



The Oasis

The seasonal newsletter of Prince William Forest Park • Volume 1, Issue 13

Park Goes to the Dogs For National Parks Week and Junior Ranger Day on April 25, 2009

Paws in the Park 2009 will take place on Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Prince William Forest Park. This event welcomes dog-owners and dog-lovers to the park for National Parks Week (Apr. 18 - 26) with fun, family-friendly activities that highlight the importance of responsible pet ownership in national parks.

“This year, for one day only, your four-legged friends can mingle and romp in a designated play area to demonstrate the importance of allowing your dogs off leash in *designated areas only*.”

Children can celebrate National Parks Week and Junior Ranger Day at Paws in the Park by completing our Junior “Bark” Ranger activity booklet (available free of charge). Those who successfully complete the booklet will be awarded a Prince William Forest Park Junior Ranger Badge, certificate, and patch.



Virginia Search and Rescue Dog Association strut their stuff at Paws 2007. Photo Courtesy: NPS

Other event highlights include: military, police, and search and rescue dogs; agility and obedience demonstrations; informational displays; guest appearances; and a ‘faux’ dog show. This year, for one day only, your four-legged friends can mingle and romp in a designated play area to demonstrate the importance of allowing your dogs off leash in *designated areas only*.



Ranger Martin Gallery and Samson on loan from C&O Canal at Paws 2007. Photo Courtesy: NPS



McGruff the crime prevention dog educates children at Paws 2007. Photo Courtesy: NPS



Dogs mingling at Paws 2007. Photo Courtesy: NPS

Working dog demonstrations will be conducted by National Park Service Park Ranger Martin Gallery and his bomb-detection dog, Samson, and search and rescue dogs from Virginia Search and

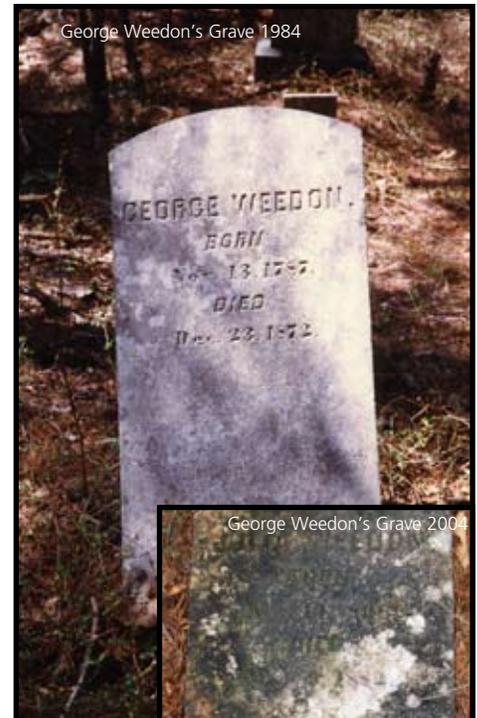
Regional Experts To Gather For Meeting on Cemetery Protection

On April 9, 2009 park staff hosted a day long cemetery charrette in Prince William Forest Park. The charrette planned was an effort to gain expertise and knowledge on cemetery management from National Park Service professionals and other local experts. Prince William Forest Park has currently identified 45 cemeteries in the park, with over 350 individual burials. These graveyards are in various stages of maintenance and have varying levels of involvement from the families who originally owned or still own the rights to the cemeteries.

The park gathered together a group of regional experts to provide input to park staff in the following issues:

1. Maintenance and Monument Care
2. Land Ownership/Family Relationships
3. Information Management/Retention
4. Interpretation
5. Law Enforcement/Vandalism Issues
6. Future steps toward formal Cemetery Management Plan

Elyse Lawrence, a Resource Management employee, gave a presentation on the current state of Prince William Forest Park cemeteries - information she gained while completing the park's 4th cemetery survey. Park staff hope that assembling a group of professionals will provide insight into creating a park Cemetery Management Plan, which will allow the park to better conserve its heritage.

