

Hit The Trails For Free Saturday in Washington State Parks

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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OLYMPIA ‐ May 30, 2013 ‐ Washington State Parks is offering three “free days” in June, starting with the free day scheduled for Saturday, June 1.

On “free days,” visitors are not required to display a Discover Pass for daytime visits to Washington state parks. Saturday, June 1, is a State Parks free day in conjunction with National Trails Day. Two free days are offered in parks the following weekend, June 8 and 9, in honor of National Get Outdoors Day, which is June 8. For information on events and activities in Washington state parks, visit www.parks.wa.gov/events/ In Montesano, city forester Loren Hiner tells us crews will be working to spruce up the City Forest Trails below the dam at Lake Sylvia State Park. volunteers are meeting at the swimming area before 9am, Bring gloves, weed-whacker, pruners, lunch, appropriate clothing and boots.Sponsored by the City of Montesano, Monte Trails Team, WA State Parks, FOSLS and the Gregorian Group.

The State Parks and Recreation Commission selected most of its 2013 “free days” in conjunction with the National Park Service’s free days. State Parks’ free day schedule for 2013 follows:

- • January 21 ‐ in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- • March 30 ‐ in honor of Washington State Parks’ 100th birthday month**
- • April 27 and 28 ‐ in cooperation with National Parks Week**
- • June 1 ‐ National Trails Day**
- • June 8 and 9 ‐ National Get Outdoors Day**
- • August 4 ‐ Peak season free day**
- • September 28 ‐ National Public Lands Day**
- • November 9 through 11 ‐ Veterans Day Weekend.**

The “free days” are in keeping with legislation that created the Discover Pass, a \$30 annual or \$10 one-day permit required on state-managed recreation lands managed by Washington State Parks, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Natural Resources. The Discover Pass legislation provided that State Parks could designate up to 12 “free days” when the pass would not be required to visit state parks. The free days apply only at state parks; the Discover Pass is still required to access DFW and DNR lands.

Stay connected to your state parks by following Washington State Parks at www.facebook.com/WashingtonStateParks, www.twitter.com/WaStatePks and www.youtube.com/WashingtonStateParks. Share your favorite state park adventure on the State Parks blog site at www.AdventureAwaits.com.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission manages a diverse system of more than

100 state parks and recreation programs, including long-distance trails, boating safety and winter recreation. Washington State Parks turned 100 years old on March 19 and invites the public to join the celebration at events in parks all over the state, all year long. For more information, visit www.parks.wa.gov/events/.

Support state parks by purchasing your annual Discover Pass today, and enjoy a whole year of outdoor fun on Washington's beautiful state-managed recreation lands. For more information, visit www.discoverpass.wa.gov.