Glacier Visitor Guide

What Does the Future Hold For Sperry Chalet?

In early August of 2017, Sperry Chalet housed a full contingent of guests enjoying the sought-after communal experience of relaxing and socializing in Glacier’s high country. This over one hundred year tradition changed dramatically on August 10. That night a lightning strike downslope ignited the Sprague Fire. Shortly thereafter all guests were forced to leave. Firefighters installed protective measures around the chalet complex but, during the early evening of August 31, 2017, embers from the Sprague Creek Fire started an interior fire that gutted the massive stone Sperry Chalet dormitory. Morning light revealed only its exterior walls remained standing. Firefighting efforts were successful in defending the surrounding four other structures, including Sperry’s family-style dining hall.

Constructed as one link in the original chain of nine chalets and two hotels operated by the Great Northern Railway, the Sperry buildings are one of two surviving outposts (with Granite Park) of the railroad's original backcountry properties. Along with the Two Medicine Camp Store, the Many Glacier Hotel, and the Belton Chalet, the backcountry chalets are part of a multi-property National Historic Landmark, significant for their design and place in Glacier’s history.

After the fire, the National Park Service and the Glacier National Park Conservancy mobilized resources and staff to secure the dormitory’s walls before winter. Throughout 2018, workers on scene will be completing additional stabilization and preparing the site for further construction in 2019.

No doubt past guests may want to revisit the site. Hikers will find the walls of the structure and some debris remaining. Visitors are welcome to look, but are restricted from entering the ruins. Federal law prohibits the removal of any artifact or material from the site. There will be National Park Service staff stationed at the chalet this summer.

The Sperry Chalet complex’s future is being debated and planned this summer. See the link at the bottom of this page for how to obtain additional information.

Hiking the Sperry Trail

The orange highlight on the map below shows the area affected by the Sprague Fire. The blaze resulted in a mosaic of fire activity—severe in some places and not in others—leaving a patchwork of trees and open areas, and consequently, less shade on the trail overall. Work is needed on the trails and backcountry campgrounds before they can open to the public. Once trails open, visitors may hike to popular destinations like Sperry Glacier, Gunsight Pass, and Mt. Brown. Hikers need to be aware of post-fire conditions along the trail. The 6.3 mile hike to Sperry Chalet gains 3,393 feet from the trailhead, and will be hotter and more exposed to the sun than in the past. Carry adequate water, food, sunscreen, and supplies for the entire journey. Camping at all backcountry sites is by permit only.

Plans are underway to have toilets, water, and limited food service available at the chalet complex. There will be no overnight accommodations this summer.

Sperry Chalet Updates

Scan the QR Code below for the most recent information on plans for Sperry Chalet. We will place updates on the park website and the QR Code will take you directly there.

You can also find the updates with this address: https://www.nps.gov/glac/getinvolved/sperryupdates.htm

Sperry Chalet circa 1920 T. J. Hileman

Sperry Chalet after the Sprague Fire NPS PHOTO
**Emergency**

In an Emergency Dial 911 and contact a ranger or other park employee.

**Pets**

Pets are permitted in campgrounds, along roads, and in parking areas. Pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet, under physical restraint, or caged at all times. Pet owners must pick up after their pets and dispose of waste properly. Pets are not to be left unattended, and are not permitted on most trails, in the backcountry, or in any building.

**WHAT ABOUT SERVICE DOGS**

Service animals are welcome. Service animals require a permit, available at the backcountry permit offices listed above, to use trails or enter the backcountry.

**Contact Us**

PARK WEBSITE

www.nps.gov/glac

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 128, West Glacier, MT 59936

PHONE

406-888-7800

**Accessibility**

This spectacular landscape can present challenges for some visitors. Improvements in accessibility are being made so that all visitors will find Glacier to be a rewarding experience. Information on accessible facilities can be found: go.nps.gov/accessibility or by asking a ranger at a visitor center.

**Firearms**

The possession of loaded firearms in Glacier National Park is legal, however discharging firearms is prohibited. Firearms are prohibited in federal facilities. Check with the state of Montana for specifics at: doi.mt.gov/enforcement/concealed-weapons

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**General Information**

**Entrance Fees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seven Day Passes</th>
<th>Daily Passes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle passes...</td>
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<td>Motorcycle pass...</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bicycle/picker passes...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interagency Annual Pass...</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Lifetime Pass (62+)</td>
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**Special Free Passes**

Access Pass...Free (for permanently disabled U.S. citizens)

Fourth Grade Pass...Free (free for currently enrolled fourth grade students)

Military Pass...Free (for qualifying active duty military and their dependents)

**Waterton Lakes National Park, in Canada, has separate entrance fees. Special fees are charged for commercial vehicles.**

**Camping and Campground Information**

- **Camping** is permitted only in designated campgrounds.
- **Most sites** are first-come, first-served.
- **Utility hookups** are not provided.
- **Primitive campsites** do not have water available.

**Visitor Contact Stations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visitor Contact Station</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apgar Visitor Center...</td>
<td>May 12-June 8...</td>
<td>9 am-4:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avalanche Visitor Center...</td>
<td>June 14-Sept. 3...</td>
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<td>June 29-Aug. 18...</td>
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<td>Fish Creek Ranger Station...</td>
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<td>June 26-Aug. 31...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logging Creek Ranger Station...</td>
<td>June 29-Aug. 31...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Many Glacier Ranger Station...</td>
<td>May 15-June 14...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<td>Quartz Creek Ranger Station...</td>
<td>June 22-Aug. 31...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rising Sun Ranger Station...</td>
<td>June 8-Aug. 31...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sprague Creek Ranger Station...</td>
<td>May 25-June 14...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<td>St. Mary Ranger Station...</td>
<td>April 20-Sept. 31...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two Medicine Ranger Station...</td>
<td>May 18-Aug. 29...</td>
<td>8 am-5 pm</td>
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**Fees**

- The largest 25 sites have a maximum parking space of 40 feet. Primitive camping is available in the Apgar Picnic area, Oct. 9 to Oct. 31 for $10.00/night.
- The largest 50 sites have a maximum parking space of 26 feet.
- Campground only accessible by a narrow dirt road. Primitive camping is available Sept. 10 to Oct. 31, weather permitting.
- Campground only accessible by dirt road. Large units are not recommended. Primitive camping only. No potable water.
- Campground only accessible by dirt road. Primitive camping is available Sept. 10 to Oct. 31, weather permitting.
- Campground only accessible by dirt road. Primitive camping only. No potable water.
- The largest 13 sites have a maximum parking space of 35 feet. May 18 to June 14 all sites are first-come first-served and are $20.00. Reservations available for some sites through Recreation.gov. gov. June 15 to Sept. 3. Primitive camping is available Sept. 24 to Oct. 31, weather permitting.
- The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 21 feet.
- The largest 10 sites have a maximum parking space of 25 feet. The maximum allowed size for vehicles, or a combination of vehicle and towed unit, is 21 feet. *The opening date this year is dependent on water and sewer work completion.*
- The possession of loaded firearms in Glacier National Park is legal, however discharging firearms is prohibited. Firearms are prohibited in federal facilities. Check with the state of Montana for specifics at: doi.mt.gov/enforcement/concealed-weapons
Apgar

### Lodging
- **Lodge Place Village Inn**
  - May 25 - Oct. 1
  - Call (406) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 888-5032 for same-day reservations.
- **The Inlet**
  - May 18 - Sept. 23
  - Call (406) 888-5484 for reservations.

### Food Service
- **Eddie’s Cafe**
  - May 18 - September
  - Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

### Campsites/Gift Shops
- **Eddie’s Mercantile & The Cedar Tree**
  - April 28 - September
  - Gift shop:
    - May 18 - Sept. 23
    - Open all year

### Horseback Rides
- **Apgar Corral**
  - May 19 - Sept. 3
  - Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information.

### Boat Rentals
- **Glacier Park Boat Co.**
  - May 26 - Sept. 3
  - Small boat rentals including rowboats, paddle boards, canoes, single and double kayaks, and 8hp & 10hp motors.
  - Hours: May 26 - June 15, 10 am - 6 pm (last rental out at 5 pm)
  - June 16 - Labor Day, 9 am to 7 pm (last rental at 6 pm)

### Outdoor Store
- **Glacier Outfitters**
  - May 11 - Sept. 30
  - Outdoor equipment rentals for water, camping, hiking, and fishing.
  - Guided tours, park information, fishing tackle, and gifts.
  - (406) 219-7466 GoGlacierOutfitters.com

### Lake McDonald

#### Lodging
- **Lake McDonald Lodge**
  - May 18 - Sept. 26
  - Call (406) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 888-5431 for same-day reservations.
- **Motel Lake McDonald**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Call (406) 226-5690 for advance reservations.

#### Food Service
- **Russell’s Bistro Dining Room**
  - May 18 - Sept. 30
  - Lunch and dinner
- **The Smuggler’s Hideout & Pizzeria**
  - June 9 - Sept. 30
  - Lunch and dinner
- **Lucky’s Lounge**
  - May 18 - Sept. 26
  - Snacks, gifts, books, locally made art, and pottery

#### Campsites/Gift Shops
- **Lodge Camp Store**
  - May 11 - Sept. 26
  - Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts
- **Gift Shop**
  - May 18 - Sept. 26
  - Souvenirs, gifts, books, and locally made Blackfoot art

#### Scenic Boat Tours
- **Glacier Park Boat Co.**
  - May 19 - Sept. 23
  - Nautical tours of Lake McDonald - 1 hour.
  - Daily tours at 11 am, 1:30 pm, 3 pm, 5:30 pm, and 7:30 pm.
  - After Labor Day: 1:30 pm, 3 pm, and 5:30 pm tours only.
  - Jetboat and motorboat rentals available 10 am to 8 pm daily.
  - Last rental out at 7 pm. After Labor Day, last rental out at 5:30 pm.
  - Call (406) 257-2426 for information and rentals.

#### Horseback Rides
- **Lake McDonald Corral**
  - May 26 - Sept. 30
  - Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information.

### Many Glacier

#### Lodging
- **Many Glacier Hotel**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Call (406) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-5531 for same-day reservations.
- **Swiftcurrent Motor Inn**
  - June 12 - Sept. 16
  - Call (406) 732-9220 for advance reservations or (406) 219-7466 for same-day reservations.

#### Food Service
- **Plum Island Dining Room**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Many Glacier Hotel - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- **Swiss Lounge**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Many Glacier Hotel - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- **Nells**
  - June 12 - Sept. 16
  - Many Glacier Hotel - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- **Heidi’s**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Many Glacier Hotel - hot and cold snacks, sandwiches, coffee, beer, and wine

#### Campsites/Gift Shops
- **Swiftcurrent Camp Store**
  - June 12 - Sept. 16
  - Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts
- **Many Glacier Hotel Gift Shop**
  - June 8 - Sept. 16
  - Many Glacier Hotel - souvenirs, gifts, books, and locally made Blackfoot art

#### Scenic Boat Tours
- **Swiftcurrent Lake and Lake Josephine**
  - June 9 - Sept. 16
  - Nautical tours of Swiftcurrent Lake and Lake Josephine - 1 hour 30 minutes.
  - Requires 1/4 mile hike over hill

#### Horseback Rides
- **Many Glacier Corral**
  - June 9 - Sept. 16
  - Call local (406) 387-4405 or toll free (877) 888-5557 for schedule and information.

#### Laundry and Showers
- **Swiftcurrent Motor Inn**
  - June 12 - Sept. 16
  - Call (855) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-5523 for same-day reservations.

### Rising Sun

#### Lodging
- **Rising Sun Motor Inn**
  - June 15 - Sept. 10
  - Call (406) 733-4522 for advance reservations or (406) 732-5523 for same-day reservations.

#### Food Service
- **Two Dog Flats Grill**
  - June 15 - Sept. 10
  - Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

#### Campsites/Gift Shops
- **Rising Sun Motor Inn**
  - June 15 - Sept. 10
  - Groceries, fishing and camping supplies, firewood, and gifts

#### Scenic Boat Tours
- **Glacier Park Boat Co.**
  - June 16 - Sept. 23
  - Nautical tours of Swiftcurrent Lake and Lake Josephine - 1 hour 30 minutes.

#### Showers
- **Rising Sun Motor Inn**
  - June 15 - Sept. 10
  - Purchase tokens at the campsite.

### Two Medicine

#### Camp Store
- **Two Medicine Camp Store**
  - May 28 - Sept. 4
  - Gifts, self-serve convenience food, groceries, fishing tackle, camping supplies, and firewood

#### Scenic Boat Tours
- **Two Medicine Lake**
  - June 2 - Sept. 9
  - Nautical tours of Two Medicine Lake - 45 minutes.
  - Daily tours at 10 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, 2 pm, and 4 pm.
  - One hour tour at 6:30 pm with no stop at Baring Falls.
  - Optional rangeland walks to St. Mary Falls included on the 10 am and 2 pm tours.
  - Call (406) 257-2426 for information and rentals.

### Waterton/Goat Haunt

#### Scenic Boat Tours
- **Waterton International Shoreline Cruise Co.**
  - May 5 - October 8
  - Boat cruises and transport service between Waterton Townsite (Canada) and Goat Haunt (USA).
  - Daily lake tours.
  - Landings at Goat Haunt June 2 - September 23.
  - Call (403) 859-2862 for more information.

### Other Services
- **Backcountry Lodge (only accessible by trail)**
  - Belton Chalets, Inc.
  - *Grande Park Chalet*
  - June 27 - Sept. 13
  - Granite Park Chalet provides rustic accommodations that include rooms, beds, and a common kitchen.
  - Guests provide their own sleeping bag, water, food, and cooking utensils.
  - Optional bed linen service is available.
  - You may also visit GraniteParkChalet.com for additional information.

- **Backpacking & Hiking**
  - Glacier Guides, Inc.
  - May - October
  - Guided day hikes and backpacking trips into Glacier’s backcountry for one to seven days.
  - Custom guide service and rentals.

- **Bus Tours**
  - **Sun Tours**
    - Mid-May - Mid-October
    - Tour begins at Browning, East Glacier, St. Mary, Rising Sun, Usal Walton Inn, Apgar, and West Glacier.
    - Call (406) 786-9220 or (406) 732-9220 for reservations and information.
  - **Red Bus Tours**
    - May 19 - October
    - Call (406) 733-4522 for reservations and schedule information about Red Bus tours between park lodges, as well as to Two Medicine, East Glacier, West Glacier, and St. Mary.

- **Cash Machines**
  - Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are available at Apgar, Lake McDonald Lodge, Many Glacier (hotel and motor inn), St. Mary, East Glacier, Rising Sun, and West Glacier.

- **Worship Services**
  - Interdenominational and Roman Catholic services are held in campground amphitheaters and other locations within the park.
  - For a listing of times and locations, please consult a ranger in the campground or at one of the park visitor centers.
Welcome to Bear Country

Is it a Grizzly or a Black Bear?

All of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park is home to both black and grizzly bears. Please report all bear sightings or encounters to the nearest ranger immediately. Size and/or color are not reliable indicators of species.

The Bear Facts

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR! PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL FOOD AND GARBAGE ARE STORED OUT OF REACH OF BEARS AT ALL TIMES.

An Icon of Wilderness

Glacier is home to large numbers of both black and grizzly bears. This page presents basic information needed to ensure a safe visit for both you and our wildlife. For more detailed information, stop by any visitor center, attend a ranger-led program, or visit online at: go.nps.gov/BearCountry

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Our campgrounds and developed areas can remain unattractive to bears if each visitor manages food and trash properly. Following park regulations will help keep the “wild” in wildlife and ensure your safety, as well.

• Keep a clean camp. Never improperly store food or leave food or garbage unattended.
• All edibles, food containers (empty or not), and cookware (clean or not) must be stored in a vehicle, hard-sided camper, food locker, or hung when not in use, day or night.
• Place all trash in designated bear-resistant garbage containers.
• Inspect your campsite for bear sign and for careless campers (clean or not) must be stored in a vehicle, hard-sided camper, food locker, or hung when not in use, day or night.
• Pets, especially dogs, must be kept under physical restraint.

