Traces Trail
This easy to moderate 1.7-mile loop circles the campground. A complete road and trail map is available at the Registration Station.
Welcome to Mathews Arm 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 6 months in advance online at www.recreation.gov, or by calling 1-877-444-6777. Sites are $15/night. Camping fees are not refundable. Stays are limited to 30 days in a calendar year. Checkout time is noon. 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 campsite may not be possible due to advance reservation by other campers. Please check at the registration station for information.

Campsite

Campsites are limited to six (6) people (OR 1 immediate family) per site. RV sites are limited to 1 RV (motorhome, pop-up, 5th-wheel), 6 people, and 1 vehicle. Electric and water hookups are not available. Erect tents only on pads where provided. Tents must fit within the established campsite and not negatively impact the surrounding area or resources. Park vehicles only on paved/graveled areas designated for your campsite. Additional parking is available in the Overflow Parking Area across from the reservation station. Please do not trench your site or put nails in trees. Campsites are equipped with picnic tables, fire grates and parking areas.

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 “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 October 15 through closing, hours are extended to 9:00 p.m.

Group Sites

Sites B89, B90 and B91 are “group” sites, $45/night, and are reservable up to one year in advance online at www.recreation.gov, or by calling 1-877-444-6777. Group size: 7-25 people. These sites are equipped with picnic tables, fire grates, and parking areas.

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. Due to the threat from the Emerald Ash Borer, firewood from outside the Park shall be USDA certified and labeled. Build fires only in designated fire grates, and do not build rock rings or burn trash in the grate. Never leave fires or hot coals unattended and extinguish them completely before leaving.

Sanitation

Wash dishes at your campsite; not in restrooms, drinking fountains, or at water spigots. Strain dishwasher 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 must empty sewage and wastewater at the dump station 1/4 mile from the campground. Water is a precious and limited resource, especially on top of the mountain; use it wisely. Please sort and place trash and recyclables in appropriate bins.

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. Skates, rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, and similar devices are prohibited.

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 at mile 51 and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center is at mile 4.6. The use of horses, fireworks and fireworks is prohibited.

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 leash no longer than 6 feet. 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. If needed, kennels are available in communities bordering the Park. 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 A40 or C142. You may also use the white emergency phone located on the front of the registration station, or call 1-800-732-0911. The nearest hospital is located in Consult 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 at mile 51 and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center is at mile 4.6. The use of horses, fireworks and fireworks is prohibited.

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