

General GMNF Wilderness Ranger Orientation Topics

Field Skills

- Packing for a Trip – Use a checklist
- Weather – always consider in trip planning, river crossing locations, peaks
- Clothing – Layering, FS
- Food/Cooking – What to buy, places to buy
- Water Filters – Use, maintenance of, giardia threats, boiling alternative
- Stoves – How to use safely, maintenance of, fuel storage
- Compass/Map Reading
- Camera use and Downloading
- Vehicle checks, gas recording., appropriate use, flat procedures
- GPS use and map programming
- Radio check ins, dead spots and sensitive information

Field Knowledge

- Go over Backcountry/Wilderness Patrol and Travel JHA and sign it
- Hospital locations, number for emergency calls 911
- Visitor Contact/Education – Strategies, information, safety measures, on-the-job-training
- Campsite Maintenance Down-size/consolidate fire rings, trash removal, nail from tree removal, fire grate removal, rope left removal, bow saw left at site removal, etc.
- Abandoned Property Procedures and Documentation – Boats, deer stands
- Search and Rescue – Wilderness Role
- Fire – Reporting if needed
- Wilderness Acts: 1964 Act, Eastern Wilderness Act., Vermont Wilderness Act and the New England Wilderness Act.
- Wilderness Plans – Show Lye Brook or Aiken Examples
- Wilderness Trail Maintenance tools and tool maintenance
- Wilderness trail standards
- No Vista Maintenance in Wilderness
- GMC Caretaker Locations and their role
- Outfitter Guide Checks and information Retrieval
- Wilderness Signs – No mileage or destination listing, colors, posts,
- Forest Plan – Wilderness 5.1
- Fish and Wildlife – Fish stocking, hunting allowed
- First Aid

Field Work Documentation

- Visitor Contact Field Document Sheet – Visitors met, Work done, Work to be done.
- K drive Reporting – Visitors met, Work done, Work to be done.
- Register sheet tallying – By month, day vs. overnights
- Incident Reports
- Job Hazard Analysis – Tailgate documentation
- Wilderness boundary checks – Safety against Private land, Specific inholdings and monitoring other FS activity.
- Wilderness license plate GPS documentation

Learning from Books and Audio Visual Resources

- Own a Long Trail Guide Book
- See “The Greatest Good” for FS History
- Take a LNT course or view video
- Power Point: Wilderness, An Enduring Resource by Ken Norden
- Power Point: Chief’s Ten Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge
- View An Axe to Grind video
- Watch: Keeping It Wild – The Wilderness Ranger DVD
- FS Wilderness Ranger Handbook
- Arthur Carhart Wilderness Ranger Training Module
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Give:

“Keep Wilderness Wild Notebook” to document contacts/work done.

Check list for Camping.

Smokey Calendar

Blank Register Sheet

Blank Wilderness Ranger Field Document Sheet

Chief’s Ten Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge Work

- Campsite Inventory and Re-inventory Procedures
- Campsite Inventory from GPS to GIS Mapping
- Invasive Species in identification, removal procedures and documentation sheets
- Invasive Species Plan development and Implementation
- Education Plan Updates and Implementation

Wilderness Ranger Pre-Reading to Send Out: 2010

- ___ Power Point, Wilderness : An Enduring Resource
- ___ Bristol Cliffs/Breadloaf, Lye Brook, Aiken and Peru Peaks/Big Branch Articles
- ___ GMNF Wilderness Education Plan up to date
- ___ Wilderness Management Issues
- ___ Communication and Visitor Education
- ___ Wilderness: What is Wilderness?
- ___ The Green Mountain National Forest : Legacy for the Future
- ___ Vermont Attractions and Guide and Road Map
- ___ Leave No Trace North East Mountains
- ___ Day Hikes Guide : Manchester and Middlebury and Rochester
- ___ Ten Year Wilderness Stewardship Challenge Brochure
- ___ Wilderness: An Enduring Resource Brochure
- ___ FS Wilderness Policy Handbook
- ___ Wilderness Ranger JHA
- ___ Air Quality Monitoring Brochure
- ___ Guide to Working Safely in the Outdoors
- ___ Wilderness Ranger Orientation Topics Checklist