

Proposed Changes to Day Use Parking Permit Requirements

Frequently Asked Questions

Background:

Oregon has 259 state parks. Currently, 25 require a day use parking permit. The list of parks requiring a permit is specified in administrative rule. Under proposed rule changes, this list will be removed and instead a parking permit would be required at all parks, unless the director waives the requirement. The director would waive the requirement at most parks. There are no immediate plans to change parks requiring a permit, but the agency will begin reviewing parks for possible changes in 2025.



Why the change?

Listing parks in rule is an outdated process that fails to provide parks with needed flexibility to manage increased visitation and changing conditions. Under these proposed rules, the agency will move to an adaptive management approach, utilizing day use parking permits as a tool to help manage visitation flow and protect natural, cultural and recreation resources, while generating vital revenue for ongoing operations and maintenance needs.

How will it work?

If proposed rules are adopted, the agency plans to develop a policy to guide selection of parks that would require a parking permit and those that will have the requirement waived.

In developing recommendations to the director, staff will utilize criteria such as park visitation, use trends, amenities, location and evaluation of access to recreation in the surrounding area, and historic context that will be outlined within the policy. The policy will also establish a process for the director to review parks annually and allow for public feedback prior to changing permit requirements.

Any changes to permit requirements will be shared publicly prior to implementation. Information about parks requiring a parking permit would be detailed on the agency website and at the park entrance.

How much will it cost?

In 2025, the day use parking permit will be \$10 per day or \$30 for a 12-month pass and \$50 for a 24-month pass. This permit will be good at any state park that requires a permit. The director has the ability to waive all or part of the parking permit fee at each park so some parks might charge less than \$10.

Also, if you 're camping at a state park, you don 't need a day use parking permit. Just display your current state park camping receipt on your dashboard.

Where can I buy a permit?

At each park that charges, you can purchase day use parking permits from Ventech machines or at an open visitor center. You can also purchase the <u>12-month and 24-month passes online</u>.

How can I comment?

Proposed rules are open for public comment until November 1, 2024, at 5 PM. Comments are accepted:

- Online: https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PRP/Pages/PRP-Rule-10.2024-Fees.aspx
- Mail: OPRD, Attn: Katie Gauthier, 725 Summer St NE, Suite C, Salem OR 97301
- Email: OPRD.Publiccomment@oprd.oregon.gov
- Virtual Hearing: Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 5:30 PM. Register to attend the hearing at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V32OTU_WRX6OKPmeo3kPlg