collar emits a radio signal to allow biologists to monitor the animal’s movements.

Wolves, the natural predators of caribou, may also be collared.

By taking a comprehensive ecosystem-wide approach to research, and by involving the public, governments, industry and non-governmental groups in the project, the team intends to ensure that the project’s findings are shared and workable.

You can help too. If you spot a caribou or wolf with a collar or tag, please report it to the Warden Office, at 852-6156.

Taking steps

The study should show what we need to do to protect and perpetuate our few remaining caribou. The question is: do we have the will to take action?

“It’s the acid test,” admits Van Tighem.

“If people and caribou manage to share the future, it will certainly speak well of our impact on the environment.

“But, if mountain caribou are to survive, there may be some hard decisions to take.”

Mountain caribou spend much of the summer above treeline. Inset: a radio-collared caribou.

Is protection on the plate?

What’s new in Canada’s park system?

Last year, the national park network grew by leaps and, well, smidgens. But it grew! Among others, let’s welcome:

- Grasslands National Park, Saskatchewan.
- The national park sections of the Athabasca, North Saskatchewan and Kicking Horse rivers as Canadian Heritage Rivers.
- South Moresby, Queen Charlotte Islands (an agreement for a national park reserve signed with B.C.; negotiations underway with Haida Indians).
- A commitment to clean up the mouth of the Saguenay River and protect its beluga whales (understanding reached with Québec).
- A commitment to protect polar bears in their native habitat near Churchill, Manitoba.
- Potential protection for polar bears in their native habitat near Churchill, Manitoba.
- A commitment to protect Canada’s heritage railway stations, through a private member’s bill in the House of Commons.
- Two new national historic sites: Laurier House, commemorating two former prime ministers, and Grosse Ile, a former quarantine station for new arrivals to Canada.

On the other side of the coin, the park system had its problems in 1988. Birds and beach habitat in Pacific Rim National Park were devastated when an oil slick from a barge spill more than 300 km away drifted ashore.

Logging on the doorstep of Mount Revelstoke National Park threatened the ecology and aesthetics of the area.

Other parks were variously compromised by development—and development’s side effects.

The countdown to the new century continues. By then, will protection prevail? Or will Canada have captured only a gradually eroding token of its diverse heritage?

Economic, social and environmental challenges are giving our leaders a full plate.

For the sake of coming generations, let’s encourage our leaders to make sure nature and culture survive beyond the walls of zoos and museums!
The necessities

Backcountry permits

Overnight backcountry travelers must pick up a free park use permit at the Townsite Information Centre or the Icefield Centre. If you’re using horses, you’ll require a horse use permit as well. Permits are part of the trail quota system; they’re a way of keeping backcountry campsites uncrowded and undamaged. Along with your permit comes plenty of free information: trail conditions, recent bear sightings, seasonal hazards, wildlife to look for and more. If you’re planning an outing that involves hazards, you can fill out a voluntary safety registration. You must report your registration after your trip. If you are overdue, park wardens will come looking for you.

Flowers and artifacts

Natural and cultural objects in the park are protected by law from removal, defacing, damage and destruction. They are few places in the world where one can see such an assortment of flora and fauna. Examples of natural objects: pebbles, pine cones, flowers, berries, feathers, fawns, antlers. Examples of cultural objects: metal artifacts, pottery, baskets, clothing, tools, weapons. Such offerings also draw wildlife onto roadways, sometimes cause severe intestinal illness. Water from lakes and streams, plus water from taps in campgrounds or picnic areas where a warning is posted, should be boiled. Please don’t rinse soap, shampoo or detergent in the lakes and rivers.

I cannot forget how overwhelming it was to the stunning beauty of Jasper National Park as it opened home during the last phase of my Man in Motion Tour.

Thank you!

Jasper National Park

Campgrounds

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Campground</th>
<th>Basic fee</th>
<th>Opened</th>
<th>Total days</th>
<th>Hook-ups</th>
<th>Toilets</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Pocahontas</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Snaring River</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<td>3. Whistlers</td>
<td>$9.50-14</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Wabasso</td>
<td>$6.50</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Mount Kerkeslin</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Honeymoon Lake</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Jonas Creek</td>
<td>$6</td>
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<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Columbia Icefield</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td>May 10</td>
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<td>G.</td>
<td>H.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Wilcox Creek</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>G.</td>
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</table>

Fishing

Anglers must obtain a national parks fishing permit ($15 for 7 days or $30 annually) at information centres or sporting goods stores in the park. Jasper’s fishing regulations and season openings are available with permits. Catch-and-release fishing is encouraged.

