

July 21, 2022

Dear Wakasa Memorial Committee:

Thank you for the email received yesterday, notifying us about your visit to the Topaz concentration camp site in two days, Saturday July 23, 2022.

Because of the short notice, we are not able to help you with accommodations we would normally arrange for a group visit. Please pass on the following information to your participants for their safety:

- Weather predictions are for temperatures over 100-degrees this weekend, so please make sure people keep hydrated.
- There are no restrooms near the Topaz site. During the NPS assessment visit in November/December of 2021, we arranged for a temporary portable toilet to be onsite for the convenience of our visitors.
- We recommend wearing closed-toe shoes while walking through the site. There are many nails and other hazards on the ground that can cause injury.
- The fence along the property line where Mr. Wakasa was killed should not be used to access the Topaz site. It is not safe as an access point and it is also the original fence and should be treated as a historical artifact with minimal handling.

Please also remind the guests that we request that no artifacts be taken from the site.

We look forward to your visit to the museum and are especially pleased that a new generation of visitors will have the opportunity to learn more about their history and the incarceration experiences of Japanese Americans during World War II at Topaz.

Sincerely,

Topaz Museum Board of Directors

Jane Beckwith, President

Lance Atkinson, Scott Bassett, Kiley Chase, Lorelei Draper, Sherrie Hayashi, Mark Nelson, Rick Okabe, Hisashi Bill Sugaya, Teresa Thompson, Patricia Wakida

cc:

Mike Reynolds, Regional Director, Interior Regions 6, 7, 8, NPS

Lisa P. Davidson, Acting Program Manager, National Historic Landmarks Program, NPS

Justin Henderson, Heritage Partnerships Program, Intermountain Region, NPS

Robert Nieweg, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Michelle Magalong, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation

Jennifer Ortiz, Director, Utah Division of State History

Chris Merritt, Utah State Historic Preservation Office

Carol Kawase, District Governor NCWNP, JAACL

David Inoue, Executive Director, JAACL

Jani Iwamoto, Utah State Senator, 4th District