



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Prince William Forest Park News Release

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Prince William Forest Park to close Oak Ridge Campground and Chopawamsic Backcountry

Triangle, Virginia – Prince William Forest Park will close Oak Ridge Campground and the Chopawamsic Backcountry area beginning December 1, 2013; both areas will reopen March 1, 2014.

For the first time in over 25 years, Prince William Forest Park will close the Oak Ridge Campground for a portion of the year. Traditionally, Oak Ridge Campground is open year-round for camping. With a decrease in the federal operations budget, Superintendent Vidal Martinez was forced to examine ways to reduce costs while limiting the impact upon park visitors. Oak Ridge Campground experiences a significant decrease in the number of campers during the winter months.

“We are disappointed that individual visitors will not be able to experience winter camping at Prince William Forest Park,” said Superintendent Vidal Martinez. “Winter visitation and use of Oak Ridge and Chopawamsic Backcountry are at their lowest point during these months. I regret that this does impact some visitors, but the more popular times of the year will still be available for visitors to enjoy.”

Although Oak Ridge Campground and the Chopawamsic Backcountry will both be closed December 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014, Turkey Run Ridge Group Campground and National Park Service concessionaire Prince William Forest RV Campground will continue to operate without interruption.

For information regarding park operating hours and programs please visit the park website at www.nps.gov/prwi, or contact the visitor center at 703.221.7181.

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