It was 1933. The Great Depression was deepening. Nearly 14 million Americans were unemployed. Many were on the verge of despair . . . .

“We were desperate,” said James Heeter. “Couldn’t find a job in Baltimore. Walked 20 miles a day for work. It was hopeless.”

Newly elected President Franklin Roosevelt’s “New Deal” included a pet project that zoomed into being only weeks after his inauguration. On March 31, Congress authorized the new program called Emergency Conservation Work, which would eventually bear the name “Civilian Conservation Corps,” or CCC.

“And that was a godsend,” Heeter said.

He was sent to a CCC camp in Shenandoah National Park. “That was one of the best things that ever happened to me.”

For single, unemployed men between the ages of 18 and 25, the CCC provided jobs on public lands across the country. The CCC also gave the men—usually referred to as “CCC boys”—training, experience, education, and valuable life skills. They received uniforms and work clothes, three meals a day, and medical care. (Continued on p.5.)
Shenandoah Overlook is published for the park visitor by Shenandoah National Park Interpretation and Education Division, with funding from the Shenandoah National Park Association and ARAMARK, the official park concessioner.

Additional funding provided by: Brookside Restaurant, Luray, VA Days Inn, Luray, VA Front Royal Visitor Center Luray-Page Co. Chamber of Commerce Merck & Co., Inc., Elkton, VA Rockfish Gap Outfitters, Waynesboro, VA Yogi Bear's jellystone Park, Luray, VA

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Printed by: Shenandoah Publications, Inc., Woodstock, VA

Shenandoah National Park
3655 U.S. Highway 211 East
Luray, Virginia 22835
(540) 999-3500
www.nps.gov/shen

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

Park Accessibility
Restrooms and Buildings Most are accessible or accessible with assistance.

Lodging Accessible overnight accommodations are available at Lewis Mountain, Skyland Resort, and Big Meadows Lodge. (800) 999-4714.

Picnic Grounds and Campgrounds Accessible sites are available at all park picnic grounds and campgrounds. Accessible shower and laundry facilities are available at Big Meadow, Lewis Mountain, and Loft Mountain campgrounds. Restrooms at picnic grounds are accessible or accessible with assistance.

Trails The Limberlost Trail is an accessible trail, a gently sloping 1.3-mile loop featuring a 5'-wide greenstone surface. The trail circles through forest and mountain laurel and includes a 65'-bridge and 150'-boardwalk.

Information Information or assistance may be obtained by telephoning the Virginia Relay Center at (800) 828-1120 (TDD) or (800) 828-1140 (Voice) or by writing to the park: Shenandoah National Park 3655 US Hwy 211 East Luray, VA 22835 (540) 999-3500 www.nps.gov/shen

Skyline Drive: Looking to Tomorrow

Some things can be reconstructed when they grow old—and happily this is true of Skyline Drive. This famed roadway through the park across the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains dates from the 1930s. Although some work was done on it in the 1980s, the current road surface has met its life expectancy.

During 2008, you will find that on weekdays certain sections of the Drive in the Central District—that area between Thornton Gap (mile 31.5) and Swift Run Gap (mile 65.5)—are being resurfaced. Because sections of the Drive will be reduced to one-lane traffic during working hours, you may have to wait a bit. You will be waiting for a good cause, though.

And tomorrow is coming! The reconstructed Drive will be ready for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the dedication of Shenandoah National Park in 2011—and for the 100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016.

Shenandoah National Park Trust

The Shenandoah National Park Trust is a nonprofit organization supporting the restoration and preservation of the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Shenandoah National Park. The Trust fosters public awareness and education, encourages private philanthropy, and seeks public support.

Since the Trust is a nonprofit organization, it relies solely on private funds to accomplish its mission. Tax-deductible gifts to the Trust are already being put to work in the park on several projects, including the following:

- The Trust is providing a grant to place rescue equipment near the summit of Old Rag Mountain. The difficult climb up Old Rag is perhaps the most popular hike in the park; each year park personnel respond to numerous calls for help. Having highly specialized medical and rescue equipment close by the accident site will mean that hikers with injuries are helped more quickly.

- The Mount Vernon Furnace, an iron furnace dating from 1830 near Madison Run, may be one of the most significant historic features in the park—and an excellent location for future interpretive and education programs. The Trust is providing money for field investigations on the structure and the environment.