Boating

Rowboats, canoes and kayaks are allowed on all water bodies in the park except for Cabin Lake, which supplies townsite drinking water. Power boats may be used only on Pyramid Lake. Boats with electric motors without onboard generators are permitted on any lake except Cabin.

Drinking water

Jasper’s mountain watersheds provide water not only for park visitors, but also for hundreds of thousands of people across the Canadian prairies. Please don’t rinse soap, shampoo or detergent in the lakes and streams. Similarly, avoid depositing any wastes, human or otherwise, into water.

A word of caution: parasites carried by humans and some domestic and feral animals can get into lakes, streams and rivers and may contaminate water supplies.

In humans, these parasites—called Giardia lamblia—sometimes cause severe intestinal illness. Water from lakes and streams, and water from taps in campgrounds or picnic areas may be used only on Pyramid Lake. Boats with electric motors without onboard generators are permitted on any lake except Cabin.

Feeding wildlife

Feeding wildlife is against the law in Canada’s national parks. It threatens people’s immediate safety; it also results in the transfer of certain organisms that cause illness. Fish, fish eggs and other human food disturb the balance of wild animals’ diets, and such offerings also draw wildlife onto roadways, where they may be struck by vehicles. Avoid the temptation. Please keep your distance.

Campfires

Fires may be lit only in metal fireboxes provided by the park. Barbeques are allowed in campgrounds and picnic areas. Wood is scarce in many backcountry locations and fire restrictions apply on some trails. Overnight hikers should carry gas stoves.

I cannot forget how overwhelming it was to the astounding beauty of Jasper National Park as it opened home during the last phase of my Man in Motion Tour.

Thank you!
Jasper park service directory

INFORMATION—HOURS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergencies 24 hours</th>
<th>852-6161</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CANADIAN PARKS SERVICE</td>
<td>852-3100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRE &amp; AMBULANCE</td>
<td>852-3344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOSPITAL</td>
<td>852-4848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCCP</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Information by day

| WEATHER | 852-3185 |
| JASPER PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | 852-3858 |
| TRAVEL ALBERTA | 852-4919 |
| Jasper National Park facilities | 852-6176 |

LISTING OF PROFILES SPONSORS

Accommodation

| ANDREW MOTOR LODGE | 852-3394 |
| ASTORIA INN | 852-3391 |
| CHARLOTTE'S CHATEAU JASPER | 852-5664 |
| COLUMBIA ICEFIELD CHALET | 852-3332 |
| JASPER HOUSE BUNGALOW | 852-4553 |
| JASPER INN MOTOR LODGE | 852-4461 |
| JASPER PARK LODGE | 852-3390 |
| LORSTICK LODGE | 852-4431 |
| PINE BUNGALOW CABINS | 852-3481 |
| PYRAMID LAKE BUNGALOWS | 852-3536 |

Additive

| AVIS RENT-A-CAR | 852-3970 |
| DICK'S AUTO & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY | 852-4846 |
| MOUNTAIN ENZO '36 | 852-4174 |

Banks & banking machines

| TORONTO DOMINION BANK | 852-3335 |
| 723-2251 |

Campings supplies

| ON LINE SPORT & TACKLE | 852-3689 |
| 722-1536 |
| THE SPORTS SHOP | 852-3584 |

Commercial & visitor information

| JASPER PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | 852-3858 |

Food & groceries

| MOUNTAIN FOODS & CAFE | 852-4050 |
| NUTTERS BULK FOODS | 852-5844 |
| ROBINSON'S RASPBERRY | 852-3195 |
| SUPER A FOODS | 852-3208 |

Gifts, souvenirs, books, cameras & film

| BAXTERS GIFTS & SOUVENIRS | 852-3605 |
| J & D GIFT SHOP | 852-4262 |
| JASPER CAMERA & GIFTS | 852-3165 |
| PARKS AND PEOPLE | 852-4767 |

INTERPRETIVE GUIDES, EVENTS & COURSES

| ATABASCA GLACIER ICEWALKS | 852-5665 |
| PARKS AND PEOPLE | 852-4767 |
| JASPER RAFT TOURS | 852-3613 |
| MALIGNE TOURS | 852-3370 |
| WHITWATER RAFTING (JASPER) | 852-7230 |

