



Baxter State Park Guide to Commercial Use

Commercial Use Permits

Any commercial activity within Baxter State Park requires a permit. Permits are free and applications are available [HERE](#) or you may apply in person or phone at 207-723-5140.

On March 31, 2024, all current Commercial Use Permits will expire. The new permit application period will be from March 1, 2024 through March 31, 2024. The permit will be active for 1 year and expire on March 31, 2025. All rules, regulations and policies governing commercial use in Baxter State Park will remain the same during this period.

Defining Commercial Use

Commercial use is defined as any activity which requires any form of remuneration to the provider or organizer of those activities, whether or not the entity is recognized as non-profit under Local, State, or Federal law.

Examples of commercial and non-commercial uses:

Non-commercial	Commercial
girl scout troops	guided activities
outing clubs	shuttle/taxi services
church & school groups	camp groups
company retreats	college orientation groups

State, Local, or Federal Laws and Regulations

Commercial use permits issued by Baxter State Park and the Park Rules under which commercial users operate in the park **do not** supersede other state, local, federal laws, or regulations governing commercial operations. Examples include:

- Transportation services must operate under [Maine State requirements](#).
- Guide services are required to operate under [Maine IF&W guidelines](#).

This list is by no means exhaustive, ***you are responsible for knowing and following all applicable laws and regulations governing your business, industry, or service.***

Rules for Commercial Use

Baxter State Park's commercial use policy dictates that all commercial users must obtain a permit to display upon entering the park and at the request of park staff while inside the park.

There are no Baxter State Park Rules specific to commercial users. All park visitors, including commercial users are expected to fully comply with Park Rules which can be found [HERE](#).

Of special note is [Park Rule 2.1](#) which states '*The maximum size of a hiking group shall be 12 persons. Affiliated groups on the same trail separated by less than one mile shall be considered one group.*' Groups larger than 12 persons MUST camp in a group area if camping in the Park.

The Baxter State Park Authority reserves the right to revoke permits for violations of Park Rules or State laws.

The Need for a Commercial Use Permit

Through the permit process, and with your support and participation, we hope to gather data sufficient to consider future management policy and procedure regarding these uses in the park.

Baxter State Park has insufficient data regarding the number, size, character, and demographics of users that would qualify as commercial users. The underlying motive for monetary or other personal gain defines commercial use in the park in a way that is distinctly different from individual, family, or group use.

Permit and Permit Number

All commercial users must display their permit or provide their permit number upon entering the park and at the request of park staff while inside the park.

If you have multiple vehicles, trip leaders, or groups, each must have a copy of your permit. You are responsible for making additional copies of your permit as needed.

You are responsible for the actions of those operating under your permit or permit number while in the park.

With your help, we can protect and preserve this magnificent and unique Park, ensuring that it remains a treasure for all people and generations to come.

THANK YOU!