

Natural Areas Master Naturalist Training

- Your Role and Responsibilities
- Natural Area Regulations
- Emergency Information
 - Fires, Weather, Lost Persons, Snakes, Medicals
 - Regional Properties
- Natural Areas Research Permits
- Employees and Volunteers



Your Role and Responsibilities

- Contact 911 for all emergencies, ask them to contact a city ranger.
- Please feel free to contact a ranger for any situation/incident. Don't be afraid to call us. When in doubt, call us out. We are here to help you! 970-416-2147

Natural Areas Regulations



Natural Areas Regulations

- Natural Area regulations are in place for 1 of 2 reasons

1. Visitor Safety

2. Resource Protection



Important Natural Areas Regulations.

- Alcohol is prohibited
- Public display of marijuana is illegal
- Dogs must be on a leash
- Some Natural Areas are on trail only (i.e. Soapstone Prairie, Foothills prop.)
- Firearms, open carry vs concealed, hunting
- No camping or fires
- Motorized vehicles prohibited except in designated areas

Be Aware That The Following Natural Areas Do Not Allow Dogs

- Soapstone Prairie Natural Area
- Bobcat Ridge Natural Area
- Coyote Ridge Natural Area
- Running Deer Natural Area
- Cottonwood Hollow Natural Area
- Fossil Creek Reservoir Natural Area

Examples of When To Call A Ranger

- A violation disrupts or interferes with your program.
- A violation occurs in a very close proximity to your program setting.
- When any hazardous activity is seen.
- For vandalism, resource destruction, dumping, or fireworks.
- Visitors using alcohol or drugs.



Examples of When To Call A Ranger

- When you see a dog chasing wildlife, an aggressive dog or off leash dog and you do not see the owner
- If a visitor becomes agitated towards you or other visitors in the area.
- For campsites, disruptive visitors, or user conflicts.



Emergencies

- Overview
- Fire, Weather, Lost Person, Rattlesnakes and Medicals
- Regional Properties

Emergency Overview

- Remain calm
- Be sure the scene is safe
- Call 911
- If you don't have a cell phone, have someone else in your party or another visitor go get help
- **Know your location (road/trail names) and be able to direct responding units to you. Practice during your daily duties**
- Give a clear, concise description of the emergency
- When in doubt, call them out!!!

FIRE

- Location
- Size
- Type of fuel
- Winds
 - Speed
 - Direction
- Visitors, structures or property in danger

Weather

- **Lightning**

- Watch weather, get out before storm hits
- Less than 30 sec. flash to bang, seek safe location
- If caught in a lightning storm:
 - Get into a hardtop vehicle
 - Find uniform cover (trees approx. same size)
 - Insulate yourself from ground
 - Stay low
 - Spread groups out
 - Crouch down in gullies and gulches

Weather

- Lightning (cont.)

- Stay away from:

Bathrooms, shelters, high spots, open places, overhangs, large bodies of water, umbrellas, long conductors (pipes, wires, wire fence, wet ropes)

Lost Persons

- A lost person is an emergency, the sooner the search starts, the better
- Try to keep the reporting party (RP) with you or get RP contact information
- Preserve lost party's last known area for clues (think tracking/dogs)



Lost Persons

- Basic questions to ask:
 - Who is missing
 - Point Last Seen
 - How long gone
 - Age/Sex
 - Medical issues/mind set
 - Clothing description
 - Direction of travel
 - What did they have with them when they left
 - Experience, fears



Rattlesnakes Live Here!

If you see a snake:

- Stop and warn others in the area.
- Remain still or slowly back away.
- Wait for it to move away.
- Tail shaking means it wants you to move away. Go slowly.



Rattlesnakes Live Here!

If you are bitten:

- Move away from snake.
- Remain calm and restrict any movement as exertion causes the poison to spread faster.
- Someone call 911 or if you are alone with no phone then slowly walk to the nearest phone or have the next person you meet call 911 for you.
- Remove all jewelry, watches, and constricting clothing, remain at rest, immobilize bitten extremity and keep at same level as heart.

Medical Emergencies

- Remain calm and make sure the scene is safe.
- Make a determination on whether or not this is an emergency. (skinned knee vs possible heart attack) Error on the side of caution.
- Emergency, call 911. Notify the on duty ranger .
- Provide care up to but not above your training level.
- Anyone can ask for a helicopter, no matter how minor their injuries! They have to pay for it, not you.



Medical Emergencies Cont.

- What to do if you really are getting a helicopter!
 - Look for an open area about $\frac{1}{2}$ the size of a football field.
 - Secure all loose items on you, your injured person and on the ground
 - When you hear the chopper, wave your arms and something brightly colored
 - They will set down where they are comfortable, it may not be that close to you
 - Do not approach the chopper, they will come to you



Regional Properties

- Bobcat Ridge Natural Area
- Soapstone Prairie Natural Area
- Gateway Natural Area

Regional Natural Area Properties

- Directing Emergency Personnel
 - ✓ Know where you are and how to get help to you
 - ✓ Use trail names, parking lots, roads, and landmarks to assist emergency personnel
 - ✓ Use staff or other visitors to help direct emergency personnel to you

Regional Natural Area Properties

- Directing Emergency Personnel
 - ✓ Gate code at all locations = 9513, Keypads are near entry gate. Give code only to emergency personnel, not the public.
 - ✓ If gates are not open, inform dispatch that the gates are closed and that fire and ambulance can use they gate code or their sirens (opticon system). This should activate and open gates.

Bobcat Ridge Natural Area



- Access from parking lot
- Access gate at west end of CR32C
- Access from Eden Valley

Responding Agencies

- Loveland Fire and Ambulance
 - Larimer County Deputies and Rangers
 - City Rangers
 - Larimer County Emergency Services (dive team, wildland fire, search and rescue)
 - PFA
-
- 911 calls go through Loveland dispatch

Soapstone Prairie Natural Area



Give directions from the Gate Station, north lot, south lot or Ranch Manager Residence. Don't be overly concerned with addresses.

* Gate House: 22998
Rawhide Flats Road

*Ranch Manager
Residence 3700
Soapstone Road

Soapstone Prairie Natural Area

- Responding Agencies
 - Law enforcement incidents are dispatched by Larimer County Sheriff's Office (LCSO). You may get a LCSO Ranger as well.
 - Ask dispatch to notify city Rangers
 - Wellington Fire is the responding agency for medicals and fires, you may also get Rawhide Power plant folks who are actually closest.
 - You will have lots of resources coming to you but it may take them a while, where are they all going to go? Do you only need specialized folks on the trail (SAR)?

Gateway Natural Area



Gateway Natural Area

- General Emergency Information

- Use call box or office phone

- No cell phone coverage

- Call box located near entry by large propane tank

- Check to see if resident ranger or maintenance assistant is on-site

- Responding agencies: Larimer County Sheriff, State Patrol, DOW, county rangers and city rangers could all show up. Fire and medical units are volunteers and responding from their homes. You will also get PFA and PVH from town.



Gateway Natural Area

- General Emergency Information
- After calling 911, ask the dispatcher to notify the city rangers
- IF a city ranger is not working, please call 416-2147 and leave a message, only once the event has ended.

Natural Areas Permits

Persons or groups with research permit

MUST....

Wear researcher vest while on site

- Call a ranger if you have any questions about a group
- When is a permit needed:
 - More than 15 individuals in a group
 - In NA during closed hours
 - Commercial use

Employees and Volunteers

- REGULATIONS

- It's important to know & follow all NA regulations when on and off duty in the NAs.
- We all want to be good stewards of the NAs.



ANY QUESTIONS?



Photo by Doyle Lauterbach

