National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Manassas National Battlefield Park

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Superintendent's Compendium
Of Designations, Closures, Permit Requirements and Other Restrictions Imposed Under Discretionary Authority.

Approved:

Jon G James, Superintendent

Date: 3-27-15

In accordance with regulations and the delegated authority provided in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations ("36 CFR"), Chapter 1, Parts 1-7, authorized by Title 16 United States Code, Section 3, the following provisions apply to all lands and waters administered by the National Park Service, within the boundaries of Manassas National Battlefield Park. Unless otherwise stated, these regulatory provisions apply in addition to the requirements contained in 36 CFR, Chapter 1, Parts 1-7.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, as required by Section 1.5(c), appear in this document identified by italicized print.

I. 36 CFR §1.5 – VISITING HOURS, PUBLIC USE LIMITS, CLOSURES, AND AREA DESIGNATIONS FOR SPECIFIC USE OR ACTIVITIES

(a)(1) The following visiting hours and public use limits are established for all or for the listed portions of the park, and the following closures are established for all or a portion of the park to all public use or to a certain use or activity:

Visiting Hours:

- The park is open to public use during daylight hours only. Daylight hours are defined as one-half hour after sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. The park will be closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas days.

- The Henry Hill Visitor Center will be open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; visiting hours will be posted at the center.

  In consideration of the purpose for which the park was established, routine visitor use is restricted to daylight hours. The superintendent will review and consider written requests for after-hours uses of the park. Due to a history of illegal activities occurring in the park during evening hours (to include the degradation of natural and/or cultural resources, as well as crimes against persons), it is in the best interest of the park and public to restrict use of the park to daylight hours.

Closures:

- The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in or around park facilities, picnic areas, parking lots, roads and/or trails.

  The prohibition of possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is consistent with State and local laws, and is inappropriate considering the purpose for which the park was

established. The prohibition excludes park-owned housing inhabited by park employees, their family members, and acquaintances.

- Unless specifically authorized, the following activities are prohibited:
  - Launching model rockets
  - Flying powered model aircraft
  - Operating powered radio controlled models
  - Operating unmanned aircraft including drones
  - Releasing domestic birds
  - Sunbathing
  - Hitting golf balls or use of golf clubs
  - Washing, waxing, or repairing motor vehicles
  - Easter egg or treasure hunts
  - Geocaching, Earthcaching, and other similar pursuits utilizing Global Positioning Systems that cache a real object

Certain recreational uses are prohibited as they detract from the park's significance and purpose. These also create the potential for visual intrusion of the historic scene, and interfere with the visitor's understanding of the First and Second Battles of Manassas. The use of the park for organized athletic events or competitive recreational events is not generally compatible with the park's significance and purpose.

(a)(2) The following areas have been designated for a specific use or activity, under the conditions and/or restrictions as noted:

Horse Trailer Parking Areas:

- Brownsville Picnic Area.
- Vandor Lane parking lot.

The Brownsville Picnic Area and Vandor Lane parking lot are large enough to accommodate several vehicles and horse trailers while providing access to bridle trails, with minimum impact to the visitor. It is the responsibility of equestrians to remove manure and other organic products (hay, wood shavings, feed, etc.) from the parking lots.

Picnicking:

- Brownsville Picnic Area.
- Stuart's Hill

Picnicking, as well as other types of recreational activities are inconsistent with the legislative intent and contemplative nature of most areas of the park. Visitors expect areas set aside for the consumption of food and drinks, and the park has accommodated this expectation at Brownsville Picnic Area and Stuarts Hill.

Kite flying and Frisbee throwing:

- Brownsville Picnic Area

Given the existing infrastructure, it's designation as a picnic area and that the area does not have a primary role in the interpretation of the First and Second Battles of Manassas, the picnic area seemed the reasonable place to allow those activities often associated with picnicking.

Using inner tubes, sleds, toboggans and similar over-snow toys:

- Buck Hill
- New York Avenue

Snow sliding is authorized in the above locations; however these activities will be monitored to determine the impact on cultural and natural resources, staffing, and interference with the enjoyment and education benefits gained by other park visitors

Buck Hill and New York Avenue are one of the few places on public land in the area that people can enjoy sliding on snow, and have historically attracted many people for the purpose of snow sliding. Because opportunities for snow play occur only rarely, this activity does not routinely detract from the legislative intent of the Battlefield. Cross country skiing and snow shoeing are authorized on park trails.

