

Clear Creek Ranger District  
Visitor Services & Idaho  
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United States Department of Agriculture

DISPERSED  
CAMPING

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## Clear Creek Ranger District Dispersed Camping Information

### General Information

- With a few exceptions, dispersed camping is allowed on national forest public lands.
- Camping in the national forest at one location is limited to 14 consecutive days. The campsite must then be moved a minimum of three miles. Camping can then continue for an additional 14 days. Camping is restricted to a maximum of 28 days in any 60-day period.
- More than 40% of lands within the Arapaho National Forest boundary are private or otherwise owned. A map showing land ownership is recommended. It is YOUR responsibility to know if you are on private, city, county, state, national park or national forest land.
- **Pack out all trash.** There are no services.
- Practice Leave No Trace ethics.

### Restricted Areas

Most areas with limitations regarding camping and campfires apply year round. Additional restricted areas exist. If in doubt, read the signs posted in the area or call us. More information on Forest closure orders is available on the Forest website at [/www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/alerts-notices](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/arp/alerts-notices).

- **Barbour Fork (National Forest System Road 194):** No camping or campfires and use after sundown and before sunrise is allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of the road from the intersection of NFSR 194 and County Road 151 continuing ¼ mile past the Barbour Fork Trailhead.
- **West Chicago Creek Road (National Forest System Road 188):** No camping or campfires allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of the road from the turn off at Highway 103 continuing ¼ mile past the Hells Hole Trailhead. Including NFSR188.1E. Camping is allowed at West Chicago Creek campground.
- **South Chicago Creek (National Forest System Road 247.1):** No camping or campfires allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of the road from the turn off at Highway 103 continuing ¼ mile past the South Chicago Creek Trailhead.
- **Colorado Highway 103 to West Chicago Creek Road (National Forest System Road 188):** No camping, campfires and use after sundown and before sunrise allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of the road between Interstate 70 (Idaho Springs) and the West Chicago Creek Road.

## **Restricted Areas continued**

- **Columbine Road (National Forest System Road 176.1 & 185.1):**  
No camping, campfires and use after sundown and before sunrise allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of NFSR 176.1 and 185.1. Camping is allowed at Columbine Campground.
- **Guanella Pass Road (Clear Creek County Road 381):**  
No camping, or campfires and use after sundown and before sunrise allowed within ¼ mile of the centerline of the Guanella Pass Scenic and Historic Byway from Georgetown to the summit of Guanella Pass. This includes portions of the Leavenworth road, NFSR 248.1 and all of the Silver Dollar Lake road, NFSR 243.3D. Parking of vehicles are allowed in posted signed pullouts and trailheads.  
**Exception to the order are as follows;** Persons using the Mount Bierstadt trail #711, Persons who are camping or visiting a person(s) camping in a Forest Service designated and provided campground in that area, and persons traveling or driving through the area.

If you are continuing south to the town of Grant

**From the summit of Guanella Pass to Grant** (Pike National Forest, South Platte RD) the following restrictions are in place;

No camping, or parking except in designed (signed) parking and camping sites.

## **Designated Camping Areas**

**South Chicago Creek:** Located 9 miles south of Idaho Springs on South Chicago Creek Road, NFSR 247.1 there a designated area for dispersed camping. Please pack out all trash, no services available. Please camp within the posted camping area boundary.

### **Guanella Pass Area - Geneva Creek Road #119 (gravel road)**

From Georgetown continue south for approximately 15 miles and turn right on Geneva Creek Road, NFSR 119, continue 1 mile past the Geneva Creek Campground and the designated dispersed campsites are identified with a sign for parking and camping. There are approximately 30- 40 designated dispersed campsites along the road.

**Or**

From Denver, travel south on Highway 285 through Pine Junction and Bailey. Continue on Highway 285 to the town of Grant, turn right on Park County Road 62 (Geneva Rd) and continue for approximately 7 miles. Make a left on NFSR119; continue 1 mile past the Geneva Creek Campground and the designated dispersed campsites are identified with a sign for parking and camping.