Know Before You Go!

Angeles National Forest

Visitor Guide

See P. 2-8 For detailed rec info

Welcome to the Angeles!

The Angeles National Forest is in one of the most populated and culturally diverse areas in the nation.

The forest is a scenic outdoor treasure, providing a postcard-like backdrop for the Los Angeles basin.

To the millions of residents who live within an hour's drive and to visitors from all over the world, the Angeles offers a thousand square miles of open space and a variety of recreation opportunities year round.

In contrast to the nearby city, you'll find yourself transported to natural environments of oak thickets, chaparral, high desert landscapes, pine woods, rivers, lakes, and streams. Enjoy spectacular scenery, campgrounds and picnic areas, swimming, fishing, or quiet wilderness areas. Discover trails winding through the forest for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers and off-highway enthusiasts.

The Angeles National Forest is YOUR great outdoors – to visit, to care for, and to… Enjoy!

Forest near urban LA comes with colorful history

The Angeles National Forest has been around for more than a century, changing and developing along with the Southern California culture.

During its history, it has attracted countless numbers of campers, horseback riders, adventurers, hunters and developers.

The Angeles began as the San Gabriel Timberland Reserve on Dec. 20, 1892 through an executive order signed by President Benjamin Harrison. It was the first national forest in California and the second in the nation.

The reserve was later changed to the Angeles National Forest in 1908.

Many changes have come throughout the decades. The Mount Wilson observatory was completed in 1908 and is a premiere research station today. Railroads and dams were constructed throughout the forest.

There was the "Great Hiking Era" from the 1890s to 1930s.

The completion of Angeles Crest Highway in the 1950s provided improved access to recreational areas. The forest has rebounded from floods, fires and mudslides.

The San Gabriel Mountains, contained almost wholly within the forest, are some of the steepest and most rugged mountains in the United States.

Today, the Angeles National Forest provides more than 70 percent of the open space in Los Angeles County, though 90 percent of the forest land is steep and rugged.

Despite being bordered by freeways, the Angeles continues to maintain its unique character.

Did You Know . . . ? Facts and Trivia about our beloved forest

* When the forest began in 1908, the surrounding Los Angeles County had a population of 425,000 people, about 4.3 percent of today's county population of 9.8 million.

* Today the Angeles is relatively small in comparison to other forests, with 700,176 acres. It more than makes up for this by hosting 3.5 to 4 million visitors annually.

* The Angeles has furnished locations for numerous motions pictures and TV shows. These include "The Fugitive," "Bonanza," "Duel," "Star Trek: First Contact" and "Mission Impossible 2."

* The Angeles has an Off Highway Vehicle network of 270 designated miles and two designated open areas.

* The forest has 18 dams and debris basins that support the massive flood control system protecting L.A. County residents.

* The Angeles has about 463 recreational residences; 25 picnic areas; 36 campgrounds; five ski areas; 548 miles of trails; five wilderness areas and 10 lakes and reservoirs.

* The forest is next to one of the largest media centers in the nation and received 350 media inquiries in 2010.

* Mount Wilson Observatory in the Angeles opened in 1908 with a 60-inch telescope, then the largest in the world.

OFFICE LIST

Angeles National Forest Supervisor's Office
701 N. Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91006
(626) 574-5613
Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Los Angeles River Ranger District
12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Road
San Fernando, CA 91342
(818) 899-1900
Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers R.D.
33708 Crown Valley Road
Acton, CA 93510
(661) 269-2808
Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

San Gabriel River Ranger District
110 N. Wabash Ave
Glendora, CA 91741
(626) 335-1251
Mon – Fri: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
.

Big Pines Information Center
Highway 2/Big Pines Highway
Wrightwood, CA 92397
(760) 249-3504
CLOSED

Chilao Visitor Center
Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2)
La Canada, CA 91011
(626) 796-5541
CLOSED SEASONALLY

Clear Creek Information Center
Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2)
La Canada, CA 91011
(626) 821-6764
Weekends: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Grassy Hollow Visitor Center
Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2)
Wrightwood, CA 92397
(626) 821-6737
Weekends and holidays
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Mount Baldy Visitor Center
Mount Baldy Road
Mount Baldy, CA 91759
(909) 982-2829
Weekends; 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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To file a complaint of discrimination write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Angeles offers numerous superb hiking trails

The Angeles offers 557 miles of hiking and equestrian trails with many choices for hikers, from beginner to experienced outdoor enthusiasts.