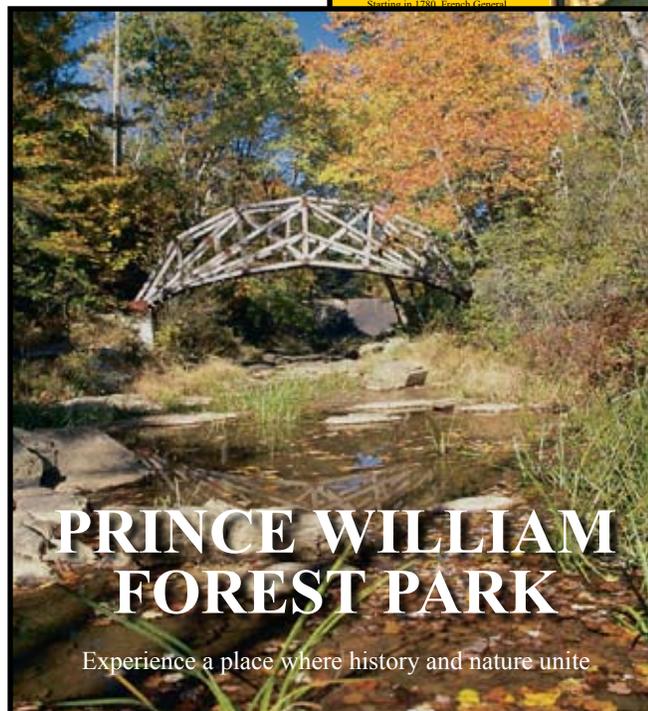


First-ever Book Released on Park

Thanks to Eastern National, the park's cooperating association partner, Prince William Forest Park has received its first-ever book specifically on the park. Celebrate one of northern Virginia's hidden gems with Prince William Forest Park: Experience a place where history and nature unite. This book provides an overview of the natural, historical, and recreational resources at Prince William Forest Park, a unit of the National Park Service located in Triangle, VA.

This 48 page, full color book is the perfect coffee table addition, giving area residents with an overview of the inexpensive, family fun and natural beauty that lies right at your doorstep.

The book is available at the park bookstore in the visitor center for \$9.95 and would make a great addition to any coffee table.



Tobacco

In colonial Virginia, tobacco was grown using the "long fallow" system. Land was cleared, and tobacco was planted on it for two to three years, greatly depleting the nutrients in the soil. Corn was then grown on the same land for a few more years, when the land, then exhausted, was left fallow for as long as 20 years. Later generations



Tobacco receipt from the late 1700s. Photo courtesy: Prince William Forest Park museum collection.

of farmers would come to realize the wasteful nature of this system, but it was an adaptation of Native American techniques and worked well as long as the population was low and land plentiful.

Washington and Rochambeau

Starting in 1280, French General



Using various land and water routes, they marched toward an eventual three-week-long siege of Yorktown, Virginia, where Cornwallis eventually surrendered. A section of this historic road passes through Prince William Forest Park, located near the Telegraph Picnic Pavilion. On this historic road, soldiers and support staff with supplies marched toward the last major battle of the American Revolution.



would be divided, subdivided, and divided again amongst descendants freed slaves, and indentured servants who had served their tenure. Today's forest in Prince William Forest Park, was, for almost two centuries, farmed by these families.

Much Anticipated OSS Report Released

Reviewed by Dan Pinck, *OSSReborn.com*

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In fall of 2008, Dr. John Whiteclay Chambers II submitted his final draft of a 719-page report on OSS training activities in Prince William Forest Park, and we have been doggedly reading the report ever since.

The report describes how Prince William Forest Park played host to spies learning to shoot pistols and submachine guns; to throw hand grenades on a golf course; to detonate plastic to dismember trees; to read maps; to kill an enemy with a rolled-up newspaper or a small knife; and to encode and decode one-time pad messages.

The report is a superbly-researched history of the Office of Strategic Services, from its pre-war birth as the Office of the Coordinator of Information to the OSS's activities around the world during the war, and to the

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adoption of many OSS branches by the CIA and the U. S. military after the war.

Many books have been written about the Office of Strategic Services, the fledgling WWII predecessor to the CIA, but few of them focus on how the government actually trained the spies before they dropped them behind enemy lines. The report also travels to the OSS theaters around the world.

