



# Shenandoah Overlook



## On the Edge in Shenandoah . . .

Here at Shenandoah we're all a little bit on edge these days. Pause a moment at the next overlook and you'll see for yourself! Actually, "edge" is what we're doing a lot around here, whether it's the edge of the world from atop Stony Man or the cutting edge of technology.

If you're returning to Shenandoah, you'll see some changes. You might encounter ongoing work along Skyline Drive and its overlooks as we smooth over some of our rough edges. (See p. 2.) And there are more opportunities for you to connect with Shenandoah—stop by Byrd Visitor Center to rent a GPS Ranger™ Unit, an exciting new way to explore the park. (See p. 2 and p. 4.) Plus, there are more ranger-led programs this year. (See schedule on back cover.)

In addition to what you'll see while you're here, there's plenty going on behind the scenes. We're getting the edge on some important events: gearing up for the 75th Anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park in 2011 and the Centennial of the National Park Service in 2016. Meanwhile we're celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Civilian Conservation Corps this year. (See p. 5.)

So get connected while you're here and stay connected via our website ([www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen)). These are exciting times in your national park. We invite you to get involved—volunteer with a group to combat invasive plant species, support Shenandoah as a member of the Shenandoah National Park Association, tell your friends about the beauty of this park in all seasons—and come again as often as you can!



From overlooks along Skyline Drive and from peaks and high places along trails, you'll be on the edge looking out and far beyond—perhaps over one of Shenandoah National Park's designated wilderness areas.

**Park Emergency Number**  
1-800-732-0911

### Shenandoah Online

To learn more about Shenandoah, or to plan your next visit, visit our website: [www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen)



### About Your Pet

Pets are welcome in the park if they do not disturb other visitors or the animals who call this park home. Keep your pets on a six-foot lead at all times. Pets are not permitted on guided programs. In addition, to ensure your pet's safety and the safety of others, pets are not permitted on the following trails:

- Fox Hollow Trail (mile 4.6)
- Traces Trail (mile 22.2)
- Stony Man Trail (mile 41.7)
- Limberlost Trail (mile 43)
- Dark Hollow Falls Trail (mile 50.7)
- Story of the Forest Trail (mile 51)
- Bearfence Rock Scramble (mile 56.4)
- Frazier Discovery Trail (mile 79.5)
- Old Rag Ridge Trail
- Old Rag Saddle Trail

### Ranger Programs

Make your visit to Shenandoah complete by attending a Ranger-led program. Discover the stories of Shenandoah's past, take a walk through a unique mountain meadow, or learn about the many animals and plants that thrive in Shenandoah National Park. See the schedule on the back page!



## Living on the Edge of Yesterday: The Legacy of the CCC

It was 1933. The Great Depression was deepening. Nearly 14 million Americans were unemployed. Many were on the verge of despair . . .



"We were desperate," said James Heeter. "Couldn't find a job in Baltimore. Walked 20 miles a day for work. It was hopeless."

Newly elected President Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal" included a pet project that zoomed into being only weeks after his inauguration. On March 31, Congress authorized the new program called Emergency Conservation Work, which would eventually bear the name "Civilian Conservation Corps," or CCC.

"And that was a godsend," Heeter said.

He was sent to a CCC camp in Shenandoah National Park. "That was one of the best things that ever happened to me."

For single, unemployed men between the ages of 18 and 25, the CCC provided jobs on public lands across the country. The CCC also gave the men—usually referred to as "CCC boys"—training, experience, education, and valuable life skills. They received uniforms and work clothes, three meals a day, and medical care. (Continued on p.5.)



National Park Service  
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Shenandoah National Park

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**Editors:**

Joanne Amberson, Park Volunteer  
Claire Comer, Interpretive Specialist

**Layout and Design:**

Neal Lewis, Visual Information Specialist

**Photographs:**

Bob Kuhns, Park Ranger  
Ed Knepley, Park Volunteer  
John Mitchell, Park Volunteer  
Gail Morrow, Park Ranger (cover)

**Contributors to this issue:**

Joanne Amberson, Julena Campbell,  
Wendy Cass, Claire Comer, Rolf Gubler,  
Helen Morton, Mara Meisel, Karen  
Michaud, Greta Miller, Gordon Olson,  
Patty Wissinger

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www.nps.gov/shen

*The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.*

**Park Accessibility**

**Restrooms and Buildings**

Most are accessible or accessible with assistance.

