

Check all the batteries on radios, TV

If you're getting ready to venture into the Great Outdoors, don't neglect to check the batteries in your portable radio and TV sets.

"Portable radios and TV sets," explains Richard C. Wilson, national service manager for Zenith Radio Corporation, "have become smaller and less expensive to operate. Batteries have permitted these sets to be taken anywhere where there is a signal."

As a portable radio is used, the batteries "run down" and lose power and voltage and therefore must be replaced to insure peak performance.

"It's important," says Wilson, "that storage of batteries be in a cool, dry place, such as a refrigerator. This care in storage increases the 'shelf life' of the battery."

"Long storage in a hot or moist atmosphere can make the battery unusable when needed."

Batteries typically used in portable TV sets should be handled with care to avoid damaging the case. These batteries are rechargeable and will permit up to four hours of operation before recharging is necessary.

"Storage of these batteries," explains Wilson, "should also be in a cool, dry place and they should be stored in a charged condition to prolong shelf life. If not used in the receiver, they should be checked and recharged every six months. 'Regardless of the type or use of the battery,' Wilson advises, 'the battery should be carefully inspected before and, periodically, during use.'"

"If there is any sign of leakage, the battery should be replaced immediately."

Trails laid in LBL for wheelchairs

The handicapped need not shun the Great Outdoors. Being blind or confined to a wheelchair no longer means you have to forego the scents, sounds and feel of nature.

Many national parks have braille trails for the sightless and paved, gentle paths for the wheelchair-ridden. These trails are specially marked and laid out to accommodate a handicapped person under any circumstance.

Land Between The Lakes, in Kentucky and Tennessee, not only has special handicapped trails, they are researching special camp sites for outdoors lovers in wheelchairs.

The cooking grills are higher off the ground; the picnic tables are lower to the ground; the camping pads are smooth; and paved paths lead to nearby sanitary facilities and shower house.

LBL has two trails specially designed to accommodate the physically impaired, and at Piney campground there is a special floating fishing pier constructed for use by wheelchairs.

Special outdoor programs are scheduled during the year, and paved ramps provide easy access for wheelchairs to campfire theaters and other activity facilities.

Whether confined to the darkness of the unsighted or the wheelchair of the physically impaired, the so-called handicapped person can delight in nature's wonders.

Just sitting in the warm sun listening to the whispers of the forest is restorative therapy for any man, woman or child.

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