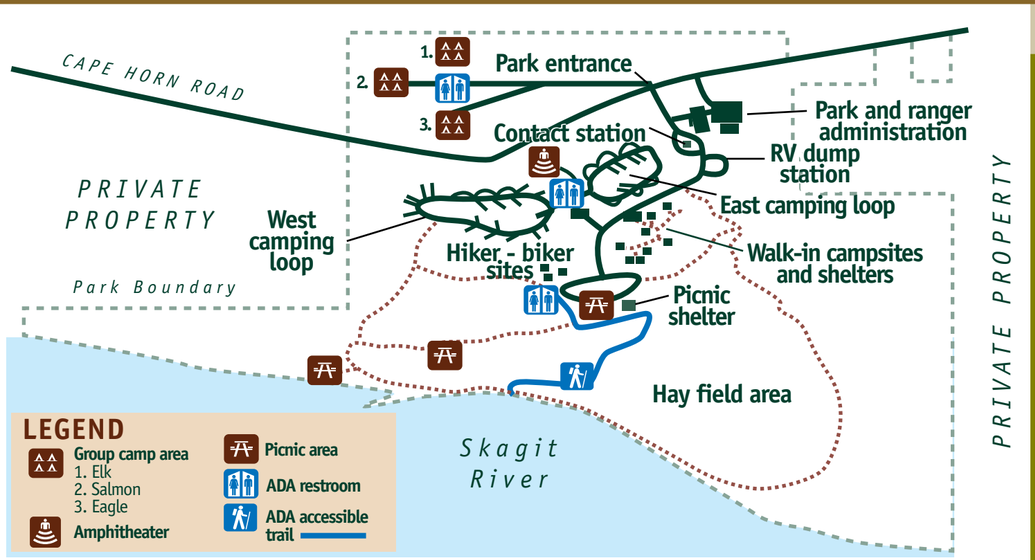
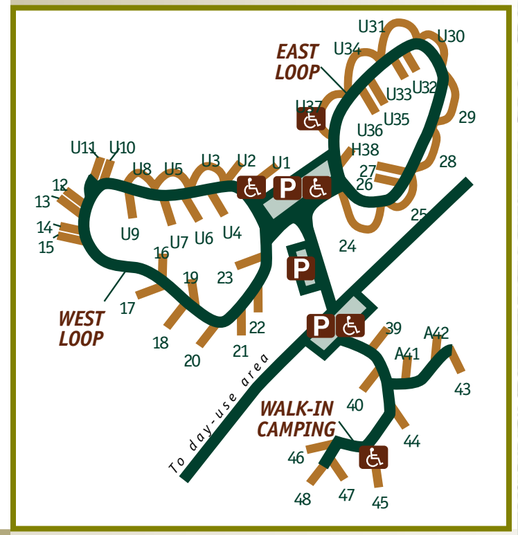
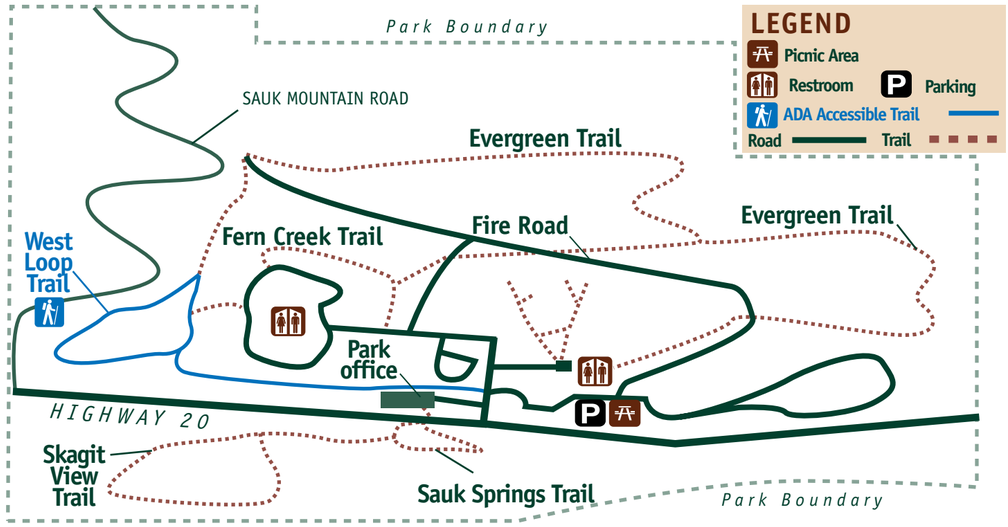
RASAR STATE PARK



