

## Things to remember

- Hours – Parks are generally open 6:30 a.m. to dusk.
- Winter schedule – Although most parks are open year round, some parks or portions of parks are closed during the winter. For a winter schedule and information about seasonal closures, visit [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov) or call the information center at (360) 902-8844.
- Wildlife, plants, petrified wood and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Hunting, feeding of wildlife and gathering firewood on state park property is prohibited.
- One camping party is allowed per site. Maximum of eight people per campsite.
- Campsites may not be held for other parties.
- Camping check-in time is 2:30 p.m., and check-out time is 1 p.m.
- Extra vehicle overnight – \$10 per night in designated area for each vehicle in excess of the one allowed per site. Does not apply to vehicle towed by a recreational vehicle.
- Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. This includes trail areas and campsites. Pet owners must clean up after pets on all state park lands.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.

## Park hours

### Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Interpretive Center

10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the following days:  
Weekends in April and October  
Friday to Sunday May 1 to 15 and Sept. 16 to 30  
Thursday to Monday May 16 to June 15  
Daily June 16 to Sept. 15

### Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Interpretive Trails

8 a.m. to dusk Oct. 1 to March 31  
6:30 a.m. to dusk April 1 to Sept. 30

### Wanapum Recreational Area

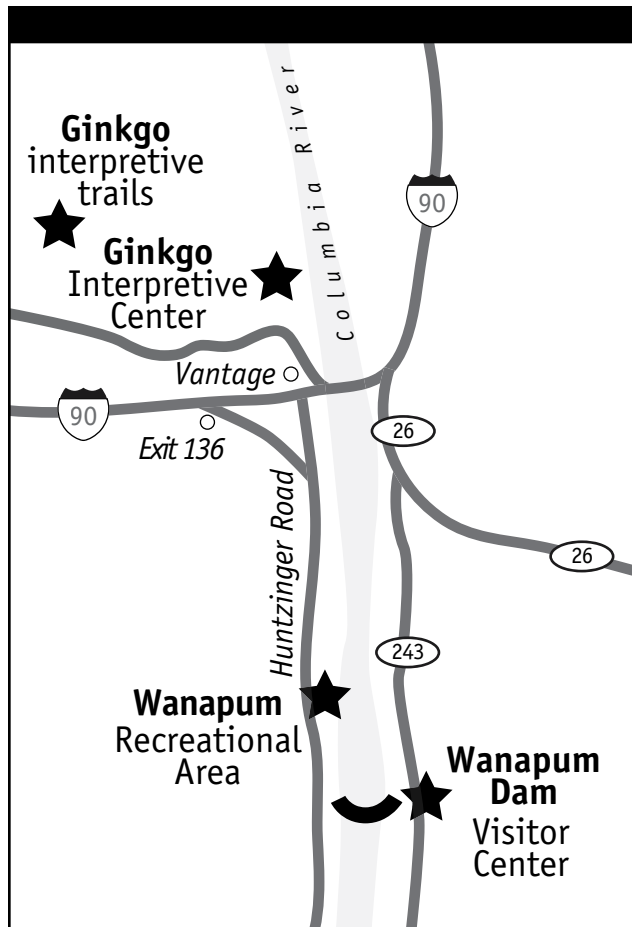
8 a.m. to dusk Oct. 1 to March 31  
6:30 a.m. to dusk April 1 to Sept. 30  
Open only on weekends and holidays Nov. 1 to March 31

### Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park and Wanapum Recreational Area

P.O. Box 1203  
Vantage, WA 98950  
(509) 856-2700

State Parks information: (360) 902-8844

Camping reservations: [www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov) or  
(888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688



## Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 42650  
Olympia, WA 98504-2650  
(360) 902-8500  
[www.parks.wa.gov](http://www.parks.wa.gov)



### Commission members:

Patricia T. Lantz      Joe Taller  
Fred Olson            Cecilia Vogt  
Rodger Schmitt      Lucinda S. Whaley  
Eliot Scull

Agency director: Rex Derr

*All Washington state parks are developed and maintained  
for the enjoyment of all people.*

To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call  
(360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications

Relay Service at (800) 833-6388.



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Washington State Parks

# Ginkgo/Wanapum State Park



# Welcome to Ginkgo / Wanapum State Park

## Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park

This park was established by the Washington State Legislature in 1935. The park offers many recreational activities including boating, swimming, fishing, camping, hiking and sightseeing.

Near the geographic center of the state in Kittitas County near the Columbia River, the park consists of three major areas: the Wanapum Recreational Area, the Heritage Area and the Natural Area.

A wide variety of wildlife exists in the park. Deer, elk, rabbit and coyote are some of the more common mammals found here. In spring and summer, lizards and snakes, such as the gopher snake and the northern pacific rattlesnake, can be seen foraging through the sagebrush. Numerous species of birds also can be seen in the park.

Ginkgo Petrified Forest has one of the most unusual fossil forests in the world. Thirteen to 17 million years ago this area was warm and moist with many lakes and swamps. Eventually, enormous lava floods engulfed the area, covering all that lay in their path. Logs and trees that were under water were protected from the extreme heat of the lava. After millions of years of chemical changes, these covered logs and trees were petrified into what you see today.

Take a walk on the Natural Area interpretive trail through the shrub steppe environment into this ancient lake bed and learn more about these “trees of stone.”

## Wanapum Recreational Area

In 1968, construction of the campground and recreational area began along the shores of the Columbia River. The Wanapum Recreational Area was opened to the public in 1974. Facilities include a campground, boat ramp, picnic and swim area.



## Heritage Area

The Heritage Area consists of an interpretive center and picnic facilities. The initial building was completed in 1936. Since that time, the southern part of the building has been added. The interpretive center has more than 200 displays of cut and polished petrified wood for viewing. Group tours are available by appointment by calling (509) 856-2700.

Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park is a registered National Natural Landmark.

## Natural Area

The Natural Area consists of a series of short trails that take you through a prehistoric lake bed where wood

deposits were covered with lava millions of years ago, forming petrified wood.

The trails and the park ranger's residence located here were the first structures built in the park in 1935.

## Facilities

The Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Natural Area includes three miles of hiking trails and the one-mile Trees of Stone Interpretive Trail exhibiting petrified wood along the way.

The Ginkgo Petrified Forest Interpretive Center is in the Heritage Area overlooking the Columbia River. There is a picnic area, restrooms, gift shop and petrified wood exhibits.

The Wanapum Recreational Area, located along the Columbia River, has 50 reservable full-utility-hookup sites, a day-use area with beach access, restrooms and a double-lane boat launch.