- A grant from the Trust will completely restore the Old Rag View Overlook, mile 46.5 along Skyline Drive— including the historic log guide rail. Old Rag Overlook was originally constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the early '30s.

- The Trust has granted funds to introduce the GPS (Global Positioning System) Ranger—a mobile guiding device giving interpretive messages to visitors to the park. The GPS Ranger® helps visitors experience the beauty, meaning, and stories of the park. (See articles p. 4.)

Conservation Corps (CCC) in the early '30s.

Leave No Trace!

Ensuring that future generations can enjoy Shenandoah National Park is everyone’s responsibility. Follow the Leave No Trace guidelines to help take care of Shenandoah.

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

For more information, visit www.LNT.org

Anniversaries

This Year - 2008
- 75th – Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- 25th – American Chestnut Foundation

National Park Centennial - 2016

In celebration of its 100th anniversary, the National Park Service has launched the National Park Centennial Initiative to prepare national parks for another century of conservation, preservation, and enjoyment. There are many great things to come as the National Park Service prepares to celebrate 100 years!

To keep up with the Centennial Initiative and to experience the interactive version of The Future of America’s National Parks and special features, please visit www.nps.gov/2016

For more information, visit www.LNT.org

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For more information, visit www.LNT.org
They're Living on the Edge . . .  
Don't Feed Them!

Humans can be dangerous to wild animals! If you care about the deer and bears and other wild animals in the park, you won’t feed them.

You may see a black bear in the park, especially during the summer. Generally, bears will run away when they detect humans, and park staff work hard at keeping them wild. However, a small number of bears around campgrounds or picnic grounds may become habituated to humans—and to human food, if they have gotten it.

The deer in the park are many times more numerous than bears. You may be tempted to offer them human food. However, although they seem tame to you, they are in fact wild animals. They have their own sources of food within the park, food which is not bad for their digestive systems, as human food can be. What’s more, being fed will cause deer, too, to lose their fear of humans. With easy access to human food, deer and black bears may become nuisances. When this happens, the bears will have to be relocated and the deer, unfortunately, may have to be destroyed.

Don't feed the wild animals in the park!

Shenandoah has so many beautiful, even awe-inspiring rocks: the greenstone prevalent on many of the peaks and trails, the granite on Old Rag that is over a billion years old, the quartzite containing fossilized burrows of ancient worms (from 500 million years ago!), and so many more, thrust up from the depths of earth, laid down by rivers and oceans and runoffs, finally tumbled over into layers here in the park.

Some of these rocks are small enough to pick up—and that’s the problem. The rocks of Shenandoah are protected, just as the flowers and animals are. They are as precious to the life of Shenandoah as are the trees and wildlife. They belong HERE.

Follow the principles of Leave No Trace. Listen to the rocks: the stories they have to tell go way, way back. But—don’t take them with you.

Deer Ticks – What You Need to Know

Deer ticks transmit Lyme Disease. Some cases are documented each year in the park and, of course, elsewhere in the East, including your backyards. How can you keep from getting Lyme Disease? The best ways:

• Conduct frequent clothing and body checks for ticks.
• Tuck your pants legs in under your socks.
• Wear light-colored clothing (to more easily spot ticks).

Remember—deer ticks are hard to see. They are about the size of a pinhead!

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/lyme

Listen to the Rocks . . .

Living Green in the Park

“Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”—Often called “The 3 R’s,” this short motto sums up a few simple things we can all do to “live green” and lessen our impact on the earth. You probably recycle glass and plastic at home and paper at your office or school.

But what about “living green” when you are on vacation? Here in Shenandoah, you can do many things. Whether it’s beginning your day with a cup of shade-grown coffee, wearing a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic bottles, or simply walking rather than driving, there are choices you can make to live green in the park.

As for the 3 R’s, the park has provided places for you to recycle for many years. This year there are two more options—to reduce and reuse.

• To recycle, continue to use the bins provided for glass, plastic, and aluminum in the park campgrounds, lodges, and visitor centers.
• To reduce, take only one copy of this guide, park brochures, and maps.
• To reuse or recycle this guide, park brochures, and maps, bring your used copies to a visitor center or entrance station. Give them to a park ranger or place them in the designated containers. The material will be reused by other park visitors or, if worn out, will be recycled.

