**OLLI Campers: Juniper Lake**

Friday, September 8, 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM, Pre-Trip Meeting (Required)

Friday, September 15 to Monday, September 18, Juniper Lake Campground

A group campsite has been reserved for three nights at this remote and very beautiful lake in the southeastern end of Lassen Volcanic National Park. We will have 3 picnic tables, 3 fire rings, and 3 bearproof food storage boxes. Tent camping only. No cell reception. Great area for swimming, kayaking, and hiking. The two digital files on the OLLI website (Class Materials & Downloads) include a topo map and a list of hiking options. Park entrance fee for each vehicle will be $10; we’ll share the $90 cost of the group site and carpooling expenses.

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**Juniper Lake**

The largest lake in Lassen Volcanic National Park, Juniper Lake is 11 miles from Highway 36 in Chester; 7 of these miles are on a washboarded gravel road unsuitable for trailers or RVs but okay for vehicles without AWD or 4WD. The group site, at 6,792 feet elevation, is for tent camping only. Vault toilets. Bring water or a water purification pump. No dogs.

**Pre-Trip Meeting Agenda**

- Carpooling & driving directions
- What to bring
- Food & food storage
- Potable water & water purification
- Liability waiver & emergency contact information
Hiking Options from Juniper Lake

**Mount Harkness**: 5.6 miles roundtrip, 1,350 elevation gain
from *Hiking Lassen Volcanic National Park*, a Falcon Guide: "Gazing down into the seemingly benign crater on the top of Mount Harkness, where the soil is just beginning to show its fertility by supporting a smattering of scraggly silverleaf lupine, it’s hard to imagine that this once was an active shiel volcano . . . These days, the mountain is a spectacular destination for hikers, its fiery past cloaked in stately evergreen forests and busy meadows of wildflowers." This is the easiest of the three major Lassen peaks to climb.

**Crystal Lake**: 0.8 miles roundtrip, 450 feet elevation gain
from *75 Hikes in California’s Lassen Park & Mount Shasta Regions*: "This path rises at a rate of 1,125 feet per mile, which is mighty steep. However, since it’s only 0.4 mile, you’ll gladly accept the challenge to gain the good graces of Crystal Lake, one of the most precious jewels of Lassen Park. You can swim the inviting waters, picnic near the shores, explore nearby ridges, or just sit and absorb the beauty and magnificence of this special spot."

**Horseshoe Lake**: 2.8 miles roundtrip, 900 feet elevation gain

**Horseshoe/Indian/Juniper Lakes Loop**: 6.4 miles roundtrip, 956 feet elevation gain
from *75 Hikes in California’s Lassen Park & Mount Shasta Regions*: "Large and beautiful lakes highlight this journey: You’ll get a good taste of Juniper and Horseshoe lakes, plus smaller and more intimate Indian Lake . . . where you’ll find great swimming spots."

**Inspiration Point**: 1.4 miles roundtrip, 400 feet elevation gain
Good views of Lassen Park peaks and lakes.

**Jakey Lake**: 6.6 miles roundtrip, 600 feet elevation gain
from *Hiking Lassen Volcanic National Park*, a Falcon Guide: "Jakey Lake is embedded so deeply in the backcountry that hiking to its shores is akin to stepping back in time . . . Jakey Lake itself possesses all the charms typical of wilderness lakes. Open to the sky, its
dark surface is rippled by winds. It is entirely circled by a thick woodland . . . If you thrive on solitude, this trail’s for you.” Good swimming along the north shore.

**Cameron Meadow and Grassy Creek Loop:** 7.2 miles, 1,160 feet elevation gain from trails.com: “The Cameron Meadow - Grassy Creek loop, with a profusion of showy wildflowers and lush plants filling the meadow and lining the banks of the creek, is a delight for botanists . . . the loop visits two of the more magnificent lakes in the Lassen backcountry, Horseshoe and Snag, offering plenty of opportunities to camp, swim, fish, or simply enjoy the scenery.”