



Cottonwood Canyon

CAMPGROUND



Cottonwood Canyon State Park

Cottonwood Canyon State Park
99989 Highway 206, Wasco, OR 97065
541-394-0002



Latitude: 45.483785 N
Longitude: -120.458778 W

Cottonwood Canyon State Park is rugged and vast, from the vertical cliffs carved by the John Day River to deep canyons and arid, rocky grasslands that extend for miles in all directions. In addition to camping, the park's 8,000-plus acres are open for hiking, boating, horseback riding, fishing and hunting. Come explore and contemplate the elemental forces that carved this unique landscape.

Year-round camping

- 21 primitive sites for tents and self-contained RV's (max site size is 75 feet). Available first-come, first-served
- Group tent camp for up to 25 people
- Potable water
- Vault toilets
- Hiker/biker camp with seven sites, central fire pit, picnic tables and vault toilets

Reservable Day-use Area

- Picnic shelter
- Shade shelter
- Flush restroom

J.S. Burres Boat Launch

- River Access
- Vault toilet

River recreation, fishing and hunting

The iconic John Day River is a long, remote, natural river system, with 252 undammed miles. The lower John Day River offers one of the best wild spring and fall steelhead runs in Northeast Oregon. Anglers also come for catfish and smallmouth bass. J.S. Burres, across the river, is a popular boat launch for rafts, kayaks, canoes and drift boats.

The park is also open to hunting outside the developed area. It is the responsibility of the hunter to stay current on regulations.

Smoking in Oregon State Parks is allowed only in personal vehicles, RVs, campsites and portions of day use parks along state highways that are designated as safety rest areas by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Reserve the picnic shelter nine months to one day in advance by calling the park at 541-394-0002.

Explore trails by boot, bike or on horseback

The **Pinnacles Trail** and the **Lost Corral Trail**, each 4.3 miles one way, follow either side of the John Day River downstream. The Lost Corral Trail, leaving from JS Burres, is open to hikers, bikers and equestrians. The Pinnacles Trail, leaving from the end of the campground, is open to bikers and hikers.

Hikers can enjoy the **Hard Stone Trail**, which heads upstream 1.5 miles one way. Or, you can strike out on your own along old, unmaintained ranching roads that lead into the back country.

Wild and natural

Visitors may see Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, coyotes, white-tailed jackrabbit, big horn sheep, and all manner of smaller mammals. Both migratory and resident bird populations are a treat, especially for raptor lovers. The rocky landscape also invites reptiles, including at least six species of lizards, western rattlesnakes and various nonvenomous snakes. April and May put on a show of wildflowers.

Stay safe

Cottonwood Canyon is remote, rugged and deliberately undeveloped. A few basic steps can help you stay safe.

Have a plan for your day, and tell somebody about it. There is no cell phone coverage anywhere in the park.

Carry plenty of water—20 ounces per hour for hiking in hot sun; potable water is available only at the developed day use area and in the campground.

Rattlesnakes live here. Leave them alone; they will not bite unless threatened.

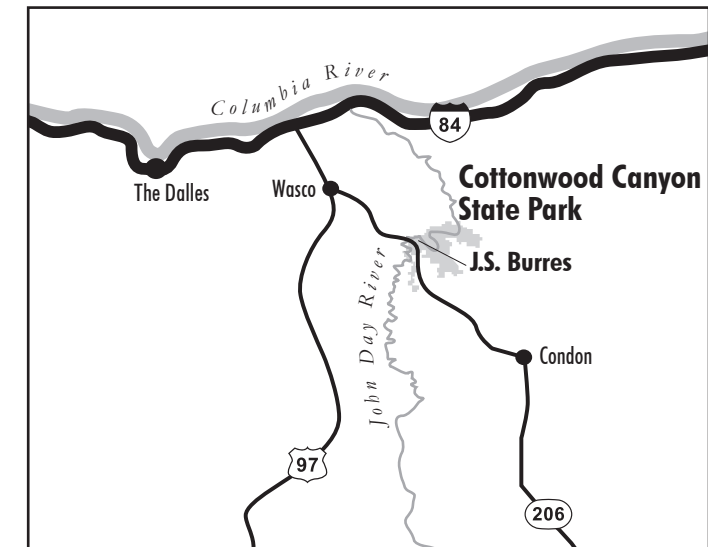
Ticks are most active in spring and early summer and live in long grass and brush. The best defenses are vigilance and avoidance.