Dr. Chambers traces the irregular, ambitious and successful exploits of a number of OSS representatives who gained distinctive reputations in risky circumstances, some of whom we first meet in his book while they



“Many men were injured. OSS training was not a piece of cake...”

attempt to survive classroom lectures, many dangerous field exercises (four men were killed), and goofy psychological assessments at Park Service locations in Virginia and Maryland. (A minor note: William Casey, who became the 13th Director of the CIA, broke his jaw in a training accident at Catoctin Mountain Park). Many men were injured. OSS training was not a piece of cake.)

Roughly 5,300 veterans in the major OSS branches received some or all of their training at National Park Service locations in Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Maryland. Mr. Chambers devotes more than one-third of his book to an examination of OSS training, its merits and its defects. The rest of the report is all value added. By leading us on expeditions to every part of world in which the OSS engaged our enemies, we learn how the OSS accomplished its missions. In this fashion, the book becomes a comprehensive history of the OSS at home and abroad. To see the world of the OSS by focusing on the training that the majority of veterans received at National Park Service sites in the United States as well as at some overseas locations is a novel and highly effective approach.

The staff at Prince William Forest Park looks forward to using the information gained through Dr. Chambers report to further their interpretation of the park's OSS sites and to join with other units of the National Park Service that celebrate our nation's World War II history.

To read the report, visit www.nps.gov/prwi and click on the 'new report' link.



Summer Programs 2009

Rediscover play without power cords this summer when you join one of our many fun and educational programs. Take a hike to learn lessons of interdependence, preservation, and human impacts on the land. Tread on the sunken roadbeds of farmers and freed slaves on a history program. Open a door to secret spy history on a cabin camp tour. Enjoy the laughter of children in the night during our weekly campfire talks and outdoor movies. With a wide variety of recreational opportunities right in your backyard, why travel any farther this summer than Prince William Forest Park -your neighborhood national park! *All programs may be subject to change. Please visit our website or call 703-221-7181 for exact scheduling.*

Nature Walks & Talks

Rock'n The Forest

Take a 15 minute journey through 150 million years of forest history! Meet at the petrified wood tree stump in front of the visitor center daily at 10 am and 2 pm to learn about the natural history and personal stories in Prince William Forest Park. No walking required.

Date(s): Daily

Time: 10:00 am and 2:00 pm

Location: Meet at the visitor center

Difficulty: Moderate - 2.5 mile hike, with hills

Early Birders Bird Walk

Beginner and expert birders alike will enjoy this early morning stroll to the sweet symphony of spring bird calls. Join Ranger Kelly on a 1 1/2 hour walk identifying avian residents by sight and sound. Bring binoculars, good walking shoes, and wear weather appropriate clothing.

Date(s): Saturdays from April 18th to June 6th, Sundays June 13th to July 5th

Time: 7:30 am to 9:00 am

Piedmont Forest Hike

Prince William Forest Park is the largest piedmont forest in the National Park System. Take a hike with rangers and volunteers through the past and present forest, and learn about its hopeful future.

Date(s): Every Friday, the 2nd Saturday of the month

Time: 10:30 am

Location: Meet at Oak Ridge Campground parking lot

Difficulty: Moderate - 2.5 mile hike, with hills

Location: Meet at the park visitor center

History Walks & Talks

Historic Cabin Camp Tour

The design and layout of the 5 cabin camps in Prince William Forest Park tells a story of struggle and triumph during the Great Depression and valor and bravery during World War II. Tour Cabin Camp 3 to learn about the architectural design and social history of these cabins. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing and good walking shoes.

Date(s): Every Thursday, 1st and 3rd Sat.

Time: 10:30 am

Location: Meet at the cabin camp 3 parking lot

Cabin Branch Mine Hike

Tour the site of the 19th century Cabin Branch Pyrite Mine to learn about its impact on the local community, and the attempts by the National Park Service to bring nature back to life on the once-abandoned mine.

Date(s): Every Wednesday, the last Saturday of the month

Time: 10:30 am

Location: Meet at the parking lot 'D'

Difficulty: Moderate - 2.5 mile hike with hills and rocky terrain

Family Fun & Adventure

Children's Crafts Cabin

Do your children know how to play hopscotch? How about how to make homemade paper dolls? Join park rangers and volunteers at the Craft Lodge at Cabin Camp 3 for an hour of ole' time nature crafts. Craft supplies will be available on a first-come, first served basis.

Date(s): Every Saturday

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Meet at the cabin camp 3 craft lodge

Campfire Talks

Campers and day use visitors alike enjoy the various fun, family-friendly programs offered by rangers at our Saturday night Campfire Talks. Check the website for a weekly program topic.

Date(s): Every Saturday

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Meet at the Oak Ridge Campground Amphitheater

Forest Film Festival

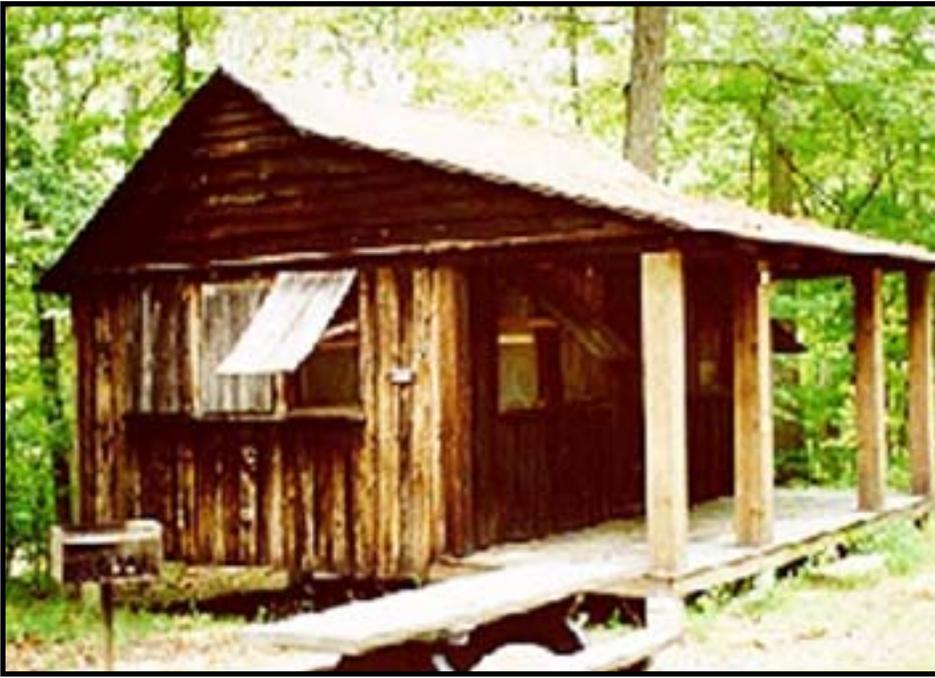
Watch classic and contemporary movies while you picnic under the stars at Pine Grove Picnic Area. Call the visitor center at 703-221-7181 for specific movie titles. Handicapped accessible picnic tables are available at Pine Grove Picnic Area. All movies are rated G or PG unless otherwise noted. Claim your spot on a first-come, first served basis at Pine Grove Picnic Area.

Date(s): Every Saturday

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Meet at Pine Grove Picnic Area

Cabin A5 Finally Breaks its Silence



Cabin A5 at Cabin Camp 3, Camp Orenda. Photo Courtesy: NPS

Hi folks! My name is Cabin A-5 and I am located in Prince William Forest Park, a unit of the National Park Service at Cabin Camp 3, Camp Orenda. I want to tell you all about my typical weekends. Today is Friday, when the families come for the weekend. I overheard the volunteer host of the camp say that I am going to have some people staying with me this weekend. I hope they are nice, not like that rowdy group I had a couple of weeks ago. They left trash all around me, spilled their sodas all over the floor, and drove nails into me. Don't they know that I'm on the National Register of Historic Places? It all hurt, but the driving nails especially hurt. Ouch! How would you like someone sticking pins into your arm?

A nice family is walking across the campground, and it looks like they are coming my way. I hope, I hope, yes! They passed by my friend Cabin A-6 and are coming my way. The father found the gray carts and has one loaded up with a big, heavy ice chest and their other camping gear. The teenage girl is carrying a Sara S. Dakota sleeping bag and her pillow and her younger brother is carrying a Transformers sleeping bag. The mom is carrying a little baby dressed in pink— she looks very cute. It looks as if I might have a great weekend after all.

