

National Parks Not Selling Plastic Water Bottles

March 2014

At the time it went into effect in December 2011, two national park units had banned plastic water bottle sales:

Utah's Zion
Hawaii Volcanoes

In June 2011, Oklahoma's Washita Battlefield National Historic Site discontinued water bottle sales when it retrofitted its water fountain to include a bottle filling station and began selling a reusable Nalgene water bottle with the Washita logo in its bookstore.

While another 8 units never allowed disposable plastic water bottle sales:

Aztec Ruins National Monument [NM]
Big Thicket National Preserve [TX]
Canyonlands National Park (partial) [UT]
Dinosaur National Monument [CO]
El Malpais National Monument [NM]
El Morro National Monument [NM]
Grant-Kohrs Ranch National Historic Site [TX]
Little Bighorn National Monument [MT]

Effective December 14, 2011, Arizona's Grand Canyon National Park was allowed to proceed with the bottle ban it had been planning and which was suspended for nearly a year by Director Jarvis.

In the first year under that policy:

- Petrified Forest ended sales while Saguaro removed its beverage vending machine [AZ];
- Arches and Timpanogos Cave stopped sales while Canyonlands expanded a partial ban park-wide [UT]; and
- Mount Rushmore ended sales of disposable bottles for plain water but continues sale of enriched or enhanced water and other beverages in plastic disposable bottles [SD].

In the second year of the policy, these units formally adopted or instituted bans:

- Colorado National Monument [CO]
- San Antonio Missions National Historical Park [TX]

- Outer Banks Group [NC]
- Pecos National Historical Park [NM]
- Natural Bridges and Hovenweep National Monuments [UT]

In 2014, we expect still other national park units, such as Golden Gate National Recreation Area [CA] (the national park with highest annual visitation, according to the latest NPS statistics), Mt. Rainier National Park [WA] and Biscayne National Park [FL] to join this list.

###