



# Guide to State Parks

# Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in Washington State Parks!

This packet is designed to help you enjoy your local state parks, answer some commonly asked questions, and provide you with resources to learn more!

All the information in this packet is customized for students and guardians from West Seattle Elementary School.

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For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov>



# Washington State Parks

## Who are We?

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (WSPRC) is part of the Washington State Government and is responsible for managing and caring for state park and state park managed land.

State parks and properties managed by the WSPRC are managed in trust for the people of Washington to use and enjoy. That means, that lands managed by Washington State Parks belong to all Washingtonians. State Parks Staff and Commissioners are honored to manage these special places and we are excited to welcome you to YOUR Washington State Parks!

## Our Mission:

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission cares for Washington's most treasured lands, waters, and historic places. State Parks connect all Washingtonians to their diverse natural and culture heritage and provide memorable recreation and educational experiences that enhance their lives.

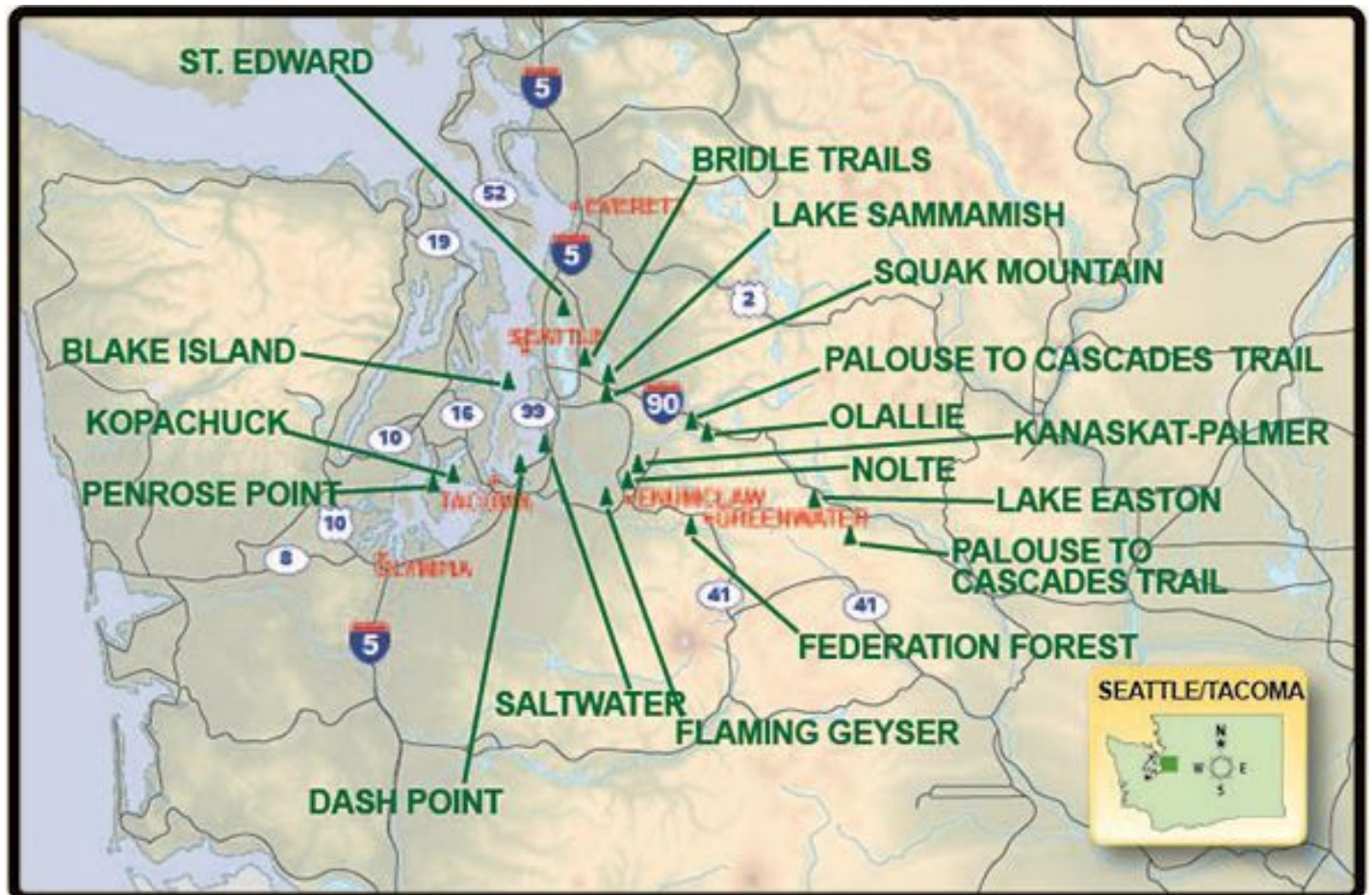
## Vision:

Washington's state parks will be cherished destinations with natural, cultural, recreational, artistic, and interpretive experiences that all Washingtonians enjoy, appreciate, and proudly support.

*For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/9/About-us>*



# Seattle-Tacoma Area State Parks



- Blake Island
- Bridle Trails
- Dash Point
- Federation Forest
- Flaming Geyser
- Kanaskat-Palmer
- Kopachuck
- Lake Easton
- Lake Sammamish
- Nolte
- Olallie
- Palouse to Cascades State Trail
- Penrose Point
- Saltwater
- Squak Mountain
- St. Edward

For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/>


# FIND YOUR PARK

All travel times, distances, and transit options begin at your school.

