Visiting Malheur Field Station

Welcome, we're glad you're here!

OUR LOCATION:

The **MALHEUR FIELD STATION** (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, a 180-degree view of the sky with the darkest skies you can find on Earth.

ELEVATION: 4100 FT.

ADDRESS: 34848 Sodhouse Ln. Princeton, OR. 97721

(If you're using GPS to arrive, put in "Malheur Field Station". The address itself sometimes will take people to Sodhouse Ranch.)

OFFICE PHONE: 541-493-2629 (call or text)

OFFICE EMAIL: malheurfieldstation@gmail.com

OFFICE/GIFT SHOP HOURS: Vary with the season.

April - Mid-June

- 9am - 12pm, 4pm - 7pm (generally)
- Anytime the "OPEN" sign is on.
- If you'd like to visit the gift shop during other hours, please text or call the office.

MFS GIFT SHOP: Be sure to come to our newly renovated gift shop! We carry a selection of books, clothing, kids items, gift cards, artwork, sundries and beverages.

Malheur Field Station Campus



Please do not enter.

Common Buildings/Areas

Lodging Units

WHAT TO BRING

ESSENTIALS

- Clothing suited to the season including sunhat / layers are always good.
- Sturdy walking shoes (lots of gravel roads around here) and slippers for indoors.
- **Pillow & Bed linens/blanket or sleeping bag to fit your reserved bed size**
    - See the bed chart below for bed size in your unit.
    - (Due to limited water, we are not able to handle the laundry load of offering bedding.)
- Bath and hand towels and toiletries
- **Food/snacks for all of your meals/needs.** The kitchen has dishes, cookware, utensils, and everything you need to cook.
    - (Unless you're part of an inclusive program or have been offered meal options)
- Sunscreen (all seasons)
- Insect repellant from April - September
    - June-July is the height of insect season.
- Canteen/water bottle
- Flashlight or headlamp (we have minimum outdoor lighting)

SUGGESTED

- Binoculars, telescope, camera and batteries
- Field ID Books, writing and sketching materials
- Lip balm, anti-itch ointment, hand lotion (It is very dry here)
- Electrolytes



***BED SIZE CHART by LODGING UNIT**

UNIT	TWIN	FULL	QUEEN
Owl East	☑ X 6	☐	☐
Owl West	☑ X 3	☑ X 1	☐
Pelican (only 1 room w/full)	☑ X 7	☑ X 1	☐
East House	☑ X 4	☑ X 1	☑ X 1
Dipper	☐	☑ X 1 futon	☑ X 1
Tiny House	☐	☐	☑ X 1
Junco	☐	☑ X 1 ☑ X 1 futon	☑ X 1
Avocet	☑ X 2	☑ X 1	☐
Bittern	☑ X 2	☑ X 1 ☑ X 1 futon	☐
Crane	☑ X 2	☑ X 1 ☑ X 1 futon	☐
E Dorm	☑ X 20 10 private bedrooms w/2-3 beds each	☐	☐
A Dorm	☑ X 36 4 quadrants with 8/beds in each + 2 bedrooms w/2 beds each	☐	☐

ARRIVAL

1. **Check in is at 4pm or later.** Come into the OFFICE in Malcolm Hall and please pay your remaining balance if you have one. If the office is not open when you arrive, please plan to remit in the morning of the next day. We accept checks, cash, or cards.

2. **PARKING**

   Owl West, East, and Pelican: Park in the parking area with the wooden sign.

   E Dorm: Drive to the dorm to unload, and please bring your car back to the parking lot.

   All other lodging, park next to your lodging leaving the road open. **Please only park on gravel areas.**

DURING YOUR VISIT:

- **WIFI:** Malheur FS password: **birdsrus**
- **WATER** The water from our tap can be used for showering and washing dishes. You are provided blue jugs of filtered water for drinking and cooking. **Please let us know anytime you need more water, and our team will bring you more.**
    - **Note:** We are installing a station-wide filtration system that will be ready by mid-April 2026, after which all water from taps will be potable.
- **We are on a septic waste system.**
    - Please do not put anything down the toilets except for the toilet paper provided. Please wrap and put sanitary products in the garbage.
    - Please use the kitchen sink strainers to avoid food from going down the drain. Thank you!

- **SHOES** We encourage you to remove shoes inside, the refuge is very dusty!
- **EXPLORING**: As you walk around the station, **please stick to the gravel roads and sidewalk**s. All of the areas in between are active habitats!
- **REFUGE HOURS:** Sunrise to sunset
- **QUIET HOURS** Between 8pm - 8am
- **DARKNESS** Please turn off exterior lights when not in use for our dark sky watchers.
- **COOKING FACILITIES**: Fully equipped kitchens with all basic kitchenware and appliances (microwave, coffee maker, toaster, stove, refrigerator) are provided.
- **GARBAGE & RECYCLING:** Each unit has a separate container for garbage and recycling.
- **CELL SERVICE :** Verizon and ATT work well on the station. There may be some dark spots, but mostly it works!

Bird Blind: Be sure to check out our bird-blind area behind E dorm.

GREASEWOOD Rec Building: Enjoy our screened-in porch, or go inside and play some pool, ping-pong, or lounge around with friends to play a board game or do a puzzle. Open 24/7, however please respect quiet hours.

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

NIGHT SKY WATCHERS: All of our outdoor fixtures are night-sky certified! If you are out late, please be considerate with noises, sound travels really far here!

EMERGENCIES: Fire or safety: 911 / Then, text or call 541-493-2629

DEPARTURE:

- We kindly ask to leave your lodgings in the same condition as you found them. Thank you in advance!
- Come say goodbye if we're in the Office!
- **Check out is by 11AM**
    - If you don't have time to stop by, please text us so we know when you've taken off. 541-493-2629

Other Policies:

PETS not permitted. (However, you will see employee pets.)

SMOKING of any kind not permitted inside units, or near building entryways.

FIELD DRESSING not permitted on the field station, including inside rented units.

CANCELLATION POLICY: If you need to cancel your reservation you will lose 10% from the deposit money you send in. Please note the policy dates for % of deposit returned:

4 weeks out from date of check in, 100% after 10%

3 weeks out from date of check in, 75% after 10%

2 weeks out from date of check in, 50% after 10%

1 week out from date of check in, 25% after 10%

For less than a week there is no return on your deposit. Please note, if you arrive and check in, and decide to depart early, there is no return on your deposit.

RENOVATIONS in PROGRESS: We are in the process of many renovation projects. The field station buildings were originally constructed in the 1960's, and our goal is to restore all of them to excellent condition. We appreciate your patience as we work through these goals. Please feel free to communicate any issues. We are always looking for volunteers to help! Please let us know if you'd like to help!