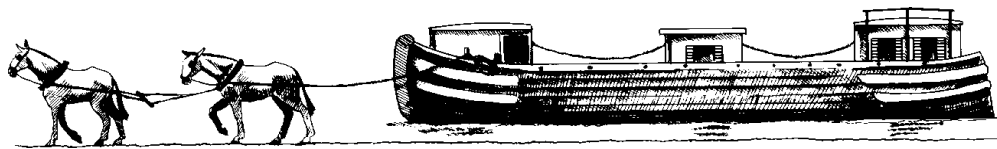


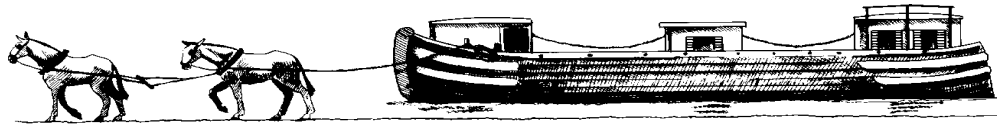
**C&O CANAL
NATIONAL HISTORICAL
PARK**



JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM



For Ages 9-12



Welcome to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park



The C&O Canal is a historical treasure filled with many wonderful resources. We hope you will explore this national park and unlock the treasures that are waiting to be discovered. You can learn about nature, geology, history, and man-made structures by using this booklet as a guide.

Junior Rangers are special people because they have decided to take an active role in the National Park Service Mission, “to preserve and protect our natural, cultural and recreational resources for this and future generations.”

If you are between the ages of 9 and 12, you can become a Junior Ranger by completing **ANY FIVE** of the following activities in this book.

1. Explore a visitor center.
2. Hike or bike any part of the C&O Canal.
3. Unlock the mystery of a canal lock.
4. Attend any program given by a park ranger.
5. Visit an aqueduct.
6. Camp or picnic on the canal.
7. Observe the effects of flooding.
8. Discover the canal towns.



These activities are designed to be completed anywhere within the 184.5 miles of the C&O Canal during your visit. You are allowed to have an adult help you with these activities, including a park ranger or a park volunteer.

Upon completion of this booklet, bring it to any of the C&O Canal visitor centers. A park ranger will review your answers and if you have successfully completed five of the activities, you will receive a Junior Park Ranger badge and a certificate.



This booklet was printed using March for Parks donations.





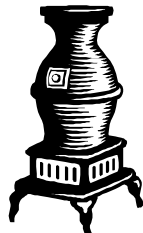
ACTIVITY #1



EXPLORE A VISITOR CENTER

Begin your adventure on the C&O Canal by exploring one of the six visitor centers on the C&O Canal. You will find many interesting exhibits and artifacts to spark your imagination as you begin to discover the history and resources of the C&O Canal. The visitor centers are located in Georgetown; Great Falls in Potomac; Brunswick; Williamsport; Hancock; and Cumberland.

At which visitor center did you begin your adventure? Did you watch a video? What was your favorite exhibit or artifact? What three new or unusual things did see while at the visitor center? Write or draw what you discovered.





ACTIVITY #2

HIKE OR BIKE ANY PART OF THE C&O CANAL

There is always something new to discover on the C&O Canal. Each day and each season brings a new look to the canal. At one time, the canal was totally filled with water. Many boats went up and down the canal. The towpath was once the walkway for the mules that pulled the canal boats. Thanks to the efforts of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas in 1954, the canal was saved as a park for visitors to enjoy today.

Write or draw the condition of the canal where you visited. Was there water, trees, or other vegetation? What was the towpath like? Could you see the Potomac River? Did you see a milepost marker, and if so, what milepost(s) did you pass? Did you talk, whistle or sing as you journeyed?





ACTIVITY #3

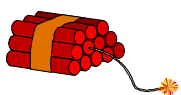
UNLOCK THE MYSTERY

OF A CANAL LOCK



Unlock the mystery of how a canal lock was built and how it worked. Nearby stones were used to construct locks because other materials were expensive and difficult to transport. Some locks are made from red sandstone, while others are made of gray quartzite or white limestone. There are 74 locks along the canal. At each lock, there were two sets of heavy wooden gates that would open or close to control the flow of water. Most of the gates are now gone. At the Georgetown Visitor Center and at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, visitors can see park rangers operate actual lock gates. A set of lock gates are also in Williamsport.

Which lock did you visit? Can you tell what kind of stone was used to construct the lock? What is still visible at the lock? What type of tools do you think were used to build? Write or draw what you observed.





ACTIVITY #4



ATTEND A PROGRAM

A fascinating way to learn new things is by attending a ranger-led program. To attend a program that interests you, look in ***The Canaller***, a monthly listing of programs that can be found at any of the visitor centers. Programs may include a walk, a bike ride, or a wildlife exhibit. You may take a ride on one of the canal boats at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center or at the Georgetown Visitor Center. There is a fee for riding on the boats. Another exciting program is to take a free tour of the Paw Paw Tunnel.

What was the title of the program you attended? What was the park ranger's name? What kind of activity did you do for this program? Write or draw three things you learned from this program.