Reducing the number of brochures the park prints, reusing them when possible, and recycling the rest will save paper, trees, and thousands of gallons of water.

Caring for Our Air

Here in Shenandoah National Park you’ll usually breathe fresh mountain air. However, sometimes (not often) the air in the park has high ozone levels.

In the stratosphere, ozone is good: it is a colorless gas which shields the earth from the sun’s ultraviolet rays. But ground-level ozone is different: it is created in warm, sunny conditions by a chemical reaction between pollutants. If concentrations are high (usually May-September), ground-level ozone threatens plants, animals, and humans. Some people may have respiratory problems when exercising strenuously.*

The National Park Service provides an Ozone Advisory System to alert you when high levels are detected. You can then adjust your outdoor activity as needed.

* Call (540) 999-3500 (May-September) to learn if ozone levels are high in the park. Or, visit the website tracking ozone information: www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality/51130003.html/
SNPA . . . Do You Know Us?

If your answer is "No," here's the basic scoop.

We are the Shenandoah National Park Association (SNPA), organized in 1950 as a nonprofit organization to support the interpretive and educational activities in Shenandoah National Park. The money to support the park comes mainly through profits from sales. Every purchase you make in the park visitor centers or online provides funds to fulfill our mission of helping the park.

SNPA operates the park stores in the visitor centers. In its first year, SNPA sold only a handful of products, such as a bird identification guide, a tree guide, and a park map. But SNPA has grown!! Today we sell a large variety of books, maps, videos, and other items to help you and other visitors learn about the many wonders of the park. In fact, SNPA provided this copy (one of 250,000!) of the Shenandoah Overlook that you are now reading. In 2007 SNPA purchased a computer for the media specialist, provided staffing assistance at the visitor centers, co-sponsored special events such as Wildflower Weekend and Wilderness Weekend, and funded many other activities. SNPA will do even more this year!

So—Join SNPA! Stop by a visitor center (or our website) to become a member. As a member of SNPA, you also receive discounts on purchases at the visitor centers; on lodging, food service, and horseback riding in the park; and on tour tickets for Luray Caverns.

Shenandoah National Park Association
3655 U.S. Highway 211 E
Luray, VA 22835
Email: snpa@shentel.net
Online Park Store: www.snpbooks.org

Brand New in 2008 at SNPA

- 75th Anniversary CCC sales items. (See p. 5 for information on the CCC.)
- The GPS Ranger™ unit that SNPA will rent to visitors from Byrd Visitor Center. (See article below.)
- Shenandoah National Park Pocket Guide—a pocket-size booklet with basic park information and foldout maps of the park.

SNPA Park Stores

You can shop at SNPA while you’re at the park or at home. There are Park Stores along Skyline Drive at Byrd Visitor Center (milepost 51) and Dickey Ridge Visitor Center (mile 4.6). There are also some items available at park entrance stations.

At home, visit the online park store at www.snpbooks.org

On the Cutting Edge—Technology on the Trail

There’s an exciting new way to explore some of your favorite trails: GPS Ranger™. The GPS Ranger™ unit contains four hikes in the Central District of the park: Dark Hollow Falls, the Appalachian Trail from Milam Gap to Tanners Ridge Road, Hawksbill Mountain, and a Meadow Discovery Walk. You can rent the unit and head out to explore! As you walk, the unit will key on points of interest and direct your discovery through audio, video, and animation.

Check out this cutting edge technology at Byrd Visitor Center, milepost 51.
The CCC in Shenandoah National Park

If you’ve hiked a trail, parked at an overlook, relaxed in the Great Room at Big Meadows Lodge, or delighted in the show of azalea and mountain laurel blossoms along Skyline Drive, you’ve been touched by the CCC. That’s because the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps are responsible for much of what you see in Shenandoah National Park today.

• They planted trees and shrubs along the new Skyline Drive.
• They built hundreds of miles of hiking trails.
• They quarried rocks and built guard walls along the Drive and overlooks.
• They built Lewis Mountain and Big Meadows campgrounds.
• They cleared vistas, fought forest fires, erected and staffed fire towers on summits.
• They developed Lewis Spring, the main water source for the Big Meadows area. They installed rustic water fountains.
• They installed water, sewer, and electric lines.
• From the dead chestnut trees, they cut shingles for the Skyland cabins, sawed boards for paneling in Big Meadows Lodge, split rails for fences, and built backcountry cabins.

