

Fire Pan Requirements

Please remember that the Lower Deschutes and John Day Rivers have annual fire restrictions that limit visitors to propane and gas cooking & lighting devices. Charcoal, smokers, candles, propane campfires and other open flame devices aren't allowed. These restrictions start June 1 and go until until Oct. 15th.



Where and when campfires are allowed, a raised metal firepan with 2-inch sides or higher is required. Adding a fire blanket underneath the firepan ensures no trace of the fire will remain and allows for easy clean up.

Pack in local wood, and carry out all ash and charcoal remains. Due to high use, gathering vegetation, even dead and down, is illegal in the Lower Deschutes corridor. Cutting or gathering live or dead standing vegetation, is illegal on the John Day. Wood and vegetation provide shade, wildlife habitat and contribute to the natural process of decomposition.



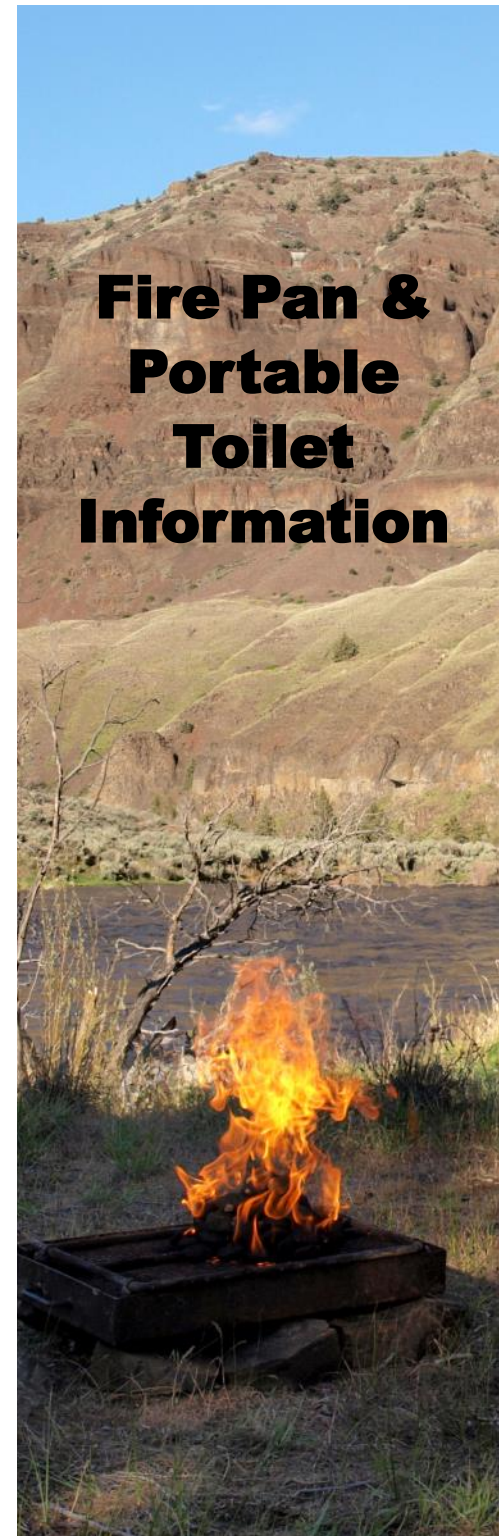
Why have a fire pan?

Fires built on the ground can cause serious damage including:

- Sterilized or contaminated soil and unsightly burn scars
- Charred rocks and ground
- Melted trash and plastic
- Leaving unburned food scraps behind can attract rodents and other animals.



Use a fire pan, bring your own wood, and pack out trash, waste and food scraps. Practice Leave No Trace and leave a nicer campsite for the next visitor to enjoy.



Fire Pan & Portable Toilet Information

Portable Toilet Systems

On The Lower Deschutes and John Day Rivers, boaters are required to carry portable toilet systems on overnight trips.

There are numerous retail portable toilet systems available as well as do-it-yourself options. Boaters must ensure that reusable units are approved for a RV dump station or SCAT Machine®. Wag Bag units must be suitable for landfills. All systems must have a seal-able lid.



*Making camp—
Step 1: Set up the
portable toilet system!
Step 2: enjoy the
evening!*

Why Pack out Human Waste?

The river corridor is a narrow strip of land and water with a high concentration of people. In the dry river environment, human waste decomposes slowly. With hundreds of visitors to each campsite, it wouldn't take long before human waste, even buried, made the sites undesirable and unsanitary.



Improper disposal impacts soils, vegetation and poses a health hazard. Modern toilet systems are mandated and required on most rivers that offer multi-day trips across the nation. They're easy to use, carry and clean.

Although there are some vault toilets on the Lower Deschutes, they are not at every camp or lunch spot. Toileted sites are often full, may have lines, and are sometimes a long walk away. Camping in non-toileted sites allows for more options and solitude.



Photo. Unfortunately, "white flower" blooms have become a common site...

Practicing Leave No Trace and removing human waste, along with toilet paper and other debris, helps to leave the camp healthy and clean for everyone. For more info on Leave No Trace and portable toilets along with general information about the Lower Deschutes and John Day Rivers, visit: www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/permits-and-passes/lotteries-and-permit-systems/oregon-washington.

Each river has unique rules and regulations. Know before you go and have a safe and enjoyable experience!

For more information, call the Prineville District BLM at: 541/416-6700