II. 36 CFR §1.6 – ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE A PERMIT

(f) The following is a compilation of those activities for which a permit from the superintendent is required:

- §1.5(d) The following activities related to Public Use Limits:
  - Dog training for the purposes of search and rescue, guide dog, law enforcement or sport/competition.
  - Flying non-powered radio controlled model aircraft at Brownsville Picnic Area
- §2.4(d) Carry or possess a weapon, trap or net, excluding firearms compliant with State law. Permits only issued for authorized research
- §2.5(a) Specimen collection (Take plant, fish, wildlife, rocks or minerals)
- §2.12 Audio Disturbances:
  - (a)(4) Operation of a public address system in connection with a public gathering or special event for which a permit has been issued pursuant to §2.50 or §2.51
- §2.17 Aircraft & Air Delivery:
  - (a)(3) Delivery or retrieval of a person or object by parachute, helicopter or other airborne means
  - (c)(1) Removal of a downed aircraft
- §2.37 Soliciting or demanding gifts, money goods or services (Pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued under §2.50, §2.51 or §2.52)
- §2.38 Explosives:
  - (a) Use, possess, store, transport explosives, blasting agents
  - (b) Use or possess fireworks
- §2.50(a) Conduct a sports event, pageant, regatta, public spectator attraction, entertainment, ceremony, and similar events

- §2.51(a) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades and other public expressions of views with groups greater than 25 persons

- §2.52(c) Groups of 25 or more that sell or distribute printer matter that is not solely commercial advertising

- §2.62 Memorialization:
  - (a) Erection of monuments (Requires approval from the Director)
  - (b) Scattering ashes from human cremation

- §5.1 Advertisements - (Display, posting or distribution.)

- §5.3 Engaging in or soliciting any business (Requires a permit, contract or other written agreement with the United States, or must be pursuant to special regulations).

- §5.5 Commercial Photography/Filming:
  - (a) Commercial filming of motion pictures or television involving the use of professional casts, settings or crews, other than bona fide newsreel or news television
  - (b) Still photography of vehicles, or other articles of commerce or models for the purpose of commercial advertising.

- §5.7 Construction of buildings, facilities, trails, roads, path, structure, etc.

- §7.96(k)(2) The sale or distribution of printed matter, buttons, and bumper stickers.

- §7.96(g) Public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades, and other public expressions of views with groups greater than 25 persons.

Designated areas for assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, parades, and other public expressions of views, and distribution of printed matter are as follows:

1. The Oak Grove (southeast of the parking lot) at the Henry Hill Visitor Center.
2. The west end of the upper parking lot at Stuart's Hill Park Headquarters.

The Superintendent will determine the location of each activity based on the nature and duration of the proposed event, the estimated number of persons expected to attend, and other information required to complete the permit application form. A permit application may be denied if the activity does not allow for multiple use of the area, if the event presents a clear and present danger to the public health or safety, or if the printed materials are solely commercial.

The time, location, and conditions for certain activities shall be regulated by a permit to avoid infringement upon the enjoyment of others visiting the park, traffic congestion, protection of the cultural and natural resources, disruption of normal park operation, and the unwarranted risk of participants due to inadequate equipment, poor supervision of the activity, weather, and other factors.

The right to engage in public assemblies, meetings, gatherings, demonstrations, and distribute printed materials is provided for in the United States Constitution; these activities are authorized in the park provided the group is less than 25 persons or a permit has been issued by the superintendent.

III. GENERAL REGULATIONS

36 CFR §2.1 – PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

(c)The gathering, by hand, of the following fruits, nuts, and berries for personal use or consumption is permitted. The gathering, by hand, of nuts lying on the ground is permitted.

(1) Fruit/Nut/Berry	(2)(i) Daily/Person Limit
Nuts, such as Hickory or Walnuts	1 Bushel
Berries, such as Wineberries or Raspberries	½ Gallon
Mushrooms, such as Morels	1 Gallon
Fruits, such as Apples or Pears	2 Bushels

To protect natural resources, implements may not be used to gather fruits, nuts, or berries.

Areas in the park that contain fruits, nuts, or berries will continue to provide a relatively undisturbed source of seeds for plant reproduction and food for wildlife. There is no evidence to suggest that the limited gathering for personal consumption of the items has had an adverse impact on park resources.

36 CFR §2.2 - WILDLIFE PROTECTION

(d) Wildlife may not be transported on roads or in parking lots maintained by the park

(e) The use of artificial light and infrared lighting/beams for the purposes of viewing wildlife is prohibited.

Hunting is prohibited in the park, therefore the transportation of wildlife carcasses via park roads is inappropriate and unnecessary.

Viewing wildlife by means of artificial light disturbs wildlife in their natural habitat. The park is open daylight hours only.

36 CFR §2.3 – FISHING

(a) In consultation with appropriate agencies of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the following are prohibited:

- **Fishing without possessing a valid Virginia State Fishing License is prohibited. All residents 16 years of age are older are required to have a license. All non-residents, 12 years of age or older are required to possess a license.**
- **Fishing while in possession of live or dead minnows and live or dead amphibians.**
- **Fishing is authorized in all park ponds for catch and release only.**

In an effort to maintain a viable Bass population in park ponds, the Superintendent has determined that all ponds will be catch and release only.

36 CFR §2.10 – CAMPING and FOOD STORAGE

(a) Camping is prohibited.

The park was not established for overnight occupancy and does not have the necessary amenities for overnight use. There are numerous commercial camping and lodging facilities in close proximity to the park

36 CFR 2.13 – FIRES

(a)(1) Portable grills, smokers, and fire pans may be used at Brownsville Picnic Area, so long as such cooking does not harm park property, (such as picnic tables) or other park resources. The disposal of hot or cold coals and/or ashes in the park is prohibited.

