

1260. Parking Policy

1.1 Mary E. Theler Community Center

Main Parking Lot. The main Theler Center parking lot is a public parking lot and is therefore subject to all State and County laws. Vehicles should be parked in the marked spaces except when loading/unloading.

Overflow Parking Lot. The “overflow” parking lot South of Theler Center (Mason County parcel #12332-50-00061, aka “Property 16”) is owned by the SAM B. THELER TESTAMENTARY TRUST, managed by BNY MELLON WEALTH ADVISORS. Use of the property is courtesy of the Trust manager. Theler staff and volunteers will manage parking on that property as if it were Theler Center property.

On-Street Parking. As a State highway, State Route 3 is regulated by the Washington State Patrol and Mason County Sheriff.

- Theler Center is not responsible for vehicles parked along the roadway.
- Drivers parking along the shoulder of SR 3 do so at their own risk.

Disability Parking. Theler Center will provide parking in the main parking lot for visitors with disabilities in accordance with the State Building Code and marked in accordance with RCW 46.61.581. The Mason County Sheriff will provide enforcement for misuse.

1.2 Wetlands Parking

Theler Exhibit Center and NMSD Classroom. Parking is generally prohibited on the wetlands. The gate on Roessel Road will remain locked except when entering or exiting to assure the physical security of the wetlands and buildings and to safeguard the wetlands ecosystem.

Vehicle access to the wetlands and exhibit center/classroom is limited to maintenance and emergency vehicles and occasional load/unload. The trails are disability accessible, so vehicular access to the wetlands to accommodate disabled visitors should generally not be necessary.

The Theler Center Manager maintains a key to the gate on Roessel Road; his/her permission is required to unlock the gate.

The access road and the areas surrounding the Theler Exhibit Center and Classroom are designated as a fire lane and loading zone. Any vehicles temporarily parked in the Wetlands area or around the exhibit center/classroom shall be parked in a manner that allows unimpeded access by emergency vehicles to all sides of the exhibit center/classroom building. After the vehicle is loaded or unloaded it must be moved to the parking lots at the Theler Community Center. No vehicle, except emergency vehicles, shall remain on the access road more than 15 minutes.

Please observe the 5 mph speed limit. Pedestrians and wildlife have the right of way.

“where community and nature walk hand-in-hand”