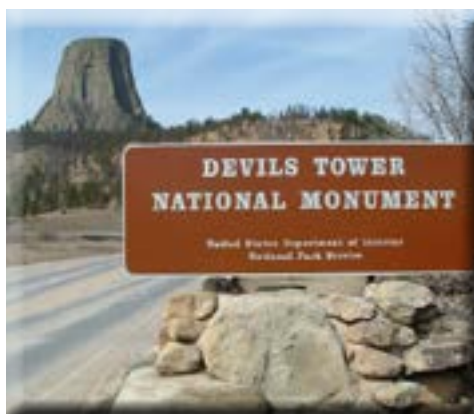




The Tower Columns

Welcome to Devils Tower National Monument



WELCOME TO THE NATION'S first national monument! We trust you will have a wonderful and satisfying experience while exploring all the park has to offer.

In his book, *The Way to Rainy Mountain* (1969), American Indian author N. Scott Momaday wrote, "There are things in nature that engender an awful quiet in the heart of man; Devils Tower is one of them." The Tower is a truly unique feature within the Black Hills area, and is enjoyed by many people in many different ways. It is the beacon that welcomes local community members home, as well as a premier crack-climbing site due to its columns and their distinct shapes. It is also a significant sacred site to American Indian tribes throughout the United States.

We would like to hear your ideas of how we may better serve you. Please feel free to write down your ideas on the comment forms available throughout the park or on our website at www.nps.gov/deto.

You may see multi-colored prayer bundles along your walk; please do not disturb these offerings.

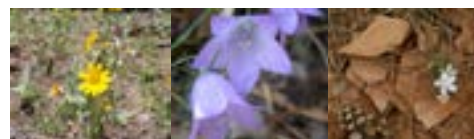


Drawn images of how the prayer bundles may appear along the trail

While you are here, remember that national parks belong to the public, which shares the tremendous responsibility of park stewardship. Please be mindful of this as you spend time taking in the grandeur of the Tower and its surrounding natural and cultural resources. Leave only footprints, and take only memories.

Above all, be safe, and thank you for visiting. We look forward to seeing you again!

Know Before You Go



Here are some useful reminders to help maximize the safety and enjoyment of all park visitors:

When walking the trails, take plenty of water and wear comfortable walking shoes.

All plants, wildlife, and archeological artifacts are protected.

Be respectful of this quiet place. Voices and noise travel long distances here.

Traditional cultural landscapes are protected places. Please do not disturb prayer bundles.



Things to do at Devils Tower:

Visit Prairie Dog Town

Check out the exhibits and the bookstore in the Visitor Center

Become a Junior Ranger

Hike the trails

- Tower Trail 1.3 miles
- Red Beds Trail 2.8 miles
- Joyner Trail 1.5 miles

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- 3.....Interpretive Exhibits
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The Geologic Making of Devils Tower



Geologists agree that Devils Tower was formed by an intrusion, the forcible entry of magma into or between other rock formations, of igneous material. What they cannot agree upon is how that process took place and whether or not the magma reached the land surface.

Numerous ideas have evolved since the official discovery of Devils Tower. Geologists Carpenter and Russell studied Devils Tower in the late 1800s and came to the conclusion that the Tower was indeed formed by an igneous intrusion. Later geologists searched for more detailed explanations.

In 1907, scientists Darton and O’Hara decided that Devils Tower must be an eroded remnant of a laccolith. A laccolith is a large, mushroom-shaped mass of igneous rock which intrudes between the layers of sedimentary rocks but does not reach the surface. This produces a rounded bulge in the sedimentary layers above the intrusion. This idea was quite popular in the early 1900s when numerous studies were done on a number of laccoliths in the Southwest.

Other ideas have suggested that Devils Tower is a volcanic plug or that it is the neck of an extinct volcano. Although there is no evidence of volcanic activity - volcanic ash, lava flows, or volcanic debris - anywhere in the surrounding countryside, it is possible that this material may simply have eroded away.

The simplest explanation is that Devils Tower is a stock—a small intrusive body formed by magma which cooled underground and was later exposed by erosion.