All trails, except the Pacific Crest and those in Wilderness areas, are open to mountain bikes. Several excellent hiking guides written for the Angeles National Forest including John Robinson's *Trails of the Angeles* can be found in local bookstores and at some forest visitor centers.

For those who desire the ultimate hiking trail experience, three trails on the forest have national significance:

The Pacific Crest Trail – This 2,650-mile hiking and equestrian trail stretches from Mexico to Canada. About 176 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail pass through the Angeles National Forest with terrain varying from high desert to subalpine. Some hikers and a few equestrians travel the entire trail in one season but most visitors com from around the world to experience this scenic trail. Note: Some parts of the trail have been rerouted. Please visit the Angeles website before you go.

Silver Moccasin National Recreation Trail – This 53-mile route snakes across the heart of the San Gabriel Mountains. Beginning at Chantry Flats near Sierra Madre, the trail follows numerous steep canyons and pine studded ridges then climbs to lofty Mt. Baden Powell before making its final descent to Vincent Gap on the Angeles Crest Highway near Wrightwood.

Gabrielino National Recreation Trail – This 28-mile adventure begins at the mouth of Arroyo Seco Canyon, travels northeast to Redbox and curves down to Chantry Flats north of Sierra Madre. (The section between Paul Little Picnic Area and the Bear Canyon Trail Cutoff is closed to the public.) The Gabrielino Trail is classified as moderate to strenuous with an elevation change of 4,800 feet.

For more information, please check the Angeles National Forest website, under "Recreation."

Know... Before you Go

Before you lace up your boots, jump into the car and head for the forest, take a minute to gather important information and supplies. It will make your trip more enjoyable, and could even save your life! The secret is to KNOW BEFORE YOU GO…

Know your physical capabilities. Don't plan trips that are beyond your skill and ability. For example, find out how strenuous your planned trail route is, and select routes within the capabilities of the slowest and least experienced person in your group.

Know the area. Learn about the area you plan to visit by using guidebooks, maps, the internet, and by calling a Forest Service office near the area. Get familiar with your planned route!

Know the weather conditions and forecast. Before leaving home, check the weather and plan your trip accordingly. If weather conditions unexpectedly worsen on your trip, turn back. Visit: www.wrh.noaa.gov.

Know what equipment, clothing, and shoes to bring. Pack a hat, sturdy shoes, and extra clothing you can layer for warmth. Bring a flashlight, pocket knife, first aid kit, sunglasses, sun screen, insect repellant, blanket, map, compass, and waterproof matches.

Know the necessary skills needed for your adventure and be prepared to use them. If you do not have the technical skills you may need, go with someone else who has the experience. If you are going to an area where you need to use a compass and read a detailed map, make sure you know how!

Know the regulations and rules for the area you are visiting. Some areas require you to have reservations or other permits.

For all Emergencies Call 911
(Typically cell phones do not work in areas of the Forest)

Campgrounds, picnic areas offer fun for families

Family campgrounds

Forest Service family campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis. You may make reservations at concessionaire-operated campgrounds through Reserve USA. Call them toll-free at (877) 444-6777 or reserve on the web at: recreation.gov.

Fees for campgrounds are based on a maximum occupancy of eight people per site unless otherwise noted. Most family campgrounds have vault or flush toilets, fire rings and/or stoves, tables and parking spaces. Drinking water may or may not be available depending on the season and the natural supply of water.

Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. You may build fires only in the stoves/fire rings provided or use your gas stove. Pets must always be restrained or on a leash less than 6 feet.

Group campgrounds

Forest Service group campgrounds are people. Group campgrounds are operated by reservation only through either Recreation.gov, campground concessionaires, or the Forest Service. Check the Angeles Forest website for more info on campgrounds.

