



# Mount Rainier National Park Citizen Ranger Program



## Paradise Area Quest #4

Title: **Paradise Visitor Center Amazing Adventures Citizen Ranger Quest:**

**Introduction:** This “Amazing Adventure” Quest will help you to have fun while you learn about some of the things that go into managing a national park. Finish a series of five “adventures” at the Paradise Visitor Center to complete it. If you wish, the ranger at the desk will time you. If you are fast enough we’ll post your picture and name on the park Facebook page. You can also split up and race against other members of your group.

**Length:** 30-60 minutes.

**Guidelines:** Quests can be completed by individuals or families/small groups. Have your Citizen Ranger Certificate stamped and initialed for each Quest you complete. Get your certificate after completing your first Quest. Complete (and have verified) four Quests to become a Mount Rainier Citizen Ranger. Ask a ranger at the information desk if you need help or hints!

**Safety:** Running is prohibited. Any group/individual seen running will incur a 5 minute penalty.

**Level of Difficulty:** Recommended for ages 12 through adult. Younger children may be able to complete with assistance.

**Materials Needed:** Pen or pencil, this Quest sheet, clues/adventures you receive one at a time from the ranger.

The ranger at the desk will give you the first clue/adventure to get you started. Once you complete an adventure and bring the correct answer to the ranger at the desk you will be given your next clue/adventure. Use the spaces below to record answers you will present to the ranger monitoring your Amazing Adventures Quest.

**Adventure 1 Answers:**

ranger verification initials\_\_\_\_

**Staff Member 1:**

- a.
- b.
- c.

**Staff Member 2:**

- a.
- b.
- c.

**Adventure 2 Answers:**

ranger verification initials\_\_\_\_

a. message 1:

b. message 2:

c. location:

**Adventure 3 Answers:**

ranger verification initials\_\_\_\_

a. Hardest to:

b. Why?

**Adventure 4 Answers:**

ranger verification initials\_\_\_\_

a. high

b. low

c. current

d. prediction:

**Adventure 5 Answers:**

ranger verification initials\_\_\_\_

a. meaning 1:

b. meaning 2:

c. your meaning:

Ranger Verification Signature/Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Total Time to complete entire Quest:\_\_\_\_\_

**Paradise Amazing Adventures Quest: Ranger Directions and clues to give out 1 at a time.**

Ranger gives out the Paradise Amazing Adventures Quest and then keeps track of the time to complete this Quest. Ranger verifies correct answer on participants official answer sheet for each of the five adventures that are part of this Quest. Once an adventure is completed and verified the ranger gives out the next adventure clue. If the individual or group completes the Quest in record time we can post their picture on the park Facebook page (if they agree). If this is the first completed Quest visitors receive their Citizen Ranger Certificate. Upon completing four Citizen Ranger Quests visitors become Citizen Rangers and can receive the unique Mount Rainier Citizen Ranger patch. Cut on the dotted lines so you can give these out one at a time.

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--Adventure 1: Park staff are specialized to do the different jobs necessary to keep the park running well. On this adventure you will interview two different park staff and find out what things they do in their job that few or no other employees do. Write the name of each employee and their job. Then, summarize their job and at least one or two things that they do that few or no other employees do. These employees can work for the National Park Service or one of the contractors that have employees in the park (Guest Services, Whitaker Mountaineering, others). Note that you can only interview one of the visitor center desk staff. Volunteers count as staff for this adventure. (Write answers on official answer sheet.)

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--Adventure 2: One of the things that is important in managing a national park is the safety of visitors. Find a public display in or near the Paradise visitor center that focuses on safety. Describe in detail two of the safety messages on the display. Also name the location of the display. (Write answers on official answer sheet.)

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--Adventure 3: "Keep Wildlife Wild" is a common saying at National Parks. Managing the people interactions with wildlife is important for both the visitors and the wildlife. Borrow a "Keeping Wildlife Wild" brochure from the front desk. Study the brochure and report which of the species described in the brochure might be the hardest for us to "Keep Wild" and why. As long as you support your answer, it will be correct. (Write answers on official answer sheet.)

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--Adventure 4: Keeping track of environmental changes is also a part of managing the park. This adventure lets you delve into one aspect of record keeping at the park. Environmental record keeping helps us see how the park changes day to day and year to year. Scientists tell us that climate change will bring us wetter warmer winters in the future (less snow more rain). Changes to snowfall can effect our ability to preserve the plants, animals, and natural cycles in the park. We have been monitoring snowfall for nearly 100 years at Paradise. Using the snowfall data that the park ranger gives you find the years of highest and lowest snowfall and record them on your answer sheet. Next, find the visitor center display that has the current year snowfall total and record it. Predict if this year's snowfall total (July 1 2013-June 30, 2014) will be higher or lower than average. (Write answers on official answer sheet.)

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-- Adventure 5: Getting people involved in thinking about what the park means to them helps spread the idea that the National Parks belong to us all. This helps foster a shared responsibility for taking good care of the National Parks. Find the display in the visitor center where people share their ideas on what the park means to them. Write out two of the meanings that people reported on your answer sheet. In the third space write what Mount Rainier National park means to you (can be group answer if you are a group). (Write answers on official answer sheet.)