



October 2, 2007

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## **Forest Users Reminded of Seasonal Changes at Forest Campgrounds**

Several of the developed recreation facilities across the Flathead National Forest remain open throughout the fall, but services have been discontinued or are minimal. Fees are not charged at forest concessionaire sites. Forest users are reminded to pack it in and pack it out! Water and restroom facilities may be unavailable and users should plan accordingly.

The Tally Lake Campground, including the boat launch, remains accessible, but services have been terminated. The Tally-Ashley Trail, Forest Trail #800, is open to all non-motorized use during big-game hunting season. Sylvia Lake Campground continues to be closed due to activities from the Brush Creek Fire. Please contact the Tally Lake Ranger District for updated information regarding access and use pertaining to the area of the Brush Creek Fire.

During hunting season, the Ashley Lake ATV Trail, #812, a cooperative trail managed by the Ashley Lake Resource Advisory Committee, is closed to ATVs.

The Devil Creek Campground, located along Highway 2 west of Marias Pass is closed for the season. The adjacent trailhead, Devil Creek Trail, remains accessible.

Emery Bay Campground, along the east side of Hungry Horse Reservoir, is closed for the season. Boat launching facilities at Abbott Bay are accessible. Other developed sites on the Hungry Horse and Glacier View District are accessible, but no services are provided.

Big Creek Campground, located north of Columbia Falls, has a new gate which allows access for individual camping at the group-use site and to the river, but restricts motor vehicle access to the main part of the campground.

On the Swan Lake District access is limited and services are discontinued for the season at Swan Lake and Holland Lake Campgrounds, including the respective day-use areas at these sites.

Spotted Bear Campground remains open, but water is not available. Forest visitors should use caution on the Spotted Bear River Trail, located east of Spotted Bear, due to burnt trail conditions from recent fire activity.

Hungry Horse and Glacier View Resource Assistant Paula Peterson said, “We ask the public to pack out their trash and please do not put trash or debris down the vault toilets.” She said it is almost impossible to pump a vault toilet when trash is dumped in it. Forest users are reminded to keep fires contained in the fire rings provided. Peterson encourages everyone to be respectful of public facilities while enjoying their national forest.

Anyone planning a fall camping, hiking, biking or other recreational outing on the forest is encouraged to contact a local Forest Service Office for information on seasonal services and access. Forest users are also reminded that fall hunting season is underway and to anticipate hunting activity across the forest. All forest users are encouraged to wear hunter orange or other brightly colored clothing when recreating on the forest this fall.

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