**Lodging**

Accessible overnight accommodations are available at Lewis Mountain, Skyland Resort, and Big Meadows Lodge. (800) 999-4714.

**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 picnic grounds are accessible or accessible with assistance.

**Trails**

The Limerlost Trail is an accessible trail, a gently sloping 1.3-mile loop featuring a 5'-wide greenstone surface. The trail circles through forest and mountain laurel and includes a 65' bridge and 150' boardwalk.

**Information**

Information or assistance may be obtained by telephoning the Virginia Relay Center at (800) 828-1120 (TDD) or (800) 828-1140 (Voice) or by writing to the park:

Shenandoah National Park  
3655 US Hwy 211 East  
Luray, VA 22835  
(540) 999-3500  
www.nps.gov/shen

# Skyline Drive: Looking to Tomorrow

Some things can be reconstructed when they grow old—and happily this is true of Skyline Drive. This famed roadway through the park across the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains dates from the 1930s. Although some work was done on it in the 1980s, the current road surface has met its life expectancy.

During 2008, you will find that on weekdays certain sections of the Drive in the Central District—that area between Thornton Gap (mile 31.5) and Swift Run Gap (mile 65.5)—are being resurfaced. Because sections of the Drive will be reduced to one-lane traffic during working hours, you may have to wait a bit. You will be waiting for a good cause, though!

And tomorrow is coming! The reconstructed Drive will be ready for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park in 2011—and for the 100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016.

This project is funded by the Federal Lands Highway Program and administered by the Federal Highway Administration.



# Shenandoah National Park Trust

The Shenandoah National Park Trust is a nonprofit organization supporting the restoration and preservation of the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Shenandoah National Park. The Trust fosters public awareness and education, encourages private philanthropy, and seeks public support.

Since the Trust is a nonprofit organization, it relies solely on private funds to

there to numerous calls for help. Having highly specialized medical and rescue equipment close by the accident site will mean that hikers with injuries are helped more quickly.

- The **Mount Vernon Furnace**, an iron furnace dating from 1830 near Madison Run, may be one of the most significant historic features in the park—and an excellent location

Conservation Corps (CCC) in the early '30s.

- The Trust has granted funds to introduce the **GPS (Global Positioning System) Ranger™**—a mobile guiding device giving interpretive messages to visitors in the park. The GPS Ranger™ helps visitors experience the beauty, meaning, and stories of the park. (See articles p. 4.)



accomplish its mission. Tax-deductible gifts to the Trust are already being put to work in the park on several projects, including the following:

- The Trust is providing a grant to place a cache of **rescue equipment** near the summit of Old Rag Mountain. The difficult climb up Old Rag is perhaps the most popular hike in the park; each year park personnel respond
- A grant from the Trust will completely restore the **Old Rag View Overlook**, mile 46.5 along Skyline Drive—including the historic log guide rail. Old Rag Overlook was originally constructed by the Civilian

for future interpretive and education programs. The Trust is providing money for field investigations on the structure and the environment.



Cathy McNair, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 3274, Staunton VA 24402  
www.snptrust.org

# Leave No Trace!



Ensuring that future generations can enjoy Shenandoah National Park is everyone's responsibility. Follow the Leave No Trace guidelines to help take care of Shenandoah.

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 Other Visitors

For more information, visit [www.LNT.org](http://www.LNT.org)

# Anniversaries

**This Year - 2008**

- 75th – Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- 25th – American Chestnut Foundation

**National Park Centennial - 2016**

In celebration of its 100th anniversary, the National Park Service has launched the National Park Centennial Initiative to prepare national parks for another century of conservation, preservation, and enjoyment. There are many great things to come as the National Park Service prepares to celebrate 100 years!

To keep up with the Centennial Initiative and to experience the interactive version of *The Future of America's National Parks* and special features, please visit [www.nps.gov/2016](http://www.nps.gov/2016)

## They're Living on the Edge . . . Don't Feed Them!

Humans can be dangerous to wild animals! If you care about the deer and bears and other wild animals in the park, you won't feed them.

You may see a black bear in the park, especially during the summer. Generally, bears will run away when they detect humans, and park staff work hard at keeping them wild. However, a small number of bears around campgrounds or picnic grounds may become habituated to humans—and to human food, if they have gotten it.

The deer in the park are many times more numerous than bears. You may be tempted to offer them human food. However, although they seem tame to you, they are in fact wild animals. They have their own sources of food within the park, food which is not bad for their digestive systems, as human food can be. What's more, being fed will cause deer, too, to lose their fear of humans. With easy access to human food, deer and black bears may become nuisances. When this happens,



the bears will have to be relocated and the deer, unfortunately, may have to be destroyed.