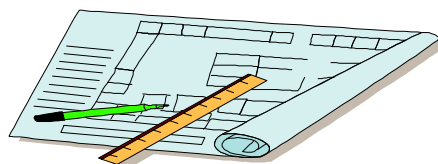
ACTIVITY #5



VISIT AN AQUEDUCT

Like the great pyramids of Egypt, aqueducts on the C&O Canal are amazing engineering feats. Aqueducts are bridges that carried water over rivers and creeks so that the canal boats could continue on the canal. There are 11 of these magnificent structures along the canal. The Monocacy Aqueduct is the largest of the aqueducts.

Which aqueduct did you visit? What are the distinctive or special features? Do you know what body of water the aqueduct is constructed over? Did the aqueduct have any arches?





ACTIVITY #6

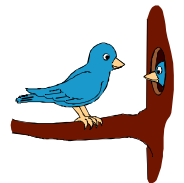
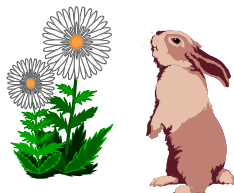


CAMP OR PICNIC ON THE CANAL

A great way to appreciate the outdoors is to go camping or to have a picnic on the canal with your family. There are 30 hiker-biker campsites with picnic tables located along the canal approximately every five miles. There is no charge if you camp or picnic at one of these sites. There are also five drive-in campsites, but there is a fee charged for camping.

What did you do that was special or that you enjoyed the most? Did you tell stories around a campfire or at the picnic table? What night or day sounds did you hear? Write a story or draw a picture about your experience on this special trip.







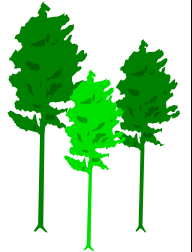
ACTIVITY #7



OBSERVE THE EFFECTS OF FLOODING

Can you be a detective and find the effects that floods have had on the canal? Floods damaged the canal greatly during the 74 years it was in operation. As recent as 1996, the park suffered two major floods and many trees, bridges and structures were destroyed.

Do you see any evidence of flooding? Look at the trees and the brush--are they bent over from the force of heavy flooding? Are there small trees in the area that could be new growth? Can you find large groupings of dead trees? Do you see ways in which man contributed to the problem of flooding? Write or draw about any evidence of flooding that you see.







