

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
George Washington Memorial Parkway
c/o Turkey Run Park
McLean, Virginia 22101

Title 36 -Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Compendium

George Washington Memorial Parkway

Under the provisions of 16 U.S. Code, Section 3 and Title 36, Codes of Federal Regulations (CFR), Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7, the following designations, closures, permit requirements and other restrictions imposed under discretionary authority of the Superintendent are established for the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). Unless otherwise noted, these orders apply in addition to the provisions contained in Parts 1 through 7 of Title 36 CFR.

George Washington Memorial Parkway includes the properties in Virginia at Great Falls Virginia, Arlington House / Robert E. Lee Memorial, Arlington Ridge (Netherlands Carillon / Marine Corps War Memorial areas), and in Maryland the Clara Barton Parkway, Glen Echo Park, the Clara Barton National Historic Site, and all properties listed in this document.

1.5 Closures and Public Use Limits

1.5(a) (1) Parkway areas are closed to the public between the hours 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM unless otherwise posted.

- The George Washington Memorial Parkway and the Clara Barton Parkway roadways are normally open 24 hours a day year-round. Certain weather conditions or incidents may require a temporary closure of the parkway roadways;
- George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters Offices are closed on all official Federal holidays, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day;
- Claude Moore Farm (CMF) is open: 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Wednesday through Sunday during the months between April through mid-December. CMF may issue an after hours use permit for their location. CMF is operated through a cooperative agreement with the Friends of Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run;
- Arlington Ridge Park including the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial and the Netherlands Carillon are open: 6:00 AM to 12:00 AM (midnight) daily;
- Arlington House, the Robert E. Lee Memorial, is open:
9:30 AM to 5:30 PM Memorial Day through Mid-August

9:30 AM to 4:30 PM Mid-August through May. Closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day;

- Columbia Island and Daingerfield Island are open:
6:00 AM to 12:00 AM (midnight) daily current Marina slip holders may use the Marina docks for boat arrivals and departures during closed hours;
- Clara Barton National Historic Site (NHS) House is open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily
Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day;
- Glen Echo Park is open:
6:00 AM to 1:00 AM daily

Glen Echo Park Office is open:
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily
Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day;

- Great Falls Park is open: 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM daily;

Great Falls Visitor Center is open: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM during winter months. During the summer months the Visitor Center is open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM weekdays and 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM weekends;

- Gravelly Point Parking Lot and Boat Ramp areas are open from 4:00 AM to 10:00 PM;
- Mount Vernon Trail is closed between 10:00 PM and 6:00 am, except for bicycle commuter traffic.

Great Falls Park Virginia Restricted Access

To increase visitor safety at Great Falls Park, public access to the Virginia shoreline of the Potomac River adjacent to (in-line with) the northern tip of the Flake (just north of overlook #1) to the upstream edge of Fisherman's Eddy (just north of overlook #3) is restricted.

Fishermen and boaters are encouraged to use Fisherman's Eddy to access the Potomac River. Access into the Potomac River between the upstream portion of Fisherman's Eddy and the Aqueduct Dam is prohibited even to fisherman and boaters.

Parking Limitations 1.5(f) and / or 7.96(f)(5)

Parking is permitted in designated areas only. Parking is not permitted on any lawn areas except by permit.

Parking in closed areas, or having cars remain in an area after closing time, is prohibited.

Commuter parking is prohibited in all George Washington Memorial Parkway parking areas.

Overnight parking is prohibited on all National Park Service land administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway unless subject to a permit issued by the Superintendent. The only exception is vehicles belonging to current slip-holders at the three concession-operated marinas.

Parking in the following lots for other than recreational purposes, or for longer than three (3) hours, Monday through Friday is prohibited:

- Turkey Run Park
- Scenic Overlooks #1 & #2
- Theodore Roosevelt Island
- Lady Bird Johnson Park
- LBJ Memorial Grove
- Columbia Island
- Gravelly Point
- Daingerfield Island
- Belle Haven Park
- Clara Barton National Historic Site

Parking in the parking lot at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima) for longer than one (1) hour is prohibited.

Front-end parking only will be allowed in the following parking lots:

- Turkey Run Park
- Fort Marcy
- LBJ Memorial Grove
- Columbia Island
- Daingerfield Island
- Riverside Park

Boats

Vessels with internal combustion engines are prohibited in the waters of Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve without an official permit. Permits are issued only for research, maintenance, or other official government purposes.

"Liveaboards" on boats moored at marinas in the parkway are prohibited. A "liveaboard" is defined as someone who stays on board a boat in a marina for 4 or more nights in any seven (7) day period and more than three times in any twelve (12) month calendar period.

