

WHAT TO EXPECT

The **MALHEUR FIELD STATION (MFS)** is a non profit environmental education and research center located in the Great Basin Desert of southeastern Oregon. It is dedicated to the concept that learning is a lifelong process—a philosophy implemented through a wide variety of program offerings and lodging opportunities to its guests and students interested in cultural or natural history of the region.

MFS is located in the northern section of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, surrounded by a unique and diverse landscape of shrub-steppe uplands, wetlands, and mountains. Visitors have opportunities to witness a spectacular array of birds, plants, stunning geological features, and incredibly dark night skies (MFS is kept dark at night).

WEATHER: ELEVATION: 4100 FT.

MARCH-JUNE: Expect rain or snow in April and freezing nights in June. Daytime highs 40—65 degrees F in March/April and 60-85 degrees F May/June. Highs can approach 100 degrees F during late July or August. Weather changeable in September, by mid October cold spells can be severe. In any season a forty degree temp difference between day and night is not uncommon.

CLOTHING: The secret to staying comfortable in this region is to have multiple layers of clothing.

ACCOMODATIONS: MFS offers trailers (single wide mobile homes, kitchenettes and dormitories (large groups only) that are simple, clean and comfortable). RV hookup sites are also available for self contained vehicles.

BEDDING: Beds range from Twin, Double, Queen **you must bring your own full bedding and bath towels/toiletries**

(Bedding sets available for travelers that are unable to bring their own \$10)

COOKING FACILITIES: Fully equipped kitchens with all basic kitchenware and appliances (microwave, coffee maker, toaster) are provided in two cooking dorms and all kitchenettes and trailers.

MEALS: The MFS Dining Hall is open seasonally for its guests. We offer hot breakfasts, sack lunches and hot dinners. Please inform us of the number of vegetarians in your group. Meal reservations are required prior to arrival.

MFS BOOKSHOP: Our bookshop carries a side selection of educational books (children's, reference, field guides), clothing, gift cards, artwork, sundries and beverages.

EXPLORING: If you choose to leave the paved roads or sidewalks, please use caution due to many foot-hazard (burrows, uneven ground, disused infrastructures).

PROBLEMS: Please contact the Office if you encounter any problems. We want your stay to be as enjoyable and trouble-free as possible

What to Bring

ESSENTIALS

- ◆ Clothing suited to season including sunhat and sturdy walking shoes
- ◆ Bed linens/sleeping bag and pillow
- ◆ Towel (s) and toiletries
- ◆ Sunscreen and Insect repellent
- ◆ Canteen/water bottle
- ◆ Flashlight (min. outdoor lighting)

RECOMMENDED

- ◆ Binoculars, telescope, camera and batteries
- ◆ Field ID Books, Writing and Sketching materials
- ◆ Chapstick, anti-itch ointment, hand lotion
- ◆ Specialized cooking equipment (garlic press/condiments)
- ◆ **Drinking water: Our water is regulated as a public water supply. Bring your own if you prefer water without heavy mineral taste.**

DIRECTIONS: The majority of travelers choose to pass through Burns, OR (groceries/gas selection) in route to MFS. Take route 78 east (to Winnemucca, NV) out of Burns. After a mile or so look for a right turn onto Hwy 205 (to Frenchglenn). Noting mile markers, travel south on Hwy 205 for just over 23 miles, then turn left (east) onto SODHOUSE LANE. Proceed 3 miles and turn right (south) onto a gravel road at the MFS sign and mailbox. MFS is situated between two buttes about 1 mile down the gravel road. Please drive slowly and watch out for children and wildlife. Welcome to MFS!

ARRIVAL :

Check in at the OFFICE and settle up your balance. If the office is not open when you arrive, please plan to remit asap the next day. **PLEASE VERIFY LODGING ASSIGNMENT BY CHECKING THE BULLETIN BOARD NEXT TO THE ENTRANCE TO MALCOLM HALL.** Occasionally we need to make last minute changes, so do confirm before moving in! A scale model map of the station just inside the door can be used to locate your assigned dwelling.

VISA/MC cards are accepted. We prefer personal checks.

RECYCLING boxes are located in each building along with a posted list of recyclable items. It is vital that guests participate in our recycling program (or take them home). Your actions reduce garbage, keep disposal costs to a minimum, and makes good ecological sense.

DEPARTURE:

A Few Simple Tasks: We request that you leave your lodgings in the same condition as you found them. Please read and follow the task list prominently posted. For groups, good housekeeping will assure the return of your cleaning deposit. Your contribution to general housekeeping is essential in keeping our costs down ensuring that our rates are affordable to the widest range of visitors. **Thank you in advance!**

HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY!

When birding along roads, remember to pull over safely and use your 'flashers'. Non birders often drive very fast on rural roads.