

## Things to Remember

- 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.
- 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.

## Wanapum Recreation Area Campground

- Camping check-in time is 2:30 p.m., and checkout time is 1 p.m.
- One camping party, maximum of eight people, is allowed per campsite.
- Campsites may not be held for other parties.
- Quiet hours are 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.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.

## Park hours

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

Day-use areas (picnic areas, boat launch, trails)

8 a.m. to dusk Oct. 1 to March 31

6:30 a.m. to dusk April 1 to Sept. 30

### Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park Interpretive Center

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday to Sunday only from April 1 to May 15 and Sept. 16 to Oct. 31

Open daily from May 16 to Sept. 15

Open by appointment only through Winter

### Wanapum Recreation Area Campground

Open March 1 – Oct. 31

Reservations recommended April 16 – Oct. 15

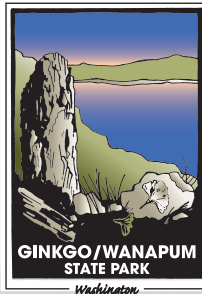
First come, first served on remaining open dates

The **Discover Pass** is required for day visits to state parks and access to other state-managed recreation lands. The pass provides access to millions of acres of parks, wildlife areas, trails, natural areas and water-access sites. The annual pass is transferable between two vehicles.

- Annual pass: \$30
- One-day pass: \$10 (transaction and dealer fees may apply)

The Discover Pass can be purchased online, by phone or in person. For details, visit [www.discoverpass.wa.gov](http://www.discoverpass.wa.gov) or call (866) 320-9933.

**Thank you for supporting Washington state recreation lands.**



## Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park and Wanapum Recreation Area

P.O. Box 839

Ellensburg, WA 98926

(509) 856-2700

### State Parks information:

(360) 902-8844

**Reservations:** Online at [www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us) or call (888) CAMPOUT or (888) 226-7688

### Other state parks located in the general area:

Iron Horse, Yakima Sportsman, Potholes, Olmstead Place and Helen McCabe

## Connect with us on social media



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Share your stories and photos: [AdventureAwaits.com](http://AdventureAwaits.com)



If you would like to support Washington State Parks even more, please consider making a donation when renewing your license plate tabs. You also may place a check in a donation box when you visit state parks.

Donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating.

For more information, visit [www.parks.state.wa.us/donations](http://www.parks.state.wa.us/donations)

## 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:

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Lucinda S. Whaley

Agency director: Don Hoch

*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. P&R 45-62500-01 (05/17)



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[www.parks.state.wa.us](http://www.parks.state.wa.us)

## Washington State Parks

# Ginkgo Petrified Forest

## State Park

and Wanapum Recreation Area





# W E L C O M E T O G I N K G O / W A N A P U M



## Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park and Wanapum Recreation Area

Sitting near the geographic center of the state, along the Columbia River, are Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park and Wanapum Recreation Area. These lands offer many recreational activities, including boating, swimming, fishing, camping, hiking, bird watching and sightseeing.

**Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park** is a registered National Natural Landmark. A wide variety of wildlife exists in the park. More bird species are reported here than any other sites in Kittitas County. Deer, elk, rabbit, bighorn sheep and coyote are 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.

This park is home to one of the most diverse petrified forests in North America. The petrified logs formed when the Ginkgo lava flow, one of many such flows in this area, covered and entombed water-saturated trees. The trees had fallen into an ancient lake which protected them from the extreme heat of the lava. Encased in basalt for over 15 million years, minerals trapped in the water slowly changed the wood into the petrified logs we see today. Over time, natural forces have exposed some of the logs found close to the surface.

**The Ginkgo Interpretive Center** sits on a bluff over the Columbia River. The view is spectacular! Outdoor exhibits, restrooms and a picnic area are available. The Interpretive Center was initially built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1936. The center was later expanded and has displays of petrified wood, exhibits on the geology of the area and a gift shop. Group tours, including schools and youth, are available by appointment by calling (509) 925-1943.

**Ginkgo Hiking Trails** are located 2 miles west of the Interpretive Center in the park. The Trees of Stone Interpretive Trail takes you through a prehistoric lake bed where trees were covered with lava millions of years ago and, over time, formed petrified wood. The protected logs are visible in the ground where they formed. A 3-mile hiking trail goes past some of these logs and provides an expansive view of the region. Signs of local wildlife are prevalent.

### Wanapum Recreation Area

The Wanapum Recreation Area, located along the beautiful shores of the Wanapum Lake, has 50 reservable, full-utility sites. A double-lane boat launch provides river access. A shaded picnic area along a sandy beach is a highlight of this area. Restrooms are nearby.