Picnic Areas

Picnic areas are found throughout the forest. Picnic sites are for day-use only, (most are open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.) and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. A National Forest Adventure Pass or Interagency Pass is required for vehicles parked in these areas. Most picnic areas have tables, stoves or fire pits, and restrooms.

It is advisable to bring your own drinking water as many picnic areas do not provide piped water. You may use the stoves, fire pits and campfire circles which are provided by the Forest Service or your own liquid or gas fuel portable stoves as long as proper clearance is maintained.

Campfire Permits are not required in developed picnic areas accessible to the public by motor vehicle.

Be a volunteer to help the forest!

There are many volunteer opportunities available in Angeles National Forest through the new Volunteers, Interpreters, Partners and Stewards program. Duties would include:

- Forest restoration including trail maintenance, planting trees and working at a visitor center.
- Teaching conservation practices and serving as mentors to forest visitors and volunteers.
- Leading conservation education programs that teach about wildlife, watershed, native plants, wilderness safety, etc.
- Forest Service employees who help foster a conservation ethic with the public.

See the Angeles website for more info: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/volunteering/

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Kathy Peterson at: AngelesNFVolunteers@gmail.com. Other forest volunteer organizations include:

Angeles Volunteer Association Inc. - Does wilderness patrols, visitor center staffing, nature trail guides, trail maintenance, mountain bike patrol and many other projects. www.angelesvolunteers.org ; (626) 963-2965.

California Trail Users Coalition – Works with trail users in maintaining trails and is committed to educating trail users to promote ecological use of public lands. www.trailusers. org (818) 353-4682.

Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association— Helps restore, maintain and host two historic forest fire lookout towers. For more information, check their website, http://www.anffla.org/,

Districts in Angeles Forest offer recreation, diversity

Angeles National Forest, spread out over 1,000 square miles, has three districts with woods, mountains and desert, along with diverse recreational opportunities in the outdoors.

The Los Angeles River Ranger District is in the central section of the forest. Consisting of 147,871 acres, it offers a host of recreation including hiking, camping, water play in the creeks, picnicking and mountain biking.

The district is bound by the Los Angeles Basin on the south, the San Gabriel Wilderness Area west of state Highway 39 on the east, the San Gabriel Mountains Crest north of Santa Clara Divide Road on the north, and the junction of the I-5 and Highway 14 on the west.

Elevations in the district range from 1,200 to 8,700 feet. The higher area includes the upper reaches of the San Gabriel River canyons and the 5,700-foot Mount Wilson. The lower elevations are covered with chaparral, oak, sycamore and alders, while elevations above 5,000 feet feature pine, cedar and fir.

Top recreational areas include Chantry Flat Picnic Area and Trailhead, Cobb Estate Trailhead, Switzer Picnic Area and Trailhead, Buckhorn Campground and Lower Big Tujunga Canyon. The district has more than 150 miles of trails including sections of the Pacific Crest, Gabrielino, Silver Moccasin and High Desert trails.

The San Gabriel River Ranger District is one of the most heavily-visited areas in the National Forest system with more than 1.4 million visitors per year. The district is spread out over 182,425 acres. Its elevation ranges from 840 feet at the San Gabriel Canyon mouth, to 10,064 feet at Mt. Baldy. The San Gabriel district is located along the southeast boundary of Angeles National Forest. It is bound on the east by San Bernardino Forest, on the west by Los Angeles River Ranger District, and on the north by the Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District.

The district offers many recreational opportunities:

Camping: Campgrounds are operated on a first-come, first-served basis. Drive-up campgrounds include Crystal Lake Recreation Area, Deer Flats Group Campground (20-65 people), Coldbrook, Glenn Camp and Manker Flats.

Hiking: Some of the hiking trails challenge both beginner and experienced backpackers. They include the Pacific Coast Trail and three wilderness areas: Cucamonga Wilderness, Sheep Mountain Wilderness, San Gabriel Wilderness.

Bicycling: West Fork National Bicycle Trail (7 miles one way) is a gated, paved road closed to motorized vehicles. Mountain bikes are allowed on most trails. They are NOT allowed on the Pacific Crest Trail, San Dimas Experimental Forest or within any wilderness area.