Washing, waxing, or repairing of vehicles is prohibited anywhere in the parkway.

Road Closures

The left lane of the "Loop Road" at Fort Hunt Park is closed to vehicle traffic beyond Parking Lot B around to the Entrance Road.

Competitive Activities/Recreation

Races and other competitive activities which involve the use of timing devices or offer incentives for finish time or place are prohibited on the Mount Vernon Trail, except by permit from the Superintendent. This applies to any form of activity, including, but not limited to footraces, bicycling, and skating.

Race courses may not be set up in the Washington Sailing Marina Channel, between day marker 2 and 7 if they would block or restrict non-racing vessels attempting to navigate the channel.

Kite flying is prohibited at Gravelly Point and Daingerfield Island.

Golf playing is prohibited at Fort Hunt Park and Dangerfield Island.

No ball playing or Frisbee throwing in the area of any memorial, the Netherlands Carillon, Theodore Roosevelt Island Plaza, or Memorial Avenue in respect to the sanctity of the memorials.

No organized or league sponsored sports are allowed at Ft. Hunt Park.

1.6 Permits

Public Assemblies - Public assemblies and public meetings fall under the mantle of Rights protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Special Use Permit - Is a document issued by Superintendents to an individual or organization to allow the use of NPS administered resources. All special park uses may require a Special Use Permit. The parkway Superintendent shall determine when a Special Use Permit is required and what costs and other fees, if any, must be recovered. Special Use Permits maybe issued by the Superintendent if the considerations listed in Chapter 8 of Reference Manual 53 (RM 53) are met.

1 .6(f) Permits are required for the following:

Special Events—Special events are activities that fall under the category of privileges. The following are examples of special events:

- Wedding/Other Ceremonies.
- Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter.
- Business Operations
- Commercial Vehicle Operations
- Organized Sports Activities
- Carrying or Possession of a Weapon
- Marathons and other foot races
- Organized Picnicking in Areas A-D at Fort Hunt Park-(Groups may not reserve more than one picnic area at Fort Hunt Park on the same day).
- Land Navigation Activities (e.g. Orienteering, Geocaching, Letterboxing) which involve placing of markers or items in off-trail areas.

2.1 Preservation of Natural, Cultural and Archeological Resources

2.1(a)(1)(ii) Painting, jumping from, swinging by rope or other means, or tying or nailing objects to trees is prohibited

If climbers at Great Falls Park have no other available tie-off (anchor) point, connection to trees will be protected with padding between the anchor material and the tree. Only 7/16" (or larger) rope, or 1" (or wider) flat webbing will be used for anchoring.

2.1(a)(5) Tying objects to, jumping from or swinging by ropes or other means from aqueducts, bridges, or historic structures is prohibited without a permit issued by the Superintendent.

2.1(a)(6) Digging of any holes is prohibited.

2.2 Wildlife Protection

2.2(e) The viewing of wildlife with the use of artificial light is prohibited.

2.3 Fishing

Applicable Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia or Potomac River Fisheries Commission fishing licenses are required when fishing from parkway property

All applicable state or city fishing regulations must be followed while fishing, or in possession of fish, on parkway property. Contact the appropriate State or District Agency for specific regulations.

District of Columbia--Fishing in the waters of the District of Columbia (between Little Falls and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge) regardless of whether fishing from the Virginia shoreline or from

National Park land requires by law, possession of a current District of Columbia Fishing License.

Virginia/Maryland has reciprocal freshwater fishing license agreements for the area above Little Falls. Resident anglers may fish the Potomac River and both river banks.

Virginia/Maryland/Potomac River Fisheries Commission have reciprocal agreements for the area south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge

All anglers using fishing weights less than one ounce are required to use steel weight. Weights greater than one ounce may be lead or steel.

2.10 Camping

Camping is not permitted on any property of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

2.11 Picnicking

Picnic areas are available to the public on a first-come first-serve basis. The only exception is:

- Fort Hunt Park--May through October – Reservations are required daily for Areas A-D. Areas E and F are always open for use on a first-come first-serve basis. Use of parkway electrical outlets at Ft. Hunt Park is allowed only at Area A and by permit only.
- Fort Hunt Park—April -- Reservations are required only on Saturdays and Sundays for Areas A-D. Areas E and F are always open for use on a first-come first-serve basis. Use of park electrical outlets at Ft. Hunt Park is allowed only at Area A and by permit only.
- Reservations for Fort Hunt Park are accepted by telephone (1-800-444-6777) and internet only. Website <http://www.recreation.gov>

Pitching of horseshoes is prohibited, except in designated areas at Fort Hunt Park.