The dumping of hot, or presumed cold, coals is a safety and fire hazard for visitors and the park's natural and cultural resources.

36 CFR §2.15 – PETS

(a)(1) The following structures and/or areas are closed to the possession of pets:

- **Office buildings, maintenance buildings, seasonal residences, public facilities and government owned vehicles**

(a)(3) Pets may be left unattended and tied to an object in the following areas, under the following conditions:

- **Pets may be tethered in developed areas for periods not to exceed 30 minutes provided they are tied in such a manner that they are not able to reach a walkway.**

(a)(5) Visitors are required to remove pet excrement from parking lots and developed visitor use areas, such as picnic areas, in and around the Visitor Center and historic structures and monuments.

(e) Pets may be kept by park permanent quarters residences.

The presence of pets in a government building or vehicle is disruptive to visitors and employees.

Many persons suffer from pet allergies and should not be exposed to pets in shared/temporary government quarters.

Pets may be endangered by wildlife, cars or careless tethering if not properly restrained and managed.

Pets may be kept by residents in single family government quarters assigned to permanent or subject to furlough employees.

36 CFR §2.16 – HORSES and PACK ANIMALS

(a) The following animals are designated as pack animals for the purpose of carrying equipment:

- **Horses**
- **Mules**
- **Llamas**
- **Burros**
- **Donkeys**

(b) Horseback riding is allowed on the designated bridle trails in the park. A map of designated bridle trails is available at the Visitor Center, park headquarters, or any park ranger. Bridle trails are identifiable by a round, yellow circle on trail sign posts.

(g) Riding off established bridle trails is prohibited

Horseback riding on established bridle trails is compatible with the primary purposes of the park and affords equestrians compatible recreational opportunities.

Certain recreational activities, like horseback riding, can detract from the park's significance and purpose. The horse hoof can have, in sensitive area such as wet or riparian zones, or in culturally sensitive sites, impacts that are inconsistent with the protection of the parks cultural and natural resources.

36 CFR §2.21 – SMOKING

(a) Smoking is prohibited in all government facilities, seasonal residences, structures and vehicles.

Smoking in government facilities and vehicles is prohibited by departmental policy. Smoking is also prohibited to protect sensitive cultural and historic structures from the presence of tobacco smoke and the potential for fire.

36 CFR §2.23 – RECREATION FEES

(b) A recreation fee of and/or a permit, in accordance with 36 CFR part 71, is established for the use of park sites, trails, facilities, equipment or services, or for participation in park programs, group activities, recreation events or specialized recreation uses.

Entrance Fee:

An entrance fee of $3 is collected at the Henry Hill Visitor Center. Three "Iron Ranger" pipe safes are located at Stone Bridge, Brownsville Picnic Area and Stuarts Hill. Visitors are reminded of the entrance fee when they enter the visitor center. Fees paid using the pipe safes are on an honor system. The entry fee serves as the park permit, and is good for three days.

Rangers collect the pipe safes monthly and turned over the pipe safes to Easter National, the parks cooperating association. Eastern National completes shift reports and monthly deposits. At the visitor center Eastern National collects the money, completes daily shift reports and makes weekly deposits.

36 CFR §4.21 – SPEED LIMITS

(b) The following speed limits are established for the routes/roads indicated:

- Chin Ridge Access Road and Henry Hill Visitor Center Access Road – 25 miles per hour.
- Brownsville Picnic Area – 15 miles per hour.

The superintendent has established these speed limits as reasonable and safe for the identified locations. These locations have been posted with traffic control signs.

36 CFR §7.96 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

(g)(5)(vi) Special events with groups greater than 25 are not permitted unless approved by the Regional Director. The Regional Director has determined special events will be allowed in the following designated areas of Manassas National Battlefield Park:

- **Inside the Stone House historic building and south to the Virginia Department of Transportation right-of-way along U.S. Route 29 and one-hundred feet on the east, west, and north sides of the building's foundation.**
- **Inside the Brawner Farm historic building and one-hundred feet in any direction of the building's foundation.**

Because of the historical importance as the battlefield site of the First and Second Battles of Manassas during the war between the States, the buildings and other monuments have been determined by the Advisory Board on National Parks to be of national significance. The Henry Hill Visitor Center is the primary center for interpretation for the First Battle of Manassas and the first contact/orientation site for park visitors. The Henry farmstead saw the heaviest fighting at First Manassas and the house serves as a focal point for the interpretation of that battle. The Stone House is one of the park's most recognized landmarks. Its location at the junction of the Warrenton Turnpike and the Sudley-Manassas Road helped determine its use as a field hospital for both First and Second battles of Manassas. The Brawner farm witnessed the initial fighting in the Second Battle of Manassas and it serves as the primary focal point for the interpretation of Second Manassas. Special events and First Amendment activities in the above listed areas are not reasonable because such activities would significantly interfere with interpretive and visitor service activities.