BEAR SPRAY

This aerosol pepper spray temporarily incapacitates bears. It is an effective, non-toxic, and non-lethal means of deterring aggressive bears. Under no circumstances should bear spray create a false sense of security or serve as a substitute for practicing standard safety precautions in bear country.

Bear spray is intended to be sprayed into the face of an oncoming bear. It is not intended to act as a repellent. Pre-sprayed objects may actually attract bears.

Bear spray is the most effective deterrent.

BEAR ENCOUNTERS

If you encounter a bear inside the minimum recommended safe distance (300 feet), you can decrease your risk by following these guidelines:

• If a bear or other animal is moving in your direction on a trail, get out of its way and let it pass.
• If you can move away, do so. If moving away appears to agitate the bear, stop and talk quietly to the bear. Help the bear recognize you as a friendly human and then continue to move away as the situation allows.
• If a bear appears intent on approaching you, your group, or your campsite in a non-defensive manner (not showing signs of agitation), gather your group together, make noise, and try to discourage the bear from further approaching. Prepare to deploy your bear spray. If you are preparing or consuming food, secure it.

DO NOT LET THE BEAR GET YOUR FOOD!

• If a bear approaches in a defensive manner (appears agitated and/or charges), stop. Do not run. Talk quietly to the bear.
• Prepare to deploy your bear spray. If contact appears imminent and you do not have bear spray, fall to the ground on your stomach, clasping your hands around the back of your neck, and leave your pack on for protection. If the bear attempts to roll you over, try to stay on your stomach. If the attack is defensive, the bear will leave once it recognizes you are not a threat. If the attack is prolonged, FIGHT BACK!

Roadside Bears

It’s exciting to see bears up-close, but we must act responsibly to keep them wild and healthy. If you see a bear along the road, please do not stop near it. If you wish to view the bear, travel at least 300 feet and pull over in a safe location. Pulling over can be dangerous for bears. Roadside bears quickly become habituated to traffic and people, increasing their chances of being hit by vehicles. Habituated bears may also learn to frequent campgrounds and picnic areas, where they may gain access to human food. To protect human life and property, bears that seek human food must be removed from the park. Resist the temptation to stop and get close to roadside bears – put bears first at Glacier.

Keep a Safe Distance

Approaching, viewing, or engaging in any activity within 300 feet of bears or wolves, or within 75 feet of any other wildlife is prohibited. Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to improve your view. Keep the animal’s line of travel or escape route clear, and move away if wildlife approaches you.

Always stay at least 75 feet from all park wildlife and at least 300 feet from bears or wolves.

Safety Precautions

Hike in groups.
Hiking in groups significantly decreases your chances of having a bear encounter. If you are looking for hiking company, be sure to look at the Ranger-led Activity Schedule to see if there are any ranger-led hikes available for you to join. Trail running is highly discouraged.

Carry bear spray.
Bear spray is an inexpensive way to deter bear attacks and has been shown to be the most effective deterrent.

Make noise.
Bears will usually move out of the way if they hear people approaching. Most bells are not enough. Calling out and clapping at regular intervals are better ways to make your presence known.

Secure your food and garbage.
Never leave food, garbage, or anything used to prepare, consume, store, or transport food unattended. Other items to secure include: toiletries, cosmetics, and pet food.

Be aware of your surroundings.
Environmental factors like wind speed and direction may prevent a bear from being aware of your presence. Look for scat or tracks. Take notice if you are hiking near an abundance of bear food, near running water, through thick vegetation, etc.
Have Fun and Stay Safe

Keeping the Wild in Wildlife - Tips to Keep People and Animals Safe

Prairie, Rocky Mountain, and west coast plants all meet in Waterton-Glacier. Add in the effects of natural processes like fire, floods, and avalanches and you end up with a varied landscape that provides homes for many different species of birds and mammals. Please take the time to learn about the wildlife and respect their need for undisturbed space. Although some animals spend part of the year close to roads and developed areas where they are easy to observe, enjoy viewing them at a distance. While some animals appear to tolerate people, approaching too close can disturb them from feeding areas or travel routes.

Visitors must stay at least 300 feet away from bears and wolves and at least 75 feet from any other animal. Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to improve your view. Keep the animal’s line of travel or escape route clear and move away if wildlife approaches you.

“Animal jams” occur when many people stop along the road to view wildlife. In their excitement, some folks forget they need to be aware not only of safety concerns related to wildlife, but also traffic hazards. Slow down and pull over carefully. Remain in your vehicle, safe from wildlife and traffic, and move on in a short time so others can watch. If you are too close to an animal, on a hill, curve, or in heavy traffic, drive by slowly and avoid stopping.

Because park animals are wild, they remain unpredictable, and may strike out with antlers, horns, teeth, hooves, or claws without warning. Animals may be hit by cars if they hang around parking lots and roads, and habituated animals often have to be relocated or killed.

Please enjoy wildlife from a distance and keep all food and garbage properly stored. We all share responsibility to keep the park healthy and wild.

Fishing

A license is not required to fish in Glacier. The Middle and North Forks of the Flathead River require a State of Montana fishing license. The standard park fishing season for all waters in the park is from the third Saturday in May through November 30. Lakes are open year-round. Several bodies of water are either closed to fishing or are catch-and-release only. Use of live bait and lead of any kind is prohibited. For complete regulations, stop by any visitor center or visit online: go.nps.gov/fishing

Check These Safety Tips Before You Start Your Day

WEATHER

Glacier’s summer weather is as varied as its landscape. Even when it’s in the 80s and 90s in the daytime, it can cool down into the 40s at night. Prepare for a variety of weather conditions and pack accordingly. You may start the day in a T-shirt and shorts, and need a sweater or parka by evening. Dress in layers and always bring rain gear.

HYPOTHERMIA

Freezing temperatures can occur in Glacier’s high country any month of the year. If you plan to head for higher elevations, avoid making assumptions based on low elevation weather. Layer with synthetic or wool clothing as a base layer, and eat high-energy foods throughout the day.

STEEP TERRAIN

Many accidents occur when people fall after stepping off trails or roadsides, or by venturing onto very steep slopes. Stay on designated trails and don’t go beyond protective fencing or guard rails. Supervise children in such areas. At upper elevations, trails should be followed carefully.

DROWNING

Use extreme caution near water. Swift, cold glacial streams and rivers, moss-covered rocks, and slippery logs are dangerous. Avoid wading in or fording swift streams. Never walk, play, or climb on slippery rocks and logs, especially around waterfalls. When boating, don’t stand up or lean over the side, and always wear a life jacket.

SNOW AND ICE

Snowfields and glaciers can present serious hazards. Snow bridges may conceal deep crevasses on glaciers or hidden cavities under snowfields. These bridges may collapse under the weight of an unsuspecting hiker. Use extreme caution when crossing steep snowfields on trails and in the backcountry.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Never hike alone. Make noise often and keep children close to you at all times. If you do encounter a lion, do not run. Talk calmly, aver your gaze, stand tall, and back away. If an attack seems imminent, stand your ground. Lions may be scared away by being struck with rocks or sticks, or by being kicked or hit.

HANTAVIRUS

Deer mice are possible carriers of Hantavirus. The most likely source of infection is from rodent urine and droppings inhaled as aerosols or dust. Initial symptoms are almost identical to the onset of flu. If you have potentially been exposed and exhibit flu-like symptoms, you should seek medical care immediately.

TICKS

Ticks are most active in spring and early summer. Several serious diseases, like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, can be transmitted. Completely remove attached ticks and disinfect the site. If rashes or lesions form around the bite, or if unexplained symptoms occur, consult a physician.

GIARDIA

Giardiasis is caused by a parasite found in surface water. Persistent, severe diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and nausea are the symptoms. If you experience symptoms, contact a physician. When hiking, carry water from one of the park’s treated water systems, or use an approved filter.