**Don't feed the wild animals in the park!**

## Deer Ticks – What You Need to Know

Deer ticks transmit Lyme Disease. Some cases are documented each year in the park and, of course, elsewhere in the East, including your backyards. How can you keep from getting Lyme Disease? The best ways:

- **Conduct frequent clothing and body checks for ticks.**
- **Tuck your pants legs in under your socks.**
- **Wear light-colored clothing (to more easily spot ticks).**



*Remember—deer ticks are hard to see. They are about the size of a pinhead!*

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/Lyme](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/Lyme)

## Listen to the Rocks . . .

Shenandoah has so many beautiful, even awe-inspiring rocks: the greenstone prevalent on many of the peaks and trails, the granite on Old Rag that is over a billion years old, the quartzite containing fossilized burrows of ancient worms (from 500 million years ago!), and so many more, thrust up from the depths of earth, laid down by rivers and oceans and runoffs, finally tumbled over into layers here in the park.

Some of these rocks are small enough to pick up—and that's the problem. The rocks of Shenandoah are protected, just as the flowers and animals are. They are as precious to the life of Shenandoah as are the trees and wildlife. They belong HERE.

Follow the principles of Leave No Trace. Listen to the rocks: the stories they have to tell go way, way back. But—*don't* take them with you.



## Living Green in the Park

**"Reduce, Reuse, Recycle"**— Often called "The 3 R's," this short motto sums up a few simple things we can all do to "live green" and lessen our impact on the earth. You probably recycle glass and plastic at home and paper at your office or school.

But what about "living green" when you are on vacation? Here in Shenandoah, you can do many things. Whether it's beginning your day with a cup of shade-grown coffee, wearing a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic bottles, or simply walking rather than driving, there are choices you can make to live green in the park.

As for the 3R's, the park has provided places for you to recycle for many years. This year there are two more options—to reduce and reuse.

- **To recycle, continue to use the bins provided for glass, plastic, and aluminum in the park campgrounds, lodges, and visitor centers.**
- **To reduce, take only one copy of this guide, park brochures, and maps.**
- **To reuse or recycle this guide, park brochures, and maps, bring your used copies to a visitor center or entrance station. Give them to a park ranger or place them in the designated containers. The material will be reused by other park visitors or, if worn out, will be recycled.**

Reducing the number of brochures the park prints, reusing them when possible, and recycling the rest will save paper, trees, and thousands of gallons of water.

## Caring for Our Air

Here in Shenandoah National Park you'll usually breathe fresh mountain air. However, sometimes (not often) the air in the park has high ozone levels.

In the stratosphere, ozone is good: it is a colorless gas which shields the earth from the sun's ultraviolet rays. But ground-level ozone is different: it is created in warm, sunny conditions by a chemical reaction between pollutants. If concentrations are high (usually May-September), ground-level ozone threatens plants, animals, and humans. Some people may have respiratory problems when exercising strenuously.\*

The National Park Service provides an Ozone Advisory System to alert you when high levels are detected. You can then adjust your outdoor activity as needed.

\* Call (540) 999-3500 (May-September) to learn if ozone levels are high in the park. Or, visit the website tracking ozone information: [www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality/511130003.html/](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality/511130003.html/)

# SNPA . . . Do You Know Us?

If your answer is "No," here's the basic scoop.

We are the Shenandoah National Park Association (SNPA), organized in 1950 as a nonprofit organization to support the interpretive and educational activities in Shenandoah National Park. The money to support the park comes mainly through profits from sales. Every purchase you make in the park visitor centers or online provides funds to fulfill our mission of helping the park.

SNPA operates the park stores in the visitor centers. In its first year, SNPA sold only a handful of products, such as a bird identification guide, a tree guide, and a park map. But SNPA has grown!! Today we sell a large variety of books, maps, videos, and other items to help you and other visitors learn about the many wonders of the park. In fact, SNPA provided this copy (one of 250,000!) of the *Shenandoah Overlook* that

you are now reading. In 2007 SNPA purchased a computer for the media specialist, provided staffing assistance at the visitor centers, co-sponsored special events such as Wildflower Weekend and Wilderness Weekend, and funded many other activities. SNPA will do even more this year!