Recreation

| JASPER SKYDIVING CENTRE | 852-3381 |
| Restaurants & cafes | 852-4930 |
| S & W WALKER | 852-3394 |
| BREWSTER TRANSPORTATION & TOURS | 852-3232 |
| MOUNTAIN FOODS & CAFE | 852-3359 |
| RED DRAGON | 852-4050 |
| VIENNA ART DECO | 852-3333 |

Skiing

| MARMOT BASIN Ski Lifts Ltd. | 852-3816 |
| 852-5889 |
| CHABA THEATRE | 852-4749 |

Sportswear

| HIGH COUNTRY CASUALS | 852-3332 |
| PACIFIC WESTERN TRANSPORTATION | 762-4558 |

Train

| PARKS AND PEOPLE | 852-4767 |
| 852-4050 |

OTHER JASPER SERVICES

| Bus | 852-3926 |
| Hotel | 852-3215 |
| Launderman & public showers | 852-3857 |
| Library | 852-7771 |
| Liquor, beer & wine | 852-6052 |
| Chalet tours | 852-3359 |
| RESERVES: private & commercial access to tracks | 852-4444 |
| Trailhead dumping stations (3 locations) | 852-4223 |
| Cariboo Ski Lifts Ltd. | 852-3816 |
| 852-5889 |
| CHABA THEATRE | 852-4749 |
| 852-3332 |
| PACIFIC WESTERN TRANSPORTATION | 762-4558 |

| Park radio, 1490 AM English, 1230 AM French | 852-6164 |
| 852-3215 |
| 852-3857 |
| 852-7771 |
| 852-6052 |
| 852-3359 |
| 852-4444 |
| 852-4223 |
| Park radio, 1490 AM English, 1230 AM French | 852-6164 |
| 723-4461 |
| 852-3805 |
| 852-4242 |
| 852-4400 |
| 852-4371 |
| 852-4181 |
| 852-4102 |
Your clues to happy camping

Walk-in sites
How far a hike is a “walk-in site?”
It’s not the half-day trudge from the parking lot you may have thought. Walk-in sites, available in five of the park’s campgrounds, usually require no more than a three-minute hoof.

A little exercise is not a bad trade-off for the extra solitude.

A fresh-air classroom

Birds, wildflowers, geology, photography, ecology—now you can take short courses on these topics, taught by experts and held in the great outdoors of Jasper National Park.

The Jasper Institute, formed under the auspices of Parks and People, has a goal of furthering natural history education and enjoyment.

To find out more, write or call The Jasper Institute, Box 2337, Jasper, AB T0E 1E0 (403) 852-4012.

Earlier the better

A reminder for all campers: the earlier you arrive, the better your choice of spots will be. Sites with hook-ups are generally gone by noon each day—even sooner on holiday weekends.

Hunger pangs?

Campers and cyclists on the Icefields Parkway should bear in mind that there are no grocery stores between Jasper and Lake Louise. Stock up before leaving, or eat at a restaurant.

S-s-s-swimming!

Aside from bone-chilling Honeymoon Lake, no swimming holes can be found near campgrounds.

Townsite-area lakes are barely warm enough for a swim—although some people still take the plunge. Pyramid Lake and Lake Annette have the better beaches in the park.

As for warmer water, there’s a steamy hot soaking pool 61 km from town at Miette Hotsprings.

A new public indoor pool, near the Activity Centre in Jasper townsite, is set to open this summer. A few Jasper hotels also have pools.

The weather

Townsite drier, warmer—Icefield wetter, colder

Believe it: rain and snow are “totally precipitous,” and the temperature range is “mean!” Jasper weather can take some getting used to—and some getting ready for. Statistically, it is better than Banff’s. But don’t be misled by averages; prepare for the extremes and you’ll be okay.

Near Jasper townsite (elev. 1060 m), expect rain or snow one day in three. Around the Columbia Icefield (elev. 1980 m), expect it almost every second day.

Winds in the park blow mainly from the southwest; on average, they’re not severe.

Our figures come courtesy of the Atmospheric Environment Service of Environment Canada.

Mark it metric!

Gallons to litres; miles to kilometres. If metric still stumps you, here are some ballpark conversions:

• 90 km/h = 55 mph.
• 3000 metres = 10,000 feet.
• 10 litres = 2 Imperial gals = 3 American gals.
• 1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds.
• 8 km = 5 miles.

For Celsius-to-Fahrenheit and centimetres-to-inches, eyeball the weather charts.
Wise up before you set off

Jasper's rugged wilderness won't poison you with PCBs, choke you with exhaust or deafen you with jackhammers.

But climbing, boating and skiing in these mountains do present hazards; avoidable accidents kill people in the Rockies every year.

The wisest step you can take before any expedition is to inform yourself fully.

Check any of several reference books on Jasper's adventure routes. Two of the more detailed and current references—the wardens' own river and climbing guides—are on hand at the Trail Office in the Townsite Information Centre.

Talk to people who've done the same trip: wardens, Trail Office staff and others around town.

"We'd sooner tell you about a hazardous route now, rather than pull you out of it later," says public safety warden Darro Stinson.

Before you leave, find out current conditions—snowpack, water level, weather forecast, etc. For the most up-to-date data, check at any of these locations in the park:

• Icefield or Townsite Information centres.
• Bald Hills or Parker Ridge trailheads.
• Pocahontas, Maligne Lake or Sunwapta warden stations.
• Main warden office (near Maligne Canyon).

In winter, wardens release a daily bulletin detailing avalanche hazards. You can use the Alberta Avalanche Association's toll-free number (1-800-772-2434) for avalanche conditions in both Banff and Jasper, or you can call the Jasper park wardens direct (852-6156).

In summer, be sure to refer to the daily fire information outlets and warden stations.

Know a nosy nibbler?

Who's been eating my porridge?
If it wasn't your hungry nephew or an unscrupulous neighboring camper—or Goldilocks—it was probably park wildlife.

From little chompers to large, it may have been mice, birds, squirrels, martens, deer, elk or bears that were boring into your rations while you were gone.

Wildlife also go for sweaty, salty clothing and boots. Porcupines even chew rubber and plywood.

Wild animals will leave their marks in just about anything that comes between them and an aromatic meal. Tents, coolers, and convertible cartops are often no barrier to the determined camp robber.

In the great outdoors, please don't leave food, garbage or other chewables lying around.

Leaving food or garbage unattended in Jasper National Park is an offence under the National Parks Act.

Long claws and sharp teeth—a few tips about bears

If there ever was a symbol of the wilderness, it's the grizzly bear.

With no enemies save man, Ursus arctos horribilis once left marks from its hand-length claws as far south as Mexico. Today, Jasper is among the grizzly's final scratching posts.

We're putting our best efforts forward to make sure man and beast can share the mountain parks, but you need your help. The survival of grizzlies, black bears and other wild animals depends greatly upon how we manage our food and waste.

Don't let this develop!

Ever seen photographers get too close to park wildlife?

Have they forgotten their grandmothers' common-sense advice to use caution? Do they know wild animals need space and will react violently to fend off intruders within that space? Being on vacation, have these people vacated their minds entirely?

It happens all the time: put a camera in their hands, and they forget about tomorrow.

Photography is a worthwhile activity, especially in the national parks. But every year, people come too close.

Camera buffs in other parks have been killed by deer. In Jasper, coyotes and ground squirrels have inflicted severe bites. Elk have trampled people and damaged vehicles.

• Wild animals demand respect:
  • Don't come within 100 metres of bears (use a telephoto lens).
  • Stay at least 25 metres away from other large wildlife.
  • In calving season (spring) and mating season (fall) give an even wider clearance.

• Respect wild animals' space, and you will be rewarded by seeing more of their natural activities, discovering how they really live.

Your grandmother would be relieved.

Common-sense solutions to the road kill dilemma

If you see a large animal hit, spy one that looks like it's been hit, or somehow hit one yourself, please report it as quickly as possible to the Wardens Service (852-6156).

As bad as you may feel, you can't get in any trouble for reporting a road kill. It's better that the park wardens know—so they can take prompt action to reduce the chance of more deaths.

There are a few more ways to help prevent road kills:

• Drive cautiously, watch for warning signs and obey speed limits.
• Be especially alert dusk and dawn, when animals are the most active and visibility is poorest.
• To watch or photograph wildlife, stop at pull-offs, use flashes to warn other motorists about wildlife.
• Spread the word: slow is safer for wildlife and people!

Here are a few more ways to help prevent road kills:

Garbage
• Dispose of it in our special bear-proof garbage containers.
• Store it in your vehicle or hard-shell trailer between trips to the disposal bin.
• Pack it out of the backcountry; don't bury it.

Food
• Store it in your vehicle or trailer, or up a bear pole, until used.
• Use flashlights to warn other motorists about wildlife.
• Avoid using smelly foods such as bacon or fish.