Air Ambulance

The Kalispell Regional Healthcare Advanced Life-support and Emergency Rescue Team (A.L.E.R.T.) is a pioneering non-profit helicopter rescue service based in the Flathead Valley, and is a community partner of Glacier National Park. For more than 40 years, A.L.E.R.T. has responded to hundreds of emergency missions in Glacier National Park. From search and rescue missions to educational flights, A.L.E.R.T. is committed to its mission to assist the community and its visitors. For more information, visit: krh.org

Social Media

Search for @GlacierNPS online and use #GlacierNPS to tag your stories to share them with us.
Going-to-the-Sun Road by Car or Bicycle

Driving the Road

This historic road travels through unparalled scenery and is a highlight of any visit. Portions of the road remain open year-round, however the upper section often does not open until June, after the winter snows are plowed. Weather permitting, Logan Pass remains open until the third week in October.

Last summer Glacier experienced record crowds. We anticipate heavy visitation this summer as well. Parking areas throughout the park will fill to capacity early in the day. This is especially true for Logan Pass, St. Mary Falls trailhead, Avalanche Creek, Siyeh Bend, Sunrift Gorge, and The Loop. Most of the popular locations along the road can be accessed by the fare-free Going-to-the-Sun Road shuttles.

Keep an eye out for wildlife. Animals frequently dart into the road. For some visitors, this will be their first experience driving along steep mountainous terrain. They may travel slowly or stay into the oncoming lane. Remain alert. If you find that several cars have gathered behind you, pull over in one of the many scenic turnouts provided, enjoy the view, and let other cars pass.

Size Limits

There are size restrictions on the upper portion of the Going-to-the-Sun Road.

Vehicles and vehicle combinations:
- longer than 21 ft. (including bumpers)
- wider than 8 ft. (including mirrors)
are prohibited on the Going-to-the-Sun Road between Avalanche Creek and Rising Sun.

Vehicles over 10 feet in height may have difficulty driving west from Logan Pass due to rock overhangs.

Stock trucks and trailers may access Packers Roost from the west side of the park and Siyeh Bend from the east side of the park.

Shuttle Service

A fare-free shuttle system is available to locations on the Going-to-the-Sun Road between the Apgar and St. Mary Visitor Centers. A map to shuttle stop locations is on the Points of Interest page.

Parking areas throughout the park, and especially at Logan Pass and Avalanche Creek, are often full from early-morning through late-afternoon. The shuttles are an excellent way to visit the park without the hassles of finding an open parking space. Park shuttles also routinely fill to capacity so plan your day accordingly.

Shuttle service starts operation July 1 and continues through Labor Day, September 3. A modified schedule may continue to operate past Labor Day. Daily service begins at 7 am and ends at 7 pm. The last shuttles of the day depart Logan Pass Visitor Center at 7 pm and make stops at all locations on the return to either the Apgar or the St. Mary Visitor Centers. Shuttle schedules are posted at each shuttle stop.

- Shuttles between St. Mary and Logan Pass run approximately every 30 to 40 minutes.
- Shuttles between Apgar and Logan Pass run approximately every 15 to 30 minutes.

Shuttles are accessible. Smoking, pets, and open alcohol containers are prohibited. Bear spray must be safely secured to prevent accidental discharge.

The travel time between Apgar Visitor Center and St. Mary Visitor Center, and back, is 7 hours.

Bicycling

Bicyclists must comply with all traffic regulations.

Bicycles are only allowed on specific trails identified on the map to the right.

Bicyclists are responsible for complying with all traffic regulations and riding under control at all times. Keep to the right side of the road, ride in single file, and pull over if four or more vehicles are behind you.

You may encounter gravel surfaces in construction areas. Park roads are extremely narrow in many places. Watch for falling rocks, drainage grates, debris, and ice on the roads.

During periods of low visibility or between sunset and sunrise, a white light or reflector visible from a distance of at least 500 feet in front and a red light or reflector visible from at least 200 feet to the rear must be displayed on the operator or bicycle. Bicycles are prohibited on most trails. Wearing helmets and carrying bear spray are recommended. For more information visit: go.nps.gov/bike

BIKING RESTRICTIONS

From June 15 through Labor Day, the following sections of the Going-to-the-Sun Road are closed to bicycle use between 11 am and 4 pm:
- Eastbound and westbound from the Apgar turnoff to Sprague Creek Campground.
- Eastbound (uphill) from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Allow 45 minutes to ride from Sprague Creek to Logan Creek and three hours from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Points of Interest

Visitors to the high elevation section of Going-to-the-Sun Road will experience a roadway that, in many places, has been rebuilt from the ground up. Extreme care was taken to ensure that its historic fabric and character remains as close to the original construction as possible.

This summer work between the West Entrance and Avalanche will continue. Delays up to 30 minutes are possible. Some roadside pullouts will be closed while the work continues. Please be alert for workmen, vehicles, bicycles, and wildlife in the construction area.

Summer Road Construction

After many years of reconstruction, visitors to the high elevation section of the historic Going-to-the-Sun Road will experience a roadway that, in many places, has been rebuilt from the ground up. Extreme care was taken to ensure that its historic fabric and character remains as close to the original construction as possible.

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- Eastbound (uphill) from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Allow 45 minutes to ride from Sprague Creek to Logan Creek and three hours from Logan Creek to Logan Pass.

Parking lots and trailheads, throughout the park, fill early.

Consider using the free shuttle service.
to bore through 192 feet of mountain imagine the time and manpower it took

As you drive through the West Tunnel, picnic, or camping at one of the most
hiking on Trail of the Cedars Nature

visitors may see a thundering torrent for most of the summer, but early season
and dining are also available.
unobstructed views of Lake McDonald.
providing shade during warm summers.
explorations of the west side of Glacier.
Apgar is the largest campground in the
Conservancy store.
shuttle hub for the west side of the park, information services, serves as the
The Apgar Visitor Center offers
Lodges, gift shops, and food service make Apgar the hub of activity on the
west side.

Going-to-the-Sun Road Points of Interest

1 APGAR VILLAGE
Lodges, gift shops, and food service make Apgar the hub of activity on the west side.

2 APGAR VISITOR CENTER
The Apgar Visitor Center offers information services, serves as the shuttle hub for the west side of the park, and houses a Glacier National Park Conservancy store.

3 APGAR CAMPGROUND
Apgar is the largest campground in the park and makes a great base camp for explorations of the west side of Glacier.

4 SPRAGUE CREEK CAMPGROUND
The campground is located among trees, providing shade during warm summers. Some sites near the shore have unobstructed views of Lake McDonald.

5 LAKE MCDONALD LODGE
The lodge is reminiscent of a Swiss chalet with a hunting lodge atmosphere. Boat tours, horseback rides, groceries, and dining are also available.

6 MCDONALD CREEK OVERLOOK
McDonal Creek looks placid and calm for most of the summer, but early season visitors may see a thundering torrent carrying trees and boulders.

7 AVALANCHE CREEK
Explore the cedar-hemlock forest by hiking on Trail of the Cedars Nature Trail or to Avalanche Lake, having a picnic, or camping at one of the most popular sites in the park.

8 WEST TUNNEL
As you drive through the West Tunnel, imagine the time and manpower it took to bore through 192 feet of mountain using 1926 technology.

9 THE LOOP
The only switchback on the road affords a scenic view of Heavens Peak and an up-close look at the aftermath of the Trapper Fire of 2003. A strenuous 4-mile one-way hike to Granite Park Chalet begins here.

10 BIRD WOMAN FALLS OVERLOOK
Bird Woman Falls cascades 492 feet from the hanging valley between Mt. Oberlin and Mt. Cannon.

11 WEEPING WALL
A gushing waterfall in spring, the flow is reduced to a mere trickle in late summer. Roll up your windows (as you pass by) to keep dry.

12 BIG BEND
One of the most spectacular views from the road is at Big Bend. This “big bend” provides room to park and take in the views of Mt. Cannon, Mt. Oberlin, Heavens Peak, and the Weeping Wall.

