



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Mount Rushmore National Memorial
13000 Highway 244
Building 31, Suite 1
Keystone, South Dakota 57751

**POLICY STATEMENT
FOR PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES, MEETINGS & GATHERINGS**

General Statement

Under the provisions of Section 2.51 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (copy is on the website), individuals and members of organizations may engage in such activities as public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views within certain designated areas of Mount Rushmore National Memorial (see map on the website), providing a permit has been issued by the Superintendent. This policy statement provides for the free exercise of activities protected by the First Amendment, regulating only time, place, and manner of those activities at Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

Permit Conditions

1. Permits are required for public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views. Please complete the *Application for Special Use Permit – First Amendment Request* form in its entirety (social security number and the tax ID number are not needed for this permit). This form must be sent to the First Amendments Permits Office upon completion. You may send it to the address at the top of the application or you may fax it to 605-574-2307.
2. The completed application should be received **at least** two business days prior to the date the permit is needed. This allows time for the permit to be issued, sent to the permittee for signature and returned to Mount Rushmore for the Superintendent's signature. A copy of the fully executed permit will then be forwarded to the permittee.
3. There are no fees or charges associated with a First Amendment application or permit.
4. The permit, with a map, will outline a specific area within the memorial to be used.
5. Permits are issued for no longer than a 7-day period, with the activity being permitted during open hours of 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. October 1 through April 30 and 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight) May 1 through September 30.
6. A permit is renewable for like periods upon completion of another application, and provided no other application has been received and no prevailing park use has been identified for the area requested.
7. The National Park Service reserves the right to immediately revoke this permit at any time should this become necessary in the interest of public safety, public health, and general welfare.

8. The United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, will in no way be held responsible in the event of any personal injury, and/or loss of, or damage to, personal property during, or occurring from, the use of this area.
9. The person or group will comply with any instructions from the designated official representative from Mount Rushmore National Memorial.
10. The area used by the permittee will be left in the same condition as found and all litter placed in trash receptacles. Any Memorial property damaged by, or as a result of the permittee, will be replaced or repaired at the cost of the permittee.
11. The permittee must provide their own equipment, chairs, etc. Any loud speaker being used will be so adjusted as to accommodate only those people in the immediate area. All audio enhancement equipment, if used, must be portable. **NO GENERATORS ARE ALLOWED ON PARK GROUNDS.**
12. No temporary structures, utility service lines or signs shall be erected. Nothing may be attached to memorial property (fences, trees, trash receptacles, etc.). **SIGNS AND BANNERS MUST NOT BE ATTACHED TO STICKS OR POLES.** This provision is not intended to restrict the use of portable signs or banners used as an expression of First Amendment rights. Banners or signs which are hand carried are allowed and must not pose a danger to anyone else in the area.
13. Participants are to avoid language which implies an official connection with the National Park Service and its activities.
14. Good order and proper decorum shall be maintained by the person or persons conducting and participating in the event and the person or persons will leave the area at the conclusion time stated on the permit. It is prohibited for anyone engaged in activities covered under the permit to obstruct or impede pedestrians or vehicles, or harass park visitors or misrepresent their purposes. Permittee agrees to maintain public access in the area.
15. The provisions of 36 CFR Chapter 1 Section 2.51, a copy of which is located on the website, is made a part of each permit.
16. Failure to comply with the provisions of this permit will result in its immediate revocation. Specific individuals failing to comply with the provisions herein will be prohibited from future participation in their activities at Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

In addition to specific terms and conditions articulated in the permit, all other Federal laws and regulations apply.

For further information, please contact the First Amendment Permits Office at 605-574-3125.