

HIKER RESPONSIBILITY CODE

You are responsible for yourself, **so be prepared:**

- 1. With knowledge and gear.** Become self-reliant by learning about the terrain, conditions, local weather and your equipment before you start.
- 2. To leave your plans.** Tell someone where you are going, the trails you are hiking, when you'll return and your emergency plans.
- 3. To stay together.** When you start as a group, hike as a group, end as a group. Pace your hike to the slowest person.
- 4. To turn back.** Weather changes quickly in the mountains. Fatigue and unexpected conditions can also affect your hike. Know your limitations and when to postpone your hike. The mountains will be there another day.
- 5. For emergencies,** even if you are headed out for just an hour. An injury, severe weather or a wrong turn could become life threatening. Don't assume you will be rescued; know how to rescue yourself.
- 6. To share the hiker code with others.**

hikeSafe: It's Your Responsibility.

The Hiker Responsibility Code was developed and is endorsed by the White Mountain National Forest and New Hampshire Fish and Game.



www.hikeSafe.com

WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

PEMIGEWASSET RANGER DISTRICT

White Mountain National Forest Headquarters
71 White Mountain Drive
Campton, NH 032235
603-536-6100 • TTY 603-536-3685

From I-93 North: Exit 27, left at end of ramp and go under highway; take right just past south-bound off-ramp.

From I-93 South: Exit 27, right at end of ramp and take next right.

ANDROSCOGGIN RANGER DISTRICT

300 Glen Rd.
Gorham, NH 03581-1399
603-466-2713 • TTY 603-466-2856

Approximately 2.5 miles south of US Rte. 2 on NH Rte. 16 (Glen Road).

SACO RANGER DISTRICT

33 Kancamagus Highway
Conway, NH 03818
603-447-5448 • TTY 603-447-3121

Approximately 100 yards off US Rte. 16 on the Kancamagus Highway.

USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

From a TTY, call 711 to be connected to a Forest Service number.

BACKCOUNTRY CAMPING RULES



White Mountain National Forest

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service



Welcome to Your White Mountain National Forest

The restrictions listed in this brochure are designed to protect overused and fragile areas. Please use care whenever you camp or hike.

In addition to knowing the camping restrictions, know how to keep yourself safe in the mountains. Bring the right clothing and equipment, extra food, water, maps, and a flashlight. Weather changes rapidly, especially above treeline. Check the weather forecast and never be afraid to turn back. It could save your life.

Please call or stop by one of our offices for more information, or visit our website at: www.fs.fed.us/r9/white

NOTE: These rules are subject to change. Please check with the Forest Service when planning your trip.

Forest Protection Areas are in effect year round.

Leave No Trace!

No amount of regulation will preserve the backcountry unless each of us makes a personal effort to lessen our impact. Always plan your trip well enough in advance to be prepared for whatever you might encounter and learn to be a “no-trace” hiker.

- **LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND**
Plants, animals, and cultural sites and artifacts should all be left for the next person to enjoy.
- **MINIMIZE CAMPFIRE IMPACTS**
Use a lightweight backpacking stove. In some places campfires are prohibited, but stoves help minimize the impact everywhere.
- **RESPECT WILDLIFE**
Don't feed, chase, or harass wildlife and be sure to hang your food well out of reach of bears.
- **BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS**
Think about how your actions affect other people. Loud noises, out of control pets, cell phones, and radios are a few examples of what might bother other hikers.
- **PLAN AHEAD AND PREPARE**
Find out about the area you will be visiting, including any regulations or restrictions. Be sure to have maps, proper clothing, equipment, food, and water. Keep your group size to 10 or less (this is required in Wilderness and recommended everywhere).
- **TRAVEL AND CAMP ON DURABLE SURFACES**
Stay on the trail while hiking. Camp at sites that have already been heavily impacted (but be sure it's a legal site), or 200 feet from trails and water sources. Avoid moderately impacted sites where your visit could create more damage.
- **DISPOSE OF WASTE PROPERLY**
Carry out what you carry in; bury human waste in a hole 4-8 inches deep, away from water, trails, and campsites.