Fishing: Rainbow trout, bluegill, catfish are the most common fish found in district lakes and streams. A state license is required for all visitor ages 16 and over.

Mt. Baldy Trout Pools (Privately owned): Rainbow trout fishing in manmade pools.

West Fork Wild Trout Area: Catch-and-release fishing with single barbless hook and artificial lures.

The Santa Clara Mojave River Ranger District is the largest of the three districts. It contains 369,880 acres in the north and northwest areas of the forest, offering hiking, picnicking, camping and other recreational activities.

Elevations in the district range from 1,286 feet to a high of 9,399 feet at Mt. Baden-Powell the second highest mountain elevation on the forest. The historic Big Pines Information Office, just outside of Wrightwood sits at 6,862 feet the highest elevation on the San Andreas Fault. Terrain on the district ranges from high rugged mountain peaks and pine forest, to the lower foothills of the Mojave Desert with scrub oak and desert sage.

Top recreational areas include: Jackson Lake in the Wrightwood area for fishing, camping, hiking, picnicking, and snow play; Littlerock Dam for fishing and picnicking; and Pyramid Lake for boating, fishing, hiking and water play. The Pacific Crest Trail, which runs the entire district, is a major attraction for hiking. Yearly visitors, particularly the Boy Scouts, use the Mt. Baden-Powell trail as training in preparation for high-elevation hikes in the High Sierras. The Santa Clara Mojave Rivers Ranger District is also home of Mountain High ski resort. The district has also been used for numerous film and television projects including "Faster," "Brothers and Sisters," "The Mentalist," and many commercials.

Rec fees: Why they are necessary

Recreation Fees

Recreation fees, including the Adventure Pass, help improve recreation opportunities and services.

Visitors to the Angeles must purchase a National Forest Adventure Pass--$5 for a daily pass or $30 for an annual pass to use many recreation sites. The fees have been deemed necessary because federal funding has not kept up with costs in recent years.

The passes are required in areas including family and group campgrounds, picnic areas, and boat launch ramps, and for High Impact Recreation Areas-- such as in Big Tujunga, Angeles Crest, and San Gabriel Canyon (they do not replace camping fees). The passes are not for those just passing through, but are required to participate at the recreation sites. They can be purchased at most Forest Service offices as well as from vendors, including sporting-good outlets. For more information, please access: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/ap/vendors.php.

There is also an alternative: four versions of *America the Beautiful*, the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes. First, is the Interagency Annual Pass, which admits the pass holder and up to three people age 16 and over in a private vehicle, $80 annually. Second, is the Interagency Senior Pass, good for a lifetime for those age 62 or over, for $10. Another is the Interagency Access Pass, free to those with permanent disabilities and good for a lifetime, given for free. The fourth is the Interagency Volunteer Pass, for people who have acquired 250 hours of volunteer service to their agency, given at no cost. For more information: http://store.usgs.gov/pass/index.html.

Hunting allowed in Angeles with proper state license

Hunting is permitted through-out the Angeles during hunting seasons designated by the state Department of Fish and Game.

A state hunting license is needed at all times. Popular game includes mule deer, bear, coyotes, jackrabbits, ducks, geese, dove and pigeons.

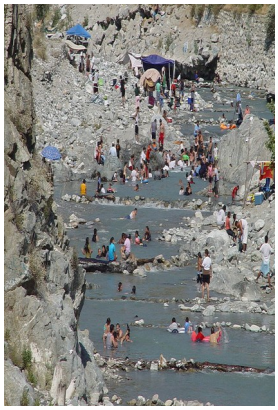
Please use non-lead bullets. When scavengers ingest lead, they may die.

Hunting is not permitted in areas where discharge of firearms is prohibited by county ordinance, state law, or federal regulations.

Hunters must follow all laws, including no hunting within 150 yards of a residence, building, recreation site or occupied area. Bow hunting may be permitted in some firearm-closure areas during legal hunting season. No bow hunting is permitted within designated recreation areas.

