



CIVIC ENGAGEMENT for proposed campground fee increases

Front Country Campgrounds

Background—Glacier National Park is proposing fee rate changes to most front country campgrounds in 2024 and Apgar Group Sites in 2025. Glacier is a popular front country destination with a high demand for campsites. The last major fee rate change occurred in 2007; fee rate increases are necessary to be in closer alignment with nearby campgrounds outside the park that provide similar services.

Recreation fees provide a vital source of revenue for maintaining and improving facilities and visitor services. Projects funded by recreation fees include trail and campground repairs and improvements, increasing accessibility, and facility restoration. By increasing fees, Glacier National Park will continue to be able to provide and improve services that directly benefit visitors.

Proposal—After extensive research of local campground rates and provided services outside the park, the proposed rate increases were found to be comparable with current market rates in the surrounding areas for similar services. Fee changes would apply to Apgar, Avalanche, Bowman, Cut Bank, Fish Creek, Kintla, Logging Creek, Many Glacier, Quartz Creek, Rising Sun, Sprague Creek, St. Mary, Two Medicine Campgrounds and group sites at Apgar, Many Glacier, St. Mary, and Two Medicine campgrounds.

In general, the park has identified the following proposed fee rate changes; for fee rate changes by campground, see the table of proposed fee rate changes on page 2 of this newsletter:

- Hiker/bicyclist sites (no vehicles allowed) in all campgrounds would increase from \$5 to \$8 (St. Mary, Fish Creek, and Many Glacier would not change since current rates are \$8).
- Standard summer peak-season tent sites would increase from \$10-\$23 to \$15-\$30.
- Standard off-season tent sites would increase from \$10 to \$15-\$20.
- Group sites with maximum capacities of 24 would increase from \$60-\$65 to \$90.
- The Apgar group site with a maximum capacity of 15 would decrease from \$65 to \$45.
- The St. Mary off-season group site with a maximum capacity of 24 would decrease from \$60 to \$40.
- Winter camping rates in Apgar and St. Mary would not change.

The front country campgrounds affected are reservation based (Apgar, Avalanche, Fish Creek, Many Glacier, Sprague Creek, St. Mary, Two Medicine) and first come, first served (Bowman, Cut Bank, Kintla, Quartz Creek, Logging Creek, Rising Sun). Reservation campsites are currently booked on Recreation.gov. For reservation campsites, the booking window has typically been 6 months, generally beginning in November. If the fee rate changes are approved, the booking window would not begin until December. This would decrease the reservation booking window by one month (from 6 months to 5 months) for Apgar, Avalanche, Fish Creek, Many Glacier, Sprague Creek, St. Mary, and Two Medicine Campgrounds, as reservations for these campgrounds would not be released until December 2023 or January 2024, depending on campground opening dates. For following years, the 6-month booking window would return.

Apgar Group Site fee rates would change in 2025 and the booking window would permanently decrease from 1 year to 6 months in November 2024.

Public engagement is an important part of the park's planning process. Glacier National Park is accepting public comments on the proposed fee increases. Please submit all comments to: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/GLACCampgroundFees>

Comments may also be submitted via mail to:

Glacier National Park
Office of the Superintendent
PO BOX 1
West Glacier, MT 59936

Please provide comments by September 8, 2023.

Please be advised, before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.



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Front Country Campgrounds

Available Season/Service Provided	Campground(s)	Current Rate	Proposed Rate
Hiker/bicyclist, Reservation per Person Peak Season	Apgar, Avalanche, Sprague Creek, Two Medicine	\$5	\$8
Hiker/bicyclist, Reservation per Person Primitive/Dry Season	Many Glacier	\$5	No longer available
Hiker/Bicyclist, First-Come First-Serve Peak Season	Rising Sun	\$5	\$8
Standard Tent, Reservation Peak Season	Apgar, Fish Creek, Many Glacier, Sprague Creek, St. Mary	\$23	\$30
Standard Tent, Reservation Peak Season	Avalanche, Two Medicine	\$20	\$30
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Served Peak Season	Bowman, Kintla	\$15	\$25
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Serve Peak Season	Rising Sun, St. Mary	\$20	\$30
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Served Peak Season	Cut Bank	\$10	\$20
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Serve Peak Season	Logging Creek, Quartz Creek	\$10	\$15
Standard Tent, Reservation Primitive/Dry Season	Apgar, Many Glacier, St. Mary	\$10	\$20
Standard Tent, First-Come-First-Serve Primitive/Dry Season	Two Medicine	\$10	\$20
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Serve Primitive/Dry Season	Bowman, Kintla	\$10	\$15
Standard Tent, First-Come First-Serve Winter Season	Apgar, St. Mary	No Fee	No Change
Group (max 15), Reservation Peak Season	Apgar	\$65	\$45
Group (Max 24), Reservation Peak Season	Apgar, Many Glacier, St. Mary	\$65	\$90
Group (Max 24), Reservation Peak Season	Two Medicine	\$60	\$90
Group (Max 24), Reservation Primitive/Dry Season	St. Mary	\$60	\$40