The magma which formed Devils Tower cooled and crystallized into a rock type known as phonolite porphyry. It is a light to dark-gray or greenish-gray igneous rock with conspicuous crystals of white feldspar. Hot molten magma is less dense and occupies more volume than cool hardened rock. As the rock cooled, it contracted, forming hexagonal (and sometime 4-, 5- and 7-sided) columns separated by vertical cracks. These columns are similar to those found at Devil’s Postpile National Monument in California but those at Devils Tower are much larger.

Until erosion began its relentless work, Devils Tower was not visible above the overlying sedimentary rocks. But the forces of erosion, particularly that of water, began to wear away the soft sandstones and shales above and around the Tower. The much harder igneous rock of the Tower survived the onslaught of erosional forces, and the gray columns of Devils Tower began to appear above the surrounding landscape.

As rain and snow continue to erode the sedimentary rocks surrounding the Tower’s base, and the Belle Fourche River carries away the debris, more of Devils Tower will be exposed. But at the same time, the Tower itself is slowly being eroded. Rocks are continually breaking off and falling from the steep walls. Rarely do entire columns fall, but on remote occasions, they do. Piles of rubble, broken columns, boulders, small rocks, and stones, lie at the base of the Tower, indicating that it was, at some time in the past, larger than it is today.

Eventually, at some time in the future, even Devils Tower itself will erode away!

Drive 25 and Keep Wildlife Alive!

AFTER DRIVING FOR HOURS TO get here, often at speeds up to 75 mph, it can be difficult to slow down to the posted speed limit of 25 mph inside Devils Tower National Monument. It can be especially challenging to limit your speed when coming downhill to exit the park (Hint: Put your vehicle in low gear to reduce speed without riding the brakes).

However, there are good reasons to drive slowly inside the monument. In addition to pedestrians and bicyclists, there is abundant wildlife moving across and around the roads. Animals often make sudden movements into the road without warning, and driving at 25 mph or slower gives you a much better chance of avoiding a collision. Dozens of animals are killed by motor vehicles at Devils Tower each year. Please observe posted speed limits!



Black-tailed prairie dogs, least-chipmunks, and white-tailed deer are some of the commonly seen animals throughout the park.

World Peace and Prayer Day 2012

ON JUNE 16, 2012, APPROXIMATELY one hundred people were in attendance for Chief Arvol Looking Horse, (19th Generation Keeper of the White Buffalo Calf Pipe) anniversary celebration to honor the first World Peace and Prayer Day (also known as Honor Sacred Sites Day), which was held at Devils Tower in 1996.



Chief Arvol Looking Horse at the installation ceremony June 16th, 2012

Devils Tower is considered a sacred site and is the origin of where White Buffalo Calf Woman brought the sacred bundle (pipe) to the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota people. She brought the teaching of the seven sacred rites and how to walk in a sacred manner, helping the people so they shall live.

World Peace & Prayer Day Gathering respects all nations, all faiths and one prayer. It is held annually in locations sacred to Tribal Nations, to honor all sacred places and to promote world peace.

A peace pole with letters in both Lakota and English Wolakhotia Akan Macoke and “May Peace Prevail on Earth” was planted at the World Peace “Circle of Smoke” Sculpture site, which was brought to Devils Tower in 2008.

The gathering at Devils Tower was part of a weeklong ceremony during Summer Solstice week. Gatherings were also held at Medicine Wheel NHS and Grand Teton National Park, peace poles were also planted at these locations.



Placement of Peace Post 2012



Circle of Sacred Smoke

ON YOUR WAY INTO DEVILS TOWER National Monument, you may have noticed the large granite sculpture located near the park’s picnic area. This site is designed to increase awareness of the sacredness of Devils Tower to the park’s more than 20 affiliated American Indian tribes, and also helps place the significance of the Tower into an international context.

