



About Us

Right-of-Way Permit

A right of way (ROW) is a permit issued by the National Park Service (NPS) that allows a utility to pass over, under, or through NPS property. The permit may be issued only pursuant to specific statutory authority and generally if there is no practicable alternative to the use of NPS lands, regardless of whether the equipment is serving the NPS and its visitors or crossing the park to reach other communities. You need a ROW permit any time you want to build or install a utility on NPS lands. Projects could include electrical transmission lines, telephone lines, canals, and sewer lines. Broadband equipment, such as telecommunication sites, microwave, and fiber optic, requires a ROW permit as well.

If your request is approved, you will be issued a ROW permit. The permit does not give you an estate in fee, limited estate, or any property interest or ownership in the land. Your permit is not exclusive, and the park reserves the right to allow visitor use of the land where appropriate.

The authorities authorizing the use of NPS lands for rights of way are found at [54 USC 100902 \(http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title54-section100902&num=0&edition=prelim\)](http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title54-section100902&num=0&edition=prelim) and [36 CFR Parts 1 and 14 \(https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.gov%2Fdocuments%2F2024%2F12%2F05%2F2024-28348%2Frights-of-way&data=05%7C02%7CVictoria_Stauffenberg%40nps.gov%7Cde3c51010ff84e28916908dd3709012a%7C0693b5ba4b184d7b9341f32f400a5494%7C0%7C0%7C638727234013839427%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUslYiOilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eKehBe01iS6%2BVS1ln7rqN6fq9Q6GFS%2FYfrd3iqOguf8%3D&reserved=0\)](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.federalregister.gov%2Fdocuments%2F2024%2F12%2F05%2F2024-28348%2Frights-of-way&data=05%7C02%7CVictoria_Stauffenberg%40nps.gov%7Cde3c51010ff84e28916908dd3709012a%7C0693b5ba4b184d7b9341f32f400a5494%7C0%7C0%7C638727234013839427%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUslYiOilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIAiOiJXaW4zMilslkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=eKehBe01iS6%2BVS1ln7rqN6fq9Q6GFS%2FYfrd3iqOguf8%3D&reserved=0). Note that the NPS does not have the general authority to issue permits for roads or oil or gas pipelines.

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| Steps to Apply for a ROW Permit |
| Pre-Application Meeting |
| Co-Location |
| Application Process |
| Costs <ul style="list-style-type: none">Application and processing fees: These charges reimburse the NPS for the administrative and other costs incurred in processing your request. Your application must be accompanied by the initial application charge. At that time you may |

request an estimate of further costs and a payment schedule. The park may decide to have an independent contractor conduct necessary environmental and historic compliance analysis. In that case you will be required to make payments directly to the contractor. Charges may also include the cost of monitoring the construction or installation of your utility should your request for a ROW permit be approved. These fees are non-refundable, since they reimburse the NPS for work performed.

- **Monitoring fee:** If your request for a ROW permit is granted, you will be responsible for reimbursing the NPS for monitoring your compliance with the terms and conditions of the ROW permit. This fee is non-refundable and may be paid annually or as arranged with the park staff.
- **Use and occupancy fee:** This charge is an annual rental based on the market value of the rights authorized and is generally established by an appraisal. The rent may be paid annually or on a schedule as specified in the permit.

Exemptions to the requirements to pay any of the above fees may apply and should be discussed with the park superintendent at the pre-application meeting.

Temporary Construction Permit

Processing a ROW Application

Last updated: January 17, 2025

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☐ Yes

☐ No



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