## Saltwater State Park

**Distance:** 15 miles by car

**Travel Time:** 30 minutes

**Transit:**  Take the C-Line to H-Line to 165; total walking 1.6 miles  
Additional Transit Information can be found on page 17.

### Activities:

- Beach Exploration
- Bird Watching
- Camping
- Fishing
- Hiking, Walking, Rolling, and Running
- Interpretive Activities
- Kayaking
- Metal Detecting
- Paddleboarding
- Scuba Diving
- Swimming

### Park Features:

- Creek
- Forest
- Freshwater
- Rocky Beach
- Saltwater
- View Point
- Wetland
- Wildlife Viewing

### Amenities:

- Accessible Campsites
- Accessible Parking
- Accessible Restrooms
- Accessible Trails
- Automated Pay Station
- Concessions
- Fire Pit
- Grill
- Hiking Trails
- Parking
- Picnic Shelters
- Picnic Tables
- Playgrounds
- Recycling
- Showers
- Trailer Dump
- Trash Service

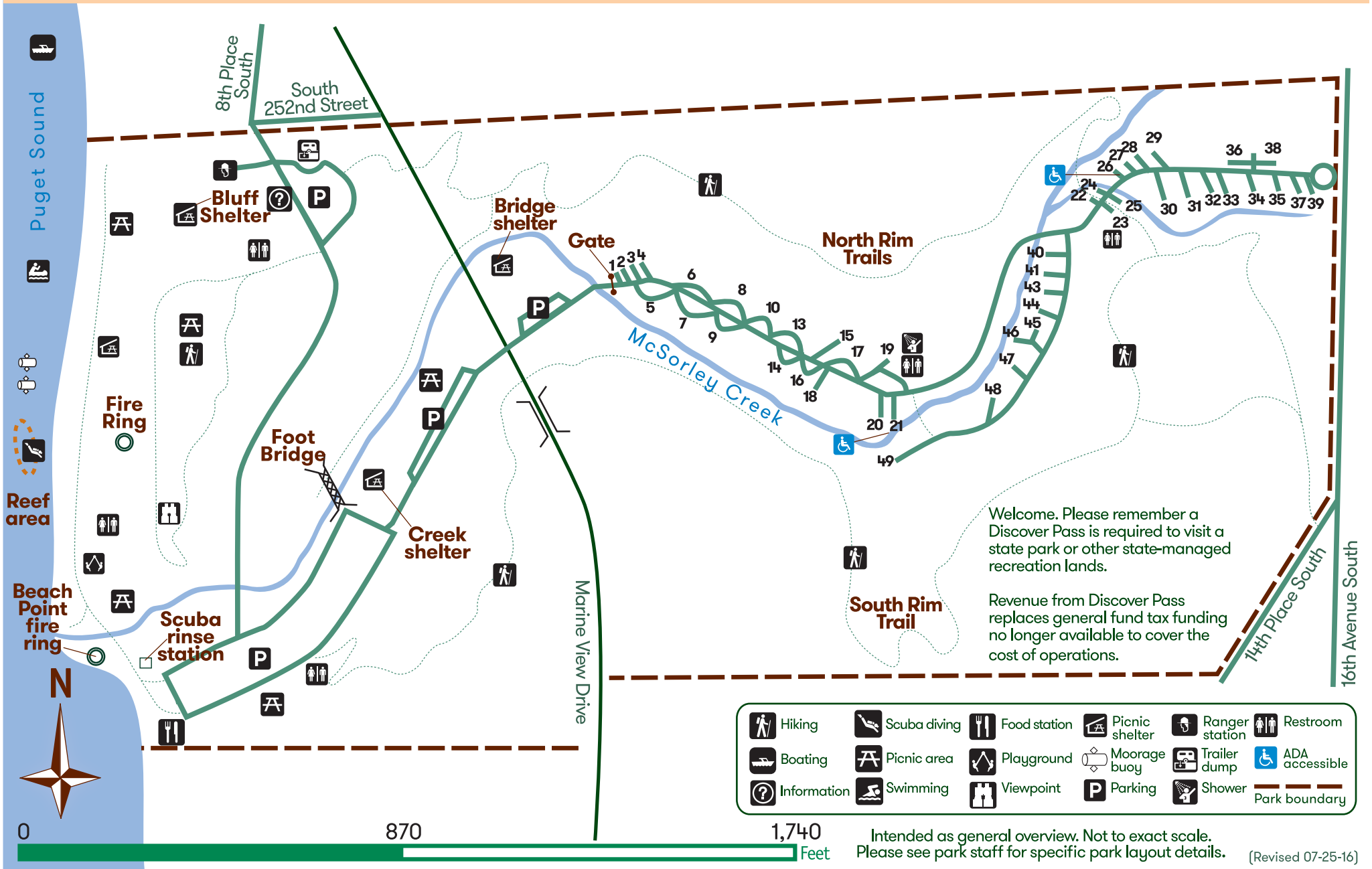
*For more information visit:*

<https://parks.wa.gov/find-parks/state-parks/saltwater-state-park>





# Saltwater State Park



**Things to remember**

- **Park hours** – April 1 to Sept. 30, 8 a.m. to dusk.
- **Winter schedule** – Oct. 1 to March 31, 8 a.m. to dusk. Although most parks are open year round, some parks or portions of parks are closed during the winter. For a winter schedule and information about seasonal closures, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call the information center at (360) 902-8844.
- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Hunting, feeding of wildlife and gathering firewood on state park property is prohibited.
- Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. This includes trail areas and campsites. Pet owners must clean up after pets on all state park lands.
- Wood fires are not permitted in the campground.



