



YELLOWSTONE
ASSOCIATION
INSTITUTE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS * SUMMER 2011



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YI Collection



I N S P I R E . E D U C A T E . P R E S E R V E .

www.YellowstoneAssociation.org

LET US OPEN YOUR EYES TO THE WONDERS OF YELLOWSTONE!

Welcome!

Want to get the most out of your visit to America's Wonderland*? You've come to the right place! This is the Yellowstone Association Institute's catalog of 2011 Summer Educational Programs.

What's the Institute?

We are part of the Yellowstone Association, with more than three decades of experience offering programs in the park. Our focus is small-group learning and good times in the field, led by instructors and naturalist guides who know Yellowstone inside-out. Our guest instructors include top experts, National Park Service staff, and acclaimed photographers, painters, and writers. They will show you Yellowstone as you can't see it on your own, and unforgettable experiences, too.

What's the Association?

The nonprofit Yellowstone Association has been the park's official partner for education since 1933. We believe education is the key to preserving Yellowstone National Park. We support Yellowstone through educational sales in visitor centers, memberships, and in-depth educational programs. Association operations fund donations to the National Park Service to support educational projects, publications, and exhibits for park visitors.

About Our Programs

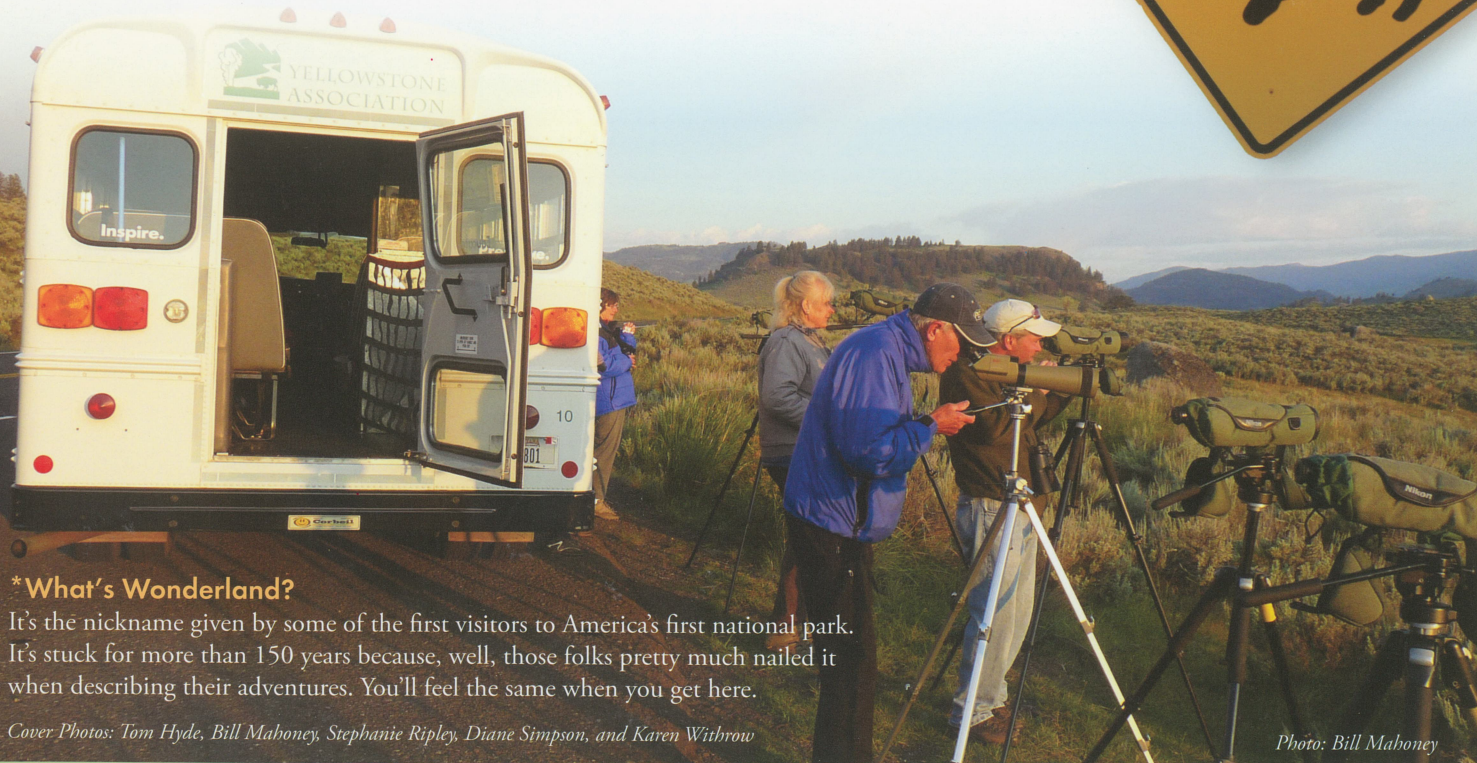
Whether you are coming to Yellowstone for the first time with friends or family, or this is your umpteenth trip and you're interested in pursuing a special interest, we have a program—or two or four!—for you. And, whether your idea of outdoor education is a simple walk in the woods or a multi-day backpacking adventure, we have that, too.

Our Catalog's New Look

To save paper and tell more people about Institute programs, we've switched to this new format. This brochure is a teaser to give you a taste of the variety of course options. We've put all the details online. Please visit us at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org or call us at 406-848-2400 for detailed course information, including fitness requirements, lodging options, clothing and equipment, and more.

We're open all year.

Don't miss out on Yellowstone's secret season. Go online to see our winter courses. (2010 courses listed through March; 2011 courses up in June.)



*What's Wonderland?

It's the nickname given by some of the first visitors to America's first national park. It's stuck for more than 150 years because, well, those folks pretty much nailed it when describing their adventures. You'll feel the same when you get here.

Cover Photos: Tom Hyde, Bill Mahoney, Stephanie Ripley, Diane Simpson, and Karen Withrow

Photo: Bill Mahoney

WHICH PROGRAM IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

Our programs fall into three categories—Field Seminars, Lodging and Learning Programs, and Private Tours—all defined here. For more information at any time, please visit us online at www.YellowstoneAssociation.org, or call 406-848-2400. Our registration staff can answer all your questions!

Want to dig in deep and focus on a particular Yellowstone topic? Then **FIELD SEMINARS** are right for you:

You'll examine specific aspects of the park ecosystem through just the right combination of fun field excursions and classroom presentations. Our seminar leaders are top experts in their fields and include professors, naturalists, National Park Service staff, and acclaimed photographers, writers, historians, and painters. Courses are based either at the Lamar Buffalo Ranch Field Campus in the park's northeast corner, at the Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus in Gardiner, Montana, or at hotels and backcountry areas throughout the park.

Want a learning vacation that includes meals and in-park lodging? Check out our **LODGING AND LEARNING PROGRAMS**:

Join other individuals and families for just the right amount of education and recreation. You'll be based at park hotels and taught by our naturalist guides, who are intimately familiar with Yellowstone. Packages are offered in partnership with Xanterra Parks & Resorts®, and include daily field trips, lodging, most meals, in-park transportation, and optional evening programs. This is our vacation package that covers almost everything and provides fun and discovery, too. Minimum age is 12 unless noted. Rates are double/single occupancy and don't include taxes or utility fees.

Are you looking for an experience tailor-made for your family or small group? Then you want one of our **PRIVATE TOURS**:

Choose from our daily options to best fit your itinerary and interests. Combine days for a longer stay. We'll make sure everything, including an optional walk or hike, matches your activity level. Your Institute naturalist guide will introduce you to Yellowstone, provide advice to make the most of your visit, and lead you into the wonders of the park. Tuition includes instruction, transportation for the day, snacks, and use of high-power spotting scopes and binoculars. We'll also help your children work on their Junior Ranger badges. Meals and lodging are not included.

So How Does All This Work?

- Preview our summer offerings on the following pages.
- Visit our website for detailed program information, including lodging options, activity levels, schedules, required clothing and equipment, and our payment and cancellation policy.
- Call or visit our website to register.

Field Seminars—Yellowstone Association member registration begins January 12, 2011 at 8 a.m. (MT), non-members can register one week later. Call 406-848-2400.

Lodging and Learning Programs—Register any time. Call 866-439-7375.

Private Tours—Register any time. Call 406-848-2400.

- Soon after you enroll, you'll receive important information from us. Please be sure to thoroughly read program details as soon as you get them and return any requested information. We want you to be prepared so you can have the time of your life.



Photo: Dave Syfert

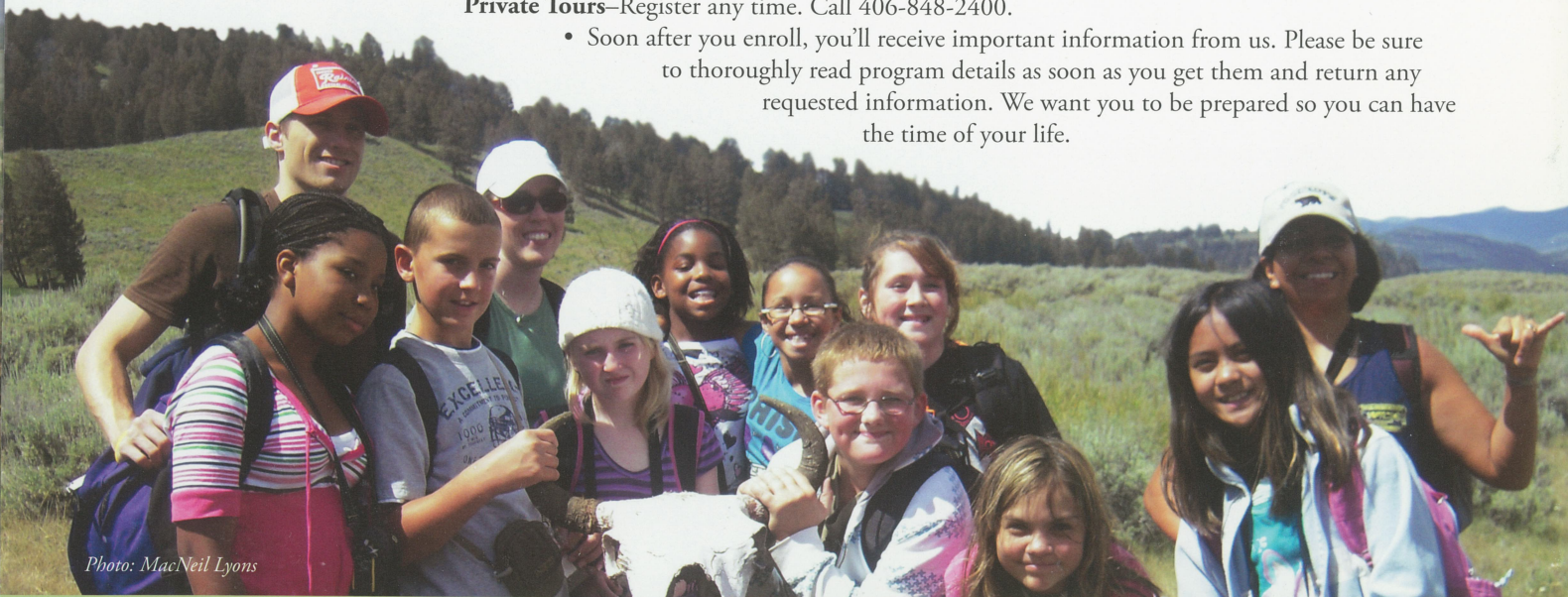


Photo: MacNeil Lyons

FIELD SEMINARS

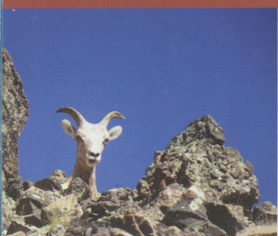


Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Bill Zager



Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Karen Withrow

April

- 3–22 **NEW!** Naturalist Guide Certificate Program
- 29–5/1 .. Spring Wildlife Watching
- 30..... Into the Bear's Den

May

- 6–8..... Birds on the Move
- 16–19.... **NEW!** Animal Behavior
- 23–25 ... Crow Tribal Culture and Yellowstone
- 23–26.... Wildlife Watching in Grizzly Country
- 26–27.... Wilderness First Aid
- 26–28.... Behind the Scenes of Wolf Management and Ecology
- 27–30.... **NEW!** Spring Wildlife Photography
- 29–31.... The Wolves of Yellowstone
- 31–6/3 .. Mammal Signs: Interpreting Tracks, Scat, and Hair

LEARN HOW TO BE A PROFESSIONAL
NATURALIST GUIDE!
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA WESTERN

June

- 3–5..... **NEW!** Top 10 Historic Events in Yellowstone
- 4–5..... **NEW!** Spring Babies
- 6–9..... Slough Creek Bear Backpack Basecamp
- 12–15.... Bears: Bones, Signs, and Stories
- 12–15.... Day Hiking the Northern Range
- 12–16.... Digital Photography in Yellowstone
- 16–19.... **NEW!** Putting Some Punch in Your Prose
- 16–19.... Wildlife Watching in Grizzly Country
- 20–21.... Yellowstone's Wolves: Ecology, Behavior, Conservation
- 20–22.... Finding Owls
- 21–23.... Learning Birds by Sound
- 23–25.... The Illustrated Journal for Heart, Art, and Science
- 24–26.... **NEW!** Wildflowers of Yellowstone
- 25–26.... Ghost Hotels of Yellowstone
- 27–29.... Wolves—Reality and Myth
- 27–30.... Summer Landscape Photography
- 30–7/1 .. Cougars: Yellowstone's Seldom-Seen Large Carnivore

July

- 1–4..... Summer Wildlife Watching
- 4–5..... **NEW!** A Yellowstone Naturalist Experience
- 5–7..... Alpine Wildflowers of the Beartooth Plateau
- 6–8..... Yellowstone's Butterfly Bounty
- 8–10..... The Art of Wildflower Identification
- 9–11..... Bears: Folklore and Biology
- 11–13.... The Wolves of Yellowstone
- 12–15 The Art of Plein-Air Painting
- 16–17 **NEW!** Roadside History of the Nez Perce Campaign
- 16–19.... Yellowstone's Geocosystem
- 18–21 Mammal Signs: Interpreting Tracks, Scat, and Hair

- 19..... Old Times at Old Faithful
- 20–22.... **NEW!** Supervolcano and Glacier Hikes
- 22–24.... Birding for Beginners
- 24–26.... **NEW!** Journaling with a Travel Sketchbook
- 25–27.... **NEW!** Hikes Off the Beaten Path
- 28–29.... Roadside Geology of the Yellowstone Country
- 28–30.... **NEW!** Wolf Research Updates
- 30–31.... Searching for Yellowstone's Most Elusive Carnivores
- 31–8/2 .. The Bison of Yellowstone

August

- 1–3..... Shaping the Northern Yellowstone Landscape
- 3–7..... Geology of Yellowstone Lake
- 9–10..... **NEW!** Routefinding in Yellowstone
- 9–12..... Painting Moran's Yellowstone
- 11–14.... Day Hiking the Northern Range
- 13–14.... **NEW!** Theodore Roosevelt's Wilderness Reserve
- 14–23.... **NEW!** Two Ocean Plateau Backpack
- 15–18.... Beginning Fly-Fishing for Women
- 16–18.... Hot Springs, Mudpots, and Geysers
- 20–22.... Wolves in the 21st Century
- 20–23.... Summer Wildlife Watching
- 23–25.... Calling Yellowstone Home: The Sheep Eaters
- 29–9/1 .. **NEW!** Walkabout Yellowstone
- 29–9/3 .. **NEW!** Cascade Corner Backpack Basecamp
- 30–9/2 .. Fly-Fishing for Seasoned Anglers

September

- 2–4..... Forces of Nature: Wolves and Fire
- 2–4..... **NEW!** Protecting Yellowstone's Hydrothermal System
- 6–8..... **NEW!** Raptors on the Wing
- 11–14.... Autumn Photography
- 13–15.... Fall on the Northern Range
- 16–19 **NEW!** Painting Fall Landscapes of Yellowstone
- 17–18.... Elk: The Fall Rut
- 22–25.... Autumn Day Hiking in Yellowstone
- 23–25.... The Wolves of Yellowstone
- 30–10/2 Autumn Wildlife Watching

October

- 2–5..... Autumn Day Hiking in Yellowstone
- 5–8..... Autumn Wildlife Photography
- 12–14.... The Wolves of Yellowstone

November–March

Institute courses announced in June 2011.

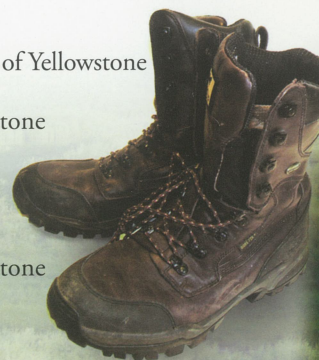


Photo: Bill Mahoney

LODGING AND LEARNING PROGRAMS



Photo: Diane Simpson



Photo: Stephanie Ripley

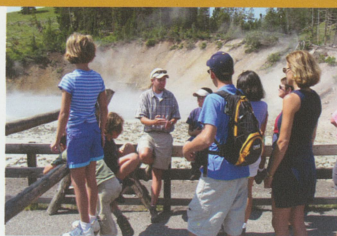


Photo: YAI

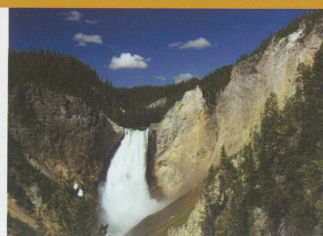


Photo: Karen Withrow



Photo: Diane Simpson

SPRING WOLF AND BEAR DISCOVERY

You'll join an Institute naturalist for wildlife viewing and leisurely hikes on Yellowstone's northern range.

Dates: 3-day programs offered May 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, June 1

Lodging: 4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs

Rates: \$639 double/\$857 single

ESSENTIAL YELLOWSTONE

Our naturalist guides you in wildlife watching, walking the rim of Yellowstone's Grand Canyon, and learning about the park's geology.

Dates: 4-day programs offered May 20, 27, June 3, August 26, September 2, 16

Lodging: 5 nights at Lake Hotel

Rates: \$1,119 double/\$1,667 single

OLD TIMES ON THE GRAND TOUR

Tour the park in style in a classic Yellowstone bus with retractable top. Stay in the best park hotels and enjoy walking tours of historic and thermal areas.

Dates: 5-day program offered May 22, 29, June 5, July 3, 17, 24, 31, August 14, 28, September 4, 11, 18

Lodging: 2 nights each at Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, Old Faithful Snow Lodge, Lake Hotel

Rates: \$1,529 double/\$1,973 single

SELECTED "BEST SUMMER FAMILY CAMP IN AMERICA" BY GOOD MORNING AMERICA AND FAMILY FUN MAGAZINE!

YELLOWSTONE FOR FAMILIES

Families with kids ages 8–12 join our naturalist to explore waterfalls and geysers, track animals, and work on Junior Ranger badges.

Dates: 4-day programs offered Monday to Friday and Friday to Tuesday from June 6 to August 19

Lodging: 4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs or Grant Village

Rates: Mammoth: \$669 double/\$903 single/\$405 per child Grant: \$799 double/\$1,097 single/\$475 per child

TRAILS THROUGH YELLOWSTONE

Pack boots and daypacks. We'll hike specific trails to explore geysers, Yellowstone's Grand Canyon, and valleys full of wildlife. New hikes each year!

Dates: 4-day programs offered Monday to Friday from May 30 to September 26

Lodging: 2 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs, 2 nights at Grant Village

Rates: \$799 double/\$1,057 single

NEW! SUMMER WILDLIFE EXPEDITION

Search for and learn about wolves, bears, elk, bison, and more as an Institute naturalist guide takes you through Yellowstone by bus, by foot, and by boat.

Dates: 4-day programs offered June 23, July 7, 21, August 4, 18

Lodging: 2 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs, 2 nights at Lake Hotel

Rates: \$1,299 double/\$1,745 single

FALL WOLF AND ELK DISCOVERY

Delve into the world of Yellowstone's wolves and elk as you go early morning wildlife viewing; then learn about behavior, ecology, and conservation on leisurely hikes.

Dates: 3-day programs offered August 25, 31, September 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, October 6

Lodging: 4 nights at Mammoth Hot Springs

Rates: \$619 double/\$837 single

ROOSEVELT RENDEZVOUS

It's camp for grown-ups. Choose a different half- or full-day field trip each day. Learn photography, read animal tracks, hike, or search for wolves. Enjoy buffet dinners and evening programs.

Dates: 4-day programs offered September 9, 13, 17

Lodging: 4 nights at Roosevelt Lodge

Rates: \$729 double/\$859 single

In Cooperation with the Park County Travel Council

Photo: Karen Withrow

PRIVATE TOUR OPTIONS

WILDLIFE WATCHING ON THE NORTHERN RANGE

Start: 6 or 8 a.m. at Gardiner or Mammoth; 7 a.m. at Roosevelt or Lamar
Discover the diverse and abundant wildlife of Yellowstone's northern range. Learn how to search for wildlife and how to use binoculars and spotting scopes effectively.

NATURAL HISTORY AND GEOLOGY: YELLOWSTONE LAKE AND GRAND CANYON OF THE YELLOWSTONE

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, Canyon, Norris, or Lake
Explore the natural and geologic history of the Yellowstone Lake area and the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River. Search for wildlife in the bison-rich Hayden Valley, and learn about the Yellowstone volcano on geology strolls.



Photo: Bill Mahoney

GEYSERS, MUDPOTS, AND HOT SPRINGS: OLD FAITHFUL AREA

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, or Norris; 8:30 a.m. at Madison or Old Faithful
From the center of the world's greatest concentration of hydrothermal features, take an in-depth look at how they form and why they do the things they do. You'll travel on boardwalks and trails, observing geologic features that reveal the wonders of Yellowstone's volcano.

DAY HIKING IN YELLOWSTONE

Start: 8 a.m. at Gardiner, Mammoth, Canyon, Lake, or Roosevelt; 8:30 a.m. at Madison or Old Faithful
Travel Yellowstone on carefully chosen hikes that show you the park's diverse landscape. Learn the basics of safe, low-impact backcountry travel in grizzly country with an experienced Institute naturalist guide.

BACKPACKING IN YELLOWSTONE

Start: 8 a.m. in Gardiner
Go off the beaten path with a backcountry instructor who will help you hike and camp comfortably while sharing information about natural history and wildlife. The route will match the group's ability and interests. Maximum group size is 8. Some equipment is provided. Call for rates.

TOUR LENGTH:

Approximately 8 hours per day.

DAILY TUITION RATES:

1-5 participants \$495
6-13 participants \$650
14-26 participants \$1,300

RATES EFFECTIVE THROUGH
OCTOBER 31, 2011.

STAY AT THE **YELLOWSTONE
OVERLOOK FIELD CAMPUS**
AND SAVE 25 PERCENT ON THE COST
OF YOUR PRIVATE TOUR!



Photo: Leo Leckie

LODGING OPTIONS

Exclusively for Institute students: When you learn with us, you can stay with us! Many of our Field Seminars use the historic Lamar Buffalo Ranch as a base of operations. If your **Field Seminar** takes place at the Buffalo Ranch, you can stay there and enjoy the pristine wilderness setting. If you are taking a **Private Tour**, stay at our new Yellowstone Overlook Field Campus and save 25 percent on your Private Tour tuition. It's easy to book your lodging when you sign up for your course.

LAMAR BUFFALO RANCH FIELD CAMPUS

Far from other development, the ranch in Yellowstone's northeast corner offers comfortable lodging in an historic wilderness setting. You'll enjoy log cabins with propane heaters, a bathhouse with private showers, and a common building with fully equipped kitchen where you prepare your own meals. Children over 15 may attend if accompanied by an adult. Shared cabins are \$30 per person per night.



Photos: Karen Withrow



YELLOWSTONE OVERLOOK KENDEDA FIELD CAMPUS

Perfect for families and small groups, the Yellowstone Overlook features comfortable cabins on 80 acres, awe-inspiring views, and easy access to the northern section of the park. Cabins have self-serve kitchens for meal preparation and open floor plans perfect for group dining and evening activities. Enjoy our educational learning libraries. Groups requiring a formal classroom setting are welcome to use the classrooms at our headquarters just down the hill.

Nightly Cabin Rates:

- Cabin 1: \$400 per night for up to 12 people
- Cabin 2: \$400 per night for up to 12 people
- Cabin 3: \$200 per night for up to 5 people



Photos: Tracy Raich



YELLOWSTONE
ASSOCIATION
INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 117
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190

Two Ways You Can Help Yellowstone

Join Us! Become a Yellowstone Association Member

You can make a difference in the preservation of Yellowstone National Park by joining the Yellowstone Association. For as little as \$35 annually for a family membership, you will join more than 30,000 individuals who also love America's first national park.

As an Association member, you'll receive the following benefits:

- Educational publications such as *Yellowstone Discovery*, *Yellowstone Today*, and the monthly Association e-newsletter.
- Discounts on Institute courses and early registration opportunities.
- 15 percent discounts on merchandise in Yellowstone Association Park Stores (including our website), in any retail location operated by Yellowstone General Stores, and in Xanterra Parks & Resorts® hotel gift shops throughout Yellowstone.

Buy Books and Gear From the Park Store

The Yellowstone Association's Park Stores are located throughout Yellowstone and on our website. They feature more than 900 books, maps, and videos to help you plan your visit. You'll also find a wide selection of shirts, hats, and other gear you can use in the field or at home to remind you of your time in Yellowstone.

Proceeds from memberships and purchases are donated to the National Park Service to support research and education in Yellowstone, including visitor publications and state-of-the-art exhibits.



Photo: Scott Morrison