13 TRIPLE ARCHES
This architectural and engineering marvel is best seen by eastbound travelers.

14 OBERLIN BEND
A short boardwalk offers views of the road as it winds across the landscape below the Garden Wall. Don’t be surprised if you see mountain goats.

15 LOGAN PASS
Logan Pass sits on the Continental Divide at 6,646 feet. Alpine meadows filled with wildflowers carpet the hillsides. Mountain goats, bighorn sheep, and marmots are frequently seen. The popular Hidden Lake and Highline Trails begin here. The Logan Pass Visitor Center also has a Glacier National Park Conservancy store.

16 LUNCH CREEK
Surrounded by carpets of wildflowers in the summer, Lunch Creek flows down a natural rock staircase from the striking backdrop of Pollock Mountain.

17 EAST TUNNEL
The East Tunnel was one of the most difficult challenges of constructing this road. This 408-foot tunnel through Piegan Mountain often has waterfalls cascading down the portal.

18 SIYEH BEND
Located at a prominent bend, the Siyeh Bend shuttle stop marks the transition between the higher elevation subalpine vegetation and the forests of the east side. Several day hikes begin here.

19 JACKSON GLACIER OVERLOOK
Stop here for the best view of a glacier from the road.

20 SUNLIGHT PASS TRAILHEAD
This strenuous trail ascends to the Continental Divide and offers hikers and backpackers access to subalpine lakes, the historic Sperry Chalet complex, and unparalleled mountain vistas.

21 ST. MARY FALLS SHUTTLE STOP
This stop accesses a short hike down to the valley floor. The trail crosses the stream below the roaring St. Mary Falls and continues on to Virginia Falls.

22 SUNRISE GORGE
A spectacular view of a water-carved gorge is only a 75-foot wall. Look for dippers, slate gray birds, often sighted foraging in the creek for aquatic insects.

23 SUN POINT
Enjoy an expansive view of St. Mary Lake from the former site of the Sun Point Chalets. The chalets are gone, but hiking trails, a picnic area, and shuttle stop make for a pleasant stop.

24 BLACK FEET INDIAN
One of the most iconic views in the park, tiny Wild Goose Island offers a striking counterpoint to the majestic peaks in the background.

25 GOLDEN STAIRCASE
This large pullout offers views of Saint Mary Lake, as well as an opportunity to marvel at the skill of the workers who designed and built the road.

26 RISING SUN
Boat tours allow visitors to experience towering mountain peaks from a perspective not available on the road. Groceries and dining are also available.

27 TWO DOG FLATS
This native grassland community provides habitat for a number of species. Hawks prey on small mammals while songbirds forage for seeds and insects. Two Dog Flats supplies winter range for a large elk population.

28 ST. MARY CAMPGROUND
St. Mary Campground is the largest campground on the east side of Glacier National Park and is conveniently located approximately one half mile from the St. Mary Visitor Center.

29 ST. MARY VISITOR CENTER
The St. Mary Visitor Center offers informational services, a backcountry permit desk, an auditorium with park films shown throughout the day, exhibits, on-site interpretive programs, and a Glacier National Park Conservancy store. It also serves as the shuttle hub for the east side of the park.

Waterfall glue.

Waterton-Glacier Guide
Glacier Up Close

Experiencing Glacier on the Trails Doesn’t Always Take All Day

Glacier is a hiker’s paradise. Over 700 miles of trails lead visitors through some of the most spectacular and wild country in the Rockies. Multi-day trips make for lifetime memories, but so can a shorter hike. Just pick a trail and hike for as short, or long, as you like. Many impressive destinations are just a mile or so off the road. It’s always a good idea to let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. Read all the information in this paper about hiking in bear country and be prepared with food, water, extra clothing, and bear spray. Even a short hike needs a bit of extra planning and precautions.

A great way to get started walking the trails is to pick up a hiking guide or map. The visitor centers sell many excellent publications and rangers can provide you with trail maps and lots of good advice. Know your limitations and don’t plan more than you can safely do.

Wildflower Carpets

The variety of plant communities in Glacier includes grasslands, aspen and conifer forests, wetlands, and alpine meadows. The park is bisected by the Continental Divide and this results in significant climate and plant community differences from east to west.

The western half is affected by weather from the Pacific and is generally warmer and moister, with fewer extremes in temperature. Continental air masses affect the east side of the park. These areas see more extreme temperatures, and tend to be cooler and drier. When Pacific air masses meet continental air masses, the result is usually rain or snow, and sometimes, spectacular storms.

The climate also changes with elevation. Higher elevations experience more extremes, with lower temperatures, a short growing season, and drying winds. More moderate conditions predominate in the lower elevations, like Lake McDonald.

These differences in climate create a meeting and mingling of many plant communities, resulting in Glacier National Park being home to over 1,000 species of plants.

Flowers carpet the prairie early in the season to take advantage of spring rains prior to drier summer conditions. Mountain plants, adapted to a short growing season, grow quickly and reproduce in a brief span of time. Flowers are often found pushing up through retreating snowbanks. As you move from spring to fall and from grasslands to alpine meadows, you will find a constant and changing landscape of blooms and berries.

Native plants in Glacier are treasured by the public, and preserved for future generations. They inspire us to increase our awareness of how we can better care for the places we visit, and those we live in.

In 2016, Glacier initiated a pilot study, funded through a Glacier National Park Conservancy grant, on the use of a specially trained wildlife herding dog to move mountain goats and bighorn sheep out of the Logan Pass parking lot and away from the visitor center area. The goals of this project are to promote safer wildlife viewing opportunities for people and wildlife, as well as educate the public to the dangers of interacting too closely with wildlife.

Gracie moves wildlife by applying pressure from a distance. She does not make physical contact with the animals. Sometimes just her presence is enough to move wildlife up to 75 yards away from the Logan Pass parking lot. This safer distance still allows park visitors to view and photograph these iconic species. Wildlife shepherding is done at Logan Pass once or twice a week during the summer months. Shepherding is not done if it is too hot, if other wildlife (such as grizzly bears) are in the area, if the animals seem excessively stressed, or if there is too much traffic and crowding in the parking lot.

Gracie also interacts with visitors while her handler answers questions and reminds people about how to responsibly and safely watch park wildlife. Look for her in her orange vest and away from the visitor center area. Gracie looking for instruction while on the job at Logan Pass

“Bark Ranger” Gracie

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Gracie also interacts with visitors while her handler answers questions and reminds people about how to responsibly and safely watch park wildlife. Look for her in her orange vest when you visit Logan Pass.
Due to the increased potential for both quagga and zebra mussels to become introduced into park waters, both Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks have established strict regulations regarding boat inspections.

### IN WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK
- No private motorized, trailer launched or pedal powered boats are permitted on Waterton Lakes National Park waters.
- All hand launched watercraft require a self-certification permit available at park office and popular launch areas (includes hand propelled and small wind powered boats like canoes, kayaks, paddle boards, windsurfers and rowboats).
- Flotation devices such as float tubes do not require a permit.
- To self certify and acquire a permit you will follow a simple flowchart to ensure the boat has not been in water where invasive mussels are a concern.
- Visitors complete the permit the first time they launch their watercraft in the park each year, but must comply with the permit contents each time they launch thereafter.
- Permits must be available for examination.
- Since the permit is a legal requirement, Park Wardens will check for permits and will take appropriate action as necessary.

### IN GLACIER NATIONAL PARK
- Motorized or trailered watercraft are prohibited from launching on all waters except Lake McDonald.
- All watercraft must be inspected upon each park entry. Motorized watercraft are subject to a 30 drying time prior to launching on Lake McDonald. Non-motorized watercraft including: canoes, kayaks, row boats, sailboats, paddleboards, float tubes, inner tubes, and windsurfers.
- All watercraft should be clean, drained, and dried upon arrival.
- All inspection stations are located near the public boat ramp in Apgar Village, the Many Glacier Ranger Station, the St. Mary Visitor Center, and the Two Medicine Ranger Station. Hours of operation are generally 7 am to 4:30 pm. The Apgar station will be open until 9 pm from June 1 through September 16.
- Boaters heading to the North Fork area will need to acquire a boat inspection at Apgar and then drive immediately to their North Fork launch location.