So—Join SNPA! Stop by a visitor center (or our website) to become a member. As a member of SNPA, you also receive discounts on purchases at the visitor centers; on lodging, food service, and horseback riding in the park; and on tour tickets for Luray Caverns.

Shenandoah National Park Association  
3655 U.S. Highway 211 E  
Luray, VA 22835  
Email: [snpa@shentel.net](mailto:snpa@shentel.net)  
Online Park Store: [www.snpbooks.org](http://www.snpbooks.org)



Learn More About the CCC!

*Everything Was Wonderful*  
by Reed Engle, Shenandoah National Park Association, 1999



*We Can Take It*  
by Ray Hoyt,  
American Book Company, 1935.

*The Tree Army*  
by Stan Cohen,  
Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, 1980.



*The CCC Boys*  
DVD produced by WVPT Public Broadcasting Station, Harrisonburg, VA, 1999.

CCC 75th Anniversary Pin  
Special edition celebrating 1933-2008



These items can be purchased at park stores along Skyline Drive or online at [www.snpbooks.org](http://www.snpbooks.org)

## Brand New in 2008 at SNPA



- **75th Anniversary CCC sales items.** (See p. 5 for information on the CCC.)
- **The GPS Ranger™ unit** that SNPA will rent to visitors from Byrd Visitor Center. (See article below.)
- **Go Wild for Shenandoah National Park Puzzles**, a children's book chock-full of fun and learning games and activities.
- **Shenandoah National Park Pocket Guide**—a pocket-size booklet with basic park information and foldout maps of the park.

## SNPA Park Stores

You can shop at SNPA while you're at the park or at home. There are Park Stores along Skyline Drive at Byrd Visitor Center (milepost 51) and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center (mile 4.6). There are also some items available at park entrance stations.

At home, visit the online park store at [www.snpbooks.org](http://www.snpbooks.org)



## On the Cutting Edge—Technology on the Trail

There's an exciting new way to explore some of your favorite trails: GPS Ranger™. The GPS Ranger™ unit contains four hikes in the Central District of the park: Dark Hollow Falls, the Appalachian Trail from Milam Gap to Tanners Ridge Road, Hawksbill Mountain, and a Meadow Discovery Walk. You can rent the unit and head out to explore! As you walk, the unit will key on points of interest and direct your discovery through audio, video, and animation.

Check out this cutting edge technology at **Byrd Visitor Center, milepost 51.**



# The CCC in Shenandoah National Park

If you've hiked a trail, parked at an overlook, relaxed in the Great Room at Big Meadows Lodge, or delighted in the show of azalea and mountain laurel blossoms along Skyline Drive, you've been touched by the CCC. That's because the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps are responsible for much of what you see in Shenandoah National Park today.



Shenandoah was the site of the first CCC camps in the National Park Service. Camps near Skyland and Big Meadows were opened May 15, 1933. Between 1933 and 1942, about 10,000 CCC men worked in the park from 10 different camps. The CCC "boys," as they were called, virtually built Shenandoah National Park.

- They planted trees and shrubs along the new Skyline Drive.

- They built hundreds of miles of hiking trails.
- They quarried rocks and built guard walls along the Drive and overlooks.
- They built Lewis Mountain and Big Meadows campgrounds.
- They cleared vistas, fought forest fires, erected and staffed fire towers on summits.
- They developed Lewis Spring, the main water source for the Big Meadows area. They installed rustic water fountains.
- They installed water, sewer, and electric lines.
- From the dead chestnut trees, they cut shingles for the Skyland cabins, sawed boards for paneling in Big Meadows Lodge, split rails for fences, and built backcountry cabins.

The fire towers were removed long ago. Most of the original guard walls and water lines have been replaced. But... the craftsmanship of the CCC boys is still evident at Big Meadows Lodge, the administration building at park headquarters, and three backcountry cabins (Rock Spring, Pocosin, and Doyles River); the landscaping along the 105 miles of Skyline Drive is ever more lush and beautiful; and visitors each year walk the trails and enjoy the views from the overlooks.



## CCC Quick Facts

- Some 3 million men worked in the CCC in 4,500 different camps in every state plus several territories.
- "We Can Take It" was the unofficial motto of the CCC.
- CCC men—nicknamed "Roosevelt's Tree Army"—planted between 2 and 3 billion trees to stabilize soil and prevent erosion, mainly in state and national parks, monuments, and forests.
- A typical camp held 200 enrollees under the supervision of Army officers.
- There were 200,000 black enrollees, whose camps were entirely segregated after 1935.
- More than 85,000 Native Americans enrolled in a separate division of the CCC, working on or near reservations.
- Over 40,000 enrollees learned to read and write in the CCC – mostly on their own time.
- The Virginia Department of Forestry has chosen the northern red oak as the commemorative tree for the CCC's 75th anniversary this year.

