



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Mall and Memorial Parks
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

July 3, 2019

Record of Determination for the Partial and Temporary Closures of Certain Federal Parkland and Public Use Limitations for the July 4, 2019, Independence Day Celebration

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5, the National Park Service is temporarily closing certain designated parkland and imposing public use limitations for the July 4, 2019, Independence Day Celebration in the following park areas.

National Mall and Memorial Parks (Washington DC)

The National Park Service is temporarily closing and imposing public use limitations within parkland in Washington, D.C.'s Monumental Core.

The park areas located between Constitution and Independence Avenues and from 14th Street along the Washington Monument grounds to the Potomac River, including up to the west side of Memorial Bridge and Ohio Drive's Inlet Bridge will be fenced and closed from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on July 4, 2019, to allow the United States Park Police to conduct a security sweep of the area. After the security sweep, the public will have access into these fenced areas only through designated security access points.

An additional inner perimeter has been established by the United States Secret Service (USSS) these temporary closures are also required to facilitate motorcade arrivals and departures, provide emergency ingress and egress routes, to permit the Secret Service to conduct security sweeps of the area, to facilitate security screening of the guests, and to restrict access to the Lincoln Memorial grounds from 4:00 a.m. July 4, 2019, to the morning of July 5, 2019. Given the size of this event and the expected participation of President Donald Trump, the First Family, Vice President Michael Pence, the Second Family, and other individuals protected by the Secret Service, these measures are necessary to provide for the safety of the public, the safety of Secret Service protectees, and the security of the special event. This perimeter is Constitution Avenue, NW, from 23rd Street, NW to Henry Bacon Drive, NW; 23rd Street, NW, from Constitution Avenue, NW to Independence Ave, SW to include the Lincoln Memorial Circle; Independence Avenue, SW, from 23rd Street, SW to the DC War Memorial; Lincoln Memorial Circle (to include 23rd Street NW, Henry Bacon Drive NW and Daniel French Drive NW), to include all adjacent sidewalks and roadways; The area north of the Reflecting Pool from Henry Bacon Drive, NW, to Constitution Gardens Lake (the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial will remain open to the public); The area from Constitution Gardens Lake, crossing the Reflecting Pool, to the DC War Memorial. This will also include the Arlington Memorial Bridge, closed for vehicle traffic due to construction, but will also include foot traffic through the event and during cleanup for the fireworks. This additional perimeter will be only accessible through designated access points operated by the USSS.

Ohio Drive SW between Inlet Bridge and Independence Avenue will be closed from July 2, 2019 at 9 p.m. through July 7, 2019 for staging and set up of fireworks and production assets as well as the cleanup and tear down after the events.

Non-authorized vehicles will not be allowed through any of the security access points. Pedicabs that have been issued a park Commercial Use Authorization (CUA) permit will be allowed in and out of the secured area through the secured access point located at 14th and Independence Avenue. Entry into the secure area will only be permitted between the hours of 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. All pedicabs will be subject to a security sweep and entry into the secure area outside of these established times will not be permitted. In order to enter the secure area, the pedicab operator must be wearing his/her CUA ID card around the neck and must be on the outside of all clothing and visible at all times. The CUA ID card must be current, the name on the CUA ID card must match a valid government ID and a sign stating "the driver must negotiate all fares before departing" must be visible on the pedicab. Once the pedicab has been admitted into the secure zone, the pedicab must remain on the paved roads and may not drive on any sidewalk.

No water transportation vessels will be permitted to operate and disembark passengers into West Potomac Park between 12:01 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on July 4, 2019, due to the United States Coast Guard's established security zone. This security zone, where vessels are prohibited, consists of the 75 yards from the eastern shore of the Potomac River measured perpendicularly to the shore between the Long Railroad Bridge and the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge and all the water in between, to include the waters of the Georgetown Channel and the Tidal Basin.

Furthermore, the following areas will be closed:

- The northbound lane of Henry Bacon Drive along the Lincoln Memorial Circle for set up and tear down of the production for the Salute to America program on the Lincoln Memorial Plaza beginning on the morning of June 27, 2019 to July 7, 2019.
- the area of West Potomac Park, consisting of parkland south of Independence Avenue, east of the Potomac River, Ohio Drive SW from Inlet Bridge to John Ericsson Statue will be closed, so that it can be used as a secured safety zone for the storage, installation and discharge of the fireworks, as well as the subsequent clean-up of any fireworks debris.
- the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial from 4:00 pm July 4, 2019, until the morning of July 5, 2019. This is for the established fireworks safety zone and to allow for cleanup of any fireworks debris.
- The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial all day July 4, 2019, reopening the morning of July 5, 2019. This is for the established fireworks safety zone and to allow for cleanup of any fireworks debris.
- The Korean War Veterans Memorial all day on July 4, 2019, as part of the United States Secret Service Safety Zone for the Salute to America program.
- The Lincoln Memorial from the morning of July 3, 2019 to July 5, 2019 to allow for production set up and tear down.