“Circle of Sacred Smoke,” by internationally renowned Japanese sculptor Junkyu Muto, was the third installation in Muto’s international peace project, Wind Circle. The first sculpture was placed at the Vatican in 2000. In 2005, the second sculpture was installed in Bodhi Gaya, India, near the Bodhi Tree, where the Buddha attained enlightenment. This third sculpture was donated to the National Park Service by Mr. Muto and the Kazenowa Corporation of Japan.

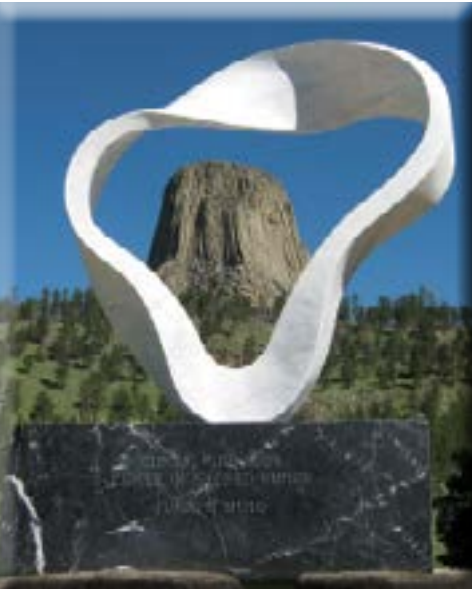
The “Circle of Sacred Smoke” represents

the first puff of smoke from the pipe used by tribal people to pray. In Lakota tradition, the sacred pipe was delivered to the Lakota people by the White Buffalo Calf Woman at the Tower several centuries ago. Upon delivering the pipe to the tribal people, she taught them the seven sacred ceremonies and the colors of the four directions (red, yellow, black, and white). You may see prayer bundles throughout the park made of these four colors, as well as green and blue, which represent Mother Earth and Father Sky.

The placement of “Circle of Sacred Smoke” was a united effort by the entire Black Hills community. The Crazy Horse Memorial donated the base stones for the sculpture. Black Hills National Forest delivered the stones from Crazy Horse to the Tower, and culinary students from the Boxelder Job Corps provided refreshments for the September 2008 installation ceremony, which was attended by several hundred local people and tribal representatives, as well as more than 60 people from Japan.

This interpretive site addresses improvement of educational and informational programs of the historic uses of the monument as outlined in the 1995 Final Climbing Management Plan. Future plans include the addition of signs and displays to the site, as well as related interpretive programs.

Please take some time to visit this interpretive site, which is accessible from the picnic area parking lot via the campground road, or by trail from the prairie dog town.



Sculptor Junkyu Muto’s “Circle of Sacred Smoke” was installed in September 2008.

We're Glad You're Here!



Pets may be walked on a leash in the parking area. They may not be taken on trails or left unattended at any time.



Collection of rocks, plants, or any other natural material is prohibited by law.



Collection of archeological artifacts is prohibited by law.



You may take lots of pictures of the prairie dogs. It is illegal and dangerous to feed them or any park wildlife.