The fire towers were removed long ago. Most of the original guard walls and water lines have been replaced. But… the craftsmanship of the CCC boys is still evident at Big Meadows Lodge, the administration building at park headquarters, and three backcountry cabins (Rock Spring, Pocasen, and Dyles River); the landscaping along the 105 miles of Skyline Drive is ever more lush and beautiful; and visitors each year walk the trails and enjoy the views from the overlooks.

Shenandoah was the site of the first CCC camps in the National Park Service. Camps near Skyland and Big Meadows were opened May 15, 1933. Between 1933 and 1942, about 10,000 CCC men worked in the park from 10 different camps. The CCC “boys,” as they were called, virtually built Shenandoah National Park.

• They earned $30 a month, with $25 of this sent directly to their parents. The enlistment period was for six months, with the option to re-enlist for another six months, for a maximum of two years.

Across the nation CCC enrollees planted trees, cleared brush, and fought forest fires. They built trails, bridges, fire towers, buildings, picnic grounds, campgrounds, roads, shelters, restrooms, signs, guard rails, rock walls, and exhibits. They installed water, telephone, and electric lines. They improved streams, springs, shorelines, and dams.

In their spare time, the men were encouraged to play team sports such as basketball and baseball and to take classes ranging from typing to small motor repair.

As economic conditions improved and young men were needed to serve in World War II, the CCC camps were closed in 1942.

Today, 75 years after it began, the CCC’s legacy of hope, pride, and conservation is still visible in public recreation areas across the nation.

Shenandoah Overlook 5

This statue honors the CCC “boys.”
Iron Mike, standing in front of Byrd Visitor Center, was dedicated on September 30, 2006.
Shenandoah Overlook

Visitor Services: May 24 to September 1

> Lodging Reservations: Online www.visitshenandoah.com or (800) 999-4714
> Campground Reservations: Online www.recreation.gov or (877) 444-6777

Dickey Ridge Visitor Center (mile 4.6)
May 24 - September 1, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Daily)
Open until 6:00 p.m. on Friday/Saturday from July 4 - August 30
Highlights: information, exhibits, orientation movie, park store, picnic grounds

Mathews Arm Campground (mile 22.2)
$15, some sites reservable, group sites available, sewage disposal, no trailer hookups

Elkwallow Wayside (mile 24.1)
Highlights: grill and carry-out, groceries, gas, camping supplies, gift shop, picnic grounds
May 24 - September 1
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)

Skyland Resort (miles 41.7 and 42.5)
May 24 - September 1
Highlights: dining room, lodging varying from modern rooms to historic cabins to spacious suites, pet-friendly rooms available, gift shop, programs, and live entertainment
Dining Room:
Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Lunch: noon - 2:30 p.m.
Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Gift Shop:
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Taproom:
2:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (food service ends & last call at 10:30 p.m.)
Stables:
2.5 hr. rides: 8:30 a.m. (Monday - Friday only)
1 hr. rides: 8:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, 1:15 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:45 p.m., 5:00 p.m. (Daily)
For Reservations, Call 540-999-2212

Big Meadows (milepost 51)
Byrd Visitor Center:
May 24 - September 1, 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Daily)
Highlights: information, exhibits, ranger programs, movies, park store
Wayside: restaurant and carry-out, gift shop, groceries, camping supplies, gas
May 24 - September 1
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)
Big Meadows Lodge
May 24 - September 1
Highlights: historic dining room, taproom, live entertainment, gift shop, lodging includes rustic cabins, motel-type rooms, and modern suites
Dining Room:
Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Lunch: noon - 2:00 p.m.
Dinner: 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Gift Shop:
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Taproom:
4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday)*
2:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. (Saturday, Sunday)*
*food service ends and last call at 10:30 p.m.
Gift Shop:
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Campground:
$20, reservations accepted, sewage disposal, group sites, no trailer hookups
Showers/Laundry/Woodyard:
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)
Wood and ice available at campstore when attendant not on duty.