To find out more, consult the Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy at [www.ccclegacy.org](http://www.ccclegacy.org)



(Continued from p.1.)

They earned \$30 a month, with \$25 of this sent directly to their parents. The enlistment period was for six months, with the option to re-enlist for another six months, for a maximum of two years.

Across the nation CCC enrollees planted trees, cleared brush, and fought forest fires. They built trails, bridges, fire towers, buildings, picnic

grounds, campgrounds, roads, shelters, restrooms, signs, guard rails, rock walls, and exhibits. They installed water, telephone, and electric lines. They improved streams, springs, shorelines, and dams.

In their spare time, the men were encouraged to play team sports such as basketball and baseball and to take classes ranging from typing to small motor repair.

As economic conditions improved and young men were needed to serve in World War II, the CCC camps were closed in 1942.

Today, 75 years after it began, the CCC's legacy of hope, pride, and conservation is still visible in public recreation areas across the nation.



This statue honors the CCC "boys." Iron Mike, standing in front of Byrd Visitor Center, was dedicated on September 30, 2006.

75<sup>th</sup>  
1933 • 2008

Civilian Conservation Corps

# Visitor Services: May 24 to September 1

Fall schedule will be available in the Fall *Overlook* and at [www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen)

- > **Lodging Reservations:** Online [www.visitshenandoah.com](http://www.visitshenandoah.com) or (800) 999-4714
- > **Campground Reservations:** Online [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or (877) 444-6777

## Dickey Ridge Visitor Center (mile 4.6)

May 24 - September 1, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Daily)  
Open until 6:00 p.m. on Friday/Saturday from July 4 - August 30  
Highlights: information, exhibits, orientation movie, park store, picnic grounds

## Mathews Arm Campground (mile 22.2)

\$15, some sites reservable, group sites available, sewage disposal, no trailer hookups

## Elkwallow Wayside (mile 24.1)

Highlights: grill and carry-out, groceries, gas, camping supplies, gift shop, picnic grounds  
May 24 - September 1  
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)  
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)

## Skyland Resort (miles 41.7 and 42.5)

May 24 - September 1  
Highlights: dining room, lodging varying from modern rooms to historic cabins to spacious suites, pet-friendly rooms available, gift shop, programs, and live entertainment

### Dining Room:

Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Lunch: noon - 2:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Gift Shop:** 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

**Taproom:** 2:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (food service ends & last call at 10:30 p.m.)

**Stables:** 2.5 hr. rides: 8:30 a.m. (Monday - Friday only)  
1 hr. rides: 8:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, 1:15 p.m.,  
2:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m. (Daily)

For Reservations, Call 540-999-2212

## Big Meadows (milepost 51)

### Byrd Visitor Center:

May 24 - September 1, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Daily)  
Highlights: information, exhibits, ranger programs, movies, park store

**Wayside:** restaurant and carry-out, gift shop, groceries, camping supplies, gas

May 24 - September 1  
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)

### Big Meadows Lodge

May 24 - September 1  
Highlights: historic dining room, taproom, live entertainment, gift shop, lodging includes rustic cabins, motel-type rooms, and modern suites

### Dining Room:

Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  
Lunch: noon - 2:00 p.m.  
Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Taproom:** 4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday)\*  
2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (Saturday, Sunday)\*  
\*food service ends and last call at 10:30 p.m.

**Gift Shop:** 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Campground:** \$20, reservations accepted, sewage disposal, group sites, no trailer hookups

### Showers/Laundry/Woodyard:

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)  
Wood and ice available at campstore when attendant not on duty.

## Lewis Mountain (mile 57.6)

May 24 - September 1  
**Cabins:** covered patios, picnic tables and grills, secluded forest setting  
**Campground:** \$15, first-come, first-served, no trailer hookups  
**Campstore:** groceries, camping supplies, gifts, wood, ice, showers/laundry  
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Sunday - Thursday)  
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday)

## Loft Mountain (mile 79.5)

May 24 - September 1  
**Loft Mountain Information Center:**  
May 24 - August 31, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Saturday/Sunday)  
Highlights: information, ranger programs, sales items

**Wayside:** restaurant, gift shop, gas  
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)  
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)

**Campground:** \$15, some sites reservable, group sites available, showers/laundry, sewage disposal, no trailer hookups

**Campstore:** groceries, camping supplies, wood, ice  
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)  
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)

### Showers/Laundry:

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)  
Wood and ice available at campstore when attendant not on duty.



