



LASSEN PARK
FOUNDATION



2021 TRIP PLANNING INFORMATION & GROUP LEADER RESOURCES

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The Volcano Adventure Camp was built through a partnership between the National Park Service and Lassen Park Foundation with special thanks to The McConnell Foundation and the Volgenau Foundation.

Welcome and Important Background Information

Congratulations on receiving a Youth Camping grant from the Lassen Park Foundation! We are so glad that this will help make it possible for your group to experience Lassen Volcanic National Park.

Welcome to the Volcano Adventure Camp!

<https://www.nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/directions.htm>

Your group will be staying at the Volcano Adventure Camp (VAC). The VAC is a youth camping facility located inside Lassen Volcanic National Park. This designated facility provides opportunities for a wide range of youth organizations including school groups, other educational groups, and scouting organizations to introduce young visitors to their national park. The facility was completed in 2016—just in time to celebrate the 100th birthday of Lassen and the National Park Service.

The primary National Park Service coordinator for your group's youth camping experience will be Trixine Peart (photo and contact information below).



Trixine,
Youth Camp Ranger

When arriving at the VAC, the youth camping ranger will meet your group and facilitate a welcome activity (see page 6). The group leader will have you sign an arrival checklist indicating your acknowledgement of the need to manage the behavior of the campers and chaperones while at the VAC. All structures (i.e. tent cabins, pavilion) and equipment (i.e. cots, tables, etc.) need to be returned to the National Park Service in the same condition that you receive them.

Construction This Summer

Please be aware that our park Maintenance Crew may still be working on installing four additional tent cabins this year. There may be park personnel working on-site near those four new cabins (to the left of the campground entrance). Construction sites can be dangerous. To ensure the safety of your youth group please avoid the construction areas this summer.

What is the Volcano Adventure Camp?

The Volcano Adventure Camp supports low-cost group camping experiences by reducing the amount of equipment required and providing necessary amenities for first-time campers. The following facilities and items are provided for groups at the VAC: canvas cabins, stacked cots, picnic pavilions, campfire circles, hot showers, vault toilets, trash and recycling, cleaning supplies (brooms & dustpans), and tent sites.



Above: Canvas Cabins



Above: Campfire Circle

2021 Changes Due to COVID-19

We are all dealing with the impacts of COVID-19. For those of you who are familiar with the VAC from previous camping seasons, you will see one major change this summer: the tent cabins have been reduced to 50% capacity to encourage social distancing between campers while they rest (four beds per cabin.) Lassen Volcanic National Park is working with federal, state, and local public health authorities to closely monitor the COVID-19 pandemic current safety guidelines. Access to facilities and services can be impacted and posted hours of operation are subject to change without prior notice. Other services, including ranger-led programs, may also be impacted or may only be available to groups of 10 or less people. Please check [go.nps.gov/lavo/programs](https://www.nps.gov/lavo/programs) for the most up-to-date information on what services are available prior to coming to the park.

The following adjustments are being made this summer due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Tent cabins reduced to only four (4) beds per cabin
- Masks required by all participants during Ranger-Led programming
- Evening Ranger-Led activities will not be available this year

Minimize exposure to shared equipment/utensils by bringing your own items. Visitors are strongly encouraged to each bring their own refillable water bottle, hand sanitizer, etc. **Please note:** The Volcano Adventure Camp facility WILL NOT be disinfected between groups' use.

Canvas Cabins, Picnic Pavilions, Campfire Circles During COVID-19



- Ten (10) cabins (in two groups of five) each sleep up to 4 people.
- Four (4) tent pads that can each accommodate up to 6 tent campers.
- Two covered and screened pavilions (image left) each contain a cold-water sink for dishwashing, two propane barbeque grills (propane provided) and seven large tables.
- Bear lockers for food storage are close to each pavilion.
- Two (s) fire circles provide seating and space for programs and activities.