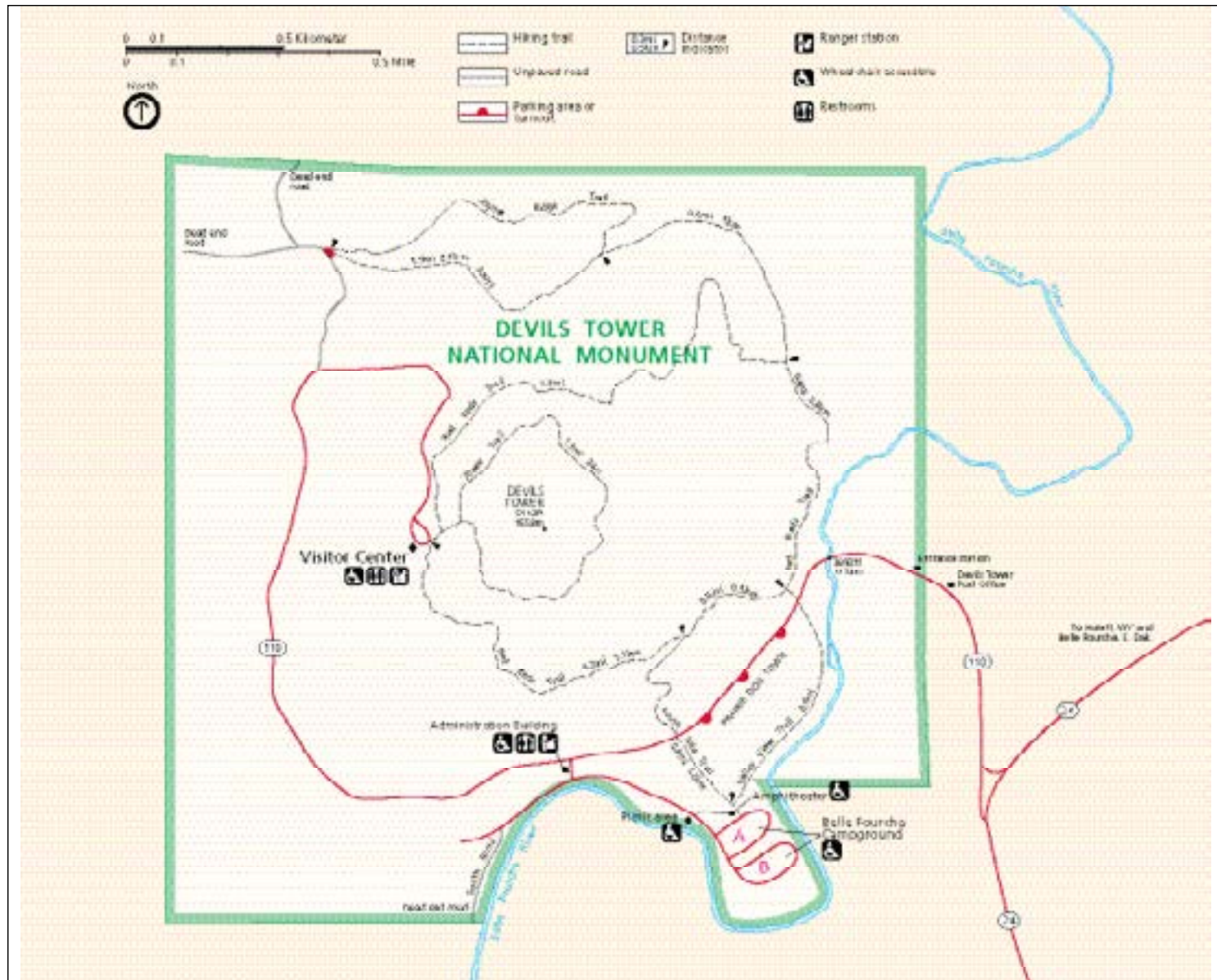
Hike any of the park trails however, travel above the boulder field can be dangerous and requires a climbing permit.

**SPEED
LIMIT
25**

Posted speed limits are strictly enforced for the safety of visitors, employees, and park wildlife.



If you have any questions about these or any other park regulations, feel free to ask a uniformed employee.



Make the Most of Your Visit

If you have an hour or two . . . don't miss the dogs—prairie dogs, that is! Their activities are fun to watch, but remember do not feed them. The visitor center at the base of the Tower contains interpretive exhibits, as well as a bookstore. The visitor center was built in 1935 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Both, the visitor center and the climbing office are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sit on a bench and look up at the 867-foot high columnar monolith. Meander across the parking lot and walk 50 yards along the Tower Trail for another view and another bench. The Tower Trail continues 1.3 miles around the base of the Tower.

If you have a half-day . . . in summer months join a park ranger for a guided walk or talk. As you leave the parking lot and drive down the hill, look for a gravel road on the right that leads to the Joyner Ridge trailhead for another incredible view. The low-angle light an hour before sunset makes for beautiful photographic opportunities.

If you have a full day . . . You may experience all of the above plus a hike along Joyner Ridge or the Red Beds Trail orenjoy a picnic at the picnic shelter. Food can be purchased immediately outside the park entrance. There is a water bottle refill station in the center plaza area in front of the visitor center.



