

NEWS

From the Gifford Pinchot National Forest
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“USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

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Mount St. Helens Climbing Permits on Sale Beginning Feb. 1 at mshinstitute.org

VANCOUVER, WASH. – Mount St. Helens climbing permits go on sale for the 2011 climbing season beginning 9:00 a.m. Feb. 1, 2011 on Mount St Helens Institute’s website at mshinstitute.org.

These permits are \$22 per person and are required for climbing between April 1 and Oct. 31 above 4800 feet on Mount St. Helens. Permits are available for pick up at Lone Fir Resort in Cougar, Wash.

Climbing permits are required year-round. They are free to an unlimited number of people planning their climb from November through March. From April 1 until May 14, an unlimited number of climbers can attain permits for the \$22 fee. Beginning May 15 until Oct. 31, there is a limit of 100 permits a day to help manage impact on the mountain’s natural regeneration.

These permits help the Monument and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest balance the protection of natural resources with visitor safety while enjoying the Lower Forty-eight’s most active volcano up close and personal.

“Our mission at Mount St. Helens is to encourage the public to get out and enjoy this unique landscape in Southwest Washington,” said Deputy Monument Manager Diana Perez. “The permits allow us to protect the physical and biological features on the volcano and watch out for people’s safety while climbing.” Permits allow Forest staff to know who is on the mountain in the event of an emergency.

Details about climbing Mount St. Helens are available online at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/mount-st-helens/permit-system.shtml>.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about climbing and permit systems are available at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/gpnf/recreation/mount-st-helens/climbing-faqs.shtml#permits>

Information about guided climbs and field seminars offered by the Mount St. Helens Institute is found at:

http://mshinstitute.org/index.php/programs/field_seminars.