DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND PARKS Parks and Recreation Division



Picnic Shelter Event Rental FAQs

Are picnic shelters available for drop in use when not reserved?

For groups of less than 35 people, picnic shelters are available for first-come, first-served use when not reserved. However, the only way to ensure availability is to make a reservation.

What is the cost of reserving the shelter?

Picnic shelter reservations range from \$50 to \$135 per 5 hour booking period, depending on the park, shelter, and day of the week. Additional fees may apply to events with over 50 attendees, amplified sound requests, bounce house/inflatable requests, infrastructure being brought in, catering or vendors, sales of tickets, food or other items, are advertised to the public, or when required by King County Parks.

What is included in a picnic shelter reservation?

Picnic shelter reservations include the shelter, the amenities listed, and 15' of area around the shelter, unless additional space has been approved. Any additional space, such as athletic fields, open grass space, etc. require an additional reservation fee. Setup and cleanup of your picnic is not included.

How many tables are there? What size are the tables?

The number of and size of tables at each picnic shelter varies. You are responsible for knowing what you are renting, so we encourage you to visit the space prior to making a reservation.

Power/water available?

Only some shelters have power and water available, most do not. See the amenities in the list of available shelters.

Can we clean up after 2:00 pm if we book the morning rental?

No, if your rental time ends at 2:00 pm, you must be cleaned up before that time. If you need longer, you may book both rental periods for a full day rental.

Can we book a different time slot than what is indicated? Ex: 10 am - 4 pm

No. If you require the picnic shelter for a time period that overlaps between the 9am-2pm and 3pm-8pm/dusk booking period, then you will need to book both for a full day reservation.

Can we have alcohol at our event?

No, alcohol consumption is prohibited in King County Parks. The ONLY exception is for approved and permitted weddings at Cougar Mountain Wilderness Park and Tolt MacDonald Park & Campground with the appropriate applications, insurance, and permits.

What if I need to cancel my picnic event?

Once booked, picnics may be cancelled within 3 days of making the reservation. After that, cancellations made 90 days or more in advance may receive a 50% refund. Cancellations made 89 days or less will not be refundable.

Are there discounts for residents of the neighborhood/city?

King County Parks rental fees are a flat rate for all renters, there are no discounts for residents.