**The Discover Pass** is required for day visits to state parks and access to other state-managed recreation lands. The pass provides access to millions of acres of parks, wildlife areas, trails, natural areas and water-access sites. The annual pass is transferable between two vehicles.

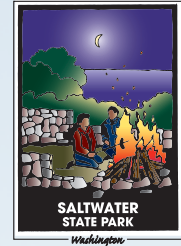
- Annual pass: \$30
- One-day pass: \$10

(transaction and dealer fees may apply)



The Discover Pass can be purchased online, by phone or in person. For details, visit [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov) or call (866) 320-9933.

**Thank you for supporting Washington state recreation lands.**



**Saltwater State Park**  
25205 - 8th Place South  
Des Moines, WA 98198  
(253) 661-4956

**State Parks information:**  
(360) 902-8844

**Reservations:** Online at [www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688

**Other state parks located in the general area:**  
Dash Point



*Connect with us on social media*

- twitter [www.twitter.com/WASStatePks](http://www.twitter.com/WASStatePks)
- facebook [www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks](http://www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks)
- YouTube [www.youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks](http://www.youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks)

Share your stories and photos: *Adventure Awaits.com*



If you would like to support Washington State Parks even more, please consider making a donation when renewing your license plate tabs. You also may place a check in a donation box when you visit state parks. Donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating. For more information, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us/donations](http://www.parks.state.wa.us/donations)

**Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission**



P.O. Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8500  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

- Commission members:*
- Ken Bounds
  - Patricia T. Lantz
  - Douglas Peters
  - Lucinda S. Whaley
  - Agency director: Don Hoch
  - Mark O. Brown
  - Steve S. Milner
  - Rodger Schmitt

*All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.*

To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call (360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 833-6388. P&R 45-82001-01 (05/17)



**Washington State Parks**

**SALTWATER State Park**



EMBRACE YOUR NATURE  
[www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us)

# WELCOME TO SALTWATER



Saltwater State Park is a picturesque park situated along the shores of Puget Sound. It features 1,445 feet of saltwater shoreline

and is located halfway between the cities of Tacoma and Seattle. The park offers beautiful views and wildlife-watching opportunities.

Saltwater is the only state park that features an underwater, artificial reef on Puget Sound. Visitors may explore a wonderful diversity of sea life and marine environments, including tide pools and salmon spawning in McSorley Creek.

Visitors also may enjoy exploring the trails on foot, fishing, sailboarding, bird watching or simply relaxing.

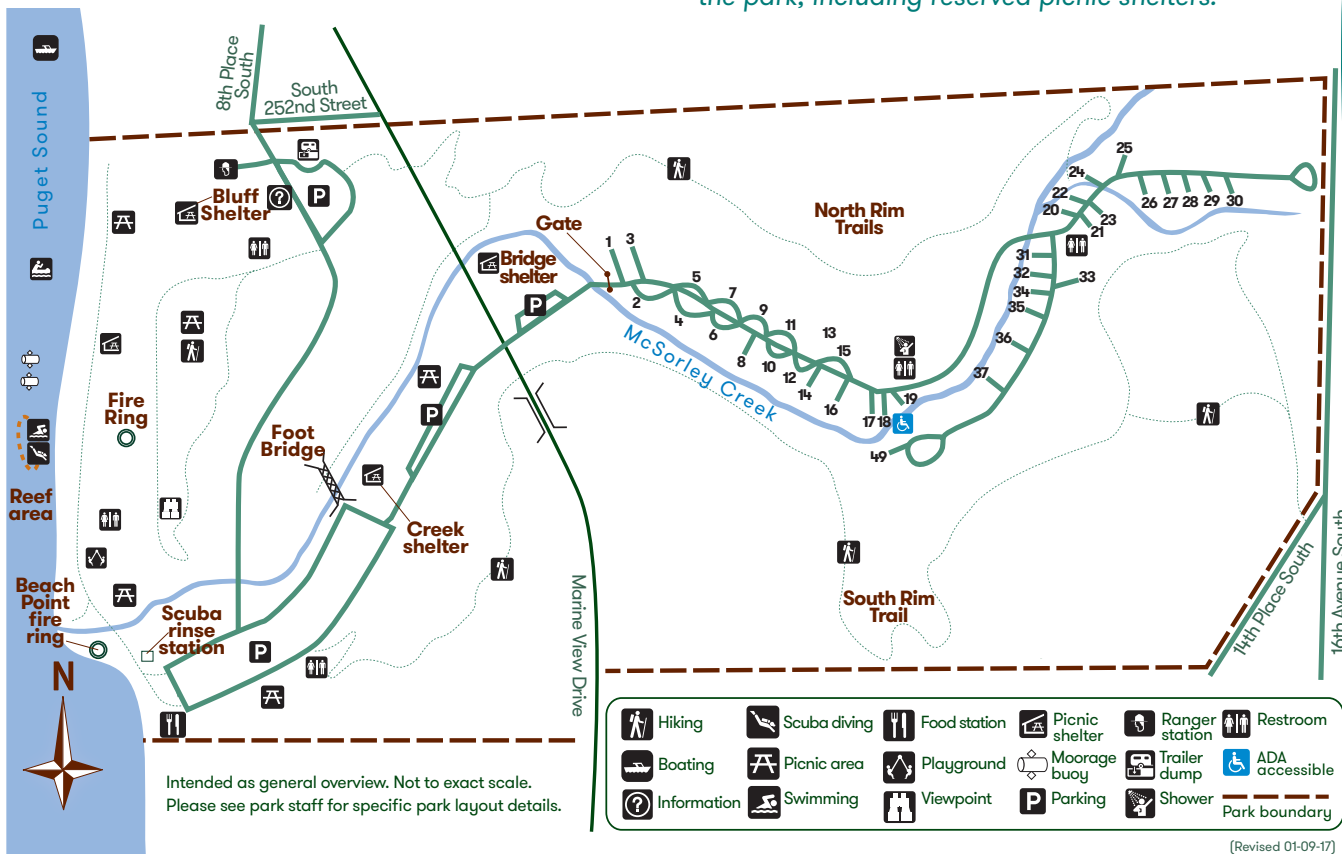
Campground is open from May 15 to Sept. 15 with reservations, campers without a reservation may only stay one night at a time.