The dad started a fire in the grill out in front of me. He put a package of hotdogs on the table near the grill and Mom brought out the buns, fixings, and a bag of potato chips. After they ate, the children ran and played around the cabins. I think I heard them say “tag, your it.” They seemed to have a lot of fun laughing and yelling, while Mom, Dad, and the baby relaxed in the chairs they brought with them. A couple of hours later, the mother said “it’s time for bed”, and the girl asked if she could stay up an extra hour. The dad looked at the mother and then said “O.K. but just an hour”.

The next day, after breakfast, the family walked to the visitor center to ask about hiking trails. They looked at the exhibits and the rangers showed them a movie about the park. Afterwards, they came back to me and had lunch. While sitting at the table eating PB&J sandwiches, the boy said he liked the pictures of the headstones from the family cemeteries that are still in the park and the spy stuff from World War II. Mom said that the baby enjoyed the bird songs and giggled each time mom pushed a button to hear them. Dad said he liked the books about how the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) built the five cabin camps and mom enjoyed the book about women of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), who

spied for America during World War II. I was glad they learned about the young men who built me. It seems like yesterday that those boys from the CCC used the lumber from trees right here in the park to put me together and bring me to life. Those young men were so well trained and eager to learn a new skill. Those were the days.

After lunch they got their water bottles and went for a hike to the pyrite mine area. It has a great boardwalk and a wayside with a picture of the mine as it was while in operation from 1889 to 1920. You can look across the stream and see the site where the mine actually was! When they returned, it was obvious they had a great time. The girl talked about the rocks that they saw that glittered with gold flakes. Dad reminded her about what they learned at the visitor center yesterday—that is was not really gold, but Pyrite or “fools gold”. Everyone just sat around while dad got the charcoal going to fix dinner. When the hamburgers were ready everyone enjoyed the meal and the warm evening. When they all went to bed, they talked about the hike, the creek, the beavers, and the big trees they saw. They soon fell asleep, and had a very restful night.

Sunday morning mom cooked pancakes for everyone and then the family all helped clean up the area around me and sweep inside me. The sweeping really tickles, but that’s ok, I love to be cleaned up. After I was all clean, they packed up their camping gear, put it on the gray cart, and brought it to their car and left. Sunday afternoons are always so quiet after the campers leave, I get very lonely. Please come by and visit me soon!

Sincerely,
A5

Green Happenings...

Dedicated to environmentally-friendly actions, tips & activities in the park.

Eco-friendly Grilling

If you are planning to grill in one of the picnic areas at Prince William Forest or in your back yard, why not help our environment at the same time? Using 100% all natural charcoal is a great way to do this. This charcoal has no filler or chemicals, and doesn't give off that petroleum taste. It lights quickly and it burns hotter, and we all know that hotter fires impart better flavors. Using the all natural charcoals also generates less ash than briquettes, making clean-up faster and easier. Search the web for the many vendors that are making this product available. We all need to do our part in helping our environment!

TREC Reopens After Green Overhaul

The Turkey Run Education Center training facility (TREC) has received a major overhaul and upgrade, including improving handicapped access. A new door with an automatic door opener has been installed. The interior walls have all been painted and all wood work has been sealed with varnish. New upgraded electronics and IT equipment has been installed along with a 52" LCD wide screen television. Users renting the facility will now have internet access.

In keeping with the National Park Service's ongoing "green" commitment to purchase only environmentally sustainable and energy efficient products whenever feasible, 96 square yards of recycled carpet has been installed. And new energy efficient lighting fixtures and energy efficient windows have also been installed. The new window blinds are on order and scheduling of their installation is being made. This project is approximately 99% completed, with only minor finishing touches remaining.

The staff at Prince William Forest Park is very excited to offer this newly upgraded training facility to the public. TREC is currently open and available for rental. For more information on renting TREC, call the visitor center at 703-221-7181 or visit us on our website at www.nps.gov/prwi.



