

Park Ranger (1966)
Task List 2021

A. Interpretation and Environmental Tasks

1. Answers questions specific to the park (e.g., identification of local flora and fauna, local history, directions, Department or City Services, and park rules and regulations) from park visitors in order to inform interested listeners.
2. Leads interpretative hikes on park related subjects (e.g., park history, native flora and fauna, and wilderness safety), by presenting subject matter specifically tailored for the audience (e.g., general public or students from educational institutions) in order to promote stewardship and environmental awareness.
3. Coordinates special events on park property (e.g., races, holiday events, Grunion runs) by addressing planning, logistics, and traffic issues in conjunction with staff from local museums, advocacy groups, and public safety agencies (e.g., LAPD, LAFD, DOT) in order to provide a safe and enjoyable park experience.
4. Speaks at local schools by giving talks on subjects ranging from native flora and fauna and fire safety to the daily duties of a Park Ranger in order to provide a unique educational experience to students of all grade levels.
5. Reads professional and/or scientific journals in order keep informed about current work in subjects such as environmental science, natural history, and/or local history in order to be informed about new discoveries and to provide the public with current information.

B. Patrol and Enforcement Duties

6. Plans and conducts vehicle and foot patrols (i.e., determining patrol route and length, driving and/or walking through parks and recreation facilities) in order to determine appropriate action in case of accidents, emergencies, and undesirable or illegal activity (e.g., unauthorized entry, vandalism or other property damage, and theft).
7. Directs vehicular traffic in order to provide for public safety in areas of unusual activity (e.g., traffic accident, heavy traffic) and/or limited visibility.
8. Communicates via a two-way radio in order to provide dispatchers and other public safety personnel with accurate, brief, and clear information (e.g., location of incident, request for additional resources, and description of incident) in routine and emergency situations.

9. Keeps records of patrol times and areas covered by making written entries in logs and/or by calling in at required intervals in order to document presence and to facilitate effective patrols.
10. Visually inspects parks and recreational facilities in assigned area for conditions which might be dangerous to people or to City property in the area (e.g., trail erosion, vandalism, infrastructure damage, biohazards) in order to ensure safety of property and park visitors.
11. Patrols assigned work area for possible violations of Penal, Vehicle, and Municipal Codes (i.e., vehicles parked illegally, unsafe driving, vandalism, alcohol use in the park) in order to ensure public safety.
12. Acts as a dispatcher by taking calls from residents, park patrons, Department staff, and Park Rangers in the field in order to determine the appropriate action based on the circumstances of the call [e.g., dispatching Park Rangers, notifying other City departments (LAPD, LAFD, DOT, Animal Services), providing requested information].
13. Responds to calls for service from dispatchers regarding illegal activities or unusual occurrences (e.g., suspicious persons, disturbing the peace, welfare checks) in order to investigate possible violations of the law and complete police reports.
14. Detains, searches, transports, and/or arrests persons who have committed crimes by physically restraining them with wrist or leg restraints when necessary in order to maintain a safe park environment.
15. Keeps a crime scene log by writing down the names of people present at a crime scene and/or who attempt to enter it in order to provide information to investigators.
16. Secures areas where crimes have been committed (e.g., locking doors, marking areas, preventing entry by unauthorized persons) in order to preserve evidence for police investigation.
17. Operates criminal database systems [e.g., California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS)] by accessing and retrieving data in order to provide required information for criminal investigations.
18. Reads and explains laws, codes, ordinances, and/or regulations such as rules governing access to parks and recreational facilities, safety regulations, and other regulations in order to provide correct information to park visitors.

C. Firefighting and Emergency Tasks

19. Responds to wildland fires on park property by utilizing firefighting apparatus (e.g., fire engine, water tender, brush patrol) in order to eliminate fire spread and to protect park patrons and department property.
20. Promptly addresses small-scale emergencies or unusual conditions (i.e., replacing displaced warning signs or other safety devices, evicting unruly or undesirable persons from parks and recreation facilities, restricting access to areas where there are problems, or directing pedestrian or vehicular traffic) in order to maintain safe conditions in areas used by the public.
21. Operates or assists in operation of a fire engine including driving, starting, and operating pumps in order to provide sufficient water flow to firefighters engaged in suppression activities.
22. Utilizes firefighting hose, nozzles, and other suppression tools [e.g., chainsaws, backpack pumps, hand tools (Pulaski McLeod, shovel)] in order to extinguish active fire on park property.
23. Administers basic life support to injured persons (e.g., patient assessment, bleeding control, administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation) in order to address emergency medical needs.
24. Organizes and/or participates in search and rescue operations for lost or stranded hikers in wilderness park areas by: designating search teams, assigning search areas and/or routes, and utilizing technical rescue equipment (e.g., ropes, harnesses, carabiners) in order to locate and retrieve hikers in need of assistance.

D. Communication

25. Writes detailed notes and reports on incidents that occurred on park property such as accidents, personal injuries, or property damage in order to provide complete information to interested parties.
26. Completes standard forms such as daily field activity reports, vehicular accident and/or personal injury reports, citations, time sheets, and other forms routinely required in order to ensure that proper records are kept.
27. Reads and understands Department policy and procedure manuals and/or other resource materials (e.g., Penal Code, Vehicle Code, Municipal Code) as a guide in order to enforce laws and park ordinances and to know the appropriate actions to be taken in emergencies.