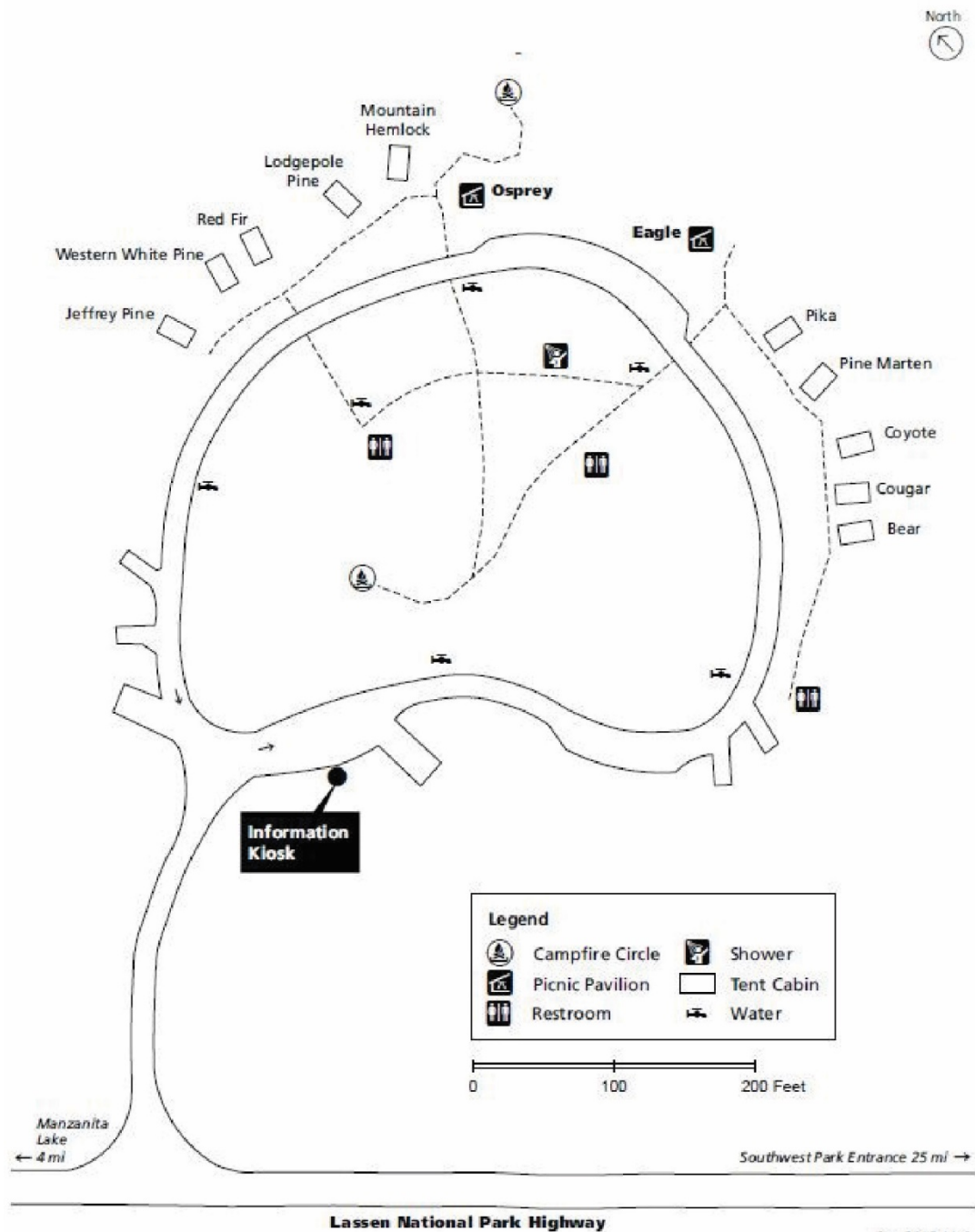
Cots - Each cabin contains four cots (image left). The cots will *not* be stacked this year to increase distance between campers. Campers should sleep foot-to-foot on the beds in order to keep their faces at least 6 feet apart while sleeping.



Ranger-led Programs - Guided programs and activities are provided to facilitate the immersive learning experience (image left). Ranger-led programs may be impacted by COVID-19 and group sizes for ranger-led programming may be restricted to 10 or less people.

Masks will be required for all participants during Ranger-led programming this year.

VOLCANO ADVENTURE CAMP MAP



The sign on the park highway at the entrance to the camp reads:

**Volcano Adventure Youth Camp
Reservations Only**

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK INFORMATION

(Home page: nps.gov/lavo)

Lassen Volcanic National Park, established in 1916, is located in northeastern California in portions of Shasta, Lassen, Plumas, and Tehama counties. The 106,372-acre park is located about fifty miles east of both Red Bluff and Redding and is within a day's drive of two major California metropolitan centers, the Sacramento and San Francisco Bay areas.

The park accommodates about 500,000 visits each year, providing opportunities for visitors to learn about volcanism, culture, and other park phenomena. Visitors also enjoy various recreational pursuits such as sightseeing, camping, picnicking, and hiking. Over 75 percent of the park is congressionally designated wilderness.



The National Park Service exists to preserve the natural and cultural resources and facilitate visitor experiences at national park sites such as Lassen Volcanic. Thank you for bringing your youth group to this amazing resource, and for helping to share the message that our public lands and waters belong to everyone!

SAMPLE YOUTH CAMP ITINERARY 2021

The following itinerary is intended as a sample only. You can design your trip by choosing from a variety of ranger programs or self-led activities. This is a “Five Day” itinerary. Your trip may be either shorter or longer. We encourage groups to engage in a ranger led activity daily. The Youth Camp Ranger is available to help you plan your itinerary. Please note groups may check in after 1pm on the day of arrival and need to vacate camp before 11am on the day of departure.

Day One- Arrival (1pm) — Park sites: Volcano Adventure Camp

Upon arrival at Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Youth Camp Ranger will meet you at the Volcano Adventure Camp and provide an introductory experience for you and your campers!

Orientation (required) — Youth Camp Ranger-led Activity: The group will review safety and behavioral expectations. The group will learn what a national park is and why Lassen is protected and preserved as an important natural and cultural resource.

Volcano Adventure! The Four Types of Volcanoes at Lassen. Youth Camp Ranger-led Activity: *For 6th graders and under, this will consist of a volcano demonstration where the ranger engages the kids with a model depicting various types of eruptions. *For sixth graders and older, the campers will participate in an activity where the whole group is divided into volcano teams. They will use models to share what they learned with their fellow campers.

Get acquainted with the Volcano Adventure Camp and Lassen! The Youth Camp Ranger will provide orientation information and/or directions as needed (this will also be communicated prior to your arrival at the park). Depending on what time you arrive at the park, you may just want to unpack and get set up in your tent cabins, utilize the pavilions to make a meal, or even go and enjoy a self-led hike on a park trail.

Day Two—Park Sites: Devastated Area, Mill Creek Falls Trail, and Volcano Adventure Camp

Morning—Youth Camp Ranger-led Activity: Campers will participate in in a ranger-led activity at the Volcano Adventure Camp, or another unique park site.

Example: “Devastated Area—Rock Cycles”

The Youth Camp Ranger meets your group at the Devastated Area and they participate in an activity where they learn about how the Devastated Area was formed through dramatic volcanic eruptions and other geologic processes.

Volcano Adventure Camp - 2021 Trip Planning Information & Group Leader Resources

Late Morning/Afternoon—Enjoy Your Own Hike! Group leaders will be provided with information and materials related to the site you choose for your self-led hike.

Example: Mill Creek Falls Trail

Group leaders will utilize materials and waysides to provide campers with a nature hike and first-hand experience of a red fir forest. *This 3.8-mile round-trip hike would be an example of a “moderate” hike.*

Evening— Enjoy dinner at the Volcano Adventure camp and your own campfire with the kids! Note: Fire restrictions and the collection and burning of wood will be clarified by the Youth Camp Ranger.

Day Three—Park Sites: Lassen Peak, Kohm Yah-mah-nee Parking Lot

Morning—Enjoy Your Own Hike! Group leaders will be provided with information and materials related to the site you choose for your self-led hike.

Example: “Lassen Peak Trail”

Group leaders will utilize materials and waysides to provide campers with a rigorous nature hike, and an opportunity to summit one of the largest plug dome volcanoes in the world! *This hike is a strenuous 5-mile hike with a 2000 ft. elevation gain to a summit of 10,400 ft.*

Afternoon—Not far from the Lassen Peak trailhead is our southwest entrance and the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center. Depending on availability, rangers will be stations in the parking lot of the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center with large park map displays and can answer questions for visitors and can provide Junior Ranger books to groups. Mill Creek Falls Trailhead is located off the parking lot, and Sulfur Works is a short 1-mile drive away.