Devils Tower rises 1,267 feet above the Belle Fourche River. Also known as Bear's Lodge, it is a sacred site for many American Indians. President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Devils Tower the first national monument in 1906.

Devils Tower National Monument
P.O. Box 10
Devils Tower, WY 82714

Phone
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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people for all to experience our heritage.

Shared Resources of the Tower

Black-Tailed Prairie Dogs



Juvenile Black-Tailed Prairie Dog

PRAIRI DOGS ARE SOCIAL ANIMALS that live together in “towns.” The prairie dog town at Devils Tower National Monument is approximately 40 acres in size. Prairie-dog tunnels may extend downward from 3 to 10 feet, and then horizontally for another 10 to 15 feet. Prairie dogs are active only during daylight hours, when they feed and socialize. They have complex vocalizations, and use different calls when they see different predators. When a prairie dog spots a prairie falcon nearby, it will give a different call than when it sees a prowling coyote.

The Black-Tailed Prairie Dog *Cynomys ludovicianus*), a type of burrowing rodent, is one of five prairie-dog species found in North America. The other four species are the Gunnison's (*Cynomys gunnisoni*), Mexican (*Cynomys mexicanus*), Utah (*Cynomys parvidens*), and white-tailed (*Cynomys leucurus*) prairie dogs. Of those five species, the black-tailed prairie dog is the most abundant and widely distributed.

Though black-tailed prairie dogs are protected within the boundary of Devils Tower National Monument, their overall population is about 2% of what Lewis and Clark described as “infinite” 200 years ago, due to habitat loss, extensive eradication programs, and introduced diseases. Prairie dogs are an important component of local ecosystems. In areas throughout their range, prairie-dog burrows and colony sites provide shelter and nesting habitat for myriad other animals, such as tiger salamanders, mountain plovers, burrowing owls, black-footed

ferrets, and hundreds of insect and arachnid species. Prairie dogs also serve as prey for numerous mammalian and avian predators, such as badgers, black-footed ferrets, bobcats, coyotes, ferruginous hawks, golden and bald eagles, and prairie falcons. Consequently, as the prairie-dog population declines, so do the populations of other species associated with them and their colonies.

Black-tailed prairie dogs have a relatively short life span, averaging only about four years in the wild. Their diet consists primarily of green vegetation. **Do NOT feed the prairie dogs.** Consumption of human food shortens their lives—not only because human food is an improper dietary source, but also because animals that become habituated to human handouts tend to spend more time near and in the road, where they can quickly become roadkill. As such, it is illegal to feed prairie dogs (or any wildlife) in a national park, both for their protection and yours: prairie dogs may bite, and they (and the fleas that live on them) often carry diseases that are potentially harmful to humans, such as bubonic plague. Enjoy them at a distance!

What is Chomping on the Tree Bark?



WHILE STROLLING ON THE TOWER Trail at Devils Tower National Monument, one is inclined to notice a rather obvious, yet curious, marking at the base of many of the Ponderosa Pine trees.

Conceivably, deer rub their antlers on the bark or, perhaps, busy beavers attempt to claim building materials far from the Belle Fourche River? Truth be told, waddling

about the Ponderosa Pine forest is a nocturnal, spiny rodent dining on the bark.

With 20,000 to 30,000 quills covering the animal from head to tail, this chewer-of-tree-bark is none other than the North American Porcupine! The porcupine does not hibernate and thus, is in need of nutritional food options during the harsh winter months.

The inner layer of the bark, the cambium, provides a staple food for the animal in the winter. In addition, porcupines may eat twigs, buds, and the needles of evergreens.



Adult porcupine on a tree branch

Like all other rodents, the porcupine has impressive incisors that enable it to chew through the bark. Due to the thick bark of the Ponderosa Pine tree, the porcupine feeds in two phases. A first pass of the incisors shaves off the dead outermost cork layers of the bark. On the second pass, the porcupine harvests the inner bark, the sweet cambium layer, grinding it with the cheek teeth and swallowing it.