Lewis Mountain (mile 57.6)
May 24 - September 1
Cabin: covered patios, picnic tables and grills, secluded forest setting
Campground: $15, first-come, first-served, no trailer hookups
Campstore: groceries, camping supplies, gifts, wood, ice, showers/laundry
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (Sunday - Thursday)
9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)

Loft Mountain (mile 79.5)
May 24 - September 1
Loft Mountain Information Center:
May 24 - August 31, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Saturday/Sunday)
Highlights: information, ranger programs, sales items
Wayside: restaurant, gift shop, gas
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)
Campground: $15, some sites reservable, group sites available, showers/laundry, sewage disposal, no trailer hookups
Campstore: groceries, camping supplies, wood, ice
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Friday/Saturday/Sunday)
Showers/Laundry:
7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Daily)
Wood and ice available at campstore when attendant not on duty.

Firewood Alert!
Visitors are asked not to bring outside firewood into the park.
The Emerald Ash Borer, a non-native beetle from Asia discovered in the U.S. in 2002, feeds on ash trees with devastating results—and ash trees are a significant component of the forest in Shenandoah National Park. This beetle is now found in sections of several states, including nearby Maryland and West Virginia. To prevent the beetle from entering the park on firewood from outside, you are asked to gather firewood from dead and down wood inside the park or to purchase firewood from local sources.
If you have already entered the park with firewood from more than 50 miles away, you are asked to burn it all immediately and thoroughly.
Shenandoah National Park Celebrates Special Days

If you’re here in Shenandoah National Park, you realize its beauty. And if you participate in a ranger program or a special activity, you’ll experience even more. Ranger programs are listed on the back page of this visitor guide. Fun and educational events like these listed below are offered throughout the season. To stay updated and to register, visit the "Special Events" page on our website.

**National Trails Day**—Between 1933 and 1942, thousands of young men in the Civilian Conservation Corps (the CCC) virtually built Shenandoah National Park. (See articles p. 5.) Each year men who were once the “boys” of Shenandoah come to the park for a reunion. The weekend of September 27-28 is special in 2008, which marks the 75th anniversary of the CCC.

**Wildflower Weekend**—Can you identify invasive exotic plants? During this event, park staff describes these species which threaten native plants to volunteers and explains their environmental threats. Volunteers then join an expedition led by park staff into the Big Meadows Swamp, a natural heritage site, to help protect it.

**Save the Meadow Weekend**—In early May, before the leaf canopy reduces the sunlight reaching the forest floor, Wildflower Weekend offers walking, hiking, and presentation programs to connect participants with the wildflowers of the park.

**Butterfly Seminar**—Put Saturday July 12 on your calendar for a whole day devoted to butterflies! A ranger will introduce you to the world of butterflies, with tips on identification. Experienced photographers will illustrate this world in their exciting power-point programs. After a box lunch, you’ll take a field trip with park staff to discover butterflies. To join this program, check “Special Events” on our website.

**CCC Reunion**—Between 1933 and 1942, thousands of young men in the Civilian Conservation Corps (the CCC) virtually built Shenandoah National Park. (See articles p. 5.) Each year men who were once the “boys” of Shenandoah come to the park for a reunion. The weekend of September 27-28 is special in 2008, which marks the 75th anniversary of the CCC.

**Wilderness Weekend**—The park honors America’s wilderness heritage on a weekend in October—this year, October 18-19. Forty percent of Shenandoah is wilderness designated by Congress in 1976. Visitors can view Shenandoah’s wilderness from Skyline Drive, hike a wilderness trail, and join a ranger program.

Other annual events take place in early spring before the Overlook is published. If you missed the chance to participate this year, why not plan to join in the fun next year? Check our website: www.nps.gov/shen
## Dickey Ridge (mile 4.6)

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<tr>
<td>Terrace Talk - Spend 10 minutes learning about a special feature of Shenandoah National Park. Check at Information Desk for talk schedule. Dickey Ridge Visitor Center.</td>
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## Skyland (mile 41.7 and 42.5)

