



Mount Rainier National Park Caring for a Mountain Citizen Ranger Program



Mount Rainier Citizen Ranger Quest Program Longmire Amazing Adventures! Longmire Area Citizen Ranger Quest #3

Introduction: This “Amazing Adventure” Quest will help you to have fun while you learn about your national park. Finish a series of six “adventures” in the Longmire area to complete it. The adventures are based on examples of why the area became a National Park...the park significance statements. Significance statements are usually written when a park is being considered for the National Park designation. They describe the most compelling aspects of why a place should be preserved and used as a National Park. Mount Rainier’s significance is based on its unique physical processes, ecological systems, history (human cultures), and its ability to inspire stewardship. Each of the adventures in this Quest will help you get to know about one aspect of the park’s significance.

If you wish, the ranger at the desk will time you. You can compete with other groups or try to beat the record time. If you are fast enough we’ll post your picture and name on the park Facebook page. You can also split up and race against other members of your group. Remember though...NO Running and safety first. Be very careful crossing the street....use the crosswalks. If it is snowy or icy consider using shoe traction devices which can be purchased in the Longmire General Store.

Materials Needed: Your questing skills (love of adventure, wonder, curiosity, creativity), pen or pencil, this quest sheet, appropriate outdoor clothing for conditions.

Other: Ask a ranger at the information desk if you need help! This activity counts as one Quest towards the four needed to become a Mount Rainier National Park Citizen Ranger. Get your certificate and first stamp after completing one Quest. Complete four Quests to earn the unique Citizen Ranger patch.

Directions: The ranger at the desk will give you the first clue/adventure to get you started. Once you complete an adventure and bring the correct answer to the ranger at the desk you will be given your next clue/adventure. Record your answers as noted on each clue/adventure sheet.

(Ranger cuts at the dotted lines and provides each clue/adventure after the previous one is accurately completed).

Adventure 1 provides participants a choice between a facts adventure and a meanings adventure. Choose one of the two!

Adventure 1: Facts Adventure (History): Find the four historic fire lookouts on the relief map in the Longmire Information Center. Name the peak each is located on in the left hand spaces below. In the right-hand spaces below write the name of the closest named lake to each of the fire lookouts you chose.

Lookout Peak:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Closest Named Lake:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Adventure 1: Meanings Adventure (History): Approximately 45 adult steps or 90 small child steps from the fireplace hearth (Longmire Information Center) is a memorial to a famous American (outside). Find the memorial and read the statement on it (you may need to clear the snow off of it). Then, describe in your own words what the person meant to the national parks.

Adventure 2 (History): Review the transportation history of the park in the Transportation Exhibit in Longmire. Then, finish the following sentence: The decision to experimentally admit automobiles was a response to pressure from Puget Sound _____ and _____.

Adventure 3 (Ecology): “Keep Wildlife Wild” is a common saying at National Parks. Managing the people interactions with wildlife is important for both the visitors and the wildlife. Borrow a “Keeping Wildlife Wild” brochure from the front desk. Study the brochure and report which of the species described in the brochure might be the hardest for us to “Keep Wild” and why. As long as you support your answer, it will be correct. (Write answers on rear of this sheet).

Adventure 4 (Stewardship): Park staff members are specialized to do the different jobs necessary to keep the park running well. On this adventure you will interview two different park staff and find out what things they do in their job that few or no other employees do. Write the name of each employee and their job. Then, summarize their job and at least one or two things that they do that few or no other employees do. These employees can work for the National Park Service or one of the contractors that have employees in the park (Guest Services-National Park Inn, General Store, Whitaker Mountaineering, others). Note that you can only interview one of the visitor center desk staff. Volunteers count as staff for this adventure. (Write answers on the rear of this sheet.)

Adventure 5 (Physical Processes, History): Walk the first part of Trail of the Shadows (counterclockwise). Read the signs to answer the following three questions: 1. Briefly explain how Rampart Ridge was formed:

2. Name a chemical found in the Longmire mineral springs:

3. How much did it cost for “Board and Treatment” at the Longmire Mineral Springs Resort in 1890?

Adventure 6 (Stewardship): Think about what Mount Rainier National Park means to you. Describe below why Mount Rainier is significant or special for you.

Ranger Verification Signature/Date: _____

Total Time to complete entire Quest: _____