Park 'Gets The Lead Out'

Prince William Forest Park is joining an effort by the entire National Park Service to reduce lead in national parks. The service last week announced it wants to eliminate the use of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle in parks by the end of 2010. "We want to take a leadership role in removing lead from the environment, said acting National Park Service director Dan Wenk. In national parks, lead can be found mostly at law enforcement firearms training ranges and at fishing sites, where lead lures are cut free from their lines and sometimes consumed by wildlife.

Park Rangers at Prince William Forest Park have been ahead of the curve. According to Chief Ranger, Chip Nelson, "We haven't used leaded ammunition in training for years. He stated that annual training requirements for law enforcement staff require a minimum of 120 rounds of training ammunition per ranger per year, which would lead to a substantial amount of lead build up over time. Our rangers only use leaded bullets in their duty weapons.

Lead is an environmental contaminant and is banned in gasoline, children's toys and paint. Yellowstone National Park has banned lead fishing lures for almost two decades to protect native species and their habitats. Prince William Forest Park managers are moving to alter the park's fishing rules to ban lead lures. As part of its effort, park staff will also develop educational materials to increase awareness about the consequences of lead exposure and the benefits of using lead-free ammunition and fishing tackle. Prince William Forest Park does not allow hunting, but it does allow fishing in all of its lakes and streams.

For more information, visit www.nps.gov/prwi.

My Volunteer Island *By Gary Marshall*



Volunteer Gary with Volunteer Coordinator Jenn Kays take a break from handing out visitor satisfaction surveys near the entrance station. Photo Courtesy: NPS

As I got out of my car on that Saturday, I was greeted by the morning stillness in the air. . . .crisp, clean, and quiet. I covered the few steps across the employee parking lot and made my way through the back door of the visitor center. I was excited to be starting my first day “on the job” and my first steps into my new world as a volunteer at Prince William Forest Park. That was a year

“I feel good about being part of a great place and being able to provide support to the park and its mission, and have the chance to maybe make at least one visitor’s day a bit better by being there for them.”

ago, and I am still filled with the warmth of those still mornings and clean, quiet walks across the parking lot; and the excitement, anticipation and enjoyment as my days unfold as a volunteer at the visitor center. The excitement and enjoyment I feel as a volunteer at the park springs from a number of sources. Like the variety of plants

and animals found over the expanse of acres, the many stories the park has to tell, and the spectrum of visitors from all walks of life, being a volunteer is truly the spice of life for me. Each day brings something new to learn, someone new to be able to help, and something new to experience. I feel good about being part of a great place and being able to provide support to the park and its mission, and have the chance to maybe make at least one visitor’s day a bit better by being there for them. With the tiny grains of help and service I can provide, I receive bushels of benefits in satisfaction, enjoyment and fun from the experience in return.

One of the best things about being a volunteer in the visitor center is, of course, working with the great park staff. I can truly say I look forward to my time at the park because of the great people I have the honor of working with while there. Their friendliness, willingness to help, patience, and sense of fun and humor have kept me coming back. I look forward to the fun of being at there, and the staff makes that all

possible. If not for them, I would not be there!

“One of the best things about being a volunteer in the visitor center is, of course, working with the great park staff.”

So, I am now looking forward to another great year ahead as a volunteer, and looking ahead to more things to learn, more people to meet, and more fun to be had. As I once again make my way across the still parking lot, trek along a trail, or quietly wait before the rush of a big park event, I will continue to relish my time on my “Volunteer Island” in the sea of my daily, suburban life.

Volunteer’s Photos Win Donation



Cabin floor before refinishing. Photo Courtesy: Lorrie Andrew-Spear



Cabin floor after refinishing. Photo Courtesy: Lorrie Andrew-Spear

Volunteer Lorrie Andrew-Spear was participating in National Public Lands Day on September 27, 2008 when she snapped the above before and after photos of the wood floor in the historic cabin at Prince William Forest Park. Her photographs were chosen as being in the top five in the category of “Transformative Change” in the 8th Annual National Public Lands Day Photo Contest, an honor which awarded a \$500 donation to the park from contest sponsor Aveeno. Congratulations and a big “thank you” to Lorrie from all the park staff!

