



Sandy Hook Unit
Gateway National Recreation Area

National Park Service
Department of the Interior

SPECIAL USE PERMIT PROCESS

For Youth Group Camping at Sandy Hook

Steps to obtain a campground reservation for Sandy Hook

Contacts:

Permit Coordinator: (732) 872-5945

Office Manager: (732) 872-5911

National Park Service
Gateway NRA-Sandy Hook Unit
58 Magruder Road
Fort Hancock, NJ 07732

General Information:

The campground is open for use yearly from March 1st to November 30th. The sites are reserved on a first-come/first-served basis. Reservations are taken by mail. (See below)

Our campgrounds are offered for organized youth groups only, with no more than 40 total individuals. Only one site will be issued. Due to the limited number of available parking spaces, no group will be issued more than 10 parking passes.

The campground is located across from Horseshoe Cove and is the only camping facility at Sandy Hook. Each site is equipped with a picnic shelter, picnic table, charcoal grill and campfire ring. The campground has a water supply (May - October) and toilet facilities. No indoor or outdoor showers are available at the site.

Camp facilities are considered “primitive” and are intended for tent camping only.

Instructions to make a campground reservation:

1. A camping permit is required for youth camping within reserved sites. An application must be submitted by mail. You can find the application on our website: <http://www.nps.gov/gate/planyourvisit/sandy-hook-unit-permits.htm>.
2. A non-refundable administrative processing fee of \$50.00 is required. Please make check payable to: *National Park Service* and include your social security number on the check.
3. Mail check and application to:

Gateway NRA-Sandy Hook Unit
Attn: Camping Coordinator
58 Magruder Road
Fort Hancock, New Jersey 07732

Rules and Safety Issues:

It is important to read the information below and share it with all individuals who will be part of your group. Following these simple guidelines will help to ensure a safe stay.

Check-in Procedure:

Upon arrival, have one representative of your group check-in at the Ranger Station. Please ensure that the group leader has a copy of the signed permit, as well as, all vehicle camping passes.

Parking:

- Lot H is closest to campground and across from Horseshoe Cove.
- Lot L is south of Horseshoe Cove and at intersection of Atlantic Drive and Hartshorne Drive.

Parking is first come - first serve basis. You must park within marked spaces only. The campground gate will not be opened. If there are no available parking spaces close to campground, park your vehicle in parking area "L" - Horseshoe Cove parking lot. Do not park your vehicle on the roadside or block the gate.

Campfires are permitted in the designated fire rings, except in times of extreme fire danger. You are responsible to make ensure fires are completely extinguished when unattended. A self provided shovel and supply of water must be nearby and available at all times. Please do not bring your own firewood; this action could transport unwanted insects into the park that could harm the natural vegetation of Sandy Hook.

No standing trees or bushes, alive or dead, are to be cut or broken. ONLY driftwood collected from the beaches or what is placed in your woodpile may be used for fires.

Poison Ivy is very abundant. Learn to identify this plant and avoid contact.

Ticks are also found on Sandy Hook. Stay on trails and check yourself for ticks often.

Mosquitoes in the Monmouth County Area have been found to carry the West Nile Virus, so be sure to bring repellent.

Military structures are extremely dangerous. It is unlawful to climb, walk or enter any bunkers, gun battery or military structure unless it is designated as open to the public. For more information on the history of Sandy Hook and Fort Hancock, as well as, park activities and programs check with the Sandy Hook Visitor Center (732) 872-5970 or www.nps.gov/gate.

For special lighthouse tours contact the Sandy Hook Visitor Center at (732) 872-5970.

Quiet Hours are observed from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am.

Alcoholic beverages are NOT permitted in the group camping areas.

Trash carry-in/carry-out policy.

It is your responsibility to take home all refuse produced by your group. There are no trash receptacles available for the public. Please leave your campsite clean.

Conservation Projects:

The park encourages conservation projects such as beach sweeps. The permit coordinator can arrange these.

Parking during the Fee Season (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend)

A daily beach parking fee of \$10.00 is charged from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm during the lifeguard season. Vehicles over 20 feet are charged \$25. Vehicles entering the park as guests of a permittee will identify themselves to the fee collector to gain entrance without paying the \$10 beach parking fee. However, if guests wish to leave their reserved area and drive to a beach parking lot and park there, they will need to purchase a daily parking pass for \$10.00.

EMERGENCIES: 732-872-5900

Report emergencies such as fires, first aid problems, etc. to the Ranger Station. Rangers are on duty 24 hours a day.

Know calling 911 may delay help. The remote location of Sandy Hook cannot assure 911 calls are answered by local emergency response teams, but may in fact be transmitted to Staten Island.

Be aware that cell phone service may be lacking in certain locations.

First aid kits must be present.

National Park Service
Gateway National Recreation Area
58 Magruder Road
Fort Hancock, NJ 07732
Phone: 732-872-5945
Fax: 732-872-5885



Youth Group Camping Application

Please supply the information requested below and mail to the address above. Allow **AT LEAST** ten (10) business days for processing. **A non-refundable processing fee of \$50 made payable to the National Park Service should accompany this application.** You will be notified of the disposition of the application and the necessary steps to secure your final permit.

Group Name:	
Person in Charge:	
Mailing Address:	
Telephone:	Cell Phone:
Number of adults attending:	Number of children attending:

	Event will begin: (date and time)	Event will end: (date and time)
First Choice		
Second Choice		
Third Choice		

The applicant by his or her signature certifies that all the information given is complete and correct, and that no false or misleading information or false statements have been given.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date Received:	Received by:
Choice:	Site Number: