Welcome!
Welcome to Big Meadows Campground. Camping in Shenandoah National Park can
be a fun and rewarding experience. Remember that you are sharing this space with
plants, animals, and other campers. Consideration and cooperation are important.

Obtaining a Campsite
Sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis and through reservations. Make
reservations up to six months in advance online at www.recreation.gov, or by calling
1-877-444-6777. Sites are $20/night. Camping fees are not refundable. Check out time
is noon. Stays are limited to 30 nights in a calendar year. Clip your camping pass to
your site post to show occupancy. You must pay camping fees within one hour of
occupying a site. First-come, first-served campers: Subsequent night’s use of a
reserveable campsite may not be possible due to advanced reservations. Please
check at the registration station for information.

Campsites
Campsites are limited to six people (OR one immediate family) per site. RV sites are
limited to one RV (motorhome, pop-up, or fifth-wheel). Electric and water hookups
are not available. Equipment must fit within established campsite and not negatively
impact the surrounding area or resources. Park vehicles only on paved/graveled areas
designated for your campsite. Walk-to sites are for tents only and require a 25-100 yard
walk to your campsite. Campsites are equipped with a picnic table, a fire grate, and a
parking area.

Quiet Hours
Designated quiet hours for all sites: 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Generators
Generator use is prohibited in sites designated as “generator-free.” In other areas,
you may use a generator from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. From
opening until April 14 and from October 15 through closing, hours are extended
to 9:00 p.m. to generate heat during cold weather. Generator noise is limited to 60
decibels.

Group Sites
Sites D163 and D167 are “group” sites for groups of 7 to 15 people. $45/night.
Reserve online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777. Site D163 has an
accessible table and a raised fire grate.

Food Storage/Resource Protection
You must store food properly! This is bear country, and deer, raccoons, and skunks
are year-round residents. Use the food storage boxes when provided. Otherwise, keep
all food, garbage, equipment used to prepare or store food, and all scented items in a
locked vehicle when not in use. Improperly stored food may be collected for your
safety and that of Shenandoah’s wildlife.

Campfires
Visitors can purchase certified firewood in the Park, or gather dead wood on the ground
in the Park. Do not saw, cut, chop, or harvest any parts from a standing tree, dead or
alive. Build fires only in designated fire grate. Due to the threat from the Emerald Ash
Borer, firewood from outside the Park must be USDA certified and labeled.

Sanitation
Water is precious and a limited resource; use it wisely. Wash dishes at your campsite;
not in restrooms, drinking fountains, or at water spigots. Strain dishwater to remove
food particles and dispose strained water only in the restroom utility sinks. Dispose of
food particles in trash bins, not in sink drains. Trailers and RVs may empty sewage and
wastewater at the dump station 1/4 mile from the campground. Please sort and place
trash and recyclables in appropriate bins.

Campstore, Laundry, and Showers
Campgrounds are operated by the Park, and the concessioner operates the campstore,
launder, and showers. Quarters are required for the shower and laundry machines.
There is a change machine near the showers.

Vehicles and Other Wheeled Devices
All roads in the campground are one-way with a 10-mph speed limit. Keep all vehicles,
motorcycles, trailers, and bicycles on paved areas at all times.

Recreational Activities
Be sure to check the schedule of ranger-conducted activities in the Park visitor guide.
Visitor centers have exhibits, maps, videos, publications, and hiking information. Byrd
Visitor Center is about a mile from the campground and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center is
at mile 4.6.

Pets
You are responsible for the behavior and control of your pet. When outside of a
vehicle or camping unit, pets must be on a physical leash no longer than six feet at
times. Do not leave pets unattended. Please clean up after your pet and dispose of
waste properly. Do not throw waste into the woods. Pet food and food bowls attract
wildlife and must be stored in a locked vehicle when not in use. Check the visitor guide
for a list of trails not suitable for pets. Please do not take pets to Ranger Programs.

Emergencies
Contact Rangers at the registration station or the campground hosts at sites A57 or
I218. You may also use the emergency phone at the registration station or call 1-800-
732-0911. The nearest hospital is in Harrisonburg, 15 miles south on Skyline Drive,
then 22 miles west on U.S. 33.

Prohibited Activities
- Do not trench your site or put nails in trees.
- Do not build rock rings or burn trash in the grate. Never leave fires or hot coals
  unattended. Extinguish all fires completely before leaving.
- It is illegal to approach, feed, frighten, or disturb wildlife. All resources including
  wildflowers, plants, animals, rocks, and artifacts are protected by law.
- Do not leave pets unattended. Bag their waste and dispose in a bear-proof trash
  receptacle.
- Do not dump dishwater on the ground.
- Drones, skateboards, scooters, hover boards, rollerblades, horseshoes, and
  fireworks are prohibited.
- Do not leave food or other scented items unattended, even for a few minutes. You
  must store your food, coolers, candles, soap, toothpaste, etc. in your campsite food
  storage box or your locked vehicle at all times!