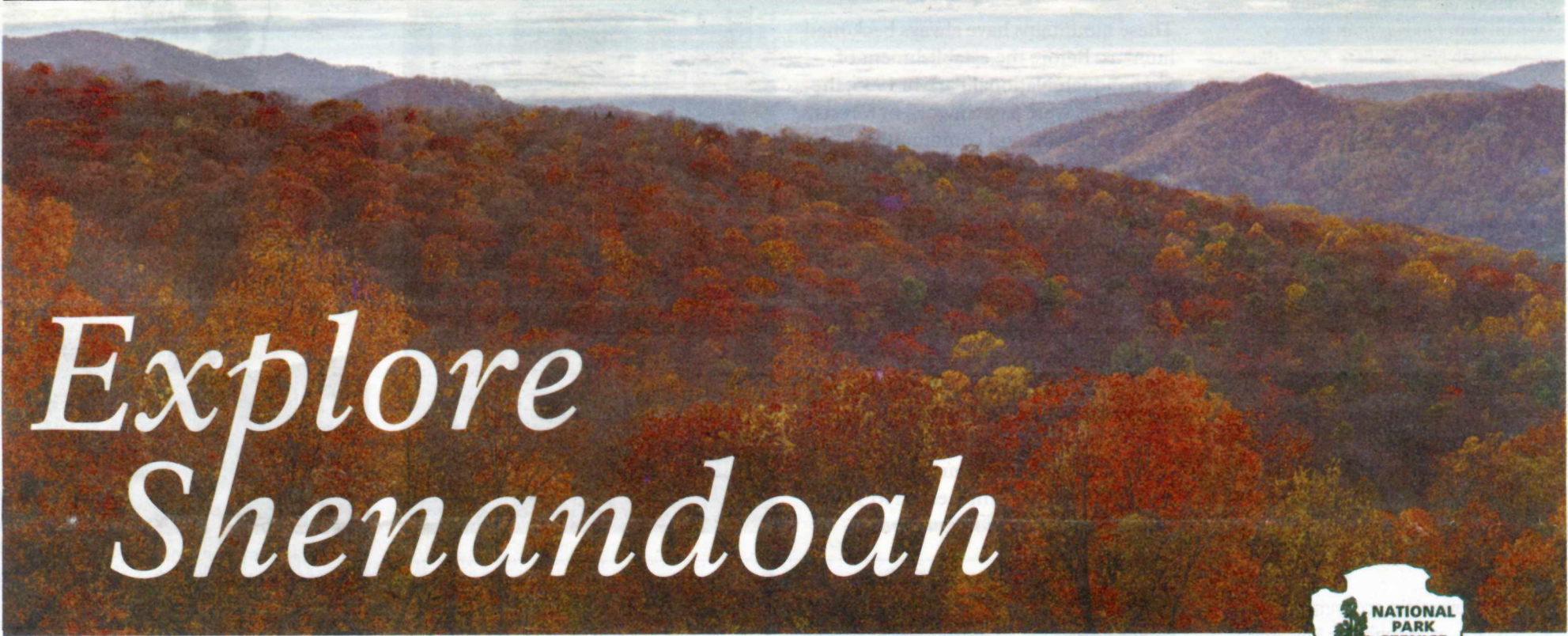




Explore Shenandoah



Park Information

Sign up for SHENALERTS!

Get Skyline Drive, campground, or Old Rag alerts by texting SHENALERTS, SHENCAMP, or SHENOLDRAG to 888777.

Tips for Your Visit

- Share the road with other motorists, cyclists, and hikers.
- Stay on the trail and never climb around waterfalls.
- Fires are only allowed in park-built grates or fire rings.
- Never leave food or trash unattended.
- Drive the posted speed limit and pull completely off the road when viewing wildlife.
- Don't rely on your cell phone; coverage is unreliable.
- Drones are prohibited in all national parks.
- Pets must be leashed at all times.

Get the NPS App

Download the NPS App, choose "Shenandoah" and get great onsite information and navigation. Be sure to download content for offline use before arriving in the Park as coverage is unreliable! Find out more information at go.nps.gov/app.

Follow us on social media!

Emergencies: 800-732-0911
Information: 540-999-3500



Succeeding Generations

We seek to pass on to our children a richer land—a stronger nation. I, therefore, dedicate Shenandoah National Park to this and to succeeding generations of Americans for the recreation and for the re-creation which we shall find here.

