



## **Washington's National Park Fund and Olympic National Park Included in National Landmarks Preservation Contest**

***Your vote could generate \$20,000 Olympic National Park***

**Seattle, WA—April 9, 2020—** The American Association of Endodontists (AAE) – the dental specialists that save your natural teeth – have selected Olympic National Park as one of four natural landmarks in the United States for the second annual “Worth Saving” Landmarks Contest to be in the running for \$20,000 to support preservation projects. Vote for Olympic National Park at <https://www.aae.org/landmarks>.

Voting began on of February 26, 2020 and is open until 5 p.m. PST, May 31, 2020– an extended deadline in light of the Coronavirus. The landmark with the most votes will receive \$20,000 toward its preservation fund and a goal of \$30,000 or more in free endodontic services in the city in which it is located. If Olympic National Park wins, funds will come to Washington's National Park Fund, the park's official philanthropic partner, to support critical preservation efforts throughout the park. Port Angeles, WA will benefit from the generous endodontic services.

“Olympic National Park and Washington's National Park Fund is excited to participate in AAE's Landmarks Contest,” said Laurie Ward, CEO of Washington's National Park Fund. “We encourage all the residents of Washington State to vote for Olympic National Park early in this contest and help bring national recognition and critical financial support to this treasured public land.”

“Along with your natural teeth, endodontists understand the inherent value of saving things that are meaningful to people,” said AAE President Dr. Keith V. Krell. “We are thrilled to host a contest for the second year in a row that highlights four important natural landmarks throughout the U.S. that are meaningful to so many local citizens and visitors.”

The other three landmarks vying for national recognition are: Dallas’s White Rock Lake Park, The Houston Arboretum and Nature Center and Chicagoland’s Illinois Beach State Park.

WNPF is the only philanthropic organization dedicated solely to Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks and 100% of the donations stay in Washington State for park priority projects. Founded by former governor and senator Dan Evans and legendary mountaineer Lou Whittaker, WNPF has awarded more than \$5.85 million in the last 10 years to support these national parks.

**About Washington’s National Park Fund**

Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF) is the official philanthropic partner of Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks, which span more than 1.6 million acres of the Evergreen state. Annually, WNPF allocates monies to 50-75 park priority projects with the goal of deepening the public’s love for, understanding of, and experiences in Washington’s National Parks. Get involved at [www.wnpf.org](http://www.wnpf.org)

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