## Firewood Alert!

Visitors are asked not to bring outside firewood into the park.

The Emerald Ash Borer, a non-native beetle from Asia discovered in the U.S. in 2002, feeds on ash trees with devastating results—and ash trees are a significant component of the forest in Shenandoah National Park. This beetle is now found in sections of several states, including nearby Maryland and West Virginia. To prevent the beetle from entering the park on firewood from outside, you are asked to gather firewood from dead and down wood inside the park or to purchase firewood from local sources.

If you have already entered the park with firewood from more than 50 miles away, you are asked to burn it all immediately and thoroughly.

# ARAMARK Events

ARAMARK, the company that operates the park's lodges and restaurants, also offers a variety of activities. This continues a tradition set by George Freeman Pollock, proprietor of a resort at Skyland before Shenandoah National Park was established. A few activities are highlighted here. For a full list of events and their dates and times, see ARAMARK's events brochure, or call (800) 999-4714, Option 1, or visit the website: [www.visitshenandoah.com](http://www.visitshenandoah.com)

## Guided Outdoor Programs

Experience the beauty of Shenandoah National Park as you explore miles of trails, including the Appalachian Trail. The Guided Outdoor Adventure Programs offer a variety of hikes that range from easy to difficult and are led by the certified, licensed guide staff of the Shenandoah Mountain Guides.



ARAMARK's *Calendar of Events* has a complete list of activities. Pick one up at restaurants, lodging facilities, or visitor centers in the park.

## Shenandoah Seasonings Culinary Workshop

Skyland Resort in Shenandoah National Park will conduct its annual Shenandoah Seasonings Culinary Workshops featuring the talents of Executive Chef Terry Sheehan. Workshop rate will include a *Meet the Chef Reception*, two workshop demos, lodging, plus a wine and dinner evening.



## Walk for Sunshine

Award-winning author and ESPN commentator Jeff Alt will share his Appalachian Trail experiences with park visitors. Jeff uses music, slides, narration, and lots of humor as he talks about his personal adventures along the 2,175-mile footpath.



## Apple Butter Celebration

Apples are just everywhere—along with fresh apple butter, apple candy, apple arts and crafts. Come to the Conference Hall area at Skyland Resort for the 9th Annual Apple Butter Celebration! For two days copper kettles on the fire will be boiling the apples. Take home some fresh-from-the-kettle jars of apple butter.



## Basket Making 101

Local basket artisan Clyde Jenkins returns to the park to share his talent of basket making. Clyde teaches participants how to make a Colonial-style, white oak basket with techniques handed down through the generations.



# Shenandoah National Park Celebrates Special Days

If you're here in Shenandoah National Park, you realize its beauty. And if you participate in a ranger program or a special activity, you'll experience even more. Ranger programs are listed on the back page of this visitor guide. Fun and educational events like these listed below are offered throughout the season. To stay updated and to register, visit the "Special Events" page on our website.

with tips on identification. Experienced photographers will illustrate this world in their exciting power-point programs. After a box lunch, you'll take a field trip with park staff to discover butterflies. To join this program, check "Special Events" on our website.

Other annual events take place in early spring before the *Overlook* is published. If you missed the chance to participate this year, why not plan to join in the fun next year? Check our website: [www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen)

• **CCC Reunion**—Between 1933 and 1942, thousands of young men in the Civilian Conservation Corps

• **National Junior Ranger Day**—This special day at the end of April is designed to engage children and families in the stories embodied in this national park.



• **National Trails Day**—If you are interested in hiking and trails, come to the park on June 7 to celebrate National Trails Day. Novice hikers can venture to the world beyond the trailhead, while experienced hikers enjoy a longer hike. There are also hikes for families with children. Another exciting feature: park trails staff and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club patrol personnel offer hands-on demonstrations of trail maintenance and tools.

(the CCC) virtually built Shenandoah National Park. (See articles p. 5.) Each year men who were once the "boys" of Shenandoah come to the park for a reunion. The weekend of September 27-28 is special in 2008, which marks the 75th anniversary of the CCC.

