



Green Mountain/Finger Lakes National Forests
Rainbow Family National Gathering
Information Update
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4,111 Rainbow Family members are currently camping on Forest Road 10 near Mount Tabor. There are 859 cars and 45 buses at the gathering site and parking challenges continue. Local residents should use caution travelling to the site.

To date, 170 warning notices and 151 violation notices have been issued. 95 incident reports or unsolved crimes are being investigated. Varying amounts of illegal drugs and narcotics have been confiscated from the gathering site. Although marijuana is prevalent in the gathering (Vermont street value \$367.00/oz.), law enforcement is also encountering opiates, methamphetamines and hallucinogenic drugs all having a high street resale value. The law enforcement officers are not charging those who are in compliance with the States medical marijuana laws.

Law enforcement for this gathering is a cooperative effort between the Rutland County Sheriff, Vermont State Police, Manchester Police Department, Bennington Police Department and Forest Service officers. Both federal, state and local law enforcement officers are conducting these enforcement actions based on accepted legal and constitutional practices based on both state and federal law. Law enforcement agencies strictly adhere to preserving the civil right of all citizens and providing fair, equitable and reasonable treatment.

The Forest Service is providing 23 sworn law enforcement officers to the cooperative effort. Another 17 Forest Service personnel include public information, engineers, hydrologists, biologists, and foresters. The Forest Service employees are working to reduce the impacts to Vermont's Green Mountain National Forest.

Increases in negative issues from the Rainbow Family continue. Issues include confrontations over food orders with the intent of getting free food, confrontations over being asked to provide proof of age to purchase alcohol, urinating and defecating in business parking lots and yards, and shoplifting from local general stores.

Officers on the Rainbow Detail assisted with the capture of a fugitive wanted for a sex crime against a minor. The perpetrator was an Appalachian Trail through hiker.

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Above left photo: Newly married Rainbow Family couple.
Above right photo: Rainbow meadow.