

# Goldmyer Hot Springs

Northwest Wilderness Programs

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**Online |** [www.Goldmyer.org](http://www.Goldmyer.org)

**Phone |** 206.789.5631

**Office Hours |** Monday - Friday 11:00am - 6:00pm

**Access Report |** Updated on our website at least every Wednesday evening

- **Please distribute this form to ALL members of your group**
- **Our email address is not monitored, all communication must be conducted over the phone**
- **RESERVATIONS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to ensure access to Goldmyer Hot Springs**
- **We allow 20 visitors per day, walk-ins without a reservation will be turned away if full**

## ABOUT

Goldmyer is a minimally developed wilderness area owned by Northwest Wilderness Programs, a Washington State non-profit organization. Our stewardship policies established in 1976 enable us to preserve the hot spring and surrounding private property for future generations. We ask for your help simply by being willing to follow our common sense minimum impact use rules. Goldmyer offers visitors access to old growth forest, a crystal clear natural geothermic hot spring, beautiful waterfalls, campsites with food hanging lines, two stocked outhouses, two shared picnic tables, and a bike rack.

## NOTES

- Prices are per person, per day, by age: (0-17) Free, (18-64) \$15, (65+) \$10.
- Camping is an additional \$5 per night, per person 18 years of age and older.
- **Access is limited to 20 people per day** to avoid over use and crowded conditions.
- **Group size is limited to 8 people max** (multiple groups that know each other are considered a single group).
- **No safe drinking water is available.** Bring your own water, and/or a back-packing filter for river water.
- **Campfires are not allowed.** For cooking, bring a back-packing stove (propane or white gas type).
- **Follow proper food handling practices.** Each campsite is supplied with a bucket with a screw-on lid and a hanging line for you to store your food out of reach from local wildlife. Even small foragers can chew through packs/tents if they contain food. **Don't feed wildlife and pack out all food waste.**
- **Avoid eating food at the hot spring area to reduce rodent problems.** Please use the trailside picnic tables.
- **Goldmyer is usually a clothing optional hot spring.** No-nudity times at the hot spring should be arranged ahead of time through our office.

## CHECK IN TIMES

- All visitors must arrive and check in with caretakers between 9:00 am - 9:00 pm. If visiting for the day, check out time is no later than 9:00 pm.
- If camping overnight, check out time is noon on the last day of your visit. We welcome multi-night visits.

Goldmyer limits the number of visitors to 20 people **per day** to preserve the wilderness environment.

If Goldmyer is full, walk-ins without reservations **will be turned away**. Sorry, no exceptions.

## Goldmyer Private Property RULES

Please follow these rules to ensure the safety and enjoyment for all visitors to Goldmyer. Groups or individuals who do not follow these rules may be asked to leave.

- **Leave No Trace** / Pack It In, Pack It Out. No garbage collection is available, please clean up after yourself.
- Stay on trails and within designated camp sites.
- **Absolutely NO alcohol is allowed at the hot spring area.** Moderate alcohol consumption is allowed in your campsite only. No loud, drunken, or unruly behavior will be tolerated.
- **NO** smoking of any sort. Goldmyer is a smoke free property. Please smoke off property and leave-no-trace.
- **NO** glass containers, **NO** drugs, **NO** dogs or other pets, **NO** weapons, **NO** campfires or charcoal grills. Also no soap at the hot spring area or cook stoves.

## RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

Look for "Ten essentials of mountaineering"

- First Aid Kit
- Good hiking boots (waterproof preferred)
- Rain Gear
- Warm layered clothing
- Filled water bottles and water filter
- Flashlight (even if not camping)
- Towel and bathing suit
- Food (it's a long journey)
- Camping equipment if staying overnight (tent, sleeping bag, sleeping pad)
- Directions (next page)

## WEATHER

The weather can change quickly in the Middle Fork Valley, please come prepared!

High clearance vehicles are necessary all year and 4WD vehicles are necessary in the winter. Weather varies from about mid-October to mid-March; from occasional "dry" days, to heavy rain, flooding, or unexpected snow. Starting in mid-November you may need snow chains. We recommend having a shovel, bow saw or axe, flashlights, extra food, warm gear, and other emergency equipment in your vehicle. Even high clearance 4WD vehicles with chains can be stopped by snow before reaching the trailhead. If it is snowing on your way in be wary that conditions may make the road impassible on your way out!

