

**GRANITE MASONIC PARK**

by

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Granite Masonic Park, located in the beautiful timber country of Northwest Washington is probably unique in Freemasonry in that it is run by Masons and is used only by Masons and their guests. During the 1930's a donation of 150 acres of land was made by Bro. Jacob Anthes and his wife for the purpose of creating a park for Masons and their families. Later donations and some small purchases have increased the area to it's present size of 245 acres.

The original bequest was to the Everett Scottish Rite Bodies who, in later years turned it over to a non-profit corporation formed by the Masons of Snohomish and Island counties. While active membership in this corporation, known as the Master Masons' Club of Snohomish and Island Counties, is limited to Masons of these counties, regular Masons from outside these counties are always welcome, have all the privileges of the Park and may become associate members of the corporation for a fee of \$2.00 per year, if they desire.

The Park is located in a mostly wooded area in the foothills of the Cascade mountains. It has about 1/2 mile frontage on rushing Canyon Creek, Campsites are laid out mostly on or near Canyon Creek as well as on open grassy areas and among the trees. There are many small picnic shelters along the creek as well as several larger shelters with large parking areas for group activities. There is a large open kitchen, covered barbecues and ample trailer, camper and tent spaces.

There is a large toilet-shower building with flush toilets and metered showers. There are also several pit toilets, throughout the main area. There is a dumping station, several water faucets and coin operated metered electricity in the main area. There are no hookups.

The Park is located 4½ miles N.E. of Granite Falls on the Mt. Loop Highway. It is about ¼ mile off the highway with a large sign along the road. There is a locked gate at the entrance with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent living near the gate in mobile homes. Admission is by Symbolic Lodge Card or membership cards from the O.E..S., Amaranth, White Shrine, etc., Youth groups are admitted by reservation and only in organized groups with proper supervision.

The Rainbow Girls have a 5- acre area leased inside the Park and have erected a beautiful Chalet which is used by them for meetings, camp-outs, etc. in accordance with the above admission criteria.

The Park is open all year and charges no fees of any kind. Donations, of course, are accepted, encouraged and appreciated. There are no limits on length of visits or are there, in fact, very many rules of any kind other than those dictated by common sense and Masonic fellowship.

Members may bring non-Masons as their guests and stay as long as they like provided they accept responsibility for their guests and more or less stay with them.

There is a small playground, horse-shoe pits and a ball field. There is summer-time swimming in the creek for the hardv types. There are two well stocked trout ponds for viewing only. There is fishing in the creek during the season and with proper licenses. At the present time there is a very active beaver family working in the trout ponds. They have their house in one of the ponds and are attempting to cut most of the willows and cottonwood in sight.

All Masons everywhere are invited and encouraged to come and use the Park. It has been designed and is operated to be a clean, green, safe and quiet place to relax and commune with Nature and your Brethren, in short, this is a beautiful park for those looking for unspoiled peace and quiet. During the summer, the gate is usually locked at 9 p.m., but can be kept open if the Park is called ahead of time. No motorbikes are allowed to be ridden anywhere in the Park.

Some special events each year are -

Easter Sunday -- Services at 7:30 a.m. followed by pancake breakfast.

Second Sunday -- July - Rainbow G.W.A. picnic and campout.

Last Sunday -- July - Grand Chapter O.E.S Picnic

First Saturday August - Open Air Meeting Third Degree  
Lunch at noon. Park closed to non-Masons

Second Sunday (Usually) August - Master Mason Club Picnic  
and Salmon Barbeque, fun, games, etc.

Mailing Address MASONIC PARK , STAR ROUTE,  
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