Please check with the Department of Fish and Game, or a local Forest Service office for additional areas where bow hunting is permitted.

Angeles offers fun areas for water recreation



For fishing and boating, the Angeles has many sites available. They include:

San Gabriel River North and East forks offer fishing for rainbow trout, arroyo chub, and speckled bass. Camping by river is allowed. Adventure pass required. No open fires or charcoal allowed.

Elizabeth Lake offers fishing and boating for sailboats, non-motorized water craft and boats with 10 hp engines or less. Jet skis prohibited. Swimming is not permitted, and no camping is available.

Littlerock Reservoir offers fishing, boating, swimming and picnicking. It is concessionaire run and does not accept adventure passes. Only local rental boats are allowed. Boats may not exceed 5 mph or "wakeless" speed limit. There are no lifeguards or designated swimming areas. For more info, please call (661) 533-1923.

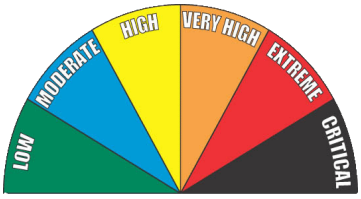
Visitors to lakes and reservoirs should be sure their boat, trailer, or aquatic gear do not have attached Quagga mussels. This invasive creature does great harm in South-land water areas. For more on info: http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/recreation/fishing. shtml.

Fire Danger Levels: What they mean

From low to criticaL, fire danger levels for the Angeles National Forest are divided into six phases:

LOW
No fireworks
No shooting of tracer, armor piercing, steel core, or Teflon ammunition
Welding, grinding, cutting and use of explosives only with proper permit.
Spark arrestors are required on off-highway vehicles, chainsaws and other equipment.
Wood and charcoal fires in designated sites only, in agency-provided campfire rings and stoves.
Gas and petroleum jelly stoves only outside of designated sites with a valid California Campfire Permit.
Smoking in enclosed vehicles, developed recreation sites or areas cleared 3-feet in diameter.

MODERATE
All previous restrictions apply.
Certain geographic areas may be closed due to special circumstances.



HIGH
All previous restrictions apply.
Additional geographic areas may be closed due to special circumstances.

VERY HIGH
All previous restrictions apply.

EXTREME
All previous restrictions apply.
Smoking only in enclosed vehicles or buildings.
Entry into the National Forest is restricted to certain developed sites. Those sites will typically be within ¼ mile of state or county highways.
Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire, campfire, or stove fire is prohibited.
Forest supervisor may designate locations with special circumstances where dispersed recreation and/or day use can be allowed. Contact the district office for more information.

CRITICAL
Entry into the Angeles National Forest is restricted to state and county highways. All Forest Service sites are closed during these times, EXCEPT ranger stations, fire stations and supervisor's office. The forest supervisor may designate areas or certain developed sites to be open.

Plenty of fun for Off-Highway Vehicle riders

Angeles National Forest provides two major Off-Highway Vehicle staging areas offering the only OPEN riding opportunities. The Forest otherwise has 270 miles of OHV-designated routes open for 4-wheel-drive vehicles, ATVs or motorcycles. Recommended areas:

Rowher Flat – Santa Clara/Mojave Rivers Ranger District R.D.: about 47 miles of marked trails in a 10,000 acre OHV area. Trails require intermediate to advanced riding skills. An Adventure Pass is not required on green or red-sticker vehicles but is needed for other vehicles parked in the area. Access is through Rush Canyon Road off Sierra Highway.

San Gabriel Canyon – San Gabriel River R.D.: 150 acres of rocky, sandy, reservoir land. Stream flow is year-round. Fees: $8 per primary vehicle, $5 for each additional vehicle. Toilets provided, although there is no drinking water.

From the 210 Freeway, take the Azusa Avenue/Highway 39 exit. Go north about 10 miles to the staging area. Call (626) 910-1235 or (626) 335-1251 for information. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all times in this area.

Wilderness areas offer hiking, beautiful scenery

The five Wilderness areas in the Angeles offer a unique opportunity to escape the hectic pace of city life, to find solitude and enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. The areas total 121,130 acres. Preserving the natural landscape, native vegetation and wildlife is important in these special areas. Mechanized and motorized equipment such as generators, motorized vehicles and mountain bikes are prohibited.