-President Franklin D. Roosevelt
July 3, 1936

Discover

Nothing says "national park" like a Ranger Program! Discover more of Shenandoah on a ranger-led walk or talk. Check the programs on the back page and work a little "ranger time" into your visit! Also, look for special events on our website.

Explore

Stop at a visitor center to talk to rangers, catch a Ranger Program, get hiking maps, and see movies and exhibits. Purchase maps, guidebooks, puzzles, apparel, and other great merchandise in the Park Stores. Delaware North at Shenandoah National Park manages the lodges, restaurants, gift shops, and stables. Visit their website for more information: www.goshenandoah.com

1936

1936 was an exciting year for the newly established Shenandoah National Park. President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced he would make the dedication speech in July. The men of the Civilian Conservation Corps were scrambling to build the trails and landscape of Skyline Drive. The park's first rangers arrived, and James R. Lassiter stepped into his role as the inaugural superintendent. At the same time, the Resettlement Administration set aside funds to build homes for displaced residents. As all of this unfolded, visitors streamed into the park in remarkable numbers—nearly 700,000 in 1936—setting the stage for a record-breaking one million visitors the following year, a milestone unmatched by any national park at the time.

Volunteer

Join the Volunteers-In-Parks effort in Shenandoah. Visit our website to find out about volunteer opportunities.

Learn

Bring the park to the classroom! Contact Shenandoah's education team to learn about school and youth group offerings: shen_education@nps.gov

2026

Ninety years later, 2026 is just as meaningful for Shenandoah. This year marks a celebration of nine decades of commitment, along with a renewed dedication to stewarding the park for the next 90 years and beyond. Since Franklin D. Roosevelt first dedicated Shenandoah "to this and to succeeding generations," the idea of preservation has evolved. Today, the partnerships we build are essential—not only for protecting Shenandoah, but for supporting conservation efforts across the nation. And those "succeeding generations" Roosevelt spoke of? That's you. Join us as we rededicate Shenandoah with you in mind and look ahead to a new generation of stewards.

Sense

Get out of your car and feel the earth. Take a hike on one of the park's 500 miles of trails. Watch and listen for birds. Smell the wildflowers. Experience a sunrise or sunset. Feel the mist of a waterfall. Take in a spectacular view from a vista. Shenandoah is a feast for the senses, and there are many ways to indulge yourself here.



Keep yourself, others, and wildlife safe by adhering to the posted speed limit.

29

There's a milepost every mile along the Drive to help you navigate Shenandoah.

Explore Shenandoah! is published for park visitors by Shenandoah National Park Interpretation and Education Division with funding from the Shenandoah National Park Association.

Editor/Layout and Design
Allysa Fox, Thomas Reece

Printing
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Woodstock, VA

Accessibility

Assistive Listening Devices
Assistive listening devices are available at visitor centers and most Ranger Programs. Please arrive 15 minutes early to a Ranger Program so that the devices can be properly set up. Ask visitor center staff for more information.

Lodging
Accessible overnight accommodations are available at Skyland, Big Meadows Lodge, and Lewis Mountain.
(877) 247-9261

Limberlost Trail
Limberlost Trail, at mile 43, is a 1.3-mile fully accessible circuit with a crushed greenstone surface and numerous benches.

Picnic Grounds and Campgrounds
Accessible sites are available at all park picnic grounds and campgrounds. Accessible shower and laundry facilities are available at Big Meadows, Lewis Mountain, and Loft Mountain campgrounds. Restrooms at campgrounds are accessible or accessible with assistance.

Information
Information or assistance is available by phoning the Virginia Relay Center:
(800) 828-1120 (TDD)
(800) 828-1140 (voice).

