

FAQs

Northeast Washington License Programs



Why is N.E. Washington changing its land use policy?

Our goal is to keep properties in Northeast Washington (NEWA) available for recreational access while maintaining them as working forests and managing the costs and risks associated with providing access. Over time, Manulife Investment Management (Manulife) has experienced a growing number of unauthorized activities on the lands we manage. This includes unauthorized trails, drug and alcohol use, unapproved events, illegal collection of forest products, dumping, vandalism, theft, unpermitted fires, damage to roads and wetlands, etc. Licenses for access allow us to gain greater control over these activities and cover related costs while keeping our lands accessible for public enjoyment.

NEWA lands are under two different access types: **Exclusive Use** and **Non-Exclusive Use**.

Exclusive Use: Licensed land for the use of an individual, hunt club or commercial group. No longer open to the public.

Non-Exclusive Use: A finite number of licenses are sold on large tracts. Licenses will run for 1 year, starting August 1st through July 31st of the following year. Non-exclusive use licenses, when purchased, are specific to one area. Pay attention to the map.

For more information about the different programs, available parcels, and terms and conditions, please visit manulifeimlanduse.com.

When will parcels and licenses be available to buy?

Parcels are being added daily. July 1, 2026, bids open and will be available to purchase on our website manulifeimlanduse.com.

What will Exclusive Use licenses cost?

Bid minimums are listed on the website for each Exclusive Use area. Parcels will be awarded to the highest bidder.

What will Non-Exclusive Use 2026 license cost?

- \$225 Access Permit
- \$300 Individual Motorized
- \$400 Family Motorized

Licenses are first come first serve.

Will land be patrolled to enforce violations and trespassing?

Yes. Law enforcement and Manulife security will be monitoring the property.

Will land be closed during fire season?

Land closures may be implemented each year due to fire or other safety hazards. Please call our information line at (509) 684-0700 to get the latest closure information. Protection of recreationists and our land is of paramount importance to Manulife.

Can I travel through Manulife lands on a County or Forest Service Road without a license?

Yes. Public roads will remain open to travel through Manulife lands. While brief stops along these roads are allowed without a license, you may not venture off the road onto Manulife lands.

Will firewood cutting or Christmas tree harvesting be allowed with the license?

No. Firewood cutting or Christmas tree harvesting is not allowed with this license.

Non-Exclusive Use License FAQs

Are E-bikes allowed?

NO motorized vehicles or electric-assisted bikes (E-bikes) are allowed.

What lands will the license be good for?

Permits will only be good for the area purchased. Pay attention to maps provided.

Do I need this license to hike, bicycle, horseback ride, collect mushrooms, or pick berries?

Yes. Any recreation activity on Manulife lands requires a license. Picking mushrooms or berries for personal use only is allowed. However, commercial mushroom picking, shed hunting or berry collection with the intent to sell to others is not allowed. For commercial activities, please contact the local Manulife Field Office.

Does everyone in my vehicle need a license?

Yes. Anyone over 18 needs to purchase a license for that area.

Will roads be closed in the license area?

Yes. Roads that have been historically closed to motorized vehicles will remain closed. In addition, some new areas will have roads closed to motorized vehicles. Please respect gates and signs that close roads.

Who is included in a Family license?

A Family license is for the personal use of a single family and is non-transferable. The license only allows access to the property for the license holder and his or her immediate family (i.e., a legally recognized spouse and children under age 18). IF LICENSE HOLDER ALLOWS ANY OTHER PERSON TO ENTER THE PROPERTY, THE LICENSE SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY REVOKED. Adult children who are 18 years of age and older must purchase a separate Individual or Family license. Family licenses do not include friends, relatives or other people's children.