Rasar campground map



ROCKPORT STATE PARK



Rasar and Rockport area map

Things to Remember

- Please use trash cans and dumpsters to help keep your park free from litter and debris. Recycling is encouraged in all state parks.
- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Feeding of wildlife is prohibited, and no firewood gathering is allowed in the park.
- One camping party is allowed per site. All vehicles in the park overnight must be registered. There is a $10 fee for each extra vehicle (towed vehicles are not considered extra).
- Maximum of eight people per campsite.
- Campsites may not be held for other parties except for sites designated as multiple campsites.
- Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. This includes trail areas and your campsite. Please clean up after your pet.
- Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Campsite reservations: (888) CAMPOUT
State Parks information: (360) 902-8844
www.parks.wa.gov

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
P.O. Box 42650
Olympia, WA 98504-2650
(360) 902-8500 • TDD (360) 664-3133
www.parks.wa.gov

Commission members:
Mickey Fearn, Joe Taller, Fred Olson, Joan Thomas, Bob Petersen, Cecilia Vogt, Eliot Scull
Agency director: Rex Derr

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people, regardless of age, sex, creed, ethnic origin or physical limitation.

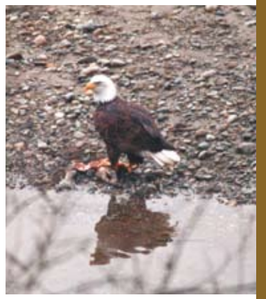
To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call (360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 833-6388. **P&R 45-55503-2 (05/08)**

Your guide to

Rasar and Rockport

state parks

RASAR ROCKPORT



RASAR

Rasar State Park

is situated along the north shore of the pristine Skagit River, off the North Cascade Highway (Highway 20). The 168-acre park offers camping, picnicking, hiking, bird watching and fishing.

The upper portion of the park includes campsites, buildings and roads, while the lower portion near the river is woodlands and meadows left largely undisturbed.

The 3.5 miles of trails take visitors through second–growth forests, open fields and along the scenic Skagit River. Opened in 1997, Rasar State Park offers camping, hiking and restrooms that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Fishing along the river offers opportunities for salmon, steelhead and trout. From November through February, the park serves as an excellent base camp to see the annual migration of bald eagles along the upper portions of the Skagit River.

A park store is available for souvenirs, books, maps, firewood and park area information. The park has 18 standard tent sites, 20 utility sites with water and electricity, 13 walk-in campsites for which three are designated exclusively for hikers and bikers, and two with an Adirondack shelter each. The three group camps – named Elk, Eagle and Salmon - offer plenty of space and privacy for families, scouting troops and other group gatherings. A picnic shelter also is available for those special occasions such as family reunions, weddings or a reprieve from the weather. Reservations for all facilities can be made by calling 1-888-CAMPOUT (1-888-226-7688) or online at www.parks.wa.gov. For questions about Rasar State Park, please call park staff at (360) 826-3942.

ROCKPORT

Discover what the ancient forests were like in the Skagit River Valley.

Rockport State Park

is 670 acres of ancient old-growth forest, the park's most recognizable feature. The property once was owned by Sound Timber Company. In 1935 Sound Timber sold the property to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for $1. Washington State Parks acquired the property from DNR in 1961. The park was a popular destination for tent and RV campers. But in May 2007, the park was closed to camping because the old-growth Douglas-fir forest was showing signs of structural instability that could pose an unacceptable level of risk to campers. The old-growth forest is estimated to be 400 to 600 years old. Many of these trees were around prior to Euro-American contact in this country. Today, visitors can hike the five miles of trails that wind through the ancient forest that once carpeted the Skagit River Valley all the way to Puget Sound.

Visitors also may want to take in the views from atop Sauk Mountain. To get to the Sauk Mountain Trail, follow the gravel road (Forest Service Road 1030) on the west boundary of the park for eight miles to the trailhead parking lot. Please remember mountain roads and trails may present hazards to inexperienced drivers and hikers. Travel on Sauk Mountain Road may not be appropriate for trailers and large motor homes.

Visitors traveling across the North Cascades Highway may want to stop at Newhalem and visit North Cascades National Park Visitor Center and Seattle City Lights Hydroelectric complex. Other things to enjoy nearby include the Marblemount salmon rearing ponds and hatchery, where visitors can learn about salmon, and Howard Miller Steelhead County Park in Rockport, where the last Skagit River ferry is on display.

Area history

The Skagit Indians were the first settlers of the area, living in a village of longhouses at the confluence of the Sauk and Skagit rivers. There, they prospered on the abundant salmon and bountiful evergreen forests.

In 1885, Leonard Graves homesteaded the land around the present town of Rockport. Graves sold the land to Albert von Pressentin in the 1890s, and within a few years, the town grew to include a hotel, post office, store, school and mills. Ferry services crossed the Skagit River, and daily trains ran between Rockport and Burlington. Today, Rockport State Park protects a stand of Douglas-fir trees that are more than 300 years old. For questions about Rockport State Park, please call park staff at (360) 853-8461.