

Despite Week of National Park Closures, Still Plenty to Explore at Mount Rainier

Oct. 9, 2013—Tacoma, Wash — Visitors finding themselves near Mount Rainier National Park can still seek adventure in the surrounding mountain communities. There are plenty of hikes, attractions and hotels located just outside the national park boundaries that will satisfy any adventure-seeker. All Washington State Parks and privately operated attractions outside park boundaries remain open.

With fall colors at their peak right now, travelers won't be disappointed. Amazing hikes such as [High Rock Lookout](#) are perfect to experience the fall colors and are open daily to hikers. Wind through vibrant fall foliage and take in stunning views of Mount Rainier aboard the [Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad](#), also open for business.

Further down the mountain, visitors can get up-close and personal with elk, bears and beavers at [Northwest Trek Wildlife Park](#). Northwest Trek Wildlife Park is offering free and reduced admission for all federal employees and their families for the duration of the government shutdown.

While lodging in the park may be closed, travelers can still stay at Copper Creek Inn or Alta Crystal Resort, both located just outside park boundaries.

The [mountain communities](#) of Ashford, Buckley, Eatonville and Orting are situated at the base of Mount Rainier and have small-town historic charm with big views. Hike or bike The Foothills Trail in Buckley and sample locally brewed beer at Elk Head Brewery.

Information on park closures is being constantly updated on both [VisitRainier.com](#) and Visit Rainier's [Facebook page](#). For information on community events, festivals and alternative [fall itineraries](#), visit [TravelTacoma.com](#).

###

The Tacoma Regional Convention + Visitor Bureau is the official destination marketing organization for Tacoma + Pierce County, Wash. Accredited by Destination Marketing Association International. For more information, visit [www.TravelTacoma.com](#).

Visit Rainier is a nonprofit organization dedicated to establishing the Mount Rainier region as the preferred mountain destination. For more information, visit [VisitRainier.com](#).

For More Information Contact:

Andrea Mensink
Director of Marketing + Communications
andrea@traveltacoma.com
[253] 284-3268

Julie Johnson
Media + Community Relations
juliejohnson@visitrainier.com
[360] 825-0407