RV Park Wi-Fi Site Survey & Access Point Plan

Worksheet for planning park-wide Wi-Fi distribution · Campground Management

Wi-Fi complaints are almost never an ISP problem. They are a distribution problem. This worksheet helps you plan one access point per six to eight sites, mounted high, backhauled by cable, with a captive portal that controls per-camper bandwidth.

Park		**Sites Total**	
Current ISP Plan		**Symmetrical ? (Y/N)**	
Current AP Count		**Target AP Count**	

1. Source Bandwidth Math

Plan for 5 to 8 Mbps per occupied site as a baseline. A 100-site park at 70% occupancy = 70 sites x 6 Mbps = 420 Mbps. The ISP plan should provide at least that, symmetrical, with low jitter. If the plan is asymmetric (e.g., 500/50), the upload becomes the bottleneck during the evening streaming peak. Symmetric fiber is the only ISP plan that scales to a busy park.

2. Access Point Layout Planning

One access point per six to eight sites, mounted at least 12 feet above grade, with clear line of sight to each served site. Metal-sided RVs block 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz signal completely. Plan AP locations assuming every site has a metal RV parked sideways between the AP and the next site.

Common AP mounting locations that work:

- Top of utility poles at quarter-section spacing
- Top of pedestal posts where pedestals are tall
- Sides of large buildings (laundry, bathhouse, office)
- Dedicated 16-foot 4-inch sched-40 poles between site clusters

Common mounting locations that do not work:

- Inside the office (signal blocked by walls)
- Low under tree canopy
- On the bathhouse roof in the middle of metal-sided RV rows

3. Backhaul Plan

Every AP needs an uplink. Three options, in order of preference:

Backhaul	Pros	Cons
Cat6 cable in conduit	Cheapest per AP. Reliable. Fast.	Trench work. Distance limit 100m per run.
Fiber + media converter	Long distance. Lightning resistant.	More expensive. Requires splice at each end.
Point-to-point wireless backhaul	No trench. Fast to deploy.	Line of sight required. Weather impact.

4. Per-AP Placement Worksheet

Plan each AP location before purchase. Fill in for each proposed AP.

AP #	Mounting Location	Sites Served	Mount Height (ft)	Backhaul	Power

5. Captive Portal Configuration

The captive portal is the page guests see when they connect. It controls who connects, for how long, and at what bandwidth. Plan these decisions before turning on the system:

Login method: Booking confirmation #, last name + site #, voucher code, or open
Bandwidth per device: 5 Mbps down / 2 Mbps up (standard guest tier)
Bandwidth premium tier: 25 Mbps down / 5 Mbps up (optional paid upgrade)
Daily data cap: 5 GB per device (prevents one camper saturating the link)
Session length: 24 hours, then re-login
Blocked content: Torrents, IPTV, common malware domains