

Prince William Forest Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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



Group Cabin Camping



In Brief



Since 1936, Prince William Forest Park has proudly represented the National Park Service as the model of organized group camping. During the Great Depression, the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) constructed five cabin camps in the park, providing overnight camping for underprivileged youth. During World War II, America's first intelligence agency, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), used these cabin camps to house and train intelligence operatives. Since then, generations have enjoyed cabin-camping at Prince William Forest Park.

Join our nation's legacy and reserve a cabin camp today!

Facility Information

The National Park Service (NPS) administers five camps composed of groups of small, historic, wooden structures located in Prince William Forest Park. Only Cabin Camp 5 (Camp Happyland) has heat and is open year-round. These rustic forest retreats include:

Dining Hall

Most central dining halls feature exposed beams and brick or stone fireplaces. Facilities include a commercial size oven, stove top and griddle, walk-in refrigerator, large freezer, counters, and a spacious area for dining.

Air conditioning is not available in any of the camps. Heating is only available in Cabin Camp 5.

Sleeping Cabins/Dormitories

Cabins are equipped with single cots, closets, and mattresses.

Bathrooms

Restroom facilities with hot showers and flush toilets are located centrally in each of these camps. Toilet tissue is provided.

Craft Lodges

Exposed beams, fireplaces and craft tables make these buildings a perfect place for meetings, gatherings or crafts.

Campers must bring their own bedding, cookware, tableware, trash bags, soap, cleaning, and first-aid supplies. Mops, buckets, and brooms are provided.

Facility Use

Overnight Use

Camp 1 - Capacity: 151 visitors
\$215 rental + \$155 utilities = \$370 per night
Check-in time is 1:00 p.m. Check-out is 11:00 a.m.

Camp 2 - Capacity: 148 visitors
\$210 rental + \$155 utilities = \$365 per night.
Check-in time is 4:00 p.m. Check-out is 2:00 p.m.

Camp 3 C Unit - Capacity: 78 visitors
\$115 rental + \$90 utilities = \$205 per night
Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. Check-out is 12:00 p.m.

Camp 4 - Capacity: 199 visitors
\$240 rental + \$170 utilities = \$410 per night
Check-in time is 2:00 p.m. Check-out is 12:00 p.m.

Camp 5 - Capacity: Summer - 211 visitors. Capacity: Winter (Nov. – Apr.)- 104 visitors. \$490 per night (winter). \$540 per night (summer). Check-in time is 3:00 p.m. Check-out is 1:00 p.m.

**Please note that there are no pets allowed in the cabin camps.*

Day Use

Day use is generally available during the week for a cost of \$125 per day, but can be limited on weekends. These fees apply to cabin camp use fees only.

NO DISCOUNT is available to holders of Senior or Access passes for cabin rentals.

Entrance Fee

When entering the park or staying at Cabin Camp 3, campers will also need to pay a \$5.00 entrance fee per car. This pass is good for 7 days. A \$20.00 Prince William Forest Park annual pass or \$80.00 America the Beautiful Interagency Pass is available at the visitor center.

Check in/out:

Check in/out times must be adhered to, unless prior special arrangements have been made with NPS staff. If the times on your permit are not met, additional charges may be incurred.

Upon arrival, the group leader will be required to walk through the camp with a National Park Service representative to ascertain readiness of the camp. A similar procedure will be followed at check-out. Please allow one hour per each inspection.

Applications & Reservations

For questions regarding availability, please call the Cabin Camp Office at 703-221-5843.

There is a \$25 non-refundable application fee which must be mailed with your application. Be sure to designate a group leader on your application. This individual must be 18 years of age or older and will assume responsibility for seeing that all the campers are informed of, and comply with, park rules and regulations.

Application Deadlines

Spring/Summer Camping (May to Aug.)
Applications accepted Oct. 1 – Dec. 1

Fall Camping (Sept. to mid- Oct.)
Applications accepted March 1 – May 1

Winter Camping (Nov. to Apr.)
Applications accepted - first-come, first-served.
(Applications will be accepted after the deadline for available camp sites and dates).

Selections

Selections will be based on the number of camps requested, length of stay, occupancy limits, and timely submission of your application. After selections are made, applicable paperwork will be mailed to you.

Payment

Your payment must be sent 60 days prior to your scheduled encampment. Checks or money orders should be payable to: National Park Service. Please include your Social Security or tax I.D. number on your check.

Send payment to:

Prince William Forest Park
Attn: Cabin Camps
18100 Park Headquarters Road
Triangle, VA 22172.

Refunds

There will be no refunds for any reason, other than the inability of the National Park Service to provide the facility you have rented.

Emergencies and Security

Report all emergencies to a park ranger. For law enforcement concerns, please contact a park ranger or call Park Dispatch toll free at 866-677-6677, or call 9-1-1 for emergencies. A telephone is located at the central dining hall of each camp.

Keep valuables and property secure at all times. Report lost and found items to a park ranger or the visitor center.

The park's visitor center is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The visitor center phone number is 703-221-7181.

Potomac Hospital is approximately ten miles north of the park. Take Route 1 North for eight miles. Turn left onto Opitz Blvd. Drive for ¾ mile. Potomac Hospital is on the right.

Only one vehicle (for emergency transportation) is allowed to park at the central dining hall. Once loading/unloading is completed, all other vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas. Citations may be issued to those vehicles not in compliance.

Rules and Regulations

Fires

Fires may be built only at designated areas and must be completely extinguished upon departure. Fire wood is not provided in the cabin camps. You are allowed to pick up wood that is dead and down and is less than 6 inches in diameter.

Large barrel drum grills are available on a first come, first serve basis. Rental fee for a grill is \$25. Please call ahead to reserve these grills as they are limited.

Wildlife & Vegetation

Please be aware that the destruction, injury, defacement, removal or disturbance of any structure, tree, flower, fruit, vegetation, rock, or wildlife is prohibited. Please avoid contact with wildlife and report any sightings to a park ranger. Attaching, hanging, suspending, stapling, taping or otherwise securing ropes, chains, or wires to structures, trees, or vegetation is prohibited.

Swimming & Boating

Groups wishing to use a lake for swimming must have a certified lifeguard present during swimming sessions. Copies of the lifeguard's certification must be mailed with the application and lifeguards must have their certification cards available at all times. Swimming after dark is not allowed and the use of vessels of any kind is prohibited except upon special permission of the park superintendent.

Trash Disposal

The park encourages all campers to reduce, wherever possible, the amount of trash brought into the park. The park does provide cardboard recycle bins. If you would like to recycle other items, you must take them with you (i.e. glass, plastic and aluminum).

Prohibitions

The following are prohibited in all cabin camps:

- Pets
- Graffiti & disorderly conduct
- Solicitation
- Weapons of any kind
- Smoking in any buildings
- Camping trailers or pitched tents
- Hunting or hunting paraphernalia
- Kerosene, electric or other portable heater
- Using tacks, nails or staples on park structures
- Exceeding the capacity of your camp

Camp Etiquette

The park appreciates your help in keeping the camps clean and attractive. Please help us by:

- Sweeping floors regularly
- Honoring quiet time (10:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m.).
- Removing all paper, clothing, trash etc. & sweeping before departure
- Cleaning & sanitizing all floors, stalls, toilets and sinks (bathrooms/dining hall)
- Cleaning vinyl mattress covers w/ damp cloth and mild soap
- Reporting all problems/damages promptly