*Please note: Alcohol is not permitted at Saltwater State Park. This policy is strictly enforced throughout the park, including reserved picnic shelters.*

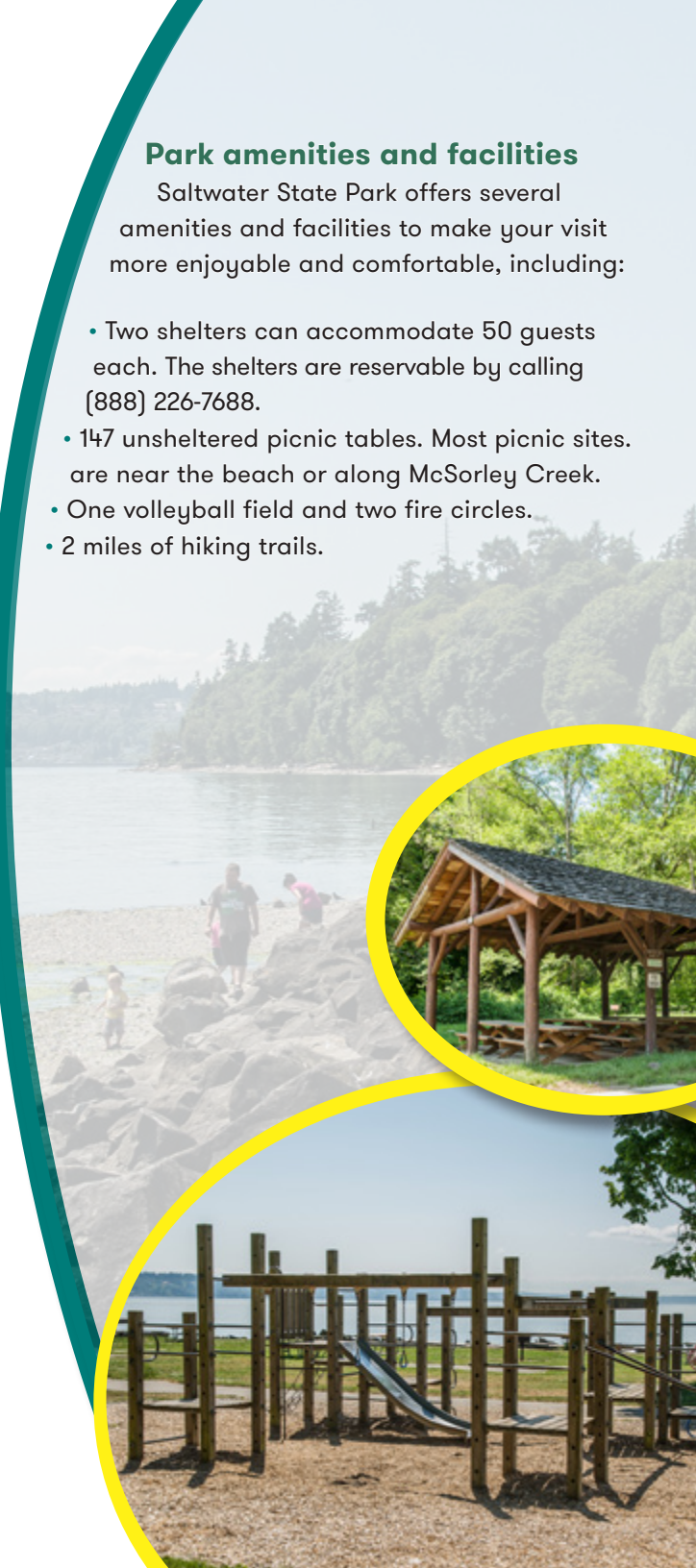
## Park amenities and facilities

Saltwater State Park offers several amenities and facilities to make your visit more enjoyable and comfortable, including:

- Two shelters can accommodate 50 guests each. The shelters are reservable by calling (888) 226-7688.
- 147 unsheltered picnic tables. Most picnic sites are near the beach or along McSorley Creek.
- One volleyball field and two fire circles.
- 2 miles of hiking trails.



(Revised 01-09-17)






# FIND YOUR PARK

All travel times, distances, and transit options begin at your school.