ACTIVITY #8

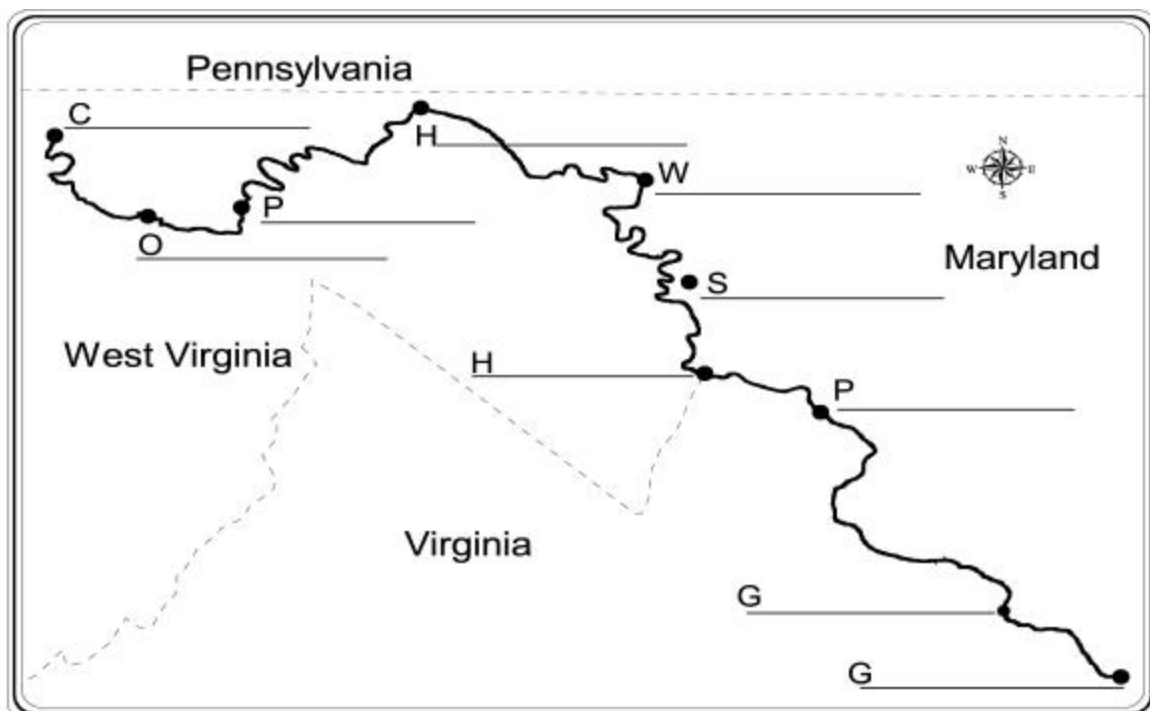
Discover the Canal Towns

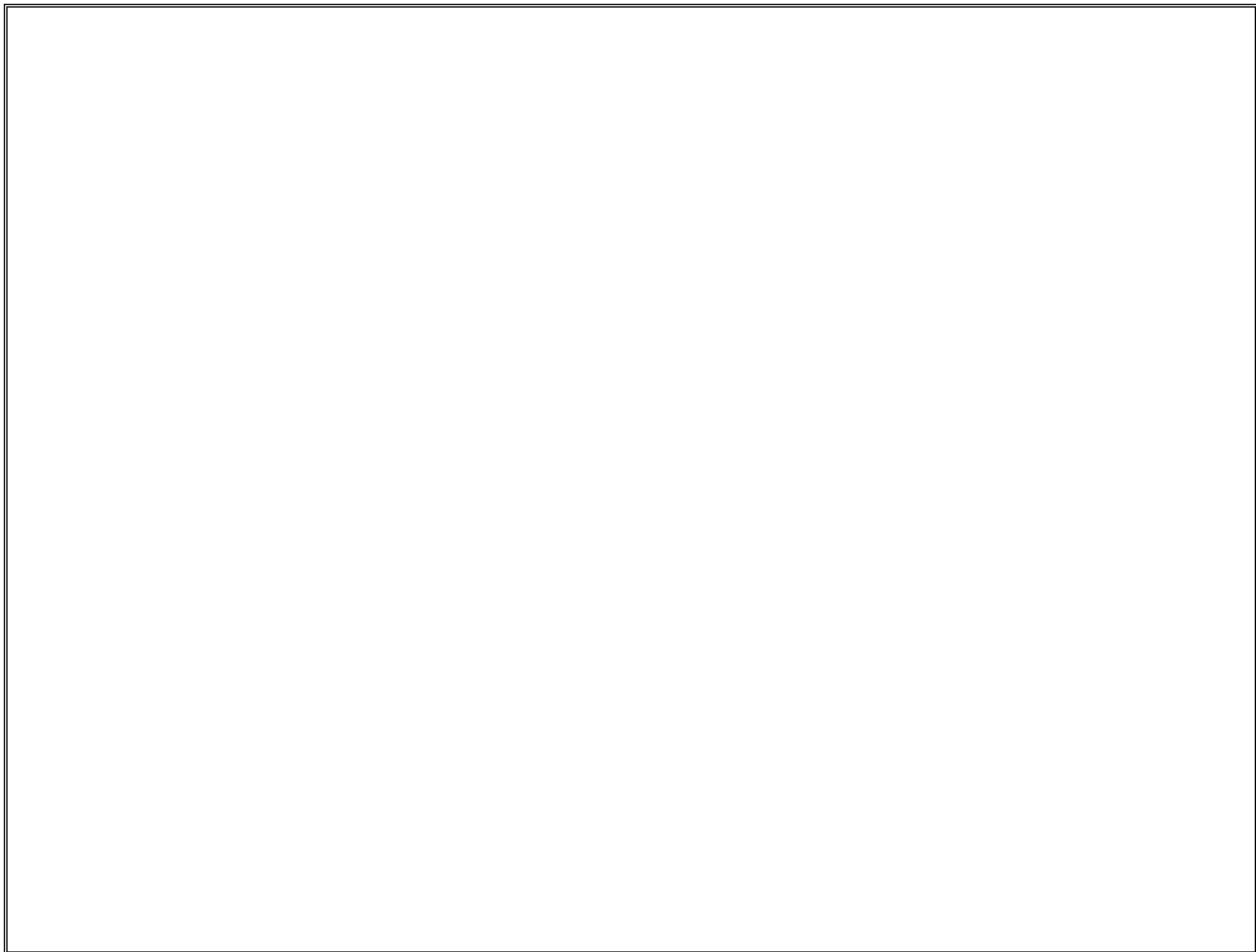


Towns were important to the C&O Canal, especially in the 1870s when the canal was very busy. Towns sprang up along the 184.5 miles of the canal from Georgetown, near Washington, D.C., to Cumberland, Maryland. More and more people moved into towns so they could be close to the canal and earn a living. Canal boats pulled by mules floated tons of cargo, including coal, hay, corn and watermelons too! The boat captains and their families sometimes stopped in towns to buy things that they needed. They might buy flour, salt, coffee and yard goods to sew clothes. Do you live in a town near the C&O Canal?

Below is a map of the area that the C&O Canal travels through, but the names of 10 towns are missing. Match the letters to the names of the towns given below to fill in the blanks. Look at a copy of the C&O Canal map, found at any of the visitor centers, to help you discover the names of the towns that were once bustling with canal activities.

Cumberland, Georgetown, Great Falls, Hancock, Harpers Ferry, Old Town, Paw Paw, Point of Rocks, Sharpsburg, and Williamsport





As a Junior Ranger, I promise to:

Leave the plants, animals, and historical objects in all parks undisturbed.

Explore other national parks.

Learn more about animals and plants.

Help keep America clean, safe, and beautiful for everyone.

Name

Congratulations on completing the required number of activities in this booklet.

You have taken the first step toward your future as a guardian of our natural resources.

We hope that you will be a good caretaker of our nation's priceless resources.

Park Ranger

Date