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<td>Discovery Walk - Explore what’s blooming, creeping, crawling, or singing this week! 1 hr. Meet at Skyland Amphitheater (lower road).</td>
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<td>Stony Man Hike - Some of the most incredible views in Shenandoah are closer than you think! Wear sturdy shoes and bring water on this hike to the park’s second tallest peak. 1.6 miles. 2 hrs. Meet at Stony Man Trailhead (mile 41.7, the north entrance to Skyland Resort).</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Historic Massanutten Lodge - Learn about the figures and forces of early Skyland Resort in this tour of Addie Pollock’s restored 1911 cabin. Women of Skyland exhibit. 50 minutes. Meet at Skyland Conference Hall (lower road).</td>
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<td>Ancient Volcano Hike - Imagine fiery lava and rivers of molten rock in Shenandoah National Park! Walk along the remains of an ancient volcanic rift. 2 miles. 2 hrs. Meet at Timber Hollow Overlook (mile 43.3).</td>
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<td>Wild About Bears - Learn about the unique lifestyle of Shenandoah’s largest mammals during this 20-minute talk. Skyland Dining Hall Terrace.</td>
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<td>The Shenandoah Secrets - Shenandoah holds many secrets just waiting to be discovered. Learn about one special feature in this 20-minute talk. Topics vary. Skyland Dining Hall Terrace.</td>
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<td>Junior Ranger Program - Unhook the mysteries of Shenandoah through fun and educational activities. Kids ages 7-12 only please. Parent/adult must accompany child. 1.5 hrs. Meet at Skyland Amphitheater (lower road).</td>
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<td>Skyland Walking Tour - Walk back in time to the Roaring ’20s where the the early days of Skyland Resort come to life. 3 hrs. 1.6-mile hike. Meet at Skyland Amphitheater (lower road).</td>
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<td>Shenandoah Appetizer - A 20-minute talk about the park will whet your appetite. Skyland Dining Hall Lobby.</td>
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<td>Evening Stroll on the Limberlost - Visit this dramatic forest at a magical time. Bring a flashlight. 1.3 miles. Meet at the Limberlost Trailhead (milepost 43).</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening Campfire Program - Join a ranger for this well-loved National Park Service tradition. Dress for cool mountain nights. 45 minutes. Skyland Amphitheater (lower road).</td>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
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## Big Meadows (milepost 51)

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<th>Event</th>
<th>SUN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrace Talk - Spend 10 minutes learning about a special feature of Shenandoah National Park. Check at Information Desk for talk schedule. Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kid's Corner - Get to know Shenandoah a little better through a short activity. Ages 6 and under. Parent/adult must accompany child. 30 minutes. Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Rapidan Camp - Travel by bus to Rapidan Camp, President Herbert Hoover's summer retreat. 3 hrs. 12-person limit. Reserve by phone (540-999-3263) or in person at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appalachian Trail Hike - Hike an easy portion of this famous mountain trail and discover its fascinating stories. 2 miles. 2 hrs. Meet at Millan Gap Parking Area (mile 52.8).</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>More Than a Meadow - Discover the wonders of a unique 1.3-acre meadow on this gentle walk. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hawksbill Mountain Hike - Hike to the highest peak in the park for a panoramic view of the Shenandoah Valley. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 520-foot elevation gain. 2.1 miles. 2 hrs. Meet at Upper Hawksbill Parking Area (mile 46.7).</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Wild About Bears - Learn about the unique lifestyle of Shenandoah’s largest mammals during this 20-minute talk. Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shenandoah Secrets - Shenandoah holds many secrets just waiting to be discovered. Learn about one special feature in this 20-minute talk. Topics vary. Skyland Dining Hall Terrace.</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bearfence Rock Scramble - Climb up rugged greenstone boulders on this tough but rewarding scramble to a 360-degree view. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. 380-foot elevation gain. 1.2 miles. 2 hrs. Meet at Bearfence Parking Area (mile 56.4).</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Ranger Program - Unhook the mysteries of Shenandoah through fun and educational activities. Kids ages 7-12 only, please. Parent/adult must accompany child. 1.5 hrs. Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
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<td>Discovery Walk - Explore what’s blooming, creeing, crawling, or singing this week! 1 hr. Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Twilight at Big Meadows - Take a pleasant evening walk in the meadow and see Shenandoah change as day turns into night. Bring a flashlight. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. Meet at Byrd Visitor Center.</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Shenandoah Sunset - Twilight is a magical time. Take a walk to explore the changes as day turns into night. Bring a flashlight. 1 mile. 1.5 hrs. Meet at Loft Mountain Amphitheater.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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## Loft Mountain (mile 79.5)

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Please check with the Information Desk for talk schedule. Programs will be cancelled in the event of lightning or other extreme conditions. Pets are not allowed on programs.