## Lake Sammamish State Park

**Distance:** 19.6 miles by car

**Travel Time:** 30 minutes

**Transit:**  Take the 21 to 554 to 271; total walking 1 mile  
Additional Transit Information can be found on page 17.

### Activities:

- Biking
- Bird Watching
- Boating
- Fishing
- Geocaching
- Hiking, Walking, Rolling and Running
- Image
- Image
- Interpretive Activities
- Kayaking
- Paddleboarding
- Swimming

### Park Features:

- Creek
- Meadow
- Field
- Sandy Beach
- Forest
- Seasonal Wildflowers
- Freshwater
- Wetland
- Lake
- Wildlife Viewing

### Amenities:

- Accessible Parking
- Accessible Restrooms
- Accessible Trails
- ADA Buildings
- Automated Pay Station
- Ball Fields
- Bike Trails
- Boardwalk
- Boat Ramp
- Bouys
- Concessions
- Dock
- Drinking Water
- Event Table Rentals
- Grill
- Hiking Trails
- Kitchen Shelter
- Park Ranger Station
- Parking
- Picnic Shelters
- Picnic Tables
- Picnic Tables
- Playgrounds
- Pumpout
- Recycling
- Restrooms
- Soccer Field
- Trailer Dump
- Trash Service
- Volleyball

*For more information visit:*

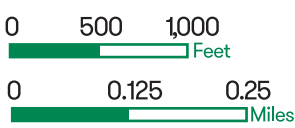
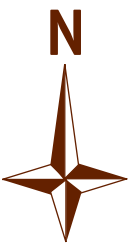
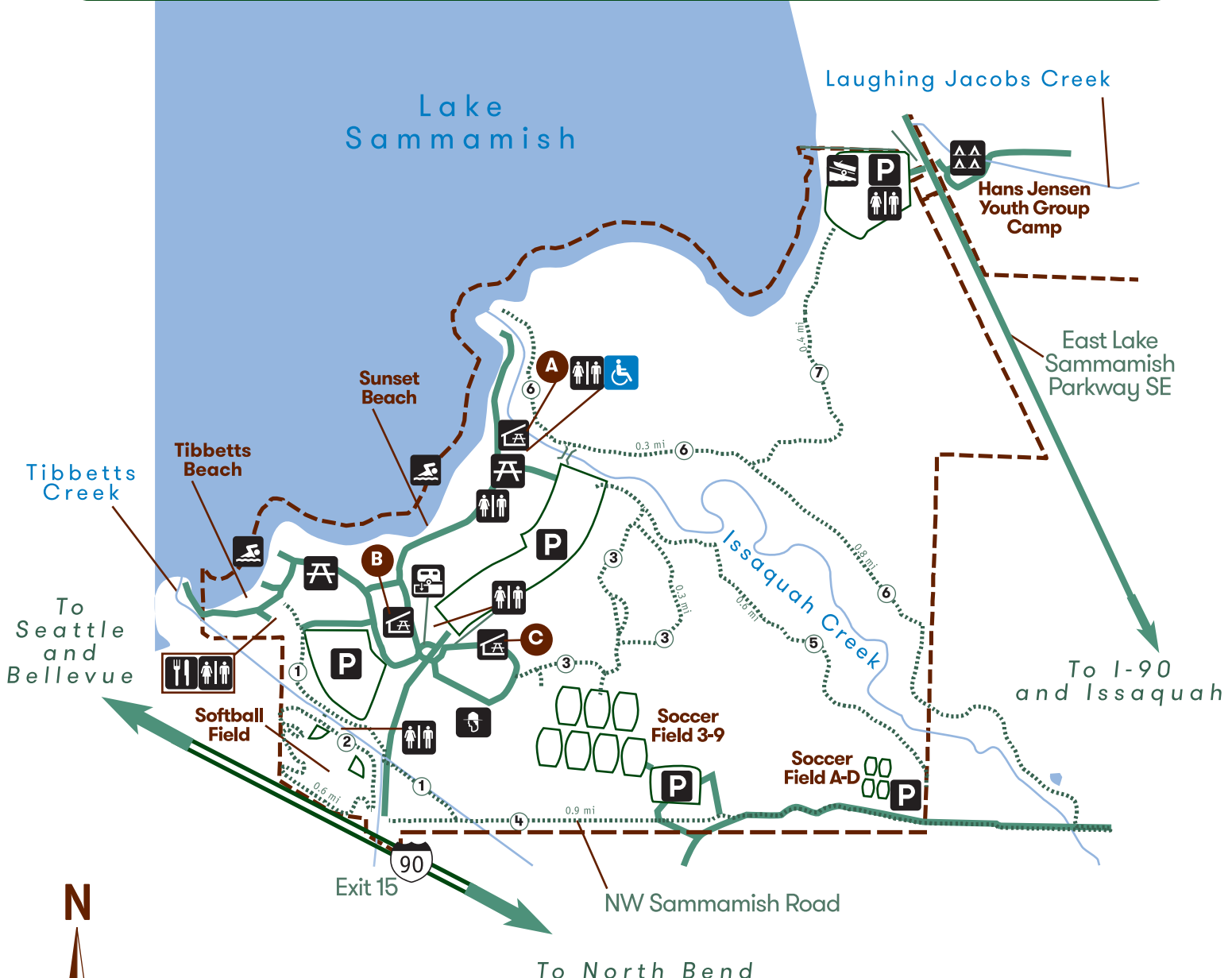
<https://parks.wa.gov/find-parks/state-parks/lake-sammamish-state-park>





# Lake Sammamish State Park

Concession (open 3-4 days/wk.)	Ranger station	ADA accessible	Restroom	..... Trail	<b>Lake Sammamish State Park Trails</b> 1. Tibbetts Creek - 0.5 mi 2. Jogger's Loop - 0.6 mi 3. Orchard Loop - 0.8 mi 4. NW Sammamish Rd - 1 mi 5. Homestead - 0.6 mi 6. Issaquah Creek - 1.3 mi 7. Boat Launch - 0.4 mi
Group campground	Picnic area	Swimming	Park boundary	<b>A</b> - Creek Shelter (S3002)	
Boat launch	RV dump station	Picnic shelter	Parking	<b>B</b> - Rotunda Shelter (S3003)	
					<b>C</b> - Kitchen Shelter (S3001)



Welcome. Please remember a Discover Pass is required to visit a state park or other state-managed recreation lands.

Revenue from Discover Pass replaces general fund tax funding no longer available to cover the cost of operations.

(Revised 09-26-16)



## Lake Sammamish State Park

is a popular 531-acre park featuring 6,858 feet of waterfront, a deciduous forest, wetland vegetation, three salmon-bearing streams and a great blue heron heronry.

The park is a great place to get together with family or friends for a picnic or to hold an event for work or social groups. There are 475 picnic tables, 75 barbeque grills and two volleyball courts that are available first come, first served. There are three picnic shelters that can be reserved up to nine months in advance.

To make a reservation, call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688.

• **The Kitchen Shelter (S1)** accommodates up to 400 people. It has two sinks and a center counter with electrical outlets. A sand volleyball court and a large open playfield are adjacent to the shelter.

• **The Creek Shelter (S2)** near the bank of Issaquah Creek, accommodates up to 200 people. It offers an excellent view of Lake Sammamish. A sand volleyball court and a large open playfield are adjacent to the shelter.

• **The Rotunda Shelter (S3)** accommodates up to 100 people. It has a central fireplace and a sand volleyball court.

• **Hans Jensen - Youth Group Camp** Situated on the bank of Laughing Jacobs Creek, this group camp accommodates up to 200 overnight campers and has parking for 75 vehicles. The camp – available to youth organizations – features 36 picnic tables, 7 campfire rings, a covered shelter, two amphitheatres and four vault toilets.



**Lake Sammamish State Park**  
2010 Northwest  
Sammamish Road  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
(425) 455-7010

**State Parks information:**  
(360) 902-8844


**Reservations:** Online at  
[www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call  
(888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688

**Other state parks located  
in the general area:**

Squak Mountain and  
Bridle Trails

### Connect with us on social media

 [www.twitter.com/WASatePks](http://www.twitter.com/WASatePks)

 [www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks](http://www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks)

 [www.youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks](http://www.youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks)

Share your stories and photos: [AdventureAwaits.com](http://AdventureAwaits.com)



If you would like to support Washington State Parks even more, please consider making a donation when renewing your license plate tabs. You also may place a check in a donation box when you visit state parks.

Donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating. For more information, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us/donations](http://www.parks.state.wa.us/donations)

### Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8500  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)



#### Commission members:

Ken Bounds                      Mark O. Brown  
Laurie Connelly                Sophia Danenberg  
Michael Latimer              Steve S. Milner  
Holly Williams  
Director: Diana Dupuis

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.

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P&R 45-86000 (05/22)



