Why We Need to Fix Our Parks
National Park Service sites have almost $12 billion in deferred maintenance

The Backlog Challenge
The National Park Service (NPS) is over 100 years old, and the infrastructure and facilities at the more than 400 sites it manages nationwide are aging. Add wear and tear from visitors and inconsistent annual funding, and the Park Service can’t keep pace with needed repairs. NPS’ maintenance backlog has grown to an estimated $12 billion, and nearly half of that is for highest-priority assets.

NPS sites have almost $12 billion in deferred maintenance.

- **$2.2B** Buildings
- **$210M** Military fortifications
- **$79M** Campgrounds
- **$6.3B** Roads, parking lots, bridges, and tunnels
- **$717M** Water and wastewater systems
- **$2.4B** Other

Sources: National Park Service, FY 2018 NPS Asset Inventory Summary Location Report; National Park Service, FY 2018 API Component Information, both as of Sept. 30, 2018
Why We Need to Act Now to Fix Our Parks

Our national parks document American history, provide opportunities for recreation, and sustain local and regional economies.

NPS Sites Also Support Local Communities

NPS estimates that in 2018, its 400-plus sites:

- Generated **$20.2 billion** in visitor spending in local communities
- Attracted **318 million** visits
- Generated **$40.1 billion** in national economic output
- Supported **329,000** jobs


For further information, please visit:
[pewtrusts.org/nationalparks](http://pewtrusts.org/nationalparks)

---

**Contact:** Monique O’Grady, communications manager  
Email: mogrady@pewtrusts.org

**Contact:** Marcia Argust, project director  
Email: margust@pewtrusts.org

The Pew Charitable Trusts is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today’s most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public, and invigorate civic life.