

Quest for Convenience

Measured by conditions faced by citizens in many countries of the world, Americans – even those classified as at or below the poverty line – are wealthy or well-off. We have comfortable lives, too often take our blessings for granted, and we reach out for more to please us. It seems we are on a continual quest for convenience.

Proof of such pursuit is revealed in actual responses from comment cards given to staff members at Bridger Wilderness Area in the Teton National Forest in Wyoming:

- Trails need to be wider so people can walk while holding hands.
- Trails need to be reconstructed. Please avoid building trails that go uphill.
- Too many bugs and leeches and spiders and spider webs. Please spray the wilderness to rid the areas of these pests.
- Please pave the trails so they can be snow-plowed during the winter.
- Chair lifts need to be in some places so that we can get to wonderful views without having to hike to them.
- The coyotes made too much noise last night and kept me awake. Please eradicate these annoying animals.
- A small deer came into my camp and stole my jar of pickles. Is there a way I can get reimbursed? Please call (the number).
- Reflectors need to be placed on trees every 50 feet so people can hike at night with flashlights.
- Escalators would help on steep uphill sections.
- A McDonald's would be nice at the trailhead.
- The places where trails do not exist are not well marked.
- Too many rocks in the mountains.

Have we become a pampered society?

--Beecher Hunter