## Washington State Parks

# LAKE SAMMAMISH State Park



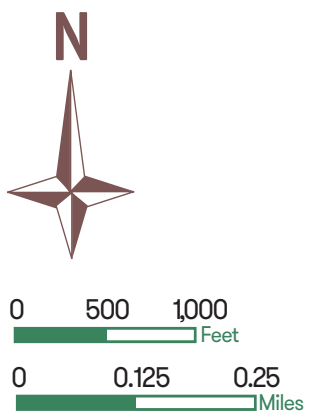
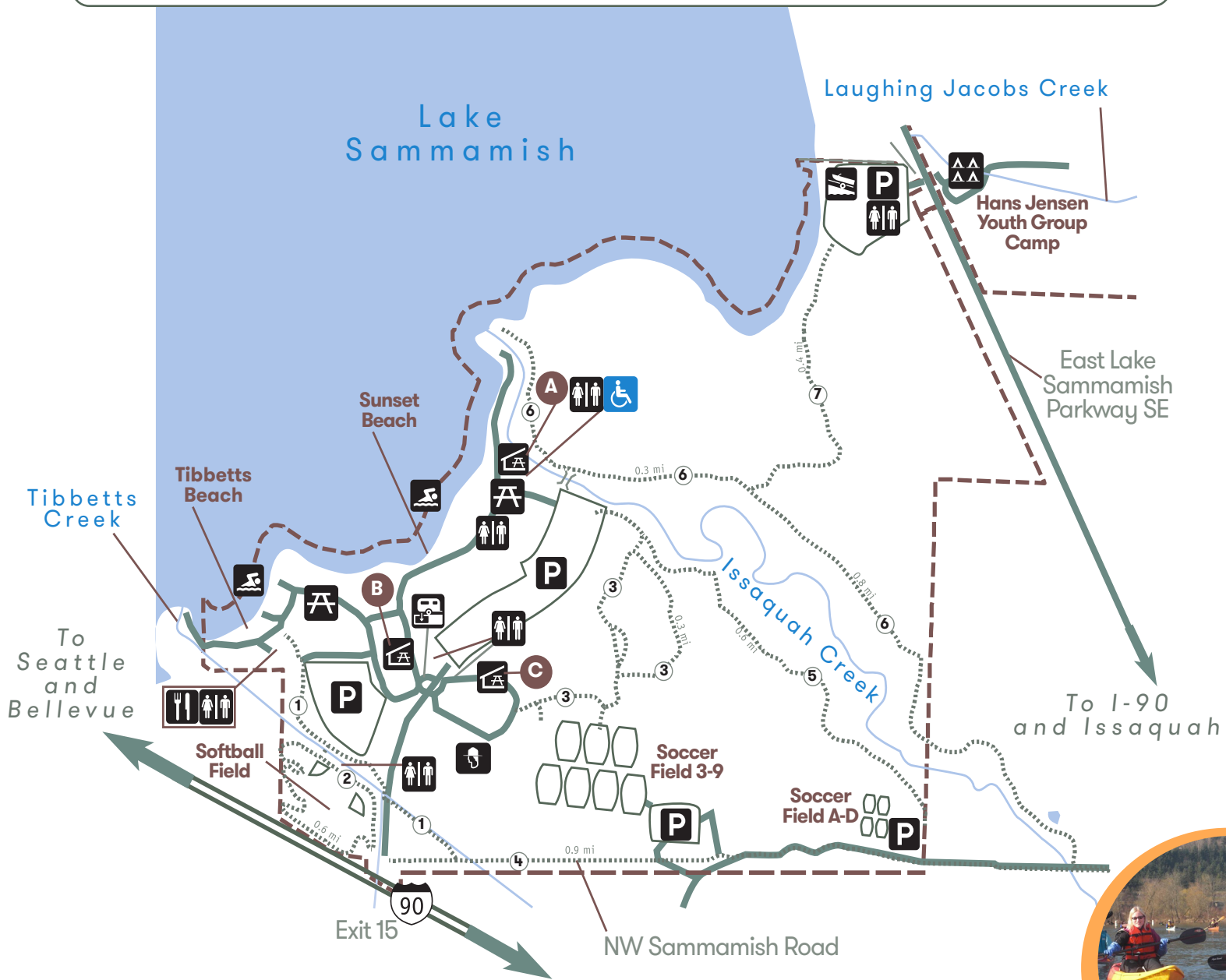
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)



# RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT LAKE SAMMAMISH

- Concession (open 3-4 days/wk.)
- Ranger station
- ADA accessible
- Restroom
- Trail
- Group campground
- Picnic area
- Swimming
- Park boundary
- Boat launch
- RV dump station
- Picnic shelter
- Parking

- Lake Sammamish State Park Trails**
1. Tibbetts Creek - 0.5 mi
  2. Jogger's Loop - 0.6 mi
  3. Orchard Loop - 0.8 mi
  4. NW Sammamish Rd - 1 mi
  5. Homestead - 0.6 mi
  6. Issaquah Creek - 1.3 mi
  7. Boat Launch - 0.4 mi



**• SWIMMING**

The park's warm water – with 70 to 75 degree temperatures in the summer – makes it a popular destination for swimmers. Adjacent to Sunset Beach are restrooms, changing rooms, beach showers and picnic areas. Concession stands are available seasonally at both Sunset Beach and Tibbetts Beach.

**• PLAYGROUNDS**

In 2016, a new all-access playground opened near Sunset Beach. Other playground equipment also can be found at Tibbetts Beach and at the south end of the Sunset Beach picnic area.

**• WATER ACTIVITIES**

Lake Sammamish is popular for boating and fishing. The State Parks watercraft launch area – the only public launch site on the lake – features a launch ramp, five docks and parking for up to 225 cars and trailers. Kayak, stand-up paddle boards and pedal boats are available for rent most summer days at Tibbetts Beach.

**• SOFTBALL FIELDS**

One softball field, located south of the Tibbetts Beach parking lot, is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**• SOCCER FIELDS**

The Issaquah Soccer Club maintains and operates 9 soccer fields at the park. Seven full-size soccer fields are .25 mile east of the park entrance on N.W. Sammamish Road. Two modifiable fields are located .6 miles further east on N.W. Sammamish Road. Call the club at (425) 272-2699 to schedule soccer field use or for soccer information. Organized field use requires permission from both the soccer club and the park.



# Interpretive Programs and Events

## Announcements

To learn about interpretive programs and events at Washington State Parks:

- Call the state park office
- Look for announcement flyers at the park
- Follow us on social media
- Visit us online at [www.parks.wa.gov/Calendar](http://www.parks.wa.gov/Calendar)

## Social Media



[facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks](https://facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks)



[youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks](https://youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks)



[@wastatepks](https://instagram.com/wastatepks)



[@WASStatePks](https://twitter.com/WASStatePks)

