

Planning Your Visit

This brochure will help you plan an enjoyable and productive trip to Mather Training Center by answering questions commonly asked by people preparing to attend a course.



TRANSPORTATION

Course participants fly into Dulles (Virginia), National (Washington, D.C.) and, occasionally, BWI (Baltimore) airports. Transportation the remaining 50-65 miles is by rental car, limousine or commuter train. The Training Center's travel coordinator authorizes rental cars, arranges car pools and provides information about limousine and train schedules. If possible, plan to arrive between

2 and 5 p.m. the day before your course begins. Allow at least 3 hours (National and BWI) or 2-1/2 hours (Dulles) to get to the airport after your course is completed.

SERVICES

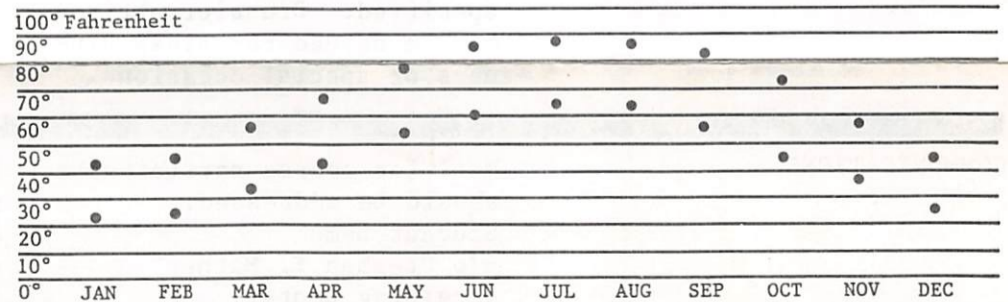
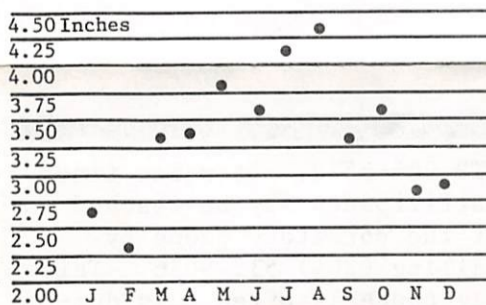
A post office and bank are within a mile of the Training Center. Medical services are provided at the National Park Service clinic from 8-4:30 pm Monday through Friday. After hours, medical and emergency help are available at the Charles Town Hospital emer-

gency room, seven miles from the Training Center. Participants in wheelchairs are housed in accessible motels. If you are disabled or need any special types of assistance or services during training, please advise the travel coordinator.

CLIMATE

Harpers Ferry's climate is characterized by seasonal contrasts. Summers are hot and humid, with clear, cool mornings and evenings. Late afternoon thunderstorms accompanied by heavy winds are common. Fall is sunny and cool. Winters are generally

moderate with occasional cold waves that seldom last longer than a few days. Average snowfall is about 23 inches. The chart below shows the monthly average high and low temperatures and precipitation.



MEALS

Local restaurants provide a variety of food in a wide price range. A few restaurants are within walking distance; car pools travel to those farther away.

participants opportunities to prepare light snacks. A sink and minimal amount of cooking paraphernalia are also available.

The refrigerator and microwave in the dormitory provide

LODGING

Participants are usually housed in the Training Center Dormitory. Generally two to four people share a room; bathrooms serve two or three rooms. The Training Center's travel coordinator attempts to match roommates according to smoking and nonsmoking preferences. Individual rooms have desks, closets and very loud alarm clocks. Bed and bath linens are provided; bath linens are changed daily. Also located in the dorm are two lounges, television, stereo, washer, dryer, iron, refrigerator, microwave, and ice and soda machines.



RECREATION

The Training Center and surrounding area provide a wealth of recreational opportunities. In the dormitory, you'll find television, stereo, and some board games. Equipment is available for football, volleyball, basketball, tennis, frisbee, croquet and pool. A fitness center contains a rowing machine, bicycle exerciser, weightlifting machine and aerobics videotapes. Runners can explore side roads, canal paths, and trails. Thoroughbred racing, entertainment, and dancing are offered in nearby towns.

For participants in two-week courses, a weekend trip to Washington, D.C. or Baltimore offers countless possibilities. If you're looking for a new assignment, more than 20 National Capital Park sites and 10 other National Park Service areas are less than 2 hours away. If you're in an adventurous mood, whitewater canoeing and rafting trips can be arranged through nearby outfitters.

CLASSROOMS

The Stephen T. Mather Training Center opened in 1962 in the old Storer College classroom building, which dates to 1867. Two training rooms, meeting rooms, offices and a Learning Resource Center are located in the building. The Learning Resource Center contains packaged training courses, films, videotapes, self-learning programs and a wealth of reference materials for use by or loan to course participants. Classroom dress is casual unless otherwise specified. Dressier attire may be needed for class dinners or special occasions.



COMMUNICATIONS

Mail for course participants should be addressed:
Student name
c/o Stephen T. Mather
Training Center
Course name
P.O. Box 77
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

A message for a participant can be left Monday through Friday between 8 and 5 p.m. by calling the Training Center at (304) 535-6371 or

FTS 925-6572. At other times participants may be reached at the dormitory phone by calling (304) 535-9936. This pay phone is often busy during the evening. In an after-hours emergency, call Harpers Ferry National Historical Park's 24-hour dispatch at (304) 535-2350.