- Hains Point to vehicle and foot traffic from June 27, 2019 to July 3, 2019, for safety and security during the storage and assembly of fireworks display.
- Parking Lots A, B and C located along Ohio Drive SW near the 14th Street Bridge from 6:00 a.m. July 4, 2019, until 5:00 a.m. July 5, 2019.

All of these areas to be closed will be more particularly identified by fencing and signage. The park closures come at the request of the United States Park Police, in coordination with the National Park Service, to allow them to conduct their security sweep of the area and to ensure fireworks safety before the commencement of the Independence Day celebration. These enhanced security efforts will include security access points into the fenced areas to help ensure the safety and enjoyment of the tens of thousands of persons expected to celebrate Independence Day on the National Mall, a highly symbolic national celebration event that will be occurring in highly prominent park area. Less restrictive measures will not suffice because of the need to ensure an effective security sweep as part of a public safety area as well as to protect the public during the fireworks storage, installation, discharge and clean-up.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §2.35 (3)(i) and as detailed in the park compendium, possession, use or sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all areas of the park, with the limited exceptions of designated areas of approved concessions contracted by the government and assigned by the superintendent, or within limited and clearly designated areas authorized under a specific permit issued by the superintendent.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5, the National Park Service is also imposing a partial and temporary public use limitation within the aforementioned fenced areas within National Mall and Memorial Parks between 14th and 23rd Streets, to include the Washington Monument grounds to the west side of Memorial Bridge. Park users will be allowed access to this area after security screening at one of the access points. All bags, containers, structures and objects will be subject to search at these checkpoints. The following items are prohibited for entry through the checkpoint to these areas on July 4, 2019:

- Aerosols
 - Ammunition
 - Unpermitted Balloons
 - Explosives
 - Firearms
 - Glass or Thermal Containers (coolers or thermos type bottles)
 - Laser Pointers
 - Mace/Pepper Spray
 - Packages
 - Unpermitted Structures
 - Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)
 - Weapons of any kind, including but not limited to pepper spray, stun guns, and any for of electronic control device and any item defined as a weapon by D.C. Code 22-4501 and or a destructive device as defined by D.C. Code 7-2501.01 (C)(7).
 - Any other items determined to be a potential safety hazard.
- Ticketed guests attending Salute to America at the Lincoln Memorial will pass through a second level of security screening, including a magnetometer. Prohibited items for this area include:

- Aerosols
- Ammunition
- Animals other than service/guide animals
- Backpacks, Suitcases, Large Bags
- Backpacks and bags exceeding size restrictions (18" by 13" by 7")
- Bicycles
- Balloons
- Coolers
- Drones and other unmanned aircraft systems
- Explosives
- Firearms
- Glass, thermal, or metal containers
- Laser pointers
- Mace / Pepper spray
- Packages
- Selfie Sticks
- Signs exceeding the size restrictions (20' x 3' x ¼") made of cardboard, poster board or cloth.
- Structures
- Supports for signs and placards
- Toy guns
- Weapons of any kind, including but not limited to pepper spray, stun guns, and any form of electronic control device and any item defined as a weapon by D.C. Code 22-4501 and or a destructive device as defined by D.C. Code 7-2501.01 (C) (7).
- Any other items determined to be potential safety hazards

Road Closures

Closed from 12 a.m. until approximately 11 p.m.

- Arlington Memorial Bridge and Arlington Memorial Circle, to and including Lincoln Memorial Circle
- Rock Creek Parkway south of Virginia Avenue NW to Lincoln Memorial Circle, including all approaches and ramps
- Parkway Drive from Rock Creek Parkway to Lincoln Memorial Circle
- Henry Bacon Drive NW from Constitution Avenue to Lincoln Memorial Circle, NW
- Daniel Chester French Drive SW
- Lincoln Memorial Circle and all approaches and ramps into and out of Lincoln Memorial Circle, including Henry Bacon Drive N, Daniel Chester French Drive SW, 23rd Street NW and 23rd Street SW
- Ramp from Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge to Constitution Avenue NW and Independence Avenue SW and Ohio Drive SW; all inbound traffic from the bridge will be directed to the E Street Expressway
- Constitution Avenue NW from 23rd Street NW to Pennsylvania Avenue NW
- 3rd Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Independence Avenue SW
- 4th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Independence Avenue SW
- 6th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Constitution Avenue NW
- 7th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Independence Avenue SW
- 9th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Constitution Avenue NW