Park Information:

1-800-551-6949

www.oregonstateparks.org

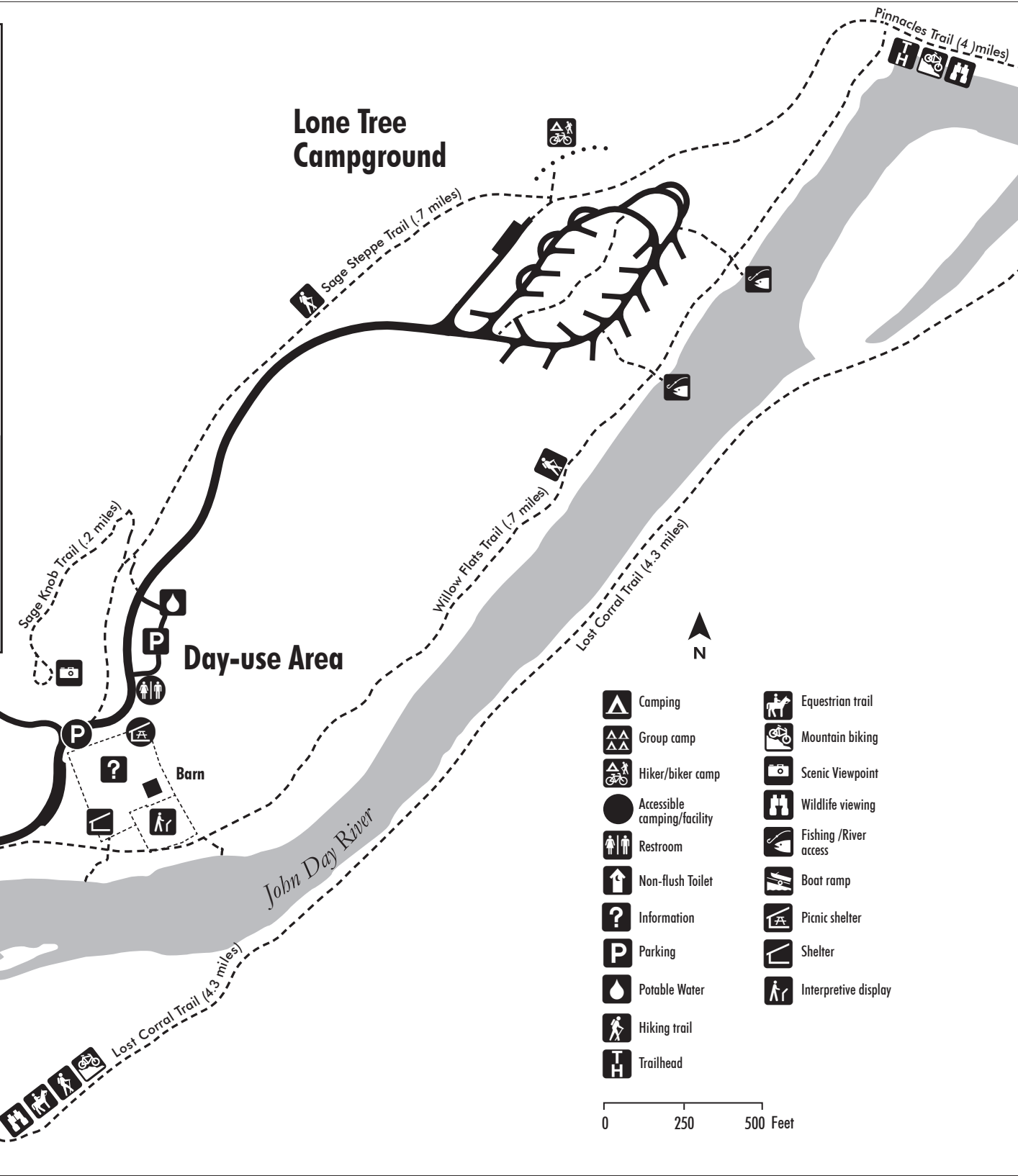
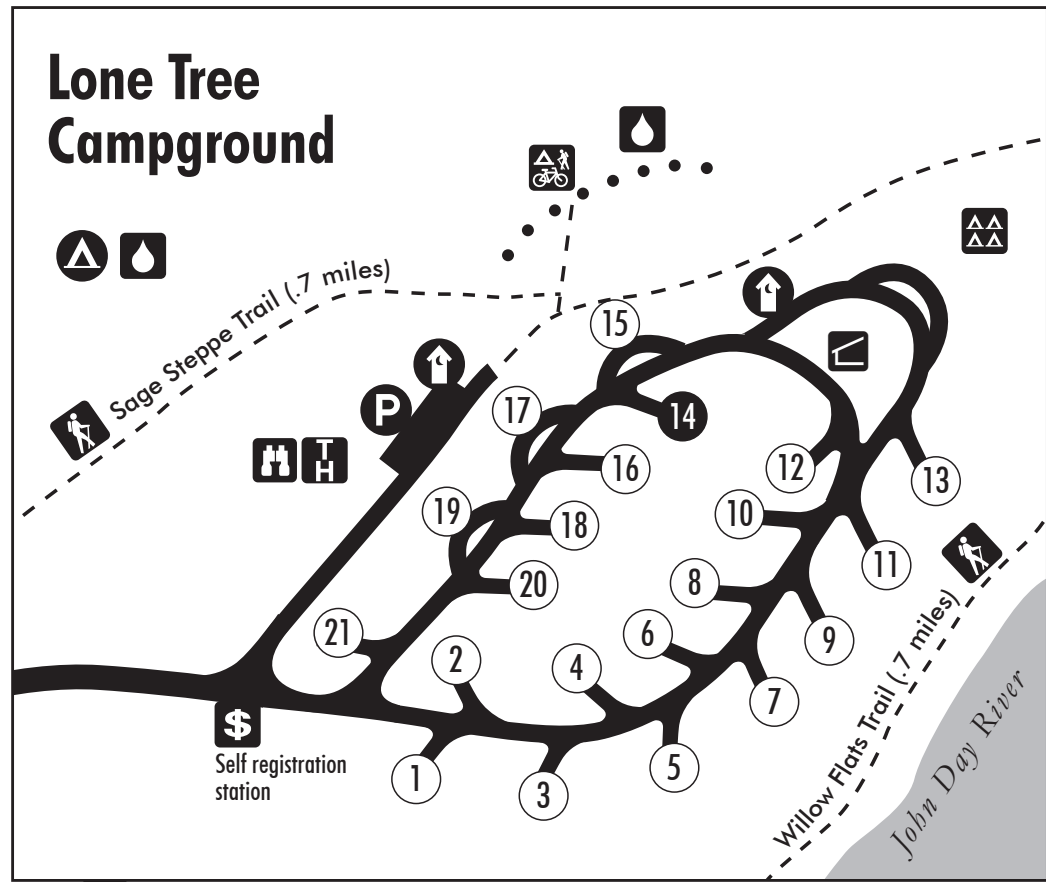
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Support your parks by becoming a member of the Oregon State Parks Foundation. Free 12-month day-use parking permit with your membership. oregonstateparksfoundation.org.



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- Campground quiet hours are between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., including generator use.
- Vehicles must be parked on the gravel parking pads.
- Pets must be physically restrained at all times when not confined in a vehicle or tent. Leashes must be no longer than six feet. All waste must be properly removed.
- Campground fires are banned from late spring to early fall. Check oregonstateparks.org for campfire advisories.
- Backcountry fires are also banned part of the year and under restriction when allowed. Please check blm.gov/or/permit for more information.

Check in after 4 p.m., **check out** by 1 p.m.

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| | Camping | | Equestrian trail |
| | Group camp | | Mountain biking |
| | Hiker/biker camp | | Scenic Viewpoint |
| | Accessible camping/facility | | Wildlife viewing |
| | Restroom | | Fishing /River access |
| | Non-flush Toilet | | Boat ramp |
| | Information | | Picnic shelter |
| | Parking | | Shelter |
| | Potable Water | | Interpretive display |
| | Hiking trail | | |
| | Trailhead | | |