Porcupines feed only a short distance from their winter dens and due to the geology of Devils Tower, suitable habitat for winter dens is found here. The boulder field, which was created by columns long since fallen, provides many caverns and crevasses for porcupines to hunker down in during the daylight hours where they are able to catch some shut-eye.

So, mystery solved; the lack of bark on selected trees in the Ponderosa Pine Forest at Devils Tower National Monument is not due to werewolves or rough UFO landings. It is, rather simply, the prickly porcupine surviving in its habitat.

High Flyers of Devils Tower

ON A TYPICAL SUMMER DAY, A BRIEF glance above the summit of Devils Tower will give view to large, dark-colored birds that effortlessly glide in spiraling patterns. What are these soaring wonders? The loveable (yes, loveable) turkey vulture. Of the three species of vulture found in the United States, turkey vultures are the most widely spread and therefore very common in the Black Hills. They migrate from as far as Cape Horn in South America, often arriving in Wyoming precisely on the Vernal Equinox (or March 20th).

Turkey vultures have been designed to be clean and hygienic birds, assisting in maintaining a healthy ecology at Devils Tower. Their bald heads and a missing nose septum allow them to clean their heads easily after gorging on (and inside) carrion. A process known as urohydrolysis - or defecation on its legs and feet - utilizes high levels of digestive acid to kill bacteria found after hopping around on a meal. In addition, this corrosive digestive system aids in killing diseases found in dead animals, helping humans maintain a healthy environment.



Turkey Vulture soaring above the tower

Turkey vultures are very social birds; their daily activities are often done in large groups, including eating, flying and roosting. It is a real treat to leave the upper parking area and look to one's right along the roadway, only to see dozens of turkey vultures roosting in the leafless trees.

(Turkey Vultures - Continued on Page 6)

Shared Resources of the Tower

Turkey Vultures -

Turkey Vultures truly rest overnight; so much so, that their body temperature drops by 6 degrees Fahrenheit. Come morning, turkey vultures must warm their bodies in order to prepare for a day of flying. Groups of warming vultures perched atop nearby fence posts is a daily sight during the summer months, a stance called the “Horaltic Pose”.

Once our feathered friends are prepared for the day, why are they choosing to fly above Devils Tower? Mid-morning brings about a noticeable rise in outside air temperature, and Devils Tower feels this heat more quickly than the surrounding land. As this increasing hot air rises, it creates spirals which are called thermals. The outcome is that turkey vultures use these thermals above Devils Tower to climb high into the sky and smell for food, gain altitude for a long-distance flight or just simply play with their buddies. And, did you know they fly just like airplanes? Their upturned wings and shifting bodies is how they maintain their balance, just like the dihedral shape of an airplane wing helps in air turbulence.

So enjoy the high flyers of Devils Tower National Monument - they're here to enjoy the view just as we are.

Exotic Plant Control Efforts

EXOTIC PLANTS ARE SPECIES THAT occur outside their native ranges. Invasive plants are non-native and able to establish on many sites, grow quickly, and spread to the point of disrupting plant communities or ecosystems. Not all non-native plants are invasive. In fact, when many non-native plants are introduced to new places, they cannot reproduce or spread readily without continued human influence.

Exotic plants can be introduced intentionally and accidentally, for example with agricultural crops, landscape ornamentals, international trade, and tourism. Exotic invasive species out-compete native species, leading to individual species loss, endangering natural habitats, causing soil

erosion, creating a monoculture, and reducing the genetic diversity necessary for stable, balanced ecosystems.

More than 60 exotic plant species have been identified at Devils Tower National Monument. While some spread slowly, others have replaced native plant communities, reducing the biological diversity of the Monument's ecosystems. The Monument's most aggressive, or invasive exotic plants are Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), Houndstongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*), Field Pennycress (*Thlaspi arvense*), Yellow Sweet Clover (*Melilotus officinalis*), Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*), Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Musk Thistle (*Carduus nutans*), Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*), Bull Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), and Cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*).



