Otter Creek Campground

Welcome to the Blue Ridge Parkway, one of the most scenic drives in America. Campgrounds along the Parkway offer a variety of facilities and activities, including scheduled seasonal activities for adults and children, campsites equipped with grills and tables, and self-guiding hiking trails. The following rules and regulations are designed to help make your stay as pleasant and safe as possible. Please take the regulations to heart. They are intended to help maintain and preserve the magnificent natural and cultural features of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

We hope you have a rewarding and memorable visit.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Season Length: All Blue Ridge Parkway campgrounds are open approximately mid-May through October.

Camping Limit: Camping is limited to no more than 30 days at any one campground.

Daily Campground Fee: Per night charge for campsites is posted in each campground and available at www.nps.gov/blri. Holders of the Interagency Senior, Access, Golden Age, or Golden Access passes are entitled to a 50% discount on campground fees. Passes can be obtained at all campgrounds.

Group Camping: is available at Linville Falls. Call 828-765-6082 for information. For additional Blue Ridge Parkway information, call (828) 296-0398 or visit www.nps.gov/blri on the internet.

Checkout Time: is 12 noon.

Handicap Access: Each campground with a symbol has at least one wheelchair usable site.

RVs and Trailers: Parkway campgrounds have sites that will accommodate trailers of varying lengths, although larger sites are fewer. Dump stations are available at all campgrounds; no water or electrical hookups are available.

Camping Ethics: Campsites are available on a "first come, first served" basis, with the following exceptions: Selected sites at Peaks of Otter, Rocky Knob, Doughton Park, Linville Falls, Julian Price and Mt. Pisgah may be reserved online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777. In fairness to all campers, please pay only for sites that you occupy each day. For security's sake, don't leave your site or your possessions unattended for extended periods of time. Please report all lost and found articles to a Ranger.

Back-Country Camping: Limited back-country camping is available at Basin Cove in Doughton Park (336-372-8568), Rock Castle Gorge at Rocky Knob (540-745-9681), and Julian Price Park (828-296-7891). Permits must be requested in advance. Check with a Park Ranger to learn about access to neighboring U.S. Forest Service back-country areas along the Parkway.

REGULATIONS

The following rules and regulations are established under the authority of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Their purpose is to protect you and your property, preserve the park's resources and facilities, and ensure that all visitors have a safe and enjoyable stay.

Designated Campsites: Camping is permitted only at designated sites. Sites are for use by a single family or parties not exceeding six people.

Tents: When tent pads are provided, all tents must be on pads. Only one tent is allowed per site unless there is adequate space on a single tent pad.

Driving and Parking: Campground speed limit is 15 mph. Park vehicles on the pavement of an assigned site or in designated parking areas. Two vehicles are allowed in each site (i.e., trailer and car, two cars, two motorcycles). Bicycles, motorcycles, mopeds, all-terrain vehicles, and other forms of motorized vehicles are not permitted on hiking trails. With the exception of mopeds less than 50 cc, all motorized vehicles operated on public roads must be properly licensed in accordance with state laws.

Skateboards, Roller Skates, Bicycles: The use of scooters, skateboards, roller or in-line skates, and other coasting devices is not permitted in the park or campground. Bicycles are permitted on roads only. NC law requires persons under 16 years of age to wear an approved bicycle helmet when operating a bicycle. In Virginia, bicycle helmet regulations vary by county.

Weapons: Firearms are permitted in accordance with state law, but the USE of any weapon on Parkway lands is prohibited.

Fires: Fires are permitted only in the fireplace provided. Gas grills and stoves are allowed. Extinguish all fires before leaving the campground or picnic area. Do not leave any fire unattended.

Wood Gathering: Wood gathering for use as fuel in park facilities is limited to dead material on the ground lying no more than 100 yards from the camp or picnic site.

Metal Detectors: Metal detectors are prohibited in the park.

Food Storage: Store all food, coolers, utensils or anything that may smell like food in locked vehicles or a camping unit made of solid, non-pliable material.

Animal and Plant Life: Wildlife must not be disturbed in any way. The hunting or trapping of animals is prohibited. Do not interfere with animals by feeding, touching or teasing them. Plant life is protected. Do not drive nails into trees or strip bark, leaves or branches from trees or shrubs. Use the lantern posts provided at each site. Do not hang lanterns from trees or loop them over branches or vegetation; these practices always damage and sometimes kill trees and vegetation.

Dogs, Cats and Pets: All dogs, cats and other pets must be on a leash no longer than six feet or under physical restraint at all times. Do not leave pets unattended in the campground or your car. Please prevent excessive barking and properly dispose of pet waste.

Clean Camps: Campers are responsible for maintaining clean camps at all times. Thoroughly clean campsites before leaving; remove camping equipment and dispose of trash in dumpsters and recycling bins.

Use of Hydrants: Cleaning fish, bathing or washing dishes and clothes at water hydrants is prohibited. Trailer hoses may not be connected to water hydrants.

For Your Neighbor's Sake: Respect quiet hours between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. Use of generators is prohibited between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. Please keep in mind that continuous, loud generator or audio equipment noise, at any time of the day or evening, disturbs other campers.

Help protect and preserve the Parkway! Please report emergencies and wildfires to: 1-800-PARKWATCH 1-800-727-6928
For General Park Information: (828) 298-0388 www.nps.gov/blri