

Spring Camping Opportunities on the Ashley National Forest

Vernal, Utah ... Are you looking to escape for a pre-Memorial Day camping trip? A few campgrounds on the Ashley National Forest are open and available on a first come-first served basis prior to Memorial Day Weekend.

On the Flaming Gorge-Vernal Ranger District the Summit Springs Guard Station will be a new rental opportunity for large groups. Summit Springs Guard Station is located just off the Sheep Creek Geological Loop southwest of Flaming Gorge. The Civilian Conservation Corps built the complex in 1934 as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. It was one of 11 guard stations built in the area to serve as homes for rangers who patrolled the forest on horseback prior to the modern age of vehicles. The complex includes the guard station, bunkhouse, parking area, and fenced yard. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Ashley National Forest with funding provided by the Ashley Resource Advisory Committee has chosen to rehabilitate and rent this guard station and bunkhouse to the public so that guests can enjoy a rustic experience similar to that of the first rangers. The cabin sleeps eight, the bunkhouse sleeps 12, and there is room for up to four recreational vehicles or tents (or a combination of the two) to provide space for 40 guests. Summit Springs Guard Station is available for rental through www.recreation.gov from May 18th through mid-September.

On the Duchesne-Roosevelt Ranger District campgrounds along the North Fork of the Duchesne River, (Aspen, Hades, Miner's Gulch, and Iron Mine campgrounds) are now open on a first come-first served basis until Memorial Day Weekend when they can be reserved through the www.recreation.gov website. Aspen, Hades and Miner's Gulch campgrounds do not have water systems. The water system at Iron Mine campground is expected to be running around Memorial Day Weekend. In the Yellowstone Drainage Bridge, Reservoir, Riverview and Swift Creek Campgrounds are open without water at this time.

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Exterior Shot of Summit Springs Guard Station



Living Room of Summit Springs Guard Station