

Dispersed camping is available throughout the Medicine Bow-Routt Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland. Please remember to practice [Leave No Trace](#) - pack in, pack out. This applies to garbage, including tin, glass, plastic and food scraps, as well as human and animal waste. Remember, you should not leave garbage in the fire ring and be prepared to treat undeveloped water sources or bring your own water.

Where can I camp?

Dispersed camping is allowed, except where the area is posted closed, within 200 feet of any developed road, trail, picnic area, water source and trailhead, as well as ¼ mile from campgrounds. Please consult the [Motor Vehicle Use Map](#) for areas where you can park up to 300 feet from the established road.

How long can I camp?

Dispersed camping is limited to 16 days in the **Medicine Bow Forest** and **Thunder Basin National Grassland** and 14 days in the **Routt Forest** in a 30 day period. If you continue camping after 30 days, you must move at least 3 miles from your current site.

When Choosing a Dispersed Campsite

- Do not create new roads to access your campsite.
- Do not use undesignated roads or access points.
- Camp on bare or compacted soil to avoid damaging or killing plants and grass.
- Keep campsite activity to that bare or compacted soil to prevent site expansion.
- Park vehicles on edge of roads and barren ground to avoid disturbing vegetation.
- Wash dishes and bathe at least 200 feet from your campsite and water sources.
- Select a campsite with natural drainage, so that you do not trench or level tent sites.
- Do not cut down or damage vegetation, including standing dead trees.
- Use removable ropes instead of nails to hang items from trees.

Are campfires allowed?

Campfires are allowed unless there are fire restrictions in place. Please check all online sources for those restrictions. It is your responsibility to know about all fire restrictions and NEVER LEAVE A FIRE UNATTENDED.

- Make sure to have a bucket, shovel, water and axe available to control and extinguish a fire.
- The fire needs to be out completely when you leave the campsite.
- It should be cool enough to touch, so that you can put your whole hand into the ashes.

- Know how to treat burns with a first aid kit.
- Use camp stoves for cooking to minimize the use of down wood for fuel.
- Use a fire pan or learn how to build a mound-fire for cooking.
- When possible, use existing fire rings.
- Select an area for your campfire away from meadows, trees with low, overhanging branches and at least 100 feet from any water source.
- Collect only dead and downed wood for campfires.

Prohibited Activities

- Driving on unmarked roads with travel restrictions.
- Leaving campfires unattended.
- Leaving your trash behind or burying that trash.
- Abandoning or leaving personal property.
- Cutting or damaging green trees for use at the campsite.
- Building any structure or creating a horse corral.
- Destruction of Forest Service property, such as signs, posters and gates.
- Removing forest products without a permit.
- Discharging any firearm within 150 yards of buildings, occupied areas or across forest development roads and water sources.