Updates and Highlights...

Park Represented at Workshop

In mid-March of 2009, Prince William Forest Park was represented at the Revegetating the Eastern U.S. workshop, held in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The three day training focused on the basics of revegetation in the eastern United States.

Topics included native and non-native plant materials, disturbed lands, and Federal Lands Highway Program (FLHP) projects. The course was taught by various experts in revegetation from all across the National Park Service. Prince William Forest Park was highlighted for its revegetation of the Taylor Farm and Pyrite Mine disturbed sites. The park's Resource Management division hopes to utilize the methods and materials discussed at the workshop in future revegetation endeavors.



Pyrite Mine site in 1972.



Pyrite Mine site today.

Park Goes Online

Do you Twitter? Are you a Facebook Friend? Prince William Forest Park has created a Facebook page and Twitter feed. Visit www.twitter.com and search for PW-Park. Follow our twitter feed for daily or weekly updates on events, meetings, and projects.

Also, visit www.facebook.com and search for Prince William Forest Park. You can become a fan of our page and receive event notifications, weekly updates on happenings in the park, start a discussion board about your favorite hike or an interesting wildlife sighting, and even post your own video or photo diary of your adventures in the park.

As always, you can also make your voice heard on the information superhighway at our own webpage at <http://www.nps.gov/prwi/supportyourpark/visitorsvoice.htm>. Use the link there to e-mail in photos or tales of your favorite memories of Prince William Forest Park. See you online!

Park Begins "Explorer" Program

Are you an avid hiker in Prince William Forest Park? Have you completed all 37 miles of trails? Stop by the visitor center to pick up your Park Explorer booklet. The 'Explorer' booklet has a full map of the park with boxes for each trail and road.

As you complete trail after trail, you can stop in the visitor center and use our trail stamps to keep track of your progress. When you've completed all 37 miles of park trails, bring your completed booklet to the visitor center for a certificate! Lets go explore!

Visitor's Photo on Park Pass

Congratulations to Paula Sullivan whose beautiful photo of a bard owl is showcased on the 2009 Prince William Forest Park annual pass. The photo contest, hosted by the Friends of Prince William Forest Park, is held annually beginning in July of each year. Visit www.fpwfp.org for more information.

Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan Named Honorary Park Rangers

Acting National Park Service Director Dan Wenk recently presented Burns and his production partner Dayton Duncan with honorary park ranger certificates and traditional ranger hats during a ceremony in the Department of the Interior Auditorium. After receiving the awards, Burns and Duncan previewed and discussed a short film based on The National Parks: America's Best Idea, their six-part, 12-hour series scheduled to air on PBS stations nationwide this September.

"Ken and Dayton have created a documentary film on the national parks and the origin of the National Park Service that provides Americans an opportunity to reflect on the significance and value of our national parks," said Wenk. "Their film will assist the National Park Service in communicating important messages and themes, such as the wonder of our natural and cultural heritage preserved in the National Park System; the unique American ideas and ideals that the System represents; and the inclusion of America's diversity in its past, present, and future."

Duncan, the series' writer and co-producer, first thought of making a film about national parks during a cross country vacation in 1998. The project, eight years in the making, traces the birth of the national park idea in the mid-1800s and follows its evolution for nearly 150 years. Creating the series was a labor of love for Burns and Duncan who both said that many of their fondest memories include experiences shared with family members in national parks.

Upon accepting his award, Burns said, "While making this series, we discovered more than stories of the most dramatic landscapes on earth. We discovered stories of remarkable people from every conceivable background. What they had in common was a passion to save some precious portion of the land they loved so that those of us who followed might have the same chance to fall in love with that place. Without them, parks would not exist."

Rescue Dog Association (VSRDA), among others. Be sure to enter your canine companion in our "Faux" Dog Show, with fun categories such as Best Drooler, Best Wagger, and Pet/Owner Lookalike. Rounding out the event will be several information booths, including numerous breed rescue groups, Dogs Deserve Better, and the Virginia Military Preservation Association's 'Dogs of War' display.