- 12th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Constitution Avenue NW
- 14th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Independence Avenue SW
- 15th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW south to Independence Ave SW
- 17th Street, NW from New York Avenue NW south to Independence Avenue SW
- 18th Street NW between Constitution Avenue NW and Virginia Avenue NW
- 19th Street NW from Constitution Avenue NW to Virginia Avenue NW
- 20th Street NW from Constitution Avenue NW to C Street NW
- 21st Street NW from Constitution Avenue NW to C Street NW
- 22nd Street NW from Constitution Avenue NW to C Street NW
- Virginia Avenue NW from Constitution Avenue NW to 18th Street NW
- C Street NW from 17th Street NW to 18th Streets NW
- D Street NW from 17th Street NW to 18th Street NW
- Raoul Wallenberg Place SW to Maine Avenue SW
- Independence Avenue SW from 14th Street SW to 23rd Street SW, including merge with Rock Creek Parkway
- Madison Drive NW from 15th Street NW to 3rd Street NW
- Jefferson Drive SW from 15th Street SW to 3rd Street SW
- Ohio Drive, SW from the Inlet Bridge to Independence Avenue, SW
- West Basin Drive SW from Ohio Drive SW to Independence Avenue, SW
- East Basin Drive SW east of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial to Ohio Drive SW
- Ramp from southbound and northbound George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) to Memorial Avenue /Circle
- Ramp from northbound Va. Route 110 to Memorial Avenue/Circle
- Ramp from Va. Route 27 to Memorial Avenue/Circle
- The right lane of northbound George Washington Memorial Parkway from the 14th Street Bridge to Theodore Roosevelt Island.
- Access to East Potomac Park from I-395 will be by National Park Service permit only after 4 p.m.

Closed from 11 a.m. until approximately 10 p.m.

- 3rd Street from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Maryland Avenue SW
- Constitution Avenue NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to 14th Street NW
- 14th Street NW from Pennsylvania Avenue NW to Independence Avenue SW

Closed from 3 p.m. until approximately 12 a.m., July 5

- Eastbound U.S. Route 50 ramps to GWMP and roads in the immediate area of U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial;
- Southbound GWMP ramp to 14th Street Bridge (9 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. as necessary)
- Northbound GWMP ramp to 14th Street Bridge (9 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. as necessary)

The operation of UAS is already prohibited on parkland but prohibiting such items (some of which are small enough to fit inside a suitcase) from being carried onto parkland will help ensure compliance, especially since its operation therein could pose a threat to the crowded groups of attendees and could potentially interfere with the flight paths of authorized aircraft as well as violate the P-56A prohibited airspace.

Possession of firearms is prohibited in national parks hosting this event in the District of Columbia during this special event under D.C. Code§ 7-2509.07. Possession of firearms is

governed by federal as well as local law, which may vary depending on the jurisdiction in which the national park is located. All visitors should be aware of and follow applicable firearms laws of the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Firearms, weapons, explosives and knives, and destructive devices that are otherwise illegal under Federal or District of Columbia law, remain prohibited.

Personal tents that block other visitors' views and tents that require stakes are prohibited on the National Mall and along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Due to limited space on the Washington Monument grounds, visitors are asked to refrain from recreational activities (e.g. - volleyball, badminton, etc.). It is strongly recommended that pets be left at home.

The temporary and partial closures and public use limitation comes at the request of the United States Park Police, in coordination with the National Park Service, to help ensure public safety. Less restrictive measures will not suffice in order to help ensure the public safety and order for the expected hundreds of thousands of visitors coming to these park areas to observe and participate in this high-profile national celebration.

These temporary and partial closures and the public use limitations are not of a nature, magnitude and duration that will result in a "significant alteration in the public use pattern." Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives regulations regarding fireworks require an adequate safety buffer, and alcohol, glass containers, explosives and fireworks are already generally prohibited under National Park Service regulations or the park's compendium. The security sweep of the temporarily closed park areas, the fireworks safety zone closure and public use limitations are in many respects similar to that which occurred on the National Mall during July 4th celebrations since September 11, 2001. Moreover, the presence of an additional celebratory display, and a speech by the President, with the Vice President in attendance, as well as numerous other Secret Service protectees mitigates in favor of a more robust security zone. These types of closures have become common at other significant large-scale events throughout the country and are not highly controversial in nature. Furthermore, other nearby park areas will remain open to the public.

George Washington Memorial Parkway (Virginia)

The National Park Service is temporarily closing Arlington Memorial Bridge to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the portions of Memorial Avenue administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) to vehicular traffic on Thursday, July 4, 2019, between 4:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. The closure is directly related to the July 4, 2019, Independence Day Celebration in these park areas. Memorial Avenue will be closed from the inbound ramp of route 110 to Memorial Circle. The Entrance Road to the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial will be closed to vehicular traffic on Thursday, July 4, 2019 between 1 :00 p.m. and 11 :59 p.m. The right (east) lane of northbound George Washington Memorial Parkway will be closed from the 14th Street Bridge ramp to Theodore Roosevelt Island parking lot. These roadways will only be open to authorized personnel, including emergency personnel, participating in Independence Day fireworks display. Memorial Circle's grass area and a section of field at Gravelly Point will be closed as a United States Park Police helicopter emergency landing zone. Additional closures may be made on event day to address significant public safety or resource concerns. Parking lots along the George Washington Memorial Parkway from Belle Haven to the Overlooks will be closed when they have reached vehicle capacity.

Any persons, containers, or vehicles entering the area from Theodore Roosevelt Island to Gravelly Point and within the boundaries of the George Washington Memorial Parkway or areas administered by the