“Mill Creek Falls Hike”

Rises and falls through the red fir forest to an overlook of the falls. Continue across the creek to reach the top of the falls. Trailhead behind Kohm Yah-mah-nee Amphitheater. *This hike is a moderately strenuous 3.2-mile hike with a 416 ft. elevation gain to the falls and overlook.*

Evening—Enjoy dinner at the Volcano Adventure camp and your own campfire with the kids! Note: Fire restrictions and the collection and burning of wood will be clarified by the Youth Camp Ranger.

Day Four—Park Site: Manzanita Lake, Reflection Lake/Lily Pond Trail

Morning—Youth Camp Ranger-led Activity: Campers will participate in in a ranger-led activity at the Volcano Adventure Camp, or another unique park site!

Volcano Adventure Camp - 2021 Trip Planning Information & Group Leader Resources

Example: “Ecosystems”

This ranger-led activity consists of a walk around Manzanita Lake and an investigation and discussion of the animals, plants, and other natural aspects of this ecosystem. *Approximately 2 miles, an “Easy” hike.*

Late Morning/Afternoon—Enjoy your own activities at Manzanita Lake, Reflection Lake, or take a stroll on the gentle, beautiful Lily Pond Trail (*an easy, 3/4-mile loop*). *At Manzanita Lake, you may rent a kayak, paddle board, or simply wade in the water.

*Note: Water activities must be led by group leaders and will not be facilitated by a National Park Service ranger.

Afternoon— The Youth Camp Ranger will meet you and facilitate a discussion with your campers that will be focused on their trip to Lassen and how they can bring what they experienced and learned back home with them. Campers will be reminded that Lassen is one of over 400 national park sites, and each park belongs to them as well as all other visitors. A discussion of how best to actively preserve nature and culture will be included in this closing activity using a method called “facilitated dialogue.”

An evaluation survey will be conducted by the Youth Camp Ranger as part of this closing activity.

Evening— Enjoy dinner at the Volcano Adventure camp and your own campfire with the kids! Note: Fire restrictions and the collection and burning of wood will be clarified by the Youth Camp Ranger.


Day Five— Departure (11am) Park Site: Volcano Adventure Camp

Early morning rise and pack up your gear as the facility must be vacated by 11am to get ready for the next group of campers. Your group may enjoy the rest of the park throughout the day.


Maps: For maps, please visit- nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/maps.htm

DIRECTIONS FOR DRIVING AROUND THE PARK

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Lassen Volcanic National Park



Directions Around the Park



0 20 Kilometers
0 10 20 Miles
Possible road work delays

Travel Around the West Side of the Park

This route is the shortest route around the park. This windy road is not recommended for RVs and trailers.
Average travel time is one hour and 45 minutes.

1. From the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, head south on Lassen National Park Highway (SR-89) for 6 miles.
2. Turn right (west) on SR-36. Continue for 23 miles.
3. Turn right (north) onto Lanes Valley Road. A large road sign on the north side of the highway marks the turnoff approximately one mile before the town of Paynes Creek. Continue for 7 miles.
4. Turn right onto Manton Road (CR-A6). Continue for 7 miles.
5. In Manton, turn left onto Wilson Hill Road. Continue for 1.5 miles.
6. Turn left to stay on Wilson Hill Road. Continue for 6 miles.
7. Turn right (east) onto SR-44. Continue for 17 miles.
8. Turn right (south) into the park. Continue 1 mile to the Manzanita Lake entrance.

Travel Around the East Side of the Park

This route is slightly longer than the west route, however it has fewer curves and is appropriate for RVs and trailers.
Average travel time is two hours.

1. From the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, head south on Lassen National Park Highway (SR-89) for 6 miles.
2. Turn left (east) on SR-36. Continue 38 miles to CR-A21/Mooney Road located in the town of Westwood. Continue for 18 miles. Turn left (west) onto SR-44. Continue for 28 miles.
3. Turn left (west) onto SR-44/89. Continue for 13.5 miles.
4. Turn left (south) into the park. Continue 1 mile to the Manzanita Lake entrance.