Laurie Williams and Andrew. Photo Courtesy: Laurie Williams

Guest appearances include McGruff - the crime prevention dog, and Laurie Williams and her Maltese, Andrew, the runner-up on CBS's 'Greatest American Dog.' Laurie



Lizzie with her service dog. Photo Courtesy: Canine Companions for Independence

and her staff at Pup 'N Iron Canine Fitness and Learning Center in Fredericksburg, VA, will conduct a "teach your dog a trick" workshop and agility demonstrations. Certified dog trainer Robin Bennett, from

"Guest appearances include McGruff - the crime prevention dog, and Laurie Williams and her Maltese, Andrew, the runner-up on CBS's 'Greatest American Dog'."

Woodbridge's All About Dogs, will give leash-walking workshops at the pavilion.

Representatives from Canine Companions for Independence will speak about the highly-trained assistance dogs they provide to disabled adult and children.

This event is co-sponsored by Potomac Tails magazine and the Friends of Prince William Forest Park. There is a \$5.00 per vehicle entrance fee to the park, but no additional fee for the event. For more information, visit our website at www.nps.gov/prwi or call the visitor center at 703-221-7181 daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Virginia German Shepherd Rescue (VGSR) is among the many rescue groups attending this year. Photo courtesy VGSR

YCC Youth Will Once Again Play Essential Role This Summer Season



2008 YCC participants and NPS staff "suit up" while on a team building field trip. Photo Courtesy: NPS

Once again this summer, Prince William Forest Park will host several youth between the ages of 15 and 18 as part of the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program. Administered by the U.S. Department of Interior, NPS, participants are offered employment in a "work-learn-earn" program that

develops an understanding and appreciation of our nation's environment and heritage. In essence, the YCC hopes to capture the enthusiasm and idealism of youth and create an environment where such attributes could be put to use. Prince William Forest Park has been hosting YCC teams

for 25 years. During that time, a number of participants have moved on to promising careers with the National Park Service.

Over the years, YCC employees have played an integral role in assisting park staff with fulfilling their charge of protecting and preserving this 15,000 acres of natural beauty and human history. They have worked across many divisions, gaining valuable experience while doing vital work.

This year's program will run from June 22 through August 14, 2009. Applications from diverse social, economic, ethnic, and racial groups are being sought. YCC staff are employed full-time and will receive \$7.25 per hour. All eligible youth considering a career with the National Park Service, or who would like to work outdoors this summer, are encouraged to apply.



National Park Service
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 Prince William Forest Park
 18100 Park Headquarters Road
 Triangle, Va 22172-1644

Prince William Forest Park Information Directory



The Oasis, the official seasonal newsletter of Prince William Forest Park, is released in spring, summer, fall, and winter.

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 c/o The Oasis
 18100 Park Headquarters Road
 Triangle, VA 22172 - 1644

Or Call: 703-221-7181

<http://www.nps.gov/prwi>

General Park Information 703-221-7181
Visitor Center - Open daily 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Camping 703-221-7181
 Including individual, group and backcountry.

Cabin Camping 703-221-5843
 Including group cabins and individual rentals

Travel Trailer Village 800-737-5730
 RV/Trailer camping facility off Route 234 with full hook-ups.

Ranger-led Programs 703-221-7181
 Including regularly scheduled, special request and education programs.

Volunteering in the Park 703-221-7181
 Learn how you can help.

Official Park Website www.nps.gov/prwi
 For the latest information about the park, surf this way.

Save the Date!

2009 Prince William Forest Park Heritage Festival

Prince William Forest Park is a unit of the National Park Service located 35 miles south of Washington, DC.

Prince William Forest Park
 18100 Park Headquarters Road
 Triangle, VA 22172
www.nps.gov/prwi

Phone
 703-221-7181

E-mail
PRWI_Info@nps.gov

Come See The History Through The Trees!

Celebrate our local heritage on September 12, 2009 at Prince William Forest Park in Triangle, Virginia. The annual heritage festival celebrates the park's heritage through food, music, crafts, kids games and activities, an ole' time General Store, and historical exhibits. Past event exhibitors included world-renowned musicians Cephas & Wiggins and others, blacksmiths, carpenters, the Radio and TV Museum of America and more...

Join the historic fun at this year's Heritage Festival on September 12, 2009. Save the date!

