

CAMPING SAFETY

Preparation: Careful planning is a must and it can also be an enjoyable family affair. After deciding where you plan to go and how much time you intend to stay, a list of items to take along should be prepared.

Choosing The Campsite: A regularly used campsite is best because of the availability of facilities and assistance if required. The campsite should be near an available water supply and on high ground, as low areas may flood in rain storms.

Fire: Many public campsites are available with fireplaces or cooking facilities for safe fires. Campfires may be restricted during the fire season, so check with a national forest office in the area for any fire bans. When building a fire in the open, find a location, which is sheltered from the wind. Build a fireplace by enclosing the fire with rocks, or dig down into the ground several inches. When leaving the campsite, make absolutely sure that the fire is out. Thoroughly drench the fire with water, stir the ashes and cover with soil if necessary.

Water: If you are not camping near a public water supply, bring your own drinking water. You can eliminate the flat taste of boiled water by pouring it back and forth from one container to another. Water purification tablets can also be used.

In Campers

- Keep cooking and heating equipment away from combustibles.
 - Use electricity or battery powered lights only inside trailers.
 - Check and maintain gas connections and fume vents.
 - Keep a fire extinguisher available at all times.

In Tents

- Tents will burn. Keep all heat and fumes away from tents.
 - Pitch tents at least 15 feet upwind from campfires, stoves or grills.
 - Be prepared to cut your way out of your tent if a fire occurs.
 - Use battery powered lights only inside tents.

A CHECKLIST OF ITEMS NO CAMPER SHOULD BE WITHOUT

- First Aid Kit
 - Rain Gear
 - Repair Kit
 - Flashlight
 - Maps and Compass
 - Extra Clothing
 - Stove and Lantern Fuel
 - Emergency Food
 - Plastic Trash Bags
 - Whistle

TIPS FOR FINDING A PEACEFUL CAMPGROUND

- Avoid reservoir, beach and lake campgrounds at the height of summer.
 - Camp off-season.
 - Choose a campground with a host on site.
 - Consider primitive camping, which involves camping in undeveloped areas. It's not allowed everywhere and campfires may be restricted during the fire season, so check with a national forest office in an area where you want to camp for acceptable locations and rules.
- Backpacking into the wilderness is a surefire way to find quite in a noisy world.

CAMPING ETIQUETTE

- Leave the boom box or radio at home.
 - If you arrive after dark, be quite.
 - Don't wash your dishes in the communal water spigots.
 - Trampling through campsites other than you own is a no-no.
 - Dim the lanterns.
 - Keep campfires small.
 - Sound travels outdoors, lower your voices.
 - Secure your food against wild animals.
 - Do not cut down trees in campgrounds, bring your own firewood.
 - Clean up after yourself.
 - Observe posted quite hours.

Outdoor Recreation Center Camping

CAMPING RESOURCES ONLINE

Private campground directories: National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds, www.gocampingamerica.com; Woodalls', www.woodalls.com

Colorado State Parks: 227-5250 or <http://parks.state.co.us>

Camping reservations on facilities owned by the USDA Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Reclamation: www.reserveamerica.com, www.reserveusa.com

Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics: www.Int.org

LOCAL CAMPING

Peregrine Pines FamCamp

USAFA, CO
719-333-4980

Scout Camping

USAFA, CO
719-333-7482

Farish Recreation Area

Woodland Park, CO
719-687-9098

OTHER RESOURCES FOR SAFE AND ENJOYABLE CAMPING

Backpacker: Leave No Trace
Mountaineering First Aid
Wilderness Basics

Outdoor Recreation Rental Items:

Tent	Sleeping Bag
Air Mattress	Camping Chair
Cot	Latern
Stove	Heater
Sleeping Pad	Shovel
Backpack	Poncho



United States Air Force Academy
Outdoor Recreation Center Bldg. 5136
333-4475/333-4753

www.usafaservices.com/orc

OPEN: Mon., - Fri. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat. 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.
CLOSED: Sun., Holidays