#### Aquatic Invasive Species Boat Inspection Regulations

**Boat Inspections**

**LAKE MCDONALD**
- May 12 - May 31 ..........7 am - 4:30 pm
- Across from the Apgar Permit Center
- June 1 - Sept. 16 ..........7 am - 8 pm
- Lake McDonald public boat launch ramp

**THE NORTH FORK**
- North Fork area boaters will report to the Lake McDonald inspection station for launch permits. After successful inspection, they should drive promptly to their North Fork launch destination.

**MANY GLACIER RANGER STATION**
- June 1 - Sept. 29 ..........7 am - 4:30 pm
- St. Mary Visitor Center
- June 1 - Sept. 29 ..........7 am - 4:30 pm
- Two Medicine Ranger Station
- June 1 - Sept. 29 ..........7 am - 4:30 pm
- All watercraft must have an inspection prior to entering park waters.
- Motorized watercraft are prohibited except on Lake McDonald.

#### No Drones

Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft (or drone) within the boundaries of Glacier National Park is prohibited and subject to receiving a fine and/or confiscation of your aircraft. This regulation applies especially in the wilderness, but also in developed areas along roads, lakes, and parking lots. Drones have the potential to create disruptions for wildlife, encroach on the environmental and scenic values of others, and generate a significant safety concern.

### Year of the Bird

Come join us as Glacier National Park celebrates the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the important roles birds play in our ecosystems. In recognition of this momentous year, the National Park Service has joined in with the National Audubon Society, National Geographic, Bird Life International, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and 200 other organizations to celebrate 2018 as the Year of the Bird! The MBTA has protected billions of birds since its inception. The U.S. and Canada first signed it into law in 1916. In 1936, the MBTA was expanded to include Mexico, followed by Japan and the former USSR (1970s).

Glacier has a multitude of diverse and intact habitats, which support numerous bird species, both common and rare. So grab your binoculars and join us either on a ranger-led bird trip or on Loom Days, a Citizen Science program designed to monitor loon reproductive success.

This fall we will kick-start the Mount Brown Hawk Watch International Site, where volunteers can assist in documenting raptors as they migrate south in September and October. In the past, biologists recorded nearly 2,000 Golden Eagles migrating annually past this site. Volunteers can help us in our efforts to collect information on migrating raptors by assisting with surveys at Lake McDonald Lodge or at the observation point just below Mount Brown Lookout.

Contact GLAC_citizen_science@nps.gov for more information.

### Wildland Fire in Glacier National Park

Our relationship with wildfire a complex. Until the 1960s, land management agencies tried to stop all fires. Research revealed that fire is a natural process that improves habitat for many wildlife species and maintains certain forest types.

Fires burn every year. Some are less than an acre, while others, such as the fires in 2003, have burned up to 460,000 acres. One goal of the park’s Wildland Fire Program is to maintain fire as an integral part of the natural vegetation lost in the fires.

Both fires in recent years occurred in areas very accessible to visitors. They both caused temporary closures of parts of the Going-to-the-Sun Road at the height of summer. On the afternoon of July 31, 2015, the Reynolds Creek Fire was first reported and it spread to over 4,000 acres in a single day. East side facilities were evacuated, the Going-to-the-Sun Road was closed, and an Interagency Incident Command Team was ordered. After a heroic effort on the part of all of the firefighters involved the road reopened on August 12, allowing visitors access to view the impacts of the fire.

In 2017 the Sprague Fire began as a lightning strike near the Sperry Chalet on August 10. Within a few days high winds and dry conditions demanded that the west side of the Going-to-the-Sun Road be closed and visitor facilities at Lake McDonald Lodge, Avalanche and Sprague Campgrounds, and at Sperry Chalet be evacuated. The road remained closed for the rest of the summer season.

Both fires heavily impacted park resources. The Reynolds Fire changed the forest along St. Mary Lake dramatically, while in the Sprague Fire, the sleeping dormitory at Sperry Chalet was lost. Fire suppression efforts on the Sprague Fire were successful in preventing other structures at the Sperry Chalet complex from burning, as well as around Lake McDonald Lodge.

The natural vegetation lost in the fires will eventually recover. The future of Sperry Chalet has yet to be determined.

The proximity of both fires to roads and trailheads will allow for easy exploration of the after-effects of a wildland fire. Visitors in these areas will experience hot, sunny conditions, unstable trees, and some blowing dust and ash. Exercise extreme caution.

If climate predictions are accurate, it is likely that we will see longer and more severe wildfire seasons in the future. It will require the collaboration of the park, local communities, and visitors like you to prevent human-caused wildfires. To learn more about fire safety, visit: go.nps.gov/FireSafety
The Glacier Institute

Learning Gone Wild – Join them for a learning adventure you will never forget.

Just for Kids

YOUTH ADVENTURE SERIES
Children ages 6-11 can join a Glacier Institute naturalist every Friday for a six-hour hands-on course. $50.00/child

BIG CREEK YOUTH SCIENCE ADVENTURE CAMPS
Join us at our Big Creek Site for multi-day camps that blend hiking, recreation, and education to create lasting memories. Camps are for children ages 7-16.

Personalized Educational Outings

FAMILIES AND GROUPS
Join us for a private guided educational tour of Glacier National Park! Your personalized educational outing will include instruction, a personal educator, and transportation in a Glacier Institute vehicle.

CHOICE FROM THESE EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS:
- Glacier, Goats, and Going-to-the-Sun
- Avalanche Lake and Trail of the Cedars
- Wildlife Wanderings Along the Continental Divide
- Grinnell Glacier Hike
- A Postcard Trip of Siyeh Pass Loop

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:
- Daily summer/fall rates: $425, Group size: 1-6 participants

A Sampling of our 2018 Field Courses

Courses offered: June - September

- June 7 Spring Wildflowers $65.00
- June 14-19 Montana Master Naturalist $825.00
- June 15 Nature Photography $75.00
- June 23-24 Birds of Prey $160.00
- July 1 Off Bears and Berries $165.00
- July 5 High Country Exploration $65.00
- July 13 Flying for Beginners $65.00
- August 4-11 Glacier Discovery Week $1,025.00
- August 11 Alpine Mammal Behavior $65.00
- August 25 Passion for Pikas $65.00
- September 1 Geology Along the Highline $65.00
- September 12 Reading the Forest Landscape $65.00
- October 6-7 Fall Mushroom Foray $160.00

Stay Connected

Website: www.glacierinstitute.org
Facebook: facebook.com/glacierinstitute
Instagram: instagram.com/glacier_institute

You Are Invited

In May, the Associates hold a Volunteer Day in the park. Everyone is invited to help clear trails, transplant seedlings in the nursery, work in the carpentry shop, or help with a variety of other projects.

In January, February, and March the Associates hold a Winter Speakers Series. These free presentations by biologists, geologists, historians, and educators highlight the past, present and future of Glacier.

Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates

Volunteering the Help Make Glacier A Better Place

The Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates is a non-profit, volunteer park partner with no paid staff. The Associates’ efforts highlight their primary purpose of bringing together people interested in the preservation and protection of Glacier National Park. They were the Wes Henry National Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Partnership Award winners for 2016.

Established in 1989, the Glacier National Park Volunteer Associates have made major contributions to the park and would like help in continuing this service. We welcome you to become a member and help support this magnificent national park.

For additional information about the organization and how to contribute, visit us online at gnpva.org
The Glacier National Park Conservancy invests in K-12 and adult education to grow the next generation of Glacier stewards.

We help to fund the rehabilitation of Glacier National Park’s over 700 mile long trail system.

Scientific research is the core of the Conservancy’s mission. We fund world-class research and science exploring the park’s wildlife and alpine landscapes.

The Glacier National Park Conservancy is the official fundraising partner for Glacier National Park.