Common Mullein

Exotic plant control efforts at Devils Tower National Monument are conducted by Biological Technicians. Starting in 2012, Climbing Biological Technicians have been conducting removal and control efforts of exotic plants on the tower. Together, they work in accordance with an exotic plant management plan that outlines a control strategy for Devils Tower and 12 other national parks. Assistance and guidance is also received from the National Park Service's Northern Great Plains Exotic Plant Management Team. To control the spread of exotic plants and maintain the natural ecosystem, chemical, biological, manual/mechanical, and prescribed-fire methods are used as part of an integrated pest management approach to benefit native wildlife, vegetation, and healthy native ecosystems.

Visitors can help play a role in controlling the spread of exotic species by learning to identify exotic species, avoid travelling through infested areas, as well as clean vehicles, pets, clothing, and recreational equipment before leaving an area. Support the park's effort in controlling invasive exotics by spreading the word, not the weed.



Climbing biotech removing exotic invasive plant species

Keeping the Park “Green”

DEVILS TOWER NATIONAL Monument has built environmental responsibility into all aspects of park operations. Recycling is a major part of how we fulfill this responsibility. The monument recycles #1 and #2 plastic, glass, aluminum, steel, cardboard, newspaper, magazines, office paper, printer cartridges, copper, batteries, and light bulbs, among other materials.

Plastic is one of the most commonly used consumer products. More than 2.3 billion pounds of plastic bottles were recycled worldwide in 2007. New products, such as the benches on the Tower Trail, can be produced from these previously consumed goods. Devils Tower National Monument is pleased to provide recycling bins at all visitor-use areas. These bins are bright green and are located at the visitor center parking lot, the beginning of the Tower Trail, the picnic area, and the campground.

Devils Tower National Monument is reducing fuel and energy consumption by utilizing new technologies. The park owns a flex-fuel vehicle and has recently acquired a hybrid vehicle, powered by gasoline and gas required by conventional engines.

Throughout the monument, park staff have replaced incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lights (CFLs). Making this change will help us to use less electricity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Most CFLs use up to 75% less energy and last up to 10 times longer than traditional bulbs. The monument has also started to update buildings with more energy-efficient heating systems.

Sit Back and Enjoy the View

FOR MANY PEOPLE, A TRIP AROUND the Tower Trail is the highlight of their visit to Devils Tower National Monument. During your walk, be sure to notice—and relax on—one of the 12 benches the park received thanks to the Unilever Recycling at Work Sustainable Grants Program.

This program, a partnership with the National Park Foundation, provides recycled plastic lumber, made of sustainable, 100% HDPE (high-density polyethylene), for projects including trails, boardwalks, overlooks, pullouts, and other visitor amenities, such as picnic tables and benches. These benches will provide welcoming waypoints along the 1.3-mile, paved trail.

Here, visitors can take time to relax, reflect, and experience the park as they embrace the outdoors and contemplate the sacred American Indian site that is Devils Tower. Benches made of 100% HDPE plastic also reduce recurring maintenance costs, such as those associated with sanding, painting, and sealing, that are required annually for wooden benches. So as you walk the trail, find a bench, sit back, and enjoy the view!



Shared Visions of the Tower

Thanks Partner!



YES, YOU! BY PAYING THE ENTRANCE fee, you are partnering with the National Park Service through the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act Program at Devils Tower National Monument. Your entrance fees are used to support park projects, including improved signage and building restoration.

Other partners include the Black Hills National Forest, Black Hills Youth Conservation Corps, Black Hills National Forest Tribal Youth Conservation Corps, Montana Conservation Corps, Student Conservation Association, American Conservation Experience, Hulett and Crook County Emergency Response, Bear Lodge Alternative High School, Christian Motorcycle Association, Crook County Sheriff Department, Access Fund, Wyoming Department of Transportation, Boy Scouts of America, Bearlodge Writers, and the many park climbing guides. Thanks for helping us out!

Cultural Programs

The Cultural Program Series brings special guests to Devils Tower to share their stories, unique experiences, and visions of what the Tower means to them.

Humans have been attracted to the Tower for thousands of years. They have also had different views of what this natural wonder means to them.