Travel to the Butte Lake Area

The road to Butte Lake is gravel and passable by most vehicles. From the Manzanita Lake Entrance, follow SR-89 east 13.5 miles to the SR-44/89 junction in Old Station. Turn right to follow SR-44.

1. From SR-44, turn south onto Butte Lake Road (FR-32N21). Look for signs indicating Butte Lake Campground.
2. Continue 6 miles to the Butte Lake Campground and day use area.

Travel to the Warner Valley/Juniper Lake

The roads to the Warner Valley and Juniper Lake areas are partly gravel and are not recommended for trailers.

1. From CA-36 in Chester, turn onto Feather River Road (on the northeast side of the Feather River).

To Warner Valley	To Juniper Lake
2. Continue a half mile and veer left onto CR-312.	2. Continue a half mile and veer right onto CR-318.
3. Continue 4 miles and veer right to stay on CR-312. Follow signs to Drakesbad.	3. Continue 13 miles to Juniper Lake campground.
4. Continue 12.5 miles to Warner Valley campground and day use area.	4. Continue an additional half mile to the day use area.

Road Abbreviations: State Route (SR) | County Road (CR) | Forest Road (FR)

(Directions Website: nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/directions.htm)

Volcano Adventure Camp - 2021 Trip Planning Information & Group Leader Resources

Lassen Volcanic National Park is located in northern California, approximately three hours northeast of Sacramento. The park is accessed via Hwy 44 (to the north) or Hwy 36 (to the south). From the east (i.e. Reno), the park can be accessed from Hwy 36 to Hwy 44. The park highway may be closed in early or late summer because of snow. Please be sure to check the park website, or contact the Youth Camp Ranger, for park road closures.

The most direct route to the Volcano Adventure Camp would be to access the park from Hwy 44 and enter the park through the Manzanita Lake entrance. Continue south along the park road (Lassen Volcanic National Park Highway/Hwy 89) for approximately five miles. The Volcano Adventure Camp site will be on your left—look for signs (Youth Camp) and tent cabins.

If accessing the park from Hwy 36, take Hwy. 89 to the southwest entrance at the Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center. Continue north along the park road (Lassen Volcanic National Park Highway/Hwy 89) for approximately 25 miles. The Volcano Adventure Camp site will be on your right—look for signs (Youth Camp) and tent cabins.

Here are the addresses and phone numbers for our park visitor centers. These may be staffed from 9 AM – 5 PM every day of the week during the summer season. This will fluctuate due COVID-19 closures and staffing changes. Please contact Lassen Park Foundation if you have difficulty obtaining the information you need (530) 768-1110. The park website will also be updated regularly to provide closure information on visitor centers.

Loomis Museum, (530) 595-6140

29489 Lassen National Park Hwy
Shingletown, CA 96088

Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center, (530) 595-4480

21820 Lassen National Park Hwy
Mineral, CA 96063

For additional assistance directions to the park please visit the following webpage:

nps.gov/lavo/planyourvisit/directions.htm

VOLCANO ADVENTURE CAMP PLANNING CHECKLIST

Please use this checklist or create your own to help you prepare for a trip to Lassen Volcanic National Park. We look forward to your visit!

- ☐ **Safety:** Please remind your students and chaperones that they are entering into a national park and everything here is to be protected. This is a natural environment where they will see wildlife, plants and rocks which should not be harmed or removed from the park. Potential hazards in the area include bees, wasps, trip and fall hazards. Students will learn how to avoid these hazards and be alert to other safety concerns. **Students with allergies should bring their medication, especially for bee and wasp stings. Rangers DO NOT provide medication to park visitors. It is recommended to bring a first aid kit, or multiple first aid kits for chaperones/hike leaders.**
- ☐ **Chaperones:** Please inform chaperones that they will be visiting a site where they are responsible for the safety and supervision of the campers they are assigned. **Please ensure that one adult sleeps in each tent cabin when campers are under age 18.**
- ☐ **Clothing:** Please have students and chaperones bring and wear appropriate clothing for predicted weather and to be prepared for the weather to change. Students and chaperones should wear long pants, hats, and close-toed shoes while hiking. If possible, dress in layers and use sunscreen. Prepare for cold nights and mornings.
- ☐ **Food and Water:** You are responsible for providing all meals and snacks. We also recommend that students bring their own reusable water bottles. They can refill water bottles at the park.
- ☐ **Cooking:** Coolers/other containers with food, Plates/bowls/cups, utensils, trash bags, dish soap, pots/pans. *[Think about and make a list of other cooking/meal preparation items you need]* The propane BBQs do not have burners. A small campstove for heating water will be useful.
- ☐ **Sleeping Items/Equip.:** **WARM** sleeping bags, pillows, extra blankets. Each tent cabin will have four (4) cots total.
- ☐ **Showers/Restrooms (no running water in restrooms):** Shower shoes/flip flops, towels, soap in a case/body wash, shampoo/conditioner, toothbrush/toothpaste, other toiletries. Each camper should have a sealable bag for storing toiletries in bear boxes.
- ☐ **Stewardship (Taking Care of VAC and Lassen):** Please remind students to not feed any of the animals in the park including chipmunks and squirrels, and to dispose of all pieces of trash. **Students should be instructed not to have any food or beverages in the tent cabins at any time.** Squirrels and chipmunks will get into tent cabins, and have been known to destroy backpacks while getting into food left in tent cabins.
- ☐ **Masks:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have all gotten used to wearing Face Masks in public. LAVO is no exception. Please have your campers bring their face masks as they will be required for all ranger-led activities and while indoors in the park.
- ☐ **Other Necessities:** Flashlights, extra batteries, lanterns, sunscreen, insect repellent, hiking backpacks, sunglasses, cameras, refillable water bottles for each camper, and hand sanitizer *[think about what else you might need or want while staying at the VAC].*

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Be Prepared. Know if any of your campers or chaperones have medical conditions and ensure that they have their medications. Identify any group leaders or chaperones who have emergency medical service qualifications (i.e. first aid, emergency medical responder/technician, nurse, etc.). Bring first aid kits, and ensure that your chaperones communicate appropriate safety messages and are prepared to respond and/or communicate during an emergency. Rangers will not provide medical supplies or equipment to park visitors so please bring your own.

National Park Service Emergency Response. Emergency medical and Search and Rescue rangers and other professionals will respond in the event of an emergency.

Communicating an Emergency. There is minimal cellular service at the Volcano Adventure Camp. There are other sites in Lassen Volcanic National Park where you may have cell phone coverage. There is reasonably reliable cell phone service at pull-out 13, approximately 3 miles from camp. You are encouraged to bring your cell phone when hiking. Turn off your phone unless you need to make an emergency call (this will preserve the battery).

In the event of an emergency: The campground is equipped with two SPOT Emergency Messaging devices located near the pavilions. The Youth Camp Ranger will point out their locations during your orientation. In the case of an emergency locate the device and press the button which will send an alert signal to park rangers near Manzanita Lake.

Alternative in the event of an emergency: **Dial 911 to report an emergency.** From the Volcano Adventure Camp, the nearest location of a campground host is at Manzanita Lake Campground (approximately 5 miles north of the Volcano Adventure Camp). You may contact the campground host(s) at the beginning of A-Loop sites 1-A and 1-B (**see map on the following page**). Pay phones are available outside the Manzanita Lake Camper Store and Loomis Museum.

Know Your Location. When hiking and visiting other park locations, it is important for group leaders and chaperones to know the names of trails and park sites that you are experiencing. This will help rangers respond in the event of an emergency. Refer to maps and/or ask for clarification from the youth camp ranger upon your arrival to the park.

Plan for the Weather/Altitude: Weather can change rapidly or might be very different from where you are located. To find out what the local weather is during your trip, please refer to weather.com or any other weather app and use “Manzanita Lake,” or “Lassen Volcanic National Park” for the location. Additionally, please realize that many areas of the park are at significantly higher elevation than most campers are used to. Plan to take your time on hikes and watch campers for signs of altitude sickness (nausea, dizziness, headaches).

Manzanita Lake
Temperatures

Month	Average High/Low
May	70/29 °F
June	79/34 °F
July	84/40 °F
August	85/40 °F
September	78/36 °F
October	69/30 °F