Food and drink are prohibited in the immediate vicinity of all statues and memorials.

The use of tents, canopies or shelters by picnickers will only be allowed if they are free standing, self-supporting, and placed in a manner that will allow other parkway visitors access to all public areas. Use of tents, tarps, or shelters that are partially or wholly supported by stakes and guy-lines are prohibited.

2.12 Audio Disturbances.

The following are prohibited:

Operating motorized equipment or machinery such as an electric generating plant, motor vehicle, motorized toy, or an audio device, such as a radio, television set, tape deck or musical instrument, in a manner:

(i) That exceeds a noise level of 60 decibels measured on the A-weighted scale at 50 feet; or, if below that level, nevertheless;

(ii) makes noise which is unreasonable, considering the nature and purpose of the actor's conduct, location, time of day or night, purpose for which the area was established, impact on parkway users, and other factors that would govern the conduct of a reasonably prudent person under the circumstances.

2.13 Fires.

Fires are prohibited except in government provided grills and fire sites, or in privately owned grills that are intended for the preparation of food.

Campfires are prohibited except with a permit and in designated areas. All coals must be removed and disposed of from the government-provided grills before the user leaves the parkway in a manner that does not threaten parkway resources. The coals may only be placed in red ash cans specifically designated and marked for the purpose of disposing of coals.

At Columbia Island Marina, Washington Sailing Marina, and Belle Haven Marina no charcoal or gas grills, or open flames of any type, are allowed on the docks or on any boat tied to the docks.

The use of any device with an open flame (candles, incense, matches, etc.) inside of any parkway building is prohibited. The exception is for burning of birthday cake candles, provided adequate precautions have been taken to ensure that combustible materials (paper, napkins, etc.) have been moved to a safe distance.

2.15 Pets.

All pets must be restrained on a leash which shall not exceed six feet or otherwise physically confine a pet at all times. An "invisible" electronic leash is not considered restraint within the parkway.

Visitors with pets in the parkway are required to remove and dispose of their pets' excrement by placing it in a refuse can or carrying it out of the parkway.

Pet owners are prohibited from allowing their pets to enter the Potomac River within the boundaries of George Washington Memorial Parkway.

2.19 Winter Activities

Cross-country skiing is permitted on trails that are designated for bicycles which include the Mount Vernon Trail.

Use of open areas designated for organized sports (Gravelly Point and Dangerfield Island) and picnicking are also available for cross-country skiing.

Ice skating is not permitted in the parkway.

2.20 Skating, skateboards, and similar devices.

Use of roller skates/blades, skateboards (non-motorized), coasting vehicles, and similar devices are prohibited on parkway property except on the Mt. Vernon Trail and the left lane of the Fort Hunt Park picnic area "Loop Road."

The use of motorized skateboards, wind propelled devices including skateboards and any other motorized device (except as noted below) is prohibited on the Mt. Vernon Trail and the Ft. Hunt picnic areas.

The use of motorized scooters (electric) by any person with a disability is allowed on the Mt. Vernon Trail, but requires a special use permit issued by the Superintendent.

The use of Segways or other similar devices is prohibited on all Parkway trails and roadways except for use by disabled individuals.

2.21 Smoking.

2.21(a) Smoking is prohibited in all parkway buildings.

In addition, other parkway areas including trails, picnic areas, and other public use areas, maybe closed to smoking during periods of high fire danger.

2.35 Alcoholic Beverages and Controlled Substances.

The possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited except under an official permit issued by the Superintendent or at designated areas at concession-operated facilities at Daingerfield Island and Columbia Island. (These areas are indicated on the concessionaire's land assignment and operating plan as alcoholic beverage consumption areas.)

The sale of alcohol (other than by concessionaires) and serving of alcohol to minors is prohibited.

The use or possession of any controlled substance is prohibited on any George Washington Memorial Parkway property.

All Glen Echo Park permits for the possession and consumption of alcohol will be issued for use in specific buildings only.

Alcohol consumption and possession is not allowed in the open or common areas of Glen Echo Park.

No permits for alcohol possession or consumption will be issued for the following buildings at Glen Echo Park:

- Carousel
- Maintenance Shed
- Comfort Station

Fort Hunt Park picnic permits issued by George Washington Memorial Parkway for Areas A through D allow for the possession and consumption of beer and wine.

If a distributor of alcohol is used to provide alcohol on site, it is mandatory that they have an Alcoholic Board of Control License to distribute beer and wine.