The Cultural Program Series highlights the different ways in which various cultures relate to the Tower, while also offering a shared vision for all of us who find meaning in a visit here. These programs take place during the weekend evenings in the months of June, July and August at the

Campground amphitheatre. You might meet “Theodore Roosevelt”, a Cheyenne champion Grass Dancer, or a world-renowned rock climber on a summer evening at Devils Tower.

Each of these special guests will share their particular view of the importance of Devils Tower so we can share in their experiences and find our own ways to appreciate the Tower.



Phillip Whiteman Jr., Northern Cheyenne



Gib Young as President Theodore Roosevelt

Hey, Kids . . . Become a Ranger!

You and your family can discover Devils Tower through the Junior Ranger program. Stop at the visitor center to pick up a free Junior Ranger booklet. Return with your completed booklet, and the ranger will honor you with a badge and certificate. You can also buy an embroidered patch for \$1.00 at the bookstore. By learning about the plants, animals, geology, and history of this area, you can help protect the park's resources and make other people aware of how important these resources are.



Devils Tower Natural History Association

For more information on Devils Tower National Monument's geology, wildlife, climbing history and opportunities, and cultural significance, look to the Devils Tower Natural History Association. The association, established to support the National Park Service with historical, educational, and interpretive programs at Devils Tower, operates the bookstore located in the visitor center at the base of the Tower.

When you make a purchase at the bookstore, profits are returned to the park in the form of donations that support park programs, including the Junior Ranger Program, interpretive exhibits, the Cultural Program Series (see next page), and many other services. Membership benefits include a 15% discount in the bookstore, a discount on items purchased at other national park cooperating association bookstores, and the pleasure of knowing that your membership contributes to the support of the park!



Park Neighbors in the Black Hills



Jewel Cave National Monument

Jewel Cave's Visitor Center and cave entrance are 100 miles east of Devils Tower on Highway 16 B-12. With more than 150 miles surveyed, Jewel Cave is recognized as the second longest cave in the world. Cave tours provide opportunities for viewing this pristine cave system and its wide variety of speleotherms. Call (605) 673-2288 to plan your visit. www.nps.gov/jeca



Mount Rushmore National Memorial

Mount Rushmore National Memorial is an iconic national park and located 126 miles east of Devils Tower via 1-90 E and US -385 S. From the history of the first inhabitants to the diversity of America today, Mount Rushmore brings visitors face to face with the rich heritage we all share. Call (605) 673-2288 to plan your visit. www.nps.gov/moru



Wind Cave National Park

Wind Cave is located 126 miles east of Devils Tower on Hwy US 16 E. It is one of the world's longest and most complex caves. It is famous for its boxwork, an unusual calcite cave formation resembling honeycomb. The park's surface area contains 33,851 acres of mixed-grass prairie, ponderosa pine forest and associated wildlife. Call (605) 745-4600 for additional information. www.nps.gov/wica



Badlands National Park

Badlands is located 190 miles east of Devils Tower. Take 1-90 to Wall, S.D. to Exit 110 or 131 to access Hwy 240's Badlands Loop Road. Badlands National Park consists of 244,000 acres of sharply eroded buttes, pinnacles and spires blended with the largest, protected mixed-grass prairie in the U.S. Call (605) 433-5361 to plan your visit. www.nps.gov/badl



Minuteman Missile National Historic Site

Minuteman Missie NHS is located 182 miles east of Devils Tower on I-90. The site preserves a launch control facility and a nuclear missile silo of the Minuteman II missile system. The park offers tour by reservations only. You can call the site at (605)433-5552 or stop by the Project Office at Exit 131 off of I-90. www.nps.gov/mimi



Custer State Park

Custer State Park is located 115 miles East of Devils Tower via US 16. At 71,000 acres, it is one of the largest, most unique state parks in the nation and is home to a herd of 1300 bison. Visitors will find many lakes and natural areas. Hiking access to Harney Peak, the tallest peak in South Dakota, is available. Call the Peter Norbeck Visitor Center (605) 255-4464 to plan your visit. www.custerstatepark.info



1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors