

Lois A Day, Administrator

Authorized Signature

Number: CW-IM-10-001

Issue Date: 01/15/2010

Topic: Foster Care

Subject: Foster Parents, Relative Caregivers and Adoptive Parents of Oregon

Applies to (check all that apply):

- |                                     |                               |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | All DHS employees             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | County Mental Health Directors       |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Area Agencies on Aging        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Health Services                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Children, Adults and Families | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Seniors and People with Disabilities |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | County DD Program Managers    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other (please specify):              |

Message: The purpose of this memorandum is to inform CAF field staff that Oregon State Parks and Recreation in 2010 will continue the Oregon State Park's fee waiver program for day use and overnight camping for all foster and relative caregivers when they are accompanied by their foster child.

Beginning January 1, 2010 there will be three additions to this program that all foster, relative and foster/adopt families will want to know:

1. Oregon State Parks has expanded this program to include current and former foster parents who have **adopted an Oregon foster child**.
2. Oregon State Parks is transitioning to issuance of an identification card for foster parents, relative caregivers and Adoption parents. During the 2010 picnicking and camping season foster parents and relative caregivers may continue to use their foster care certificate for identification. Though not a requirement this year Oregon State Parks is encouraging foster and relative providers to apply for and receive an Oregon State Parks identification card for the 2010 season. In **2011 Oregon State Parks will require identification cards** for all foster and relative caregivers and adoptive families for no fee entry into an Oregon State Park.
3. All identification cards will be valid to the end date of the foster parent or relative caregiver certification date. Identification cards can be valid up to two years, based on a two year certification. For example, if a family's foster care certificate was just issued or renewed and the family submits a copy of their two year certificate, the Oregon State Parks ID card will be valid to the end date of their certificate. If a foster care

certificate is valid for 10 more months before recertification, the ID card issued to this family will be valid 10 months as well, reflecting the certificate end date.

Certified foster parents and relative providers can send a copy of their current certificate to:

Oregon State Parks and Recreation  
Reservations Northwest Portland  
2501 SW First Avenue,  
Portland, Oregon, 97201.

Upon providing proof of certification Oregon State Parks will provide a plastic identification card, much like a credit card in appearance. Each card which will have a unique identifying number and will be valid until the current certificate expires. These cards will be used to qualify the provider for the Oregon State Park fee waiver program.

For more details on the program; foster parents, relative providers and adoptive parents may be referred to Oregon State Parks Reservation Northwest Information Center at 1-800-551-6949. Starting this month, January 2010 information will also be available on the Oregon State Parks and Recreation website, [www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org).

### **Foster/Adopt Families**

Current or former foster and relative care providers who have adopted an Oregon foster child can now apply for an Oregon State Parks identification card which will be valid up to the time their **youngest adopted foster child turns 18**. Oregon State Parks will require adoptive families provide proof of adoption. The state Adoptions Program Unit will send letters to all applicable families explaining this new program. The family will also receive a letter identifying them as an adoptive family. The family will complete the letter providing identifying family information and send it to Oregon State Parks at the address above to receive their identification card. Foster families who adopt in the future will be mailed the above mentioned letters at the time their adoption is finalized. A supply of these letters will also be made available to all branches. If these families or staff have difficulties locating copy of the required letter please contact the state adoptions program in Salem, calling 503-945-6643.

Other park requirements have not changed. The facility deposit fee is waived for foster families as defined in OAR 736-015-0005. The fee waiver is limited to the first two campsites and a certified adult must be present with at least one of their foster children. A free 12-month day use parking permit and use of the park's day use area will be issued to a foster or relative care provider, when the provider presents either a valid copy of a Certificate of Approval to Provide Foster Care in Oregon or an identification card issued by Oregon State Parks. Reservations for camp sites can be made through Reservations Northwest @ 1-800-452-5687 and, although camping is

free, there is a \$6.00 fee per reservation.

State Park day use passes are available at staffed Oregon park sites. Locations of staffed park sites are available through the state parks' information line @ 1-800-551-6949 or the state parks' web site, [www.oregonstateparks.org](http://www.oregonstateparks.org)

*If you have any questions about this information, contact:*

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