



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Shenandoah National Park News Release

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Shenandoah National Park Offers Fall Ranger Programs

Spend some time reconnecting with history, nature, your family, (and even yourself!) this fall while you explore Shenandoah National Park with a knowledgeable park ranger. The park is offering a variety of ranger-led programs from September 2 – October 26, 2008.

Ranger programs include guided walks, hikes, talks, historic tours, and weekend kid's programs. Ranger-led walks are easy to moderate and range from ½ mile to 2 miles round-trip. While most ranger programs are suitable for all ages, the Kid's Corner program is designed for ages 6 and under, and the Junior Ranger program is a fun way for kids over 7 to learn about national parks.

Get started by attending a short talk about the bears, deer, or other wildlife in Shenandoah. Then climb to the top of the park's second tallest peak, or go an easier route and you'll find that Discovery Walks are a good way to find out what's blooming, crawling, and singing each week. How about a journey to the remains of an ancient volcano? Try exploring a unique 130-acre meadow, or hike a portion of the famous Appalachian Trail with a ranger. You can even meet an owl face-to-face.

For history buffs, attending a ranger program may involve a chance to travel back in time to a 1911 bungalow owned by Addie Pollock, a tour of President Herbert Hoover's summer retreat, or the opportunity to celebrate 75 years of the Civilian Conservation Corps legacy by taking a short walk to the site of a CCC camp. After dinner, take part in a well-loved National Park Service tradition by going to one of the Evening Campfire Programs held on Friday and Saturday nights - remember to dress warmly for those cold mountain nights!

Many ranger programs are accessible, including a Walk Through the Limberlost, a 1.3 mile loop on an ADA crushed gravel path, a tour to Rapidan Camp on a bus that accommodates two wheelchairs, tours of Massanutten Lodge, the Live Birds of Prey and Evening Campfire programs, and daily short talks.

All ranger programs are free of charge. There is a \$15-per-car entrance fee to the park, good for seven days or \$30 for an annual pass, an incredible value! More descriptions and a complete schedule of programs can be found on the park's website, www.nps.gov/shen.

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THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IS COMPOSED OF MORE THAN 20,000 RANGERS, BIOLOGISTS, HISTORIANS, GEOLOGISTS AND OTHER PROFESSIONALS WHO CARE FOR AMERICA'S 385 NATIONAL PARKS AND OTHER SPECIAL PLACES SO THAT EVERYONE TODAY AND IN THE FUTURE CAN EXPERIENCE AMERICA'S HISTORY AND BEAUTY.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.