Shenandoah Partners



Shenandoah National Park Association (SNPA) operates the Park Stores in the two visitor centers. SNPA profits support the park's interpretation and education programs. Stop by a Park Store while you're here!
www.snpbooks.org



The Shenandoah National Park Trust raises funds to help protect wildlife, wild places, and historic resources; and supports education, research, and recreation in Shenandoah.
www.snptrust.org



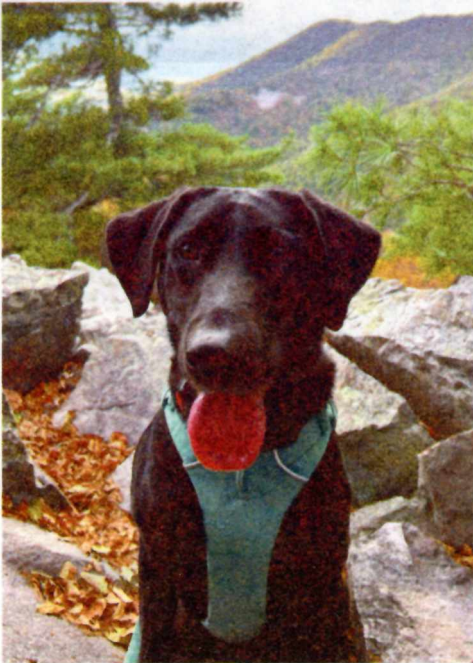
Potomac Appalachian Trail Club's volunteers help maintain trails, cabins, huts, and shelters. Their mission is to protect Shenandoah's 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail.
www.patc.net

A Blue Ridge Heritage

These mountains have always beckoned humans. Before the establishment of Shenandoah National Park in 1935, the mountains were a patchwork of forests, fields, orchards, and communities—most of which were displaced to create the park. Evidence of those lives can be found along the trails today in standing chimneys and cemetery sites.

Learn the stories behind the scenery, including the work and hardships that made the park possible at Byrd Visitor Center (mile 51) or on a virtual tour on the park's website and NPS app.

If you happen upon an artifact in the Park, please follow the Leave No Trace Principle, *Leave What You Find*.



Pets in the Park

Your pet must be on a physical leash no longer than six feet at all times. Pets are allowed on most trails, with these exceptions:

- Fox Hollow Trail (mile 4.6)
- Stony Man Trail (mile 41.7) except for the portion that follows the A.T.
- Limberlost Trail (mile 43)
- Post Office Junction to Old Rag Shelter
- Old Rag Ridge Trail
- Old Rag Saddle Trail
- Ridge Access Trail (Old Rag area)
- Dark Hollow Falls Trail (mile 50.7)
- Story of the Forest Trail (mile 51)
- Bearfence Mountain Trail (mile 56.4)
- Frazier Discovery Trail (mile 79.5)

Fee Free Days

17
SEPT

Constitution Day

27
OCT

Theodore Roosevelt's Birthday

11
NOV

Veterans Day

Outdoor Ethics



The seven principles of Leave No Trace provide an easily understood framework of minimum impact practices for anyone visiting the outdoors. The principles can be applied anywhere—from remote wilderness areas, to local parks, and even in your backyard:

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Others

90 Years of Shenandoah

This milestone honors not only the beauty of the park's landscapes but also the enduring relationship between people and place. Visitors can deepen that connection by enjoying events that bring the park's past to life—guided walks, ranger talks and special programs that share stories of the early mountain communities, conservation pioneers and the creation of Shenandoah. Check the park website and visitor centers for special programs throughout the year.



Visitor Centers and Campgrounds

Visitor Centers



Exhibits, information, and Park Stores are located inside both visitor centers.

Dickey Ridge Visitor Center - Mile 4.6
Labor Day to October 31
Sun-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
November 1 to November 29
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Wednesdays and Thursdays; closed Thanksgiving Day

Big Meadows Visitor Center - Mile 51
Labor Day to October 31
Sun-Thurs: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fri-Sat: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
November 1 to November 29
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays; closed Thanksgiving Day

Park Stores
Operated by the Shenandoah National Park Association (SNPA), these shops are located inside both visitor centers and offer unique and educational Shenandoah merchandise.

Campgrounds



Campgrounds offer \$30/night sites with various amenities. Group sites for 7 to 20 persons are \$75/night. Credit/debit card or electronic payment only in all campgrounds.

