

[State Parks launches official mobile app for Centennial 2013](#)

Local News

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OLYMPIA, Wash. - After more than a year in the making, the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission is proud to announce the launch of the first Official Washington State Parks Smartphone App! Just in time to celebrate the State Parks Centennial, the **Pocket Ranger® Smartphone App** is now available for both iPhone and Android devices



The **Pocket Ranger® Smartphone App** is a FREE on-the-go interactive guide for park goers, nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts. It gives users access to more than 100 state parks, historic sites and campgrounds with detailed information, amenities, facility maps and directions. Park visitors can plan a perfect outdoor trip by searching for a park by GPS location or activity for nearby locations to enjoy hiking, camping, boating, birding and more. Once visitors are in parks, advanced GPS and GIS mapping technology allows them to track and record trails, mark waypoints, locate friends within the parks and enjoy GeoChallenge activities and games. Users can even cache GPS maps in advance to ensure navigation remains possible in the event of lost mobile reception. The app provides plenty of other features to maximize visitors' outdoor adventures, including: Educational information, amenities, maps and directions Real-time *Calendar of Events* News, advisories and weather alerts Social networking and photo sharing Potentially life-saving *Alert* feature Advanced GPS mapping features Record trail distance and time elapsed Recall, post or share saved data *Friend Finder* Built-in compass Please support Washington State Parks by downloading the app onto your iPhone or Android device and then give the app a positive review! The app's rating in iTunes and Android Market should reflect all of the great functions it offers park goers. Unfortunately, when an app only has a small number of reviews, negative comments will strongly affect its rating. Help us prevent unwarranted negative comments from adversely affecting our app's rating. State Parks is excited to be collaborating with ParksByNature Network®; to provide this free service to the public. If you have comments or suggestions to improve the app,

please e-mail suggestions@parksbynature.com.