Glacier National Park Conservancy
P. O. Box 2749
402 9th Street West
Columbia Falls, MT 59912
406-892-3250
glacier.org

YOUR DONATIONS IN 2017 FUNDED OVER 50 PROJECTS TOTALING $2 MILLION IN AID TO GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

EDUCATION

PRESERVATION

RESEARCH

HOW YOU CAN HELP

ADD ON FOR GLACIER

BECOME A FRIEND OF GLACIER

MONTHLY GIVING

DONATE, SHOP, AND LEARN MORE AT GLACIER.ORG

SHOP OUR PARK STORES

WEST GLACIER
Belton Train Station
Open Year-round

APGAR VISITOR CENTER
May - Oct. daily
Winter - weekends only

LOGAN PASS VISITOR CENTER
Road Opening - Sept. 30 daily

ST. MARY VISITOR CENTER
May - Oct. daily

The Glacier National Park Conservancy works together to preserve Glacier National Park.
In addition to exploring Glacier, we encourage you to visit our neighboring National Park sites throughout Montana. Often less crowded, these parks offer spectacular scenery while preserving Montana’s rich cultural history.

BIG HOLE BATTLEFIELD
In August of 1877 over 800 nimí·pu· (Nez Perce) were passing peacefully through the Bitterroot Valley. On August 9, gunshots shattered a chilly dawn on a sleeping camp of Nez Perce. By the time the smoke cleared on August 10, almost 90 Nez Perce were dead along with 31 soldiers and volunteers. This park honors all who were there.

FORT UNION TRADING POST
Between 1828 and 1867, Fort Union was the most important fur trading post on the Upper Missouri River. Here, the Assiniboine and six other Northern Plains Indian Tribes exchanged buffalo robes and smaller furs for goods from around the world, including cloth, guns, blankets, and beads. The post annually traded $100,000 in merchandise.

LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL
Between May 1804 and September 1806, 31 men, one woman, and a baby traveled from the plains of the Midwest to the shores of the Pacific Ocean. In their search for a water route to the Pacific Ocean, they opened a window into the west for the young United States. The trail passes through 11 states including Montana.

LITTLE BIGHORN BATTLEFIELD
This area memorializes the U.S. Army’s 7th Cavalry and the Sioux and Cheyenne in one of the Indians’ last armed efforts to preserve their way of life. Here, on June 25 and 26 of 1876, 263 soldiers, including Lt. Col. George A. Custer and attached personnel of the U.S. Army, died fighting several thousand Sioux and Cheyenne warriors.

NEZ PERCE
Established in 1965, Nez Perce National Historical Park consists of 38 sites, which tell the story of the nimí·pu· (Nez Perce). The sites are spread over the traditional homeland of the nimí·pu· in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. In Montana, staff are located at Big Hole National Battlefield and at the Bear Paw Battlefield.

BIG HORN CANYON
The wild landscape of Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area offers visitors unparalleled opportunities to immerse themselves in the natural world and experience the wonders of this extraordinary place. Bighorn Canyon showcases an astounding diversity in ecosystems, wildlife, and more than 10,000 years of human history.

YELLOWSTONE
Over half of the world’s geysers are preserved here. They are the main reason the park was established in 1872 as America’s first national park. A mountain wildland, home to grizzly bears, wolves, and herds of bison and elk, the park is the core of one of the last, nearly intact, natural ecosystems in the Earth’s temperate zone.
Climate Change and the Crown of the Continent

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. The impacts of a rapidly warming world will ultimately affect every aspect of life on Earth. In Glacier, the impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly evident. The most striking example is the parkwide recession of glaciers, which is consistent with the ongoing retreat of glaciers worldwide. The park’s changing environment provides a powerful example of what will be lost without global action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

While Earth’s climate changes naturally, the global scientific consensus is that the climate change happening now cannot be explained without accounting for human activity. As our planet’s temperature continues to rise, many plant and animal species are forced toward rapid adaptation, migration, or even extinction. As the ecosystem changes, recreational opportunities for visitors to Glacier National Park may also change.

**OUR VANISHING GLACIERS**

In 1850, there were an estimated 150 glaciers in the Park. By 1966, the number was reduced to around 50. Today, only a few dozen glaciers remain in the park, many of which are mere remnants of what they once were.

**PLANT COMMUNITIES**

Plant communities from the moist Pacific Northwest converge here with species from the prairie and the northern forests, creating a complex ecological mixing zone. For instance, with more than 1,000 vascular plant species, Waterton Lakes National Park and the adjoining Castle River Valley are home to the richest diversity of plants in Alberta. Warming temperatures allow exotic weeds to invade otherwise pristine backcountry, threatening many native plants.

**BEYOND OUR BORDERS**

Glacier National Park’s grizzly bears and other wildlife freely traverse multiple land-ownerships and the international border. The trans-boundary North Fork Flathead Valley is a critical wildlife corridor. British Columbia and Montana have taken important steps to ban mining and drilling, in an attempt to preserve vital and ancient wildlife pathways. As the climate warms and plant communities shift, animals need the freedom to roam in search of suitable habitat.

**FIRE**

An increase in hot summer days (90°F and greater), and a decrease in the number of frost days, have resulted in longer and more severe wildfire seasons. Although fire is a natural part of Waterton-Glacier’s ecosystem, increasing fire size and intensity is resulting in unprecedented changes throughout the region’s forests.

**RISING TREELINE**

As the temperature rises, the treeline is rising with it. Look at how the forest has grown around Hidden Lake since 1930. This new growth can have a devastating effect on the fragile alpine environment.

As the treeline continues to rise, alpine areas disappear. When these areas become inhospitable, what will happen to the species that depend on them?

**CLIMATE FRIENDLY PARKS**

The Climate Friendly Parks Program is a collaboration of the National Park Service and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The program provides national parks with the tools and resources to address climate change both within park boundaries and in surrounding communities.

As a Climate Friendly Park, Glacier is committed to increasing energy efficiency in park operations. The park will continue to educate park visitors through interpretive programs, displays, and leading by example. Glacier’s popular tours and shuttle system provide visitors the opportunity to enjoy the park’s scenery in a more environmentally friendly way.

For more information visit: [www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks](http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks)
W %an International Peace Park

It started as an idea at an annual Rotary International meeting, between clubs in Alberta and Montana, and it didn’t take long for the idea to catch hold. In 1932, the Federal Governments of Canada and the United States officially joined Waterton Lakes National Park and Glacier National Park as Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. The Peace Park celebrates the peace and goodwill existing along the world’s longest undefended border, as well as a spirit of cooperation that is reflected in wildlife and vegetation management, search and rescue programs, and joint interpretive programs and brochures.

Discover Our Neighbors’ Cultural Heritage

This area holds special appeal for visitors interested in the culture of indigenous peoples. Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park lies just west of the Kainai and Piikani Reserves in Canada and borders the Blackfeet Reservation in the United States. People of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, southwest of the park, also have a close association with the park. Take the time to learn about our neighbors.

Nearby in Browning, Montana the Museum of the Plains Indian features fascinating exhibits and Native American handcrafts as sales items. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from June through September. Also in Browning, North American Indian Days, held the second weekend in July, is a large celebration of Native American culture that includes a parade, traditional dress, and dancing. Visitors are always welcome.

Northeast of Waterton, early plains culture is dramatically displayed at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site. This site is open seven days a week in summer. Phone (403) 553-2731 for further information.

The People’s Center for the preservation of Kootenai and Salish Culture is located near Pablo, Montana. The Center provides educational opportunities, full-day and half-day interpretive tours of the Flathead Indian Reservation, a museum collection, and gift shop. Open daily throughout the summer. Call (406) 675-0160 for further information.

United States and Canadian flags fly over Logan Pass. NPS PHOTO

Chipmunks, mountain goats, wild roses, forget-me-nots, and western tanagers are all parts of the rich tapestry of diversity found in Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park. NPS PHOTOS

Waterton Lake - Connecting Two Nations

As you cruise the surface of Waterton Lake the spectacular wild landscape of these two national parks surrounds you. Gliding along you may spot a bear meandering on the lakeshore or a moose lift its head above water to stare at your boat, aquatic plants and water dripping from its snout. Eagles and osprey fly overhead and occasionally crash into the water snagging trout in their talons. On the trip down the eight mile long lake it’s almost impossible to tell where the United States begins and Canada ends, almost, except for one reminder.