Mathews Arm - Mile 22
Reservable and first-come, first-served sites; group sites available; sewage disposal; no showers

Big Meadows - Mile 51
Reservations only, group sites available; sewage disposal; coin showers; laundry

Lewis Mountain - Mile 57.2
First-come, first-served sites only, coin showers; laundry

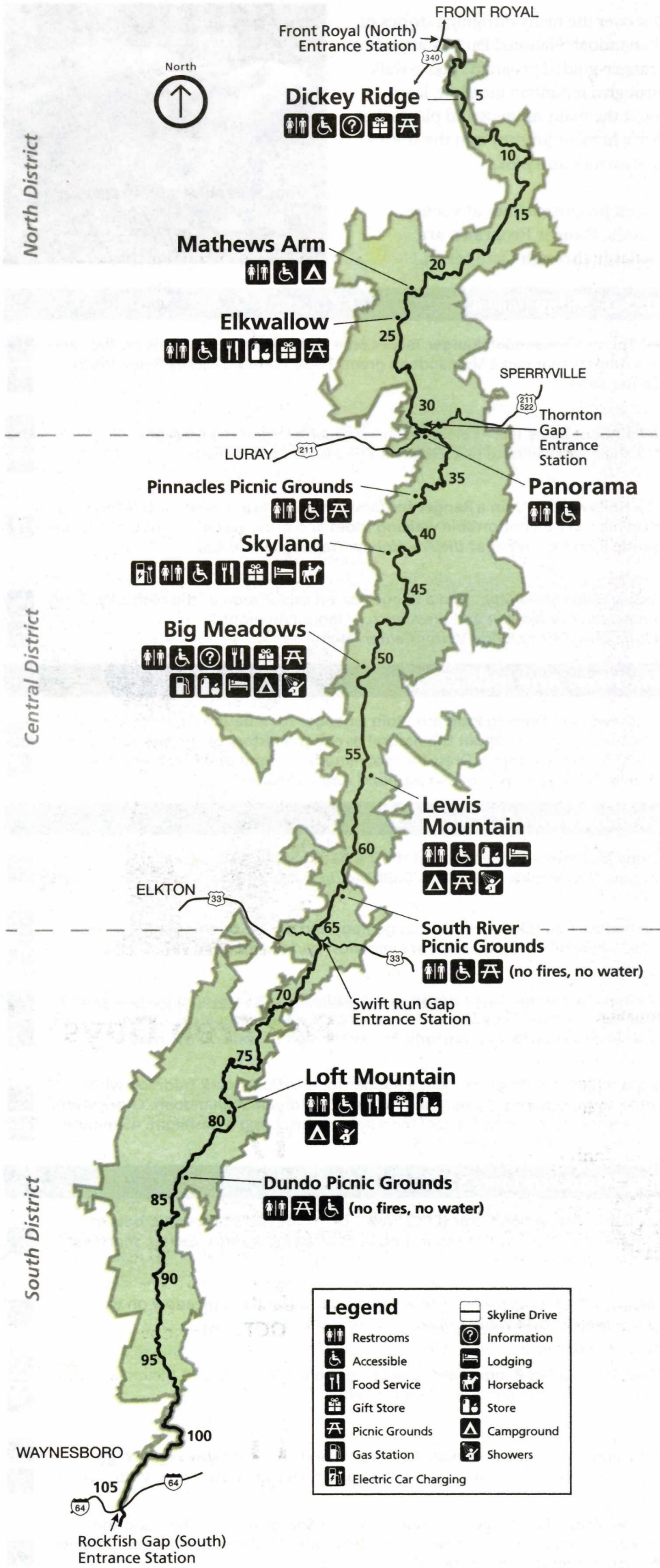
Loft Mountain - Mile 79.5
Reservable and first-come, first-served sites; group sites available, sewage disposal; coin showers; laundry

There are no electric or water hookups at any of our campgrounds.

Make reservations at www.recreation.gov or call 877-444-6777.