• **Wildflower Weekend**—In early May, before the leaf canopy reduces the sunlight reaching the forest floor, Wildflower Weekend offers walking, hiking, and presentation programs to connect participants with the wildflowers of the park.

• **Butterfly Seminar**—Put Saturday July 12 on your calendar for a whole day devoted to butterflies! A ranger will introduce you to the world of butterflies,

• **Wilderness Weekend**—The park honors America's wilderness heritage on a weekend in October—this year, October 18-19. Forty percent of Shenandoah is wilderness designated by Congress in 1976. Visitors can view Shenandoah's wilderness from Skyline Drive, hike a wilderness trail, and join a ranger program.

• **Save the Meadow Weekend**—Can you identify invasive exotic plants? During this event, park staff describes these species which threaten native plants to volunteers and explains their environmental threats. Volunteers then join an expedition led by park staff into the Big Meadows Swamp, a natural heritage site, to help protect it.

# Ranger Programs: May 24 to September 1

Fall schedule will be available online at [www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen)

Dickey Ridge (mile 4.6)		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Terrace Talk</b> - Spend 10 minutes learning about a special feature of Shenandoah National Park. Check at Information Desk for talk schedule. <i>Dickey Ridge Visitor Center.</i>		Check at the Information Desk for talk schedule.						
Skyland (miles 41.7 and 42.5)		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Discovery Walk</b> - Explore what's blooming, creeping, crawling, or singing this week! 1 hr. <i>Meet at Skyland Amphitheater</i> (lower road).		9:30 a.m.			9:30 a.m.			
<b>Stony Man Hike</b> - Some of the most incredible views in Shenandoah are closer than you think! Wear sturdy shoes and bring water on this hike to the park's second tallest peak. 1.6 miles. 2 hrs. <i>Meet at Stony Man Trailhead</i> (mile 41.7, the north entrance to Skyland Resort).			10:00 a.m.			10:00 a.m.		2:00 p.m.
<b>Historic Massanutten Lodge</b> - Learn about the figures and forces of early Skyland Resort in this tour of Addie Pollock's restored 1911 cabin. <i>Women of Skyland</i> exhibit. 50 minutes. <i>Meet at Skyland Conference Hall</i> (lower road).		10:30 a.m.		2:30 p.m.			2:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m.
<b>Ancient Volcano Hike</b> - Imagine fiery lava and rivers of molten rock in Shenandoah National Park! Walk along the remains of an ancient volcanic rift. 2 miles. 2 hrs. <i>Meet at Timber Hollow Overlook</i> (mile 43.3).		2:30 p.m.		10:00 a.m.		2:30 p.m.		10:00 a.m.
<b>Wild About Bears</b> - Learn about the unique lifestyle of Shenandoah's largest mammals during this 20-minute talk. <i>Skyland Dining Hall Terrace.</i>			1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.	
<b>Shenandoah Secrets</b> - Shenandoah holds many secrets just waiting to be discovered. Learn about one special feature in this 20-minute talk. Topics vary. <i>Skyland Dining Hall Terrace.</i>		1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.		1:30 p.m.
<b>Junior Ranger Program</b> - Unlock the mysteries of Shenandoah through fun and educational activities. Kids ages 7-12 only, please. Parent/adult must accompany child. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Skyland Amphitheater</i> (lower road).			2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.			
<b>Skyland Walking Tour</b> - Walk back in time to the Roaring '20s where the the early days of Skyland Resort come to life. 1 mile. 1 hr. <i>Meet at Skyland Amphitheater</i> (lower road).		3:30 p.m.					10:00 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
<b>Shenandoah Appetizer</b> - A 20-minute talk about the park will whet your appetite. <i>Skyland Dining Hall Lobby.</i>		5:00 p.m.			5:00 p.m.		5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
<b>Evening Stroll on the Limberlost</b> - Visit this dramatic forest at a magical time. Bring a flashlight. 1.3 miles. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at the Limberlost Trailhead</i> (milepost 43).		7:30 p.m.			7:30 p.m.			
<b>Evening Campfire Program</b> - Join a ranger for this well-loved National Park Service tradition. Dress for cool mountain nights. 45 minutes. <i>Skyland Amphitheater</i> (lower road).							8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.
Big Meadows (milepost 51)		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Terrace Talk</b> - Spend 10 minutes learning about a special feature of Shenandoah National Park. Check at Information Desk for talk schedule. <i>Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		Check at the Information Desk for talk schedule.						
<b>Kid's Corner</b> - Get to know Shenandoah a little better through a short activity. Ages 6 and under. Parent/adult must accompany child. 30 minutes. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		9:00 a.m.			9:00 a.m.			9:00 a.m.