About four miles down-lake a large, straight, 20 foot wide swath on the mountains becomes visible, the international boundary between the United States and Canada. By treaty, the boundary “Slash” is maintained and cleared the entire length of the international border by the International Boundary Commission. While this political marker is visible to us, it goes unnoticed by the plant and animal species that make the Peace Park their home.

Wildlife travel freely between the two nations and seeds of all kinds are transported by wind and wing and fur. This free-flow of species across the border is one reason for the rich biological diversity found here. Preserving this important international travel corridor affords a great integrity to the area’s natural resources. Together the parks protect over 1760 square miles of the Rocky Mountains, and form the core of the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem.
Some areas in Waterton Lakes National Park remain closed due to safety hazards and infrastructure damage caused by the 2017 Kenow wildfire.

**THE AKAMINA PARKWAY**
Closed to all use, including non-motorized access, until further notice.

**THE RED ROCK PARKWAY**
All or part of the parkway may be closed for all or part of 2018 while hazards to safety from the Kenow wildfire.

**THE ENTRANCE ROAD**
These 8 km (5 miles) provide magnificent views that beautifully illustrate the park’s theme, “where the mountains meet the prairie.”

Colourful prairie flowers and grasses, and the glittering blue chain of the Waterton Lakes, are set against a mountain backdrop. The sight of the historic Prince of Wales Hotel National Historic Site, on a knoll above the lakes, indicates you will soon arrive at our lakeside community.

**THE CHIEF MOUNTAIN HIGHWAY**
The Chief Mountain Highway is the primary route between Waterton Lakes and Glacier National Parks. The highway climbs from the grasslands near Maskinonge Lake to a viewpoint giving a magnificent vista of the Front Range of the Rockies and Waterton Valley.

Enroute to the border crossing, the road traverses fields and forests, dotted with wetlands created by Crooked Creek.

**THE MASKINONGE LAKE**
The park’s diversity of habitats are home to a great variety of birds; over 250 species have been identified in Waterton. The Maskinonge area, located near the Park Entrance, is particularly rich in bird life.

**CAMERON FALLS**
Located in the community, this picturesque waterfall is created as Cameron Creek falls into Waterton Valley.

**WILDLIFE AND WILDFLOWERS**
Bears, deer, elk, and bighorn sheep can be seen throughout the park, particularly in prairie areas. Sheep and deer frequent the community. Fall is probably the best time for wildlife watching. The larger animals come down from their summer ranges and waterfowl are on their migratory routes through the park.

An abundance of wildflowers can be seen in the park. In spring and early summer, prairie wildflower displays are particularly rich. In late summer and early fall, wildflowers are blooming at the higher elevations.

**Camping and Hiking**
Waterton’s campgrounds provide over 260 campsites.
- The Townsend Campground has 237 sites, including 94 fully-serviced. Fees vary, depending on the service provided. Permits are available in picnic shelter stores. Reservations recommended. Call 1-877-737-3783 or visit: www.reservation.canada.gc.ca
- The Crandell Mountain Campground along the Red Rock Parkway is closed due to damage from the Kenow wildfire.
- The Townsite Campground has 237 sites, including 94 fully-serviced. Fees vary, depending on the service provided. Fires permitted in picnic shelter stoves. Reservations recommended. Call (403) 859-5133 for information.

**HIKING THE TRAILS**
Access to many Waterton Lakes National Park trails has been affected by the 2017 Kenow wildfire. Please consult our web site for the most up to date information. http://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/ab/waterton

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Contact Park Headquarters at: Waterton Lakes National Park Box 200 Waterton Park, Alberta T0K 2M0 Phone (403) 859-5133
email: waterton.info@pc.gc.ca
or visit Waterton Lakes National Park on the internet at: www.pc.gc.ca/waterton

**WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES**

**OTHER SERVICES INCLUDE**
Clothing and gift shops, bookstores, movie rentals, liquor store • a variety of cafes, restaurants, lounges and dining rooms • sporting supplies and hardware • post office • service station • boat tours, bike and boat rentals • hiking tours, a horse riding facility • three churches • cash machines • art gallery • health and recreation centre,18-hole golf course, tennis court, ball diamond and playgrounds.

**PRIVATE CAMPGROUNDS**
Crooked Creek Campground (403) 653-1100 • Great Canadian Barn Dance (403) 626-3407 • Waterton Springs Campground (403) 859-2247

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Contact Park Headquarters at: Waterton Lakes National Park Box 200 Waterton Park, Alberta T0K 2M0 Phone (403) 859-5133
email: waterton.info@pc.gc.ca
or visit Waterton Lakes National Park on the internet at: www.pc.gc.ca/waterton

**Waterton Lakes National Park Services and Activities**

**LODGING**
The Aspen Village Inn 1-888 859-8669 • Bayshore Inn & Convention Centre (403) 859-2211 • Bear Mountain Motel (403) 859-2366 • Crandell Mountain Lodge 1-866-859-2288 • Northland Lodge (403) 859-2353 • Prince of Wales Hotel • in Canada phone (403) 236-3400; in U.S. (406) 892-2525 • Waterton Glacier Suites (403) 859-2004 or 1 866-621-3330 • The Waterton Lakes Resort (403) 859-2150 or 1-888-985-6343

**Park Regulations**
Lease rocks, fossils, horns, antlers, wildfires, nests, and other natural and historic objects undisturbed so others may enjoy them. Removal of such objects is subject to fines.
- It is unlawful to feed, entice, or touch park wildlife.
- Camping is permitted only in designated areas, as marked by signs.
- Motorcyclists must wear a helmet.
- Pets must remain on a leash at all times while in the park. Pets, on a leash, are allowed on trails in Waterton Lakes National Park.
- Collection of dead or downed wood is not allowed.
- A national park fishing permit is required in Canada’s national parks.
Citizens from countries other than Canadian citizens must present a valid passport and a current U.S. Resident Alien Card or NEXUS Card. Persons seeking to travel beyond the Goat Haunt Ranger Station into the United States must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative compliant.

GOAT HAUNT TRAVEL
Travel between Waterton Lakes National Park and the Goat Haunt Ranger Station, either by boat or by foot on the Waterton Lake Trail, will require an official government issued photo identification card for U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents. All others must carry a valid passport.

Persons seeking to travel beyond the Goat Haunt Ranger Station into the United States must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative compliant.

The Goat Haunt Port of Entry will operate between 10:30 am and 5 pm. No entry into the United States past the Goat Haunt Ranger Station will be authorized outside of the port’s hours of operation. Hikers traveling north into Canada from the United States are required to contact the Chief Mountain Port of Entry upon their arrival at the Waterton townsite. Information on contacting the Port of Entry is available at the Waterton Lakes Visitor Centre or the Waterton Station of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

WHAT YOU NEED
All travelers crossing the border must present documents that are Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHITI) compliant. Those documents include:

• U.S. citizens must present a U.S. Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, U.S. Passport Card, or NEXUS Card.
• U.S. Resident Aliens must present a U.S. Resident Alien Card.
• Canadian citizens must present a Canadian Passport, Enhanced Drivers License*, or NEXUS Card.
• Citizens from countries other than Canada or the United States must present a valid passport and a current I-94 or an I-94W. I-94 forms are available at the Port of Entry for U.S. or Canadian citizens or permanent residents. All others must carry a valid passport.

Terms are subject to change and travelers should check to be sure about crossing times.

• ROOSVILLE .......................... OPEN 24 HOURS West of the park on Highway 93, north of Whitefish, MT and south of Fernie, B.C.
• PEGGAR/CARWAY ............. 7 AM–11 PM East of the park at the joining of U.S. Highway 89 with Alberta Highway 2
• CHIEF MOUNTAIN .......................... May 15–May 31 .................... 9 am–6 pm June 1–Sept. 1 .................... 7 am–10 pm Sept. 2–Sept. 30 .................... 9 am–6 pm October 1 .................... closed for season