Elkwallow Wayside (mile 24)		Hours of Operation
	Gift Shop & Campstore Souvenirs, crafts, wines, clothing, books, groceries, and camping supplies	August 31 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Food & Beverage Carry-out, snacks, and light fare	August 31 - November 1 Open Daily: 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Skyland (miles 41.7 and 42.5)		Hours of Operation
	Lodging Reservations: (540) 999-2212	Rooms with one king or two queen beds, cabins, and suites. Pet-friendly rooms available. Closes at noon November 8.
	Gift Shop Souvenirs, crafts, sundries, wines, books, pottery, soaps, jellies, jams	August 31 - November 1 Open Daily: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 (closes at noon) Open Daily: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
	Grab'n Go Sandwiches and snacks	August 31 - November 8 (closes at noon) Open Daily: 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	Pollock Dining Room Serving Daily	Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (closes Nov. 8) Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (closes Nov. 7) Dinner: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (closes Nov. 7)
	Tap Room Food service and beverages	August 31 - November 7 Open Daily: 2:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	Horseback Riding 1 hour rides Reservations: (540) 999-2213 Closes October 25	Monday - Thursday: 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:15 p.m. 2:30 p.m. Friday/Saturday/Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:15 p.m. 2:30 p.m.
Big Meadows Lodge (mile 51)		Hours of Operation
	Lodging Reservations: (540) 999-2222	Rustic cabins, historic main lodge, traditional rooms, and suites. Pet-friendly rooms available. Closes at noon November 29.
	Gift Shop Souvenirs, crafts, wines, clothing, books, groceries, and camping supplies	August 31 - September 27 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. September 28 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. November 2 - November 29 (closes at noon) Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Grab'n Go Sandwiches and snacks	Open Daily: 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Closes at noon November 29
	Spottswood Dining Hall Serving Daily	Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (closes Nov. 29) Lunch: 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (closes Nov. 28) Dinner: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (closes Nov. 28)
	Tap Room Food service and beverages	Open Daily: 2:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Closes November 28
Big Meadows Wayside (mile 51)		Hours of Operation
	Gift Shop & Campstore Souvenirs, crafts, wines, clothing, books, groceries, and camping supplies	August 31 - September 27 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. September 28 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. November 9 - November 29 Open Daily: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Food & Beverage Grab'n go, carry-out, sit-down dining	August 31 - September 27 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. September 28 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
	Showers/Laundry	Open 24/7
	Woodyard	August 31 - September 27 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. September 28 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Lewis Mountain (mile 57.5)		Hours of Operation
	Lodging Reservations: (540) 843-2115	24 hours, staffed during campstore hours. Rustic cabins with covered patios, picnic tables and fire-pit grills. Pet-friendly rooms available. Closes at noon November 8.
	Campstore Groceries, batteries, camping supplies	August 31 - September 27 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. September 28 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 (closes at noon) Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
	Showers/Laundry	Open 24/7 Closes November 1
Loft Wayside (mile 79.5)		Hours of Operation
	Gift Shop Souvenirs, crafts, sundries, pottery, books, and clothing	August 31 - November 1 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. November 2 - November 8 Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
	Food & Beverage	Open Daily: 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closes November 1
	Campstore (at campground)	Open Daily: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closes November 1
	Showers/Laundry	Open 24/7 Closes November 1

Park Map



Your Cell Phone Can Not Replace Essentials

Plan and research with your phone. Explore with the right gear.

You need a light source.

You need a map.

You need a survival kit.

You are NOT always going to have service.

Ranger Programs

Discover the many intriguing stories of Shenandoah National Park by attending a ranger-guided program. Take a walk through a mountain meadow, learn about the many animals and plants that thrive here, or journey into the stories of Shenandoah's past.

Check program times at visitor centers. Ranger Programs are available through October 25.



Dickey Ridge (mile 4.6)

All Things Shenandoah Ranger Talk - Come and enjoy this short talk on the various subjects that make Shenandoah great. 20-30 minutes. *Dickey Ridge Visitor Center lawn*



Wild About Bears Talk - Celebrate Shenandoah's largest mammal at this short 20-30 minute talk. *Dickey Ridge Visitor Center lawn*



Fox Hollow Hike - Join a Ranger for family-friendly exploration of this forested loop hike. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water. 1-½ hours, 1.3-mile gentle loop trail. *Meet at the Fox Hollow Trailhead (mile 4.6)*



Dickey Ridge Star Party - Join a Ranger for an exploration of the night sky. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and dress for cool mountain nights. 45 minutes. *Dickey Ridge Visitor Center lawn*



Mathews Arm (mile 22.2)

Mathews Arm Evening Program - Join a Ranger for a national park tradition while learning more about the natural or cultural history of Shenandoah. Check visitor centers for topics. Dress for cool mountain nights and bring a flashlight. 45 minutes. *Mathews Arm Campground Amphitheater*



Skyland (miles 41.7 and 42.5)

Stony Man Hike - Stony Man has stories, both historic and natural. 2 hours, 2-mile hike. *Stony Man Trailhead (mile 41.7)*



Limberlost Trail Hike - Learn about geology and nature on this gentle, accessible hike. 1-mile hike, 1 hour. *Meet at Limberlost parking lot (mile 43)*



Massanutten Lodge Open House - Tour Addie Pollock's restored bungalow and hear the stories of early Skyland. *Located at Skyland lower level (mile 42.5). Park near Skyland Conference Hall and follow the sign to walk up the road.*



Skyland Evening Program - Join a Ranger for a national park tradition while learning more about the natural or cultural history of Shenandoah. Check visitor centers for topics. Dress for cool mountain nights, bring a flashlight. 45 minutes. *Skyland Amphitheater (mile 42.5)*



Big Meadows (mile 51)

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Walk - Learn the ABCs of the CCC boys in this one-hour easy walking tour. 1 hour. *Meet at Byrd Visitor Center, short walk across Skyline Drive*



Meadow Walk - Experience a rare high-elevation wetland meadow on this gentle walk. 1-mile walk, 1-½ hours. *Byrd Visitor Center*



Wild About Bears Ranger Talk - Celebrate Shenandoah's largest mammal at this short talk. 20-30 minutes. *Byrd Visitor Center*



All Things Shenandoah Ranger Talk - Come and enjoy this short talk on the various subjects that make Shenandoah great. 15-25 minutes. *Byrd Visitor Center*



Young Naturalists Ranger Program - Discover Shenandoah at this hands-on program for ages 5-12, but all children welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult. Less than 1-mile walk, 1-½ hours. *Byrd Visitor Center*



Big Meadows Evening Program - Join a Ranger for a national park tradition while learning more about the natural or cultural history of Shenandoah. Check visitor centers for topics. Dress for cool mountain nights and bring a flashlight. *Big Meadows Amphitheater*



Big Meadows Star Party - Explore the night sky in Big Meadows in one of the darkest skies on the east coast. 45 minutes. *Meet at Rapidan Fire Road (mile 51)*



Historic Rapidan Camp - Travel by van 30 minutes to President Hoover's summer retreat. Reservations are required and can be made online at www.rec.gov or by calling (877) 444-6777. 2.5 hours. *Meet at Byrd Visitor Center. Check for other available tours at www.rec.gov*



Loft Mountain (mile 79.5)

Loft Mountain Evening Program - Join a Ranger for a national park tradition while learning more about the natural or cultural history of Shenandoah. Check visitor centers for topics. Dress for cool mountain nights and bring a flashlight. 45 minutes. *Loft Mountain Amphitheater*



Wheelchair Accessible Assistive Listening Available (arrive 15 minutes early)

Catch a Park Film!



Audio description (AD) is available for all films. Inquire at a visitor center front desk. Park films are also available on our website: <https://go.nps.gov/parkfilms>

Daily Film Schedule

Movie Title	Length	Play Times
"Shenandoah"	23 min	9:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 3:45 p.m.
"The Gift"	16 min	10:15 a.m., 12:15 p.m., 2:15 p.m.
"Civilian Conservation Corps"	27 min	11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.

Celebrate the Vision Realized

In the early 1920s, a group of Shenandoah Valley businessmen shared a bold vision for the future: the creation of a national park in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. They believed that a protected landscape so close to major urban centers would both preserve the region's remarkable natural beauty and draw visitors whose presence would strengthen the Commonwealth's economy. Since the park's establishment in 1935, millions of visitors have passed through its gates

to experience the beauty and recreation Shenandoah offers. And, just as those early visionaries anticipated, tourism has become a cornerstone of the regional economy, bringing substantial benefits to local communities. This enduring success stands not only as a testament to the original vision, but also as a legacy shaped by the people who came before—those whose lives and histories are forever woven into Shenandoah National Park.



Become a Bark Ranger!

Shenandoah National Park is an exciting place for pets to visit with their family while on vacation. Learn how to have a positive experience with your pet in unfamiliar environments. Follow the B.A.R.K. principles so you and your pet can have a safe and fun visit anytime you go to Shenandoah.

B.A.R.K. stands for:

Bag Your Pet's Waste

Pet waste can introduce bacteria that are harmful to wildlife and may contaminate streams. Always dispose bagged pet waste in the nearest trash receptacle. Do not leave bagged waste on the trails.

Always Use a Leash

Keep your pet, wildlife, and others safe by always using a 6-foot leash. Other hikers and pets may be uncomfortable being approached by unfamiliar animals.

Respect Wildlife

Pets can startle wildlife, altering their behavior. Unleashed pets can put your pet and wildlife at risk.

Know Where You Can Go

Plan ahead and know where you can take your pet. Make sure you and your pet are prepared for your visit.

