

Safety Information

BioBlitz! Oklahoma 2014

Black Kettle National Grassland, Washita Battlefield NHS, and City of Cheyenne

Driving in the Area

Please pay close attention to the traffic signs. Most streets in town are a 4-way stop, but many county roads have unprotected intersections and no signs to distinguish right-of-way. Slow down and stop at all county road intersections. Be aware that there much industrial traffic on all roads in the county. You may also encounter slow moving agricultural equipment. Most of the roads which are not paved contain surface rock and can usually be traversed by a passenger car. Rain in the area may bring slippery roads, especially in the region of red soils and red roads.

Fire

In the case of a burn ban, you will be required to adhere to the Governor's Burn Ban Guidelines:

Outdoor campfires or bonfires are prohibited. LPG and natural gas grills and charcoal-fired cooking outside in a grilling receptacle are permitted provided that the activity is conducted over a non-flammable surface and at least five feet from flammable vegetation. Coleman-type pressurized stoves are exempt. However, any fire resulting from grilling or the use of one of these stoves is still an illegal fire.

Heat and Dehydration

It may finally be autumn, but the afternoons can still be hot and sunny! Cold water will be available at the Base Camp. Be cautious of heat and over exertion; compounded together may cause an increased chance for heat related problems. Wear a hat, light-colored clothing, and drink plenty of water. Don't wait until you get thirsty to drink water!

Venomous Snakes

Be aware that there are venomous snakes in the area. Always take a buddy into the field with you. Wear boots and loose-fitting pants if you are venturing into venomous snake territory. Try your best to not surprise a snake. Watch where you place your hands and feet, especially when climbing or stepping over objects such as large rocks, and logs.

Hunting

This year BioBlitz! is held during archery season for deer. Hunting is allowed on the National Grassland. However, we feel that BioBlitz! participants will be safe during the inventory if we follow a few guidelines: If going out early in the morning or late in the afternoon, wear blaze orange (vests are available at the Registration Table). If possible, make noise while out in the field (yes, we realize this is counter productive for some of you!).

First Aid

A basic first aid kit and first aid provider will be at Base Camp if you have a minor problem.

Local Hospital

Roger Mills Memorial Hospital is located directly north of Base Camp
501 South L.L. Males Avenue
(580) 497-3336

Be aware that cell phone coverage may be patchy in the area.