News Release

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

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Parking fee waived at Oregon State Parks Nov. 27, the day after Thanksgiving

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) invites Oregonians to head outside for some fresh air the day after Thanksgiving, Nov. 27, also known as 'Green Friday.' OPRD will waive day-use parking fees that day in 25 state parks across Oregon.

"We recognize that being outdoors makes us feel better and is a break from the stresses of 2020," said director Lisa Sumption. "In this unconventional year, we feel it is especially important to honor this tradition as thanks to Oregonians for supporting us through our toughest times."

Thanksgiving weekend falls squarely within the Governor's Two-Week Freeze, Nov. 18 – Dec. 2. Accordingly, OPRD directs people to limit gatherings at parks to six people and two households. This is in addition to longstanding direction to stay local, wear face coverings and maintain a 6' distance from other visitors.

"Following these precautions is particularly important in the coming weeks to support statewide efforts to stop the spread of the virus," Sumption said. "When visitors prepare and care, it keeps parks safe for everyone."

Green Friday typically kicks off a series of holiday events in state parks, but this year OPRD opted to cancel these events.

"The pandemic challenges all of us to find new, creative ways to celebrate the holidays," Sumption said. "We look forward to the safe return of these holiday traditions. Until then, parks are open and here for you."

The parking waiver applies from open to close Nov. 27 at the 25 parks that charge a $5 daily parking fee. A list of parks that require day-use parking permits is available at stateparks.oregon.gov. Parking is free year-round at the majority of Oregon's 250-plus state park properties.