



National Parks Service Rangers Preventive Search & Rescue (PSAR)

The PSAR program was started in 1997. Basically **PSAR** is to help people avoid needing to be rescued by providing education about the potential hazards involved in the outing or hike wherever you are, as well as the time and equipment needed to complete a planned outing or hike.

National Park visitors' activities vary widely:

- Destination hiking & sightseeing
- Intermediate trail-hiking & outings (less than ½ day)
- Long day-hikes & outings (½-1 day)
- Overnight outings and camping
- Climbing & mountaineering
- Water sports & recreation activities
- Combinations of the above

All of these activities have resulted in deaths that could have been avoided with better preparation and planning. PSAR Rangers patrol the entry & upper portions of the main corridor trails, and stop visitors and ask a specific series of questions about their hiking or outing plans & preparations.

PSAR Rangers Q's:

- Where are you hiking or going today?
- Do you know how far that is & how long it will take you to complete the hike or outing?
- Do you have enough water & food with you?
- Are you drinking your water regularly?
- Do you have a headlamp or flashlight
- Do you have a jacket or outer covering?
- Do you know the weather & temperatures to expect?
- Do you have an accurate map of the area?
- Did you tell someone where you are going and when you will be back?