Pets
• Keep them on a leash when outside your vehicle.
• Put them in your vehicle or trailer at night.
• They may attract and annoy bears; it's better not to bring them into the backcountry.

Hiking
• Never surprise a bear! Bells, singing, talking, whistling all help.
• They may attract and annoy bears: it's better not to bring them into the backcountry.
• Use flashlights to warn other motorists about wildlife.
• Avoid using smelly foods such as bacon or fish.

Sightings
• Report all bear sightings, bear problems and animal carcass locations to park staff.
• Never feed or approach bears—everyone of them is a potential threat. Instead, back up and take a wide detour, talking softly.
• Show them respect—we are visitors in their home.

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Find a way to save the world!

Find the way to save the world—then see if your parents or friends can do it too.

Each player starts with 50 years. Every time you take a toll on the environment, you subtract years from the life of the planet. The player with the most years left at the end wins the game—and saves the world!

START

Air pollution will make Churchill warmer, but too wet. The port may be flooded out by Hudson Bay as the greenhouse effect melts polar caps. Toll: 20 years.

RIGHT! Just letting wilderness take its course is safer. That way, you save the natural cycle on which elk and deer depend.

Your car's gas tank fits a large gas pump nozzle. You should use leaded fuel only, not the narrow-nozzle unleaded gas. T or F?

All post-1973 cars and tracks—even ones with large-nozzle tanks—can burn unleaded and be less polluting. Toll: 15 years.

7-cm calliope hummingbirds fly 3000 km to winter in a Mexican "nature reserve." But the reserve is losing a battle to slash-and-burn farming and resort development. If the WWF can't help protect this reserve, Jasper can't save its hummingbirds. Toll: 15 years.

You "buy" an acre of tropical forest. By becoming a World Wildlife Fund rainforest guardian, you're protecting Jasper National Park's hummingbirds. T or F?

Ben Michelin, Grade 6

RIGHT! Controlled fires allow wildlife to feed away from roads, by sparing grassland where forests stood. Fires save herds from getting hit. (Remember, though, uncontrolled fires are still dangerous!)

Joey Hill, Grade 4

You want to make chilly Churchill, Manitoba a better place to live. You should burn more logs on your campfire. T or F?

Ellie Foester, Grade 6

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

Your burger came in a plastic foam container. You should shred the container to help it decompose. T of F?

Larissa Sendle, Grade 3

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

FRIGHT! Burn fewer logs. Slow global warming and save port cities such as Churchill from rising seas!

In the middle of the winter, you see some hungry deer. You should feed them your chips or crackers so they don't starve to death. T or F?

Christina Virlat, Grade 7

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

Your burger came in a plastic foam container. You should shred the container to help it decompose. T of F?

Forest fires cause animals to get killed on the highways. T or F?

Upey Hill, Grade 4

RIGHT! Just letting wilderness take its course is safer. That way, you save the natural cycle on which elk and deer depend.

GUARDIAN OF THE RAINFOREST

Without fires, forests replace grassland. Then grazing animals such as elk and deer have little else to eat but roadside grass and car window popcorn (illegal). Toll: 5 years.

RIGHT! By not tearing the container, you're keeping those gases away from our fragile ozone layer! (Even better if you don't even buy food packaged in foam!)

PAY UP! How much you have left is how long the earth will survive. Better luck next planet!

TOLL BOOTH

Did you take a toll? Y or N?

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

Shredding or burning plastic foam releases gases that attack the ozone layer, raising the risk of cancer. Toll: 1 year.

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

PAY UP! How much you have left is how long the earth will survive. Better luck next planet!

RIGHT! Fill any car or truck built after 1973 with unleaded and save the air from lead poisoning! (Even better if you walk or bicycle once in a while instead of drive!)

CONGRATULATIONS! Take the through-lane. Knowing the things you do, you'll help to save the world. Spread the good word!

KIDS!

Color this maze and return it to the Parks and People counter at a park information centre. Your work will be displayed to other visitors of Jasper National Park. (Remind your parents to fill in the feedback form on the reverse. Thanks!)
Give us some feedback!

This is your chance to be heard. You have our ear.
Have we answered your questions? What do you think of this year’s electronically published edition of PROFILES? How was your national park experience? Did we do well? Do we need to improve?
Please let us know!

