

Volunteer Campground Host Program

Job Description

Location: Ketchikan-Misty Fiords Ranger District
Tongass National Forest
3031 Tongass Ave.
Ketchikan, AK 99901
907-225-2148
Fax 225-8738



Contact: Clark Simpson
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Dates: mid-May – early-September

General Information

About the Campgrounds

There are two campgrounds and a group use camping area on the Ketchikan-Misty Fiords Ranger District; all located seven miles north of downtown Ketchikan in the Ward Lake Recreation Area. The Ward Lake Rec. Area is a large complex containing two campgrounds, a group use camping area, several trails, and a large day use area. Signal Creek Campground is located along the southern shore of Ward Lake and has 24 sites. Last Chance Campground, with 18 units, is two miles north and situated along Ward Creek. 3C's group use camping area is nearby and is used as a group overnight site or day use area. All campgrounds in the Ward Lake Area have picnic tables, fire rings, hand water pumps, pit toilets, and garbage cans.

The campgrounds are open mid May through Labor Day. We like our host(s) to begin sometime during the first two weeks of May. The host must be available for the duration of the season.

About Ketchikan

Ketchikan is a town of approximately 14,000, located on Revillagigedo Island in southeast Alaska. There are many restaurants, a public recreation center, public library, a mall, and a large arts community. There is no road access into Ketchikan – one must get here by ferry or plane – and there are about 30 miles of accessible road once here. It is a 6-hour ferry ride from Prince Rupert, British Columbia. The Tongass National Forest is a temperate rainforest, and Ketchikan receives an average rainfall of 162" (13 feet!).

Information about Ketchikan and southeast Alaska can be online at:

www.city.ketchikan.ak.us and www.fs.fed.us/r10/tongass.

Duties:

- Host must be on duty 5 days a week which includes weekends and holidays. Eight hours a day will be required. Host may have to deal with late night disturbances, or distributing firewood on their days off. The schedule will be changed to reflect those hours worked off-duty.
- Clean campground outhouses on a daily basis. Specific duties include cleaning toilet riser, restocking toilet paper, and sweeping the floor.
- Distribute firewood to campers. Firewood is in a locked shed and given to campers who donate money in a fee tube. Money is not handled by the hosts.
- Empty garbage as needed.
- Pick up litter during daily walk-through of campground. Emphasize units recently vacated by campers.
- Clean out fire rings as needed.
- Assist the fee compliance officer by recording compliance-related information every morning and evening and assisting with fee collections.
- Report all major maintenance needs, vandalism, and other problems. A Forest Service radio will be provided.

Benefits:

- Round trip ferry expenses from Prince Rupert, B.C. to Ketchikan. Includes fares for two people (for couples) and one vehicle (including trailer).
- \$30.00 per day subsistence. Not to exceed 5 days a week. Hosts may work as couples or individually, however only one person will be paid.
- Hosts are provided a site for their RV and are expected to set a good example by maintaining a clean and uncluttered living site (no tarps, extra cars, etc).
- \$300 for propane supply. Forest Service personnel will handle refilling tanks.
- A government vehicle is not provided. Selected candidate will have to supply their own transportation to and from campgrounds. The Forest Service will provide a mileage reimbursement for miles traveled during work (not to exceed 12 miles per day on duty at a rate of \$0.51 per mile). Mileage rate is subject to change.
- Use of shower and laundry at Forest Service bunkhouse (approx. 4 miles from Ward Lake). Forest Service will provide host with 100 gallon water tank and fresh water throughout the season. No pump is provided, so the host will be responsible for the transfer of water from the tank to their RV. Water is also available at the District Office.

Important Notes!

Our campgrounds **do not have electricity, running water, or RV hookups**. The City of Ketchikan operates a free dump station, located approximately 3.5 miles from Ward Lake, which hosts may use. As summers in southeast Alaska tend to be cool and wet, the Forest Service requires that our hosts have an RV, trailer, or camper (no tents).

Please note on your application whether you have received hepatitis vaccinations and when. Not having the vaccinations will not exclude an applicant from consideration, but preference will be given to qualified candidates who are vaccinated.