No Camping, Wood or Charcoal Fires within 1/4 mile of the following except at designated sites:

- Any hut, shelter, developed tent site, cabin, picnic area, developed day use site, or campground
- Any trailhead

The following special areas:

- Zeta Pass

The following bodies of water:

- Champney Falls
- Diana’s Bath
- East Branch of the Pemigewasset River from the Kancamagus Highway (Rte. 112) to Franconia Brook, including islands
- East Pond
- Kiah Pond
- Long Pond, including islands
- Sabbaday Falls
- Sawyer Ponds — Big and Little (except at shelter and tent platforms)
- Thoreau Falls
- Unknown Pond

The following roads:

- Base Station Road (FR 173)
- Bear Notch Road (FR 26)
- Beebe River Road (FR 400)
- Breezy Point Road (FR 186)
- Dugway Road (FR 60) from the picnic area to the Kancamagus Highway
- Haystack Road (FR 304) from Rte. 3 to the North Twin Trailhead
- Jefferson Notch Road (FR 220) from the Base Station to the Caps Ridge trailhead
- Kancamagus Highway (Rte. 112) from the junction with Rte. 302, Bath, NH, to the junction with Rte. 16, Conway, NH
- Kiah Pond Road (FR 418)
- Lower Hall Pond Road (FR 417)
- Mad River Road (Rte. 49)
- Old Cherry Mountain Road (FR 14)
- Pinkham B. Road (FR 207)
- Rocky Branch Road (FR 27) where it passes through the National Forest
- Rte. 16 from the junction with Rte. 2 in Gorham, NH, to the junction with Rte. 16 in Glen, NH
- Rte. 302 from the junction with Rte. 16 in Glen, NH, to the junction with Rte. 3 in Twin Mtn. NH
- Sawyer River Road (FR 34)
- Gale River North and South Gale River Road (FR 25 and FR 92)
- Sandwich Notch Road (FR 98) where it passes through the National Forest
- Stillings Road (FR 506) where it passes through the National Forest
- Stinson Lake Road (FR 113) where it crosses Brown Brook
- Tunnel Brook Road (FR 700) from the junction with Rte. 112 to the end of the road
- Upper Hall Pond Road (FR 422)
- White Ledge Road (FR 369) where it passes through the National Forest
- Wild River Road (FR 12)
- Zealand Road (FR 16)

No Camping, Wood or Charcoal Fires within 200 feet of:

The following bodies of water:

- Black Pond
- Black Mountain Pond
- East Branch of the Pemigewasset River from the Wilderness boundary to its crossing with Thoreau Falls Trail, including islands
- The stream along the Smart’s Brook Trail from Rte. 49, 1.5 miles to the log landing

The following trails:

- Ammonoosuc Ravine Trail
- Appalachian Trail corridor from the summit of Mt. Moosilauke to the Connecticut River (except at shelters)
- Intersection of Cedar Brook and Hancock Notch Trails to the junction with Hancock Loop Trail
- Champney Falls Trail from the trailhead to Champney Falls
- Falling Waters Trail
- Franconia Falls Trail
- Liberty Springs Trail
- Lower Falls Trail
- Old Bridle Path
- Valley Way from its intersection with the Scar Trail to Madison Hut
- Wild River Trail from Wild River Campground to 1 mile south

The following restrictions apply to these areas:

- Bartlett Experimental Forest (No camping)
- Research Natural Areas (No wood or charcoal fires)
- Candidate Research Natural Areas (No wood or charcoal fires)
- Greeley Ponds Scenic Area (No camping, wood or charcoal fires)
- Rocky Gorge Scenic Area (No camping, wood or charcoal fires)
- Mt. Chocorua Forest Protection Area (No camping, wood or charcoal fires, except at Camp Penacook. At Jim Liberty Cabin visitors may sleep inside the cabin but no fires are allowed.)
- Rocky Gorge Scenic Area (No camping, wood or charcoal fires)

NOTE: Violating these restrictions is punishable by a fine pursuant to: 16 USC 551

The following restrictions apply to each of the six Wildernesses on the White Mountain National Forest:

Caribou-Speckled Mtn.

Great Gulf

Presidential/Dry River

Sandwich Range

Pemigewasset

Wild River

- No motorized equipment or mechanical transport
- No storing of equipment, personal property, or supplies, including geocaching and letter boxing
- Hiking group size may not exceed 10 people, and no more than 10 people may occupy any designated or non-designated campsite

Additional regulations for the Presidential/Dry River and Pemigewasset Wilderness:

- No camping, wood or charcoal fires within 200 feet of any trail except at designated campsites

Additional regulations for the Great Gulf Wilderness:

- No wood or charcoal fires at any location
- No camping within 1/4 mile of the Great Gulf Trail between its junctions with the Sphinx and Gulfside Trails.
- No camping within 200 feet of any trail except at designated sites

The following restrictions apply to the Cutler River Drainage (Including Tuckerman and Huntington Ravines)

- No camping except at the Harvard Mountaineering Club Cabin (December 1 – March 31 only) and Hermit Lake Shelters — Fee charged
- No wood or charcoal fires

Camping in the Alpine Zone (where trees are 8 feet tall or less)

- No camping except on 2 or more feet of snow
- No camping on frozen bodies of water
- No wood or charcoal fires

Please note that the above treeline areas of the Cutler River Drainage (Tuckerman and Huntington Ravines and the areas around them including the Alpine Garden and East Snowfields) are closed to camping regardless of snow cover.