## CANCELLATION POLICY

*If you need to cancel some or all of your reservation, please be courteous and let the office know as soon as possible so your reservation can be opened up to other visitors.*

For cancellations received **less than one week** before your reservation...

- your reservation will be donated to the continued stewardship of Goldmyer Hot Springs

For cancellations received **less two weeks** before your reservation, but at least **one week** prior to your reservation...

- we can reschedule your visit for a future date which is available
- or, issue a credit for use within one year of the original reservation date

For cancellations received **two weeks or more** before your reservation...

- we can reschedule your visit for a future date which is available
- or, issue a credit for use within one year
- or, issue a refund minus a \$10 transaction fee or 25% whichever is greater

Transferring a reservation to another person must be approved through the office first.

## TRAVEL TIME

Plan for a minimum of 4 hours travel time each way

**Driving I** Seattle to 1-90 Exit 34 – Roughly 45 minutes (without interruption)

**Driving I** 1-90 Exit 34 to Dingford Trailhead – Roughly 1-2 hours (without interruption)

**Hiking I** Dingford Trailhead to Goldmyer – 2 to 3 hours at a steady moderate pace

**Biking I** Dingford Trailhead to Goldmyer – 45-60 minutes, depending on your conditioning and pack weight

## DRIVING DIRECTIONS

- From 1-90, use Exit #34 (468<sup>th</sup> Ave SE).
- At the end of the freeway exit turn north (left if driving east from Seattle, right if driving west).
- Drive past the truck stop. Shortly after the truck stop, turn right onto Middle Fork Road.
- Go either way at the fork in the road, they will re-connect.
- About 9 miles later, after the Middle Fork Campground, you will reach the end of the pavement, and drive across a single lane concrete bridge.
- Shortly after this bridge take the first right, you'll turn sharply uphill towards the Dingford Trailhead. This hill can be difficult for low clearance vehicles and rear wheel drive trucks with no weight in the back (numerous areas that have pot holes up to 6 inches deep).
- About 5 miles later the road will open up into a parking area with a gate at the far side. This is the Dingford Trailhead and the end of the road (see Hiking Route #1 or #2). Please do not block the gate.

### HIKING ROUTE #1 | *North side of river along the old roadbed (4.5 miles)*

- Walk (or mountain bike, snowshoe, etc.) **through the big metal gate** at the far end of the trailhead. Shortly after the gate you will cross a bridge over Dingford Creek Falls. Follow the road for roughly 4 miles.
- At the end of a long gradual hill, the old roadbed obviously widens into an open area roughly 25' in diameter, large enough to fit two or three Semi-trucks with trailers.
- There will be a fork in the road. Follow the fork to the right heading downhill. A short distance later, you will cross the Middle Fork River on a footbridge.
- Once across the bridge, turn right onto the trail.
- A short distance later turn left at the intersection. 1/4 mile later you will arrive at the Caretaker's Cabin.
- Please ring the bell on the welcome sign and check in with the caretakers upon arrival.

### HIKING ROUTE #2 | *South side of river on Middle Fork Trail (5.5 miles)*

Un-bridged stream crossings on this trail can be difficult to cross if the water is running high. NOT recommended in winter. *The Middle Fork Trail is only open to bikes during the spring and summer seasons and on odd calendar days.*

- **On the downhill side** of the Dingford Trailhead, a short trail leads to a footbridge.
- Once across turn left onto the trail. About 3 miles later you will cross Rock Creek on a single log footbridge.
- Shortly after there is a turn-off up to Snow Lake and Snoqualmie Pass. **Do not turn, continue straight.**
- About 2.5 miles later you arrive at Burntboot Creek. A set of crossed logs with flattened tops act as a footbridge. **Cross these logs with great care**, or ford the river on the downstream side so you don't get swept into the logs should you fall. **\*Flooding in 2015 caused damage to this log-crossing making it potentially dangerous and much more difficult to cross here. Attempt at your own risk.**
- Once across you are on Goldmyer property. Head away from the stream and past a cut downed log. A short distance later you will step back into conifer forest and come to a fork in the trail.
- Go straight and past the private property sign. Continue up a gentle hill through the campgrounds until you reach the Caretaker's Cabin.
- Please ring the bell on the welcome sign and check in with the caretakers upon arrival.

**GPS COORDINATES |** N 47.48540 W 121.3894