San Gabriel Wilderness ranges from 1,600 to 8,200 feet with some extremely rugged terrain. Wilderness permits are not required to enter the San Gabriel Wilderness. Entry is from the following trails: Bear Creek Trail – An 11-mile trail with trailheads near the West Fork of the San Gabriel River and Coldbrook Campground; Mt. Waterman Trail – A 3 ½ mile trail to Mt. Waterman with a ¾-mile side trail to the Twin Peaks Saddle Trail; Twin Peaks Saddle Trail – a 7-mile trail from Three Points to Twin Peaks Saddle; Devil's Canyon Trail – a 3 ½-mile trail down into rugged Devil's Canyon.

Cucamonga Wilderness requires a free wilderness permit. Entry points are at Icehouse Canyon, Thunder Mountain and Lytle Creek. This area has species including deer, bear, mountain lions and bighorn sheep. Hiking areas include the Icehouse Canyon and Ontario Peak trails. Permits are available for access though Icehouse Canyon and Thunder Mountain at the Mt. Baldy Visitor Center and the San Gabriel River Ranger District (see directory, p. 2) Permits for access from the Lytle Creek area may be obtained from the Front Country Ranger District at (909) 382-2850, off Lytle Creek Road.

Sheep Mountain Wilderness – has 41,883 acres with elevations from 2,400 to the 10,064-foot Mt. San Antonio (also known as Old Mt. Baldy). The East Fork of the San Gabriel River, which runs through this wilderness, is famous for its recreational opportunities and mining history. Backpacking, camping, and fishing are also common in this wilderness. A diverse population of wildlife including the Nelson bighorn sheep, deer, coyotes, bears, and mountain lions inhabit this wilderness.

Magic Mountain Wilderness –near Santa Clarita, has 12,282 acres and contains great opportunities for hiking and solitude. Vegetation includes Chaparral (chamise, manzanita, scrub oak, ceanothus) and covered hillsides in steep, vertical-walled, narrow canyons with perennial streams yield to scattered stands of mixed pines and hardwoods (oaks, willows, alder, sycamores). The California condor, a federally endangered species, inhabits this wilderness. The Least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, arroyo toad, mountain yellow-legged frog, unarmored three-spine stickleback, Santa Ana sucker, and the two-striped garter snake also live there.

Pleasant View Ridge Wilderness -designated in 2009, has 26,757 acres. It is located about 30 miles northeast of La Canada, north of the Angeles Crest Highway where the San Gabriel Mountains slope north to meet the Mojave Desert. This area is known for its' majestic peaks and spectacular views of the San Gabriels and desert basin. Burkhart Trail, Islip Saddle Trail, and the Pacific Crest Trail go through this wilderness.

Wild Animals: Be careful with bears, mountain lions

Did you know…

- that a bat is a mammal; the only one that flies?
- that a golden eagle can live up to 80 years?
- that no large animals are permanent residents in caves?
- that a gray fox can climb trees?
- that all birds have three eyelids?

Bears

What is the most common and the smallest of North American bears? Why the black bear of course! But did you know that even though they are called "black" bears, they aren't always black? They may be honey colored, blonde, brown or black. Sometimes these bears may appear clumsy, but don't let them fool you.

These remarkable animals can run 30 mph in short bursts and climb trees easily. Black bears are generally shy and avoid human contact but their keen sense of smell can get them into trouble. Bears may decide to visit your camp if they can smell dirty cooking utensils, garbage and even the clothes you cooked in. So how do you protect yourself and the bears from disaster?

Always keep food in odor-free and airtight containers- even if stored in your car. Many campgrounds do not have bear-proof storage containers, but you can purchase one at sporting goods stores. Keep car windows tightly closed. Place all garbage in bins provided by the Forest Service.

NEVER store food and toiletries in or near your tent. If you must leave food or coolers in the car, make sure they are not visible through the windows. NEVER feed or approach a bear. According to one bear expert, "the lesson for humans is that if you can think like a hungry bear, you'll do a better job of avoiding one."

