

Lassen Volcanic

National Park | California

Wilderness Camping



NPS Photo

Backcountry or wilderness camping provides an opportunity to explore the numerous lakes, meadows and mountains that lay hidden beyond the park roads. To learn more about wilderness camping at Lassen Volcanic, please read the information below and review the **[Wilderness Camping handout](http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Camping.pdf)** (**<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Camping.pdf>**)



Bear resistant canisters for rent or sale at the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center.

Current Information

Bear Advisory - Twin Lakes, Juniper Lake, and Butte Lake Areas

At least one bear has obtained food from hikers, which calls for increased caution when traveling through these areas. Bear canisters are highly recommended for travel in these areas, hanging food has been ineffective. Canisters are available for rental (see below).

Read the **bear safety handout**

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Bear-safety-bulletin-2.pdf>) to learn more.

Bear Canister Rental

Bear resistant food canisters are now available for rent or purchase at Lassen Association bookstores in the Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center during **business hours (<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/hours.htm>)**. Rental is \$5 for 7 days with a \$95 deposit for a large canister. Canisters must be returned to the location rented and there will be a \$15 charge for canisters returned dirty (not including wear/dirt from normal use). Help keep Lassen bears wild by properly storing your food.

High Fire Danger

Due to drought conditions and increased temperatures, Lassen Volcanic National Park is experiencing higher than normal fire danger this summer. Safety is our first priority and we ask for your cooperation in remaining diligent by extinguishing all campfires in the campground fire rings, properly disposing of cigarettes and adhering to the campfire ban in the backcountry. Conditions change; for your safety stay informed of current and predicted weather conditions while visiting Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Wilderness Camping Permits

Backcountry permits are required for overnight camping in the wilderness. Permits are NOT required for camping in developed campgrounds. Permits may be obtained in the following manner:

By email - Send a completed **application**

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Permit-Application.pdf>) to lavo_information@nps.gov with the subject line "Wilderness Permit Application."

By fax - Fax a completed permit **application**

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Permit-Application.pdf>) to Attn: Visitor Center at (530) 595-4477.

In person - Obtain a permit at one of the locations listed below. Please note that if

permits are not available in remote locations including Butte Lake, Juniper Lake, and Warner Valley, please leave your contact information, a brief itinerary and an emergency contact. All stations are self-registration with the exception of Loomis Museum and Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center during regular business hours.

- Loomis Museum (during **regular business hours** (<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/hours.htm>))
- Loomis Ranger Station
- Butte Lake Ranger Station
- Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center (during **regular business hours** (<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/hours.htm>) or after hours in the Visitor Center vestibule open 24/7)
- Warner Valley Ranger Station
- Juniper Lake Ranger Station

Areas Closed to Camping

To ensure the enjoyment of all visitors, protect fragile resources, and ensure visitor safety, some areas of the park are closed to camping. **Download camping restrictions map**

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Camping-Restrictions-2011.pdf>) (pdf, 166KB).

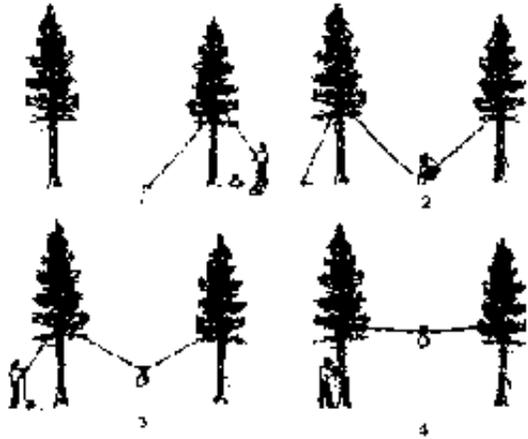
Camping is prohibited:

Within 1/2 mile of any developed area or park road open to vehicular traffic, except in designated campgrounds.

Within 1/4 mile of any hydrothermal feature.

Within 1/4 mile in all directions of the following features:

- Bumpass Hell Trailhead to Bumpass Hell
- Cascade Springs
- Cinder Cone/Painted Dunes
- Cliff Lake
- Crag Lake
- Crumbaugh Lake
- Hat Creek Cabin
- Echo Lake
- Kings Creek Falls
- Lassen Peak and Trail
- Little Willow Lake
- Mt. Harkness
- Summit Trail from Summit Lake to Echo Lake
- Kings Creek Meadow - Upper & Lower
- Shadow Lake



Suspend scented items between two trees at least 12 feet off the ground.

Food Storage

All food, garbage, and any scented articles must be properly secured day and night. Scented items include flavored drinks, toiletries, insect repellent, first aid kits, etc. Failure to properly secure your property may result in a \$150 fine and/or the confiscation of these items.

The use of animal resistant food canisters or hanging food is **REQUIRED**. If using a canister, place all required items in the container, lock the lid and leave it 100-200 feet from your campsite.

You may also hang your food from a tree by suspending it 12 feet off the ground and 10 feet away from the nearest branch. We recommend using two 50 foot lengths of rope.

1. Tie a rock to the end of a rope and throw it over a tree branch.
2. Tie tail end of rope to tree. Tie food in middle of rope and throw rock over second tree branch.
3. Pull on rock end of rope to raise food.
4. Secure end of rope with rock to tree.

Bear Safety

For centuries black bears have made Lassen Volcanic National Park their home. Bears are curious, intelligent and potentially dangerous animals. Minimize bear encounters by making noise when hiking, keeping a clean camp, and storing food properly. Download **the bear safety bulletin**

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Bear-safety-bulletin.pdf>)
(pdf, 293 KB)

Trail Regulations

Pets, bicycles, and vehicles are prohibited on trails. Overnight backpacking groups are limited to 10 people. Larger groups must split into groups of 10 or less, travel and camp

apart, and maintain a distance of 1/2 miles at all times.

Campfires are NOT allowed in the backcountry to protect fragile park resources. At high elevations, wood gathering depletes organic material necessary to provide nutrients for plant growth. Please use chemical backpacking stoves only.

To learn more about preparing for your backcountry camping trip, please ready the

Wilderness Camping handout

(<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/upload/Wilderness-Camping.pdf>)

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Park Tools

[View Park Map \(http://www.nps.gov#modal-park-map\)](http://www.nps.gov#modal-park-map)

[FAQs \(Frequently Asked Questions\) \(http://www.nps.gov/lavo/faqs.htm\)](http://www.nps.gov/lavo/faqs.htm)

[Contact Us \(http://www.nps.gov/lavo/contacts.htm\)](http://www.nps.gov/lavo/contacts.htm)

[Site Index \(http://www.nps.gov/lavo/siteindex.htm\)](http://www.nps.gov/lavo/siteindex.htm)

[Español \(http://www.nps.gov/lavo/espanol/index.htm\)](http://www.nps.gov/lavo/espanol/index.htm)



<http://www.nps.gov/lavo/getinvolved/2016.htm>

(<http://www.doi.gov/>)

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