*For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/>*

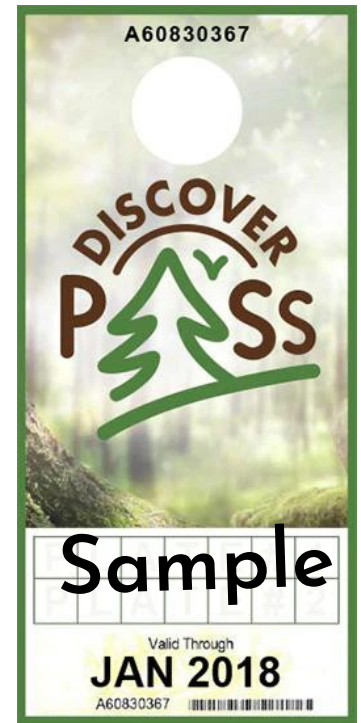
# Discover Pass FAQs

## What is a discover pass?

The Discover Pass offers you access to millions of acres of state recreation lands in Washington, including:

- More than 100 developed state parks
- More than 350 primitive recreation sites, including campgrounds and picnic areas
- Nearly 700 water-access points
- Nearly 2,000 miles of designated water and land recreation trails
- More than 80 natural areas
- More than 30 wildlife areas

A Discover Pass is required for all vehicles parking in Washington State Parks and on Washington Fisheries and Wildlife and Department of Natural Resources land.



## How much is a discover pass?

- Daily: \$10
- Annually: \$30

## What if I take public transit or walk?

Anyone who takes public transit, walks, rolls, or rides their bike into a state park does **not** need to purchase a Discover Pass.

## What are Free Days?

There are 12 free entrance days in 2023. To learn more about free entrance days visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/167/Discover-Pass>.

*For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/>*

# Discover Pass FAQs (Continued)

## Can I use my national parks pass?

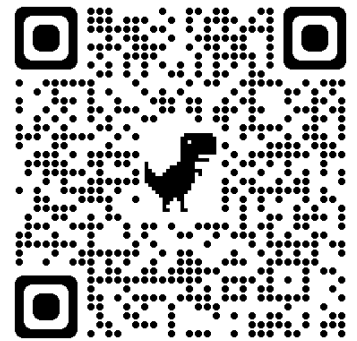
No, National Parks are owned by the Federal Government. Fees paid to the National Park Service do not contribute to maintaining Washington State Parks.



## Are there alternatives to the Discover Pass?

Yes! Here are the current discount passes available:

- Disabled Veteran Lifetime Pass
- Disability Pass
- Foster Home Camping Program
- Off-Season Senior Citizen Pass
- Senior Citizen Limited Income Pass



To learn more about discount passes, scan the QR Code.

## Where do I purchase a Discover Pass?

At the Park:

- **Saltwater State Park** has an automated pay station at the park entrance. Stop at the booth and use the automated pay station to purchase a day or annual pass.
- **Dash Point State Park** has an automated pay station at the beach parking area. One parked, head toward the path by the beach and use the automated pay station to purchase a day or annual pass.
- **Online** you can purchase passes at:  
<https://store.discoverpass.wa.gov> (fees apply).



For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/>

# Discover Pass 2024 FREE DAYS



January 1

First Day Hikes

June 9

Free Fishing Day

January 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

June 19

Juneteenth

March 9

Billy Frank Jr.'s Birthday

September 28

National Public Lands Day

March 19

State Parks' Birthday

October 10

World Mental Health Day

April 22

Earth Day

November 11

Veterans Day

June 8

National Get Outdoors Day

November 29

Autumn Day

Learn more at [discoverpass.wa.gov](https://discoverpass.wa.gov)





# Take Public Transit to State Parks!

Many State Parks are Close to Transit Lines! You can find which busses will take you to state parks using maps websites like Google Maps or by visiting the transit website. Follow the links below to learn more about transit options near you!

## King County Metro Transit

Youth under 18 ride **FREE** on all King County Metro Transit busses! To learn more about King County Metro Transit, visit them online at <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro>.

## Sound Transit

Youth under 18 ride **FREE** on all Sound Transit busses! To learn more about Sound Transit, visit them online at <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro>.

## Additional Travel Options

For more information on transit options, visit your counties website!

**King County:** <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/travel-options/>.

**Pierce County:** <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/701/Transportation-Options>

**Snohomish County:** <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/1593/Transportation>

*For more information visit: <https://www.parks.wa.gov/>*

# Check Out Washington

## Check Out a Discover Pass and an Adventure Pack!

No Discover Pass? No Problem!

You can check out a Discover Pass and adventure bag at participating libraries with your library card through the Check-Out Washington program.



The Discover Pass gives you access to Washington State Parks, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) land!

## Who Qualifies?

If your local library participates in the program, anyone with a library card qualifies!

Participating Libraries include:

- King County Libraries
- Pierce County Libraries
- Seattle Public Libraries
- Joint-Base Lewis-McChord Libraries

For more information visit:

<https://www.discoverpass.wa.gov/148/Check-Out-Washington>



# Washington State Parks Volunteer Program

## We Are Parks!



Volunteers play a vital role in sustaining the treasure that is Washington State Parks.

Would you like to help your favorite park or visit a new park? There are many volunteering opportunities available all across Washington.

- Park Hosts · Marine Hosts · Interpretive Hosts
- Project Volunteers · Special Events · Trail Maintenance

Anyone can volunteer — individuals, couples, families, school groups, citizen groups, service organization and corporations.

If you are interested in volunteering or hosting, visit online at [parks.wa.gov](http://parks.wa.gov) or call 360-902-8583

We look forward to hearing from you!



# Volunteer Program

We Are Parks!



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SUMMER WORK?

**WE'RE HIRING!**



Gain job skills • Meet new people • Work Outside!

For more information, contact:

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EMBRACE YOUR  
**NATURE**



[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)