2.51 Public Assemblies, Meetings

Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expression of views are allowed provided a permit has been issued as indicated in 36 CFR 1 § 7.96.

2.52 The Sale or Distribution of Printed Matter

Sale or distribution of printed matter is allowed, provided an official permit has been issued as indicated in 36 CFR 1 § 7.96.

2.62 Memorialization

2.62(b) The scattering of human ashes from cremation is prohibited without a permit under conditions set by the Superintendent.

3.20(a) Waterskiing

Waterskiing and jet skiing are prohibited in the waters of Dyke Marsh.

3.21 Swimming and bathing

3.21(a) Swimming, bathing, and wading are prohibited in the Potomac River and Difficult Run from any parkway shores or boat ramps.

3.24 Regulation of Personal Watercraft (PWC).

3.24(a) Vessels with internal combustion engines are prohibited in the waters of Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve without an official permit. Permits are issued only for research, maintenance, or other official government purposes.

4.11 Vehicle Weight and Size Limits.

No trucks are allowed on parkway roads.

A truck is defined as:

Any vehicle in excess of 10,000 lbs Gross Vehicle Weight 49 CFR 3 § 350.105(1)

Permits may be granted by the Superintendent for trucks to use parkway roads. Said permits may limit the size of the vehicle and the route the vehicle may take while on the parkway.

Guidance for commercial vehicles, of any size, is found in 36 CFR 1 § 5.6 and § 7.96(f)

4.21 Speed Limits.

a) Speed limits on the George Washington Memorial Parkway:

Southbound

- 50 MPH from I-495 south to Windy Run
- 40 MPH from Windy to Slaters Lane
- 30 MPH from Slaters Lane to Powhatan Street
- 25 MPH from Powhatan Street to Little Hunting Creek
- 35 MPH from Little Hunting Creek to Belle View Boulevard
- 45 MPH from Belle View prior to Mt. Vernon Circle
- 35 MPH South of Fort Hunt
- 25 MPH at Mount Vernon Circle

Northbound

- 25 MPH at Mount Vernon Circle
- 35 MPH after Mount Vernon Circle to Hunting Creek
- 45 MPH from Hunting Creek to Belle Haven Road
- 35 MPH from Belle Haven Road to Little Hunting Creek
- 25 MPH from Little Hunting Creek to Bashford Lane

30 MPH from Bashford Lane o Alexandria City Line
40 MPH from Alexandria City Line to Spout Run Parkway
50 MPH from Spout Run Parkway to I-495

b) Speed Limits on Clara Barton Parkway:

Eastbound

30 MPH from MacArthur Boulevard to Carderock entrance
50 MPH from Carderock entrance to Cabin John Parkway
45 MPH from Cabin John Parkway to prior to Chain Bridge Road
35 MPH to Cabin John Road

Westbound

35 MPH from Chain Bridge Road to Sycamore Island
45 MPH from Sycamore Island to Glen Echo approach
35 MPH from Glen Echo approach to Glen Echo exit
25 MPH at Glen Echo exit 50 MPH beyond Glen Echo to MacArthur Boulevard approach
30 MPH to MacArthur Boulevard

c) Spout Run Parkway

35 MPH on Spout Run Parkway

d) Lower limits are posted on other parkway roadways and ramps.

4.30 Bicycles.

4.30(a) Bicycling is prohibited in the following areas:

- Great Falls Park:
 - Patowmack Canal Trail
 - River Trail
 - Swamp Trail
 - Swamp-Ridge Connector Trail
 - Matildaville Trail
 - Mine Run Trail
 - Riverbend Road Trail
 - Between Old Dominion Drive and River Bend Road
- Theodore Roosevelt Island
- Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve Haul Road
- Potomac Heritage Trail
- The George Washington Memorial Parkway from Mt. Vernon Circle to Interstate 495
- The Clara Barton Parkway from Chain Bridge to MacArthur Boulevard

The following regulations apply to bicyclists on designated trails in George Washington Memorial Parkway:


- The Speed limit for bikes is 15 MPH.
- Cyclists must stay on the right side of the trail.
- Move left only to pass and give ample audible warning when passing other trail users.
- Bicyclists must adhere to protective equipment requirements and regulations set by the applicable state or county.
- Trail users must keep to the right and travel in single file.

5.6 Commercial Vehicles

Commercial vehicles of all types are prohibited from parkway roads.

The Superintendent may grant permits for the operation of commercial vehicles pursuant to 36 CFR 1 § 5.6 and in § 7.96(f)

Guidance for the issuance of permits for buses can be found at 36 CFR 1 § 7.96(f)

APPROVED: 
Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-6-07

ENDING DATE: Reviewed annually