Michael Fortier
Grade 7

Return this page to The Superintendent, Jasper National Park, Jasper, Alberta, TOE 1E0. Attach longer comments on a separate page. You can also call us at 852-6161. Or pay us a visit! Drop this form by the Parks and People counter at an information centre and pick up a Parks and People button as a gesture of our appreciation.
Learn more about these mountains!

The Jasper National Park interpretive service offers a host of theatre programs, a flock of guided hikes, a gagle of displays and a pack of self-guiding opportunities!

The programs detailed on the next page are summer events. Their titles indicate whether they are provided in English or French.

Programs on a limited basis also run through the fall, winter and spring.

To get the latest on what’s happening during your stay, call the Interpretive Service at 852-6146 or listen to YR Radio (1450 AM) daily at 9:20 a.m.

All programs are free of charge.

Here and on the next page are Jasper’s interpretive opportunities:

**Trail signs**

Follow self-guiding trails—complete with interpretive signage in both official languages—at Mt. Edith Cavell, Maligne Canyon, Lake Annette, Athabasca Falls, The Whistlers and Athabasca Glacier (Columbia Icefield). They tell a fascinating story of each area’s natural and cultural history.

**Park radio**

Jasper National Park is on the air! Tune in (1490 AM English; 1230 AM French) in a 5-km vicinity of Maligne Canyon, Athabasca Falls and the Columbia Icefield to catch repeating broadcasts about each of these natural wonders.

Longer radio programs (30-minute documentaries) can be heard each evening from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the Wilcox Creek and Columbia Icefield campgrounds.

**Roadside panels**

If you’re traveling the Maligne Road, the road to Miette Hot Springs or the Icefields Parkway, keep an eye out for roadside interpretive signs and exhibits. There’s nothing like a short stop, pleasant stretch and intriguing read to refuel your vacation experience.

**Roving interpreters**

From time to time you will run into uniformed park interpreters “roving” about the park. Feel free to ask them questions; you may just set them to “raving” about the park!

**Interpretive sleuthing**

Do Jasper National Park’s interpretive offerings perk your desire to know more?

Visit the Townsite Information Centre. An information attendant or a park interpreter will find answers (in either official language) to your queries, or at least help with your search.

Free publications on the park are also available.

**Special events**

In addition to regularly repeating events (see page 16), try our special programs for anything from canoe caravans and wildlife tours to the exploration of alpine meadows. Check for the Sunday special, Maligne Valley special, Yellowhead hike special and evening hike specials this summer.
### Jasper's 1989 Summer Interpretive Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sunday special</strong></td>
<td>Whistlers hike</td>
<td>Check for details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11 am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Whistlers hike</strong></td>
<td>Upper terminal, Jasper Tramway.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>noon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parker Ridge hike</strong></td>
<td>Wilcox CG trailhead.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cavell Meadows hike</strong></td>
<td>Mount Edith Cavell parking lot.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Toe walk</strong></td>
<td>Athabasca Glacier parking lot.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Campfire talk</strong></td>
<td>Wilcox CG.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Outdoor theatre program (August 7 - September 3)</strong></td>
<td>Whistlers CG.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10 pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>Outdoor theatre program (June 26 - August 6)</strong></td>
<td>Whistlers CG.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lawn programs**
- Displays of horns and antlers, children's games, puppet shows and other special programs. *TOWNSITE INFORMATION CENTRE LAWN.*
- Pull up a stump, sip hot spiced tea and learn some of the secrets behind Jasper's scenery. Bring a cup. *CAMPGROUND FIRE CIRCLES.*

**Guided hikes**
- Bring good footwear, a camera and a snack, and join a park interpreter for a first-hand look at some of Jasper's scenery, wildlife and history. *MEET AT TRAILHEADS.*

**Whistlers outdoor theatre**
- Slides and movies, "prop talks" and skits—each evening a different program helps you discover Jasper. *Bus and car parking near the theatre.*

**Specials**
- Hikes, caravans, events of discovery. *Check at the park information centre for location, meeting place, time and duration.*

- All programs are free.
- See page 15 for more interpretive opportunities.
- Summer program runs from Monday, June 26 to Sunday, Sept. 3. Confirm times at an information centre.
- Listen to YR Radio (1450 AM) in the Jasper townsite area daily at 9:20 a.m. for an update on interpretive programs.

### Outdoor Theatre Program (August 7 - September 3)
- *Whistlers CG.*

### Outdoor Theatre Program (June 26 - August 6)
- *Whistlers CG.*

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*Note: Campfire talks and Whistlers outdoor theatre are specific events within the overall schedule.*