<b>Rapidan Camp</b> - Travel by bus to Rapidan Camp, President Herbert Hoover's summer retreat. 3 hrs. 12-person limit. <i>Reserve by phone (540-999-3283) or in person at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
<b>Live Birds of Prey</b> - Meet live raptors and learn about their vital role in the ecosystem. 1 hr. <i>Big Meadows Amphitheater.</i>				10:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.		10:00 a.m.
<b>Hawksbill Mountain Hike</b> - Hike to the highest peak in the park for a panoramic view of the Shenandoah Valley. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 520-foot elevation gain. 2.1 miles. 2 hrs. <i>Meet at Upper Hawksbill Parking Area</i> (mile 46.7).					2:00 p.m.		10:00 a.m.	
<b>Appalachian Trail Hike</b> - Hike an easy portion of this famous mountain trail and discover its fascinating stories. 2 miles. 2 hrs. <i>Meet at Milam Gap Parking Area</i> (mile 52.8).			10:00 a.m.					2:00 p.m.
<b>More Than a Meadow</b> - Discover the wonders of a unique 130-acre meadow on this gentle walk. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.		10:30 a.m.	
<b>Bucks, Does, and Fawns</b> - They may look tame, but these wild mammals can be unpredictable. Learn more about Shenandoah deer in this 20-minute talk. <i>Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		11:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.			11:00 a.m.		
<b>Wild About Bears</b> - Learn about the unique lifestyle of Shenandoah's largest mammals during this 20-minute talk. <i>Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.
<b>Shenandoah Secrets</b> - Shenandoah holds many secrets just waiting to be discovered. Learn about one special feature in this 20-minute talk. Topics vary. <i>Byrd Visitor Center.</i>			2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.		2:00 p.m.	
<b>Bearfence Rock Scramble</b> - Climb up rugged greenstone boulders on this tough but rewarding scramble to a 360-degree view. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 380-foot elevation gain. 1.2 miles. 2 hrs. <i>Meet at Bearfence Parking Area</i> (mile 56.4).			2:00 p.m.			2:00 p.m.		
<b>Junior Ranger Program</b> - Unlock the mysteries of Shenandoah through fun and educational activities. Kids ages 7-12 only, please. Parent/adult must accompany child. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		10:00 a.m.		2:30 p.m.		2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
<b>CCC Stroll</b> - Celebrate 75 years of the Civilian Conservation Corps legacy. Take a short walk to the site of a CCC camp in the meadow. 45 minutes. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		3:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.			3:00 p.m.		3:00 p.m.
<b>Discovery Walk</b> - Explore what's blooming, creeping, crawling, or singing this week! 1 hr. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>		4:00 p.m.		4:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.		4:00 p.m.	
<b>Twilight at Big Meadows</b> - Take a pleasant evening walk in the meadow and see Shenandoah change as day turns into night. Bring a flashlight. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</i>			7:30 p.m.			7:30 p.m.		
<b>Shenandoah Appetizer</b> - A 20-minute talk about the park will whet your appetite. <i>Big Meadows Lodge Great Room.</i>				5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.		5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.
<b>Evening Campfire Program</b> - Join a ranger for this well-loved National Park Service tradition. 45 minutes. Dress for cool mountain nights. <i>Big Meadows Amphitheater.</i>		8:30 p.m.		8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.		8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.
Loft Mountain (mile 79.5)		SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Shenandoah Secrets</b> - Shenandoah holds secrets just waiting to be discovered. Learn about one special feature in this 20-min. talk. Topics vary. <i>Meet at Loft Mountain Information Center.</i>							2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
<b>Junior Ranger Program</b> - Unlock the mysteries of Shenandoah through fun and educational activities. Kids ages 7-12 only, please. Parent/adult must accompany child. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Loft Mountain Information Center.</i>								3:30 p.m.
<b>Shenandoah Sunset</b> - Twilight is a magical time. Take a walk to explore the changes as day turns into night. Bring a flashlight. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. <i>Meet at Loft Mountain Amphitheater.</i>							7:30 p.m.	
<b>Evening Campfire Program</b> - Join a ranger for this well-loved National Park Service tradition. 45 minutes. Dress for cool mountain nights. <i>Loft Mountain Amphitheater.</i>								8:30 p.m.