Other Wildlife Hints

Avoid setting up camp near rodent burrows. (Look for holes in the ground, and near rocks and tree stumps.) Fleas from rodents can carry bubonic plaque. Rattlesnakes are most frequently encountered during the warm summer months. Snakes are defensive and rarely attack unless provoked. When hiking, use a hiking stick and wear high top hiking shoes. Stay on clear paths as much as possible. Be careful where you place your feet and hands at all times.

Mountain Lions

Mountain lions often inhabit areas where deer are plentiful. When you are in mountain- lion country always keep small children close by. Never approach a lion or run from it because it may chase you. Stand, face the animal, and make eye contact. Pick up small children without bending or turning away from the lion. Try to look big. Raise your arms, open your jacket and make noise!

Angeles offers multiple areas for snow recreation

Winter not only provides a spectacular snow-covered landscape, but offers a large variety of recreation opportunities.

Cross-country skiing, snow camping, hiking, snowmobiling and snow play are some popular uses of the forest when it is blanketed with snow.

Downhill skiing is available at all the local commercial ski areas:

* Mt. Baldy Ski Lifts: located at the east side of the forest; has four lift systems and 28 runs at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. Runs span three mountains with a top elevation of 8,600 feet.

* Mountain High East, West and North resorts: located near Wrightwood; has 16 lifts and 59 runs at beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. The top elevation is 8,200 feet.

* Mt. Waterman: located on Angeles Crest Highway 36 miles northeast of La Canada. Has three lifts and 27 runs—60 percent are for advanced skiers. Snow area is 150 acres; top elevation is 8,030 feet.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is mining allowed in the Angeles National Forest?

All mining is forbidden. Forest policy is as follows: All mining operations (mining claims, prospecting, and mining, including panning, sluicing, and dredging) under the 1872 Mining Law are prohibited within withdrawn areas of the Angeles National Forest. Public Law No. 578 (1928 withdrawal) withdrew areas from entry and location under the mining laws. There is no provision in PL 578 which provides for even a limited right to enter the subject lands to prospect. Therefore, National Forest System lands withdrawn from entry and location are not open to prospecting or any other mining operations.

If I see an accident in the Forest, who do I report it to?

You should call 911. Dispatchers there will then notify other agencies.

Who is in control of the Forest roads?

The Angeles has about 1,600 miles of roads run by either the county, state or Forest Service. SR 2 and SR 39 are run by CalTrans. Roads with a number and letter, e.g. 1N, are run by the Forest Service. Remaining roads are run by the county Department of Public Works.

See contact info below for the state and county. Questions about a federal road should be sent to the local Angeles district office.

What opportunities are there for hunting in the Forest?

All hunting on the Angeles is regulated by the state Department of Fish and Game. See contact information below.

Are there any days in which people do not have to purchase an Adventure Pass?

Yes, they are the annual "Fee Free" days, which include Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January), National Get Outdoors Day (June), Back to School Season (August), National Public Lands Day (September), and Veterans Day weekend (November). Dates will vary each year.

Websites and phone contact info for important agencies

State Department of Fish & Game, Fresh Water Fishing Guide: **www.dfg.ca.gov/fishing**

Angeles Customer Service Comments: **http://www.fs.fed.us/contactus/**

Los Angeles County Road Closures (Area 5): **http://gis.dpw.lacounty.gov/roadclosures/main.cfm**

Mount Wilson Observatory: **www.mtwilson.edu**

National Park Service: **www.nps.gov**

Nature Watching on National Forests: **www.fs.fed.us/outdoors/naturewatch/**

Wildland Ethics: **www.lnt.org/LNTWildlandEthics.html**

Cleveland National Forest (Rancho Bernardo): (858) 673-6180

Los Padres National Forest (Goleta): (805) 968-6640

San Bernardino National Forest (San Bernardino): (909) 382-2600

National Forest Store: (406) 329-3024
(Purchase Forest maps by mail)

CalTrans Public Info: (213) 897-3630

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works: (626) 703-7400

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area: (805) 370-2301