## Things to remember

- Summer hours 6 a.m. to dusk
- Winter schedule 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. In the winter, please drive carefully on the road to the park. The entrance may be covered with snow and ice. Although most parks are open year round, some parks or portions of parks are closed during the winter. For a winter schedule and information about seasonal closures, visit www.parks.wa.gov or call the information center at (360) 902-8844.
- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs, tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited. Hunting, feeding of wildlife and gathering firewood on state park property is prohibited.
- Pets must be on leash and under physical control at all times. This includes trail areas. Pet owners must clean up after pets on all state park lands.



The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission thanks you for including your donation to State Parks when you renew your vehicle license tabs. These donations are a significant part of the State Parks budget and are needed to keep your parks open and operating. Thank you, and enjoy. For more information, visit www.parks.wa.gov/donations/



## Steptoe Butte State Park

State Parks information: (360) 902-8844

Other state parks located in the general area: Steptoe Memorial Battlefield, John Wayne Pioneer Trail, Columbia Plateau Trail and Palouse Falls

# Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

P.O. Box 42650 Olympia, WA 98504-2650 (360) 902-8500 www.parks.wa.gov

Commission members:

Patricia T. Lantz Joe Taller Fred Olson Cecilia Vogt

Rodger Schmitt Lucinda S. Whaley Eliot Scull

Agency director: Don Hoch

All Washington state parks are developed and maintained for the enjoyment of all people.

To request this brochure in an alternative format, please call (360) 902-8844 or the Washington Telecommunications Relay Service at (800) 833-6388. P&R 45-71502-01 (03/11)



# Welcome to Steptoe Butte

on a thimble-shaped, 3,612-foot-tall quartzite butte in southeast Washington. The 150-acre day-use park is known for the stark, dramatic panoramic view it provides of surrounding farmlands, the Blue Mountains and other neighboring ranges and peaks. From the top of the butte, the eye can see 200 miles and into Idaho and Oregon states.

Interpretive signs provide information on the butte and surrounding mountain ranges. A sign interpreting the history of the Cashup Hotel, which once stood on top of the butte, is featured in the park. A National Natural Landmark, the park is popular for impressive views of eastern Washington geography and its rich history.



## Park history

Native Americans called the butte "the power mountain." It was believed that a journey to the butte bestowed a gift of power from the mountain's guardian spirit. During western settlement, the butte was called "Pyramid Peak." The butte figured significantly in the last U.S. Army/Indian conflict in eastern Washington as a reconnaissance point. The butte's present name honors Colonel Edward Steptoe, who led the U.S. Army in that last conflict.

Steptoe Butte once held a hotel and an observation point built by James S. "Cashup" Davis. The Cashup Hotel closed after Davis's death in 1896 and burned down in 1911. Conservationist, pharmacist, economist and historian, Virgil Talmadge McCroskey (1876-1970), later purchased a large portion of the butte and donated it to the state. A plaque honoring McCroskey remains at Steptoe Butte State Park.

### Park amenities and facilities

Steptoe Butte State Park offers the following amenities and facilities:

- Six unsheltered picnic tables and five braziers are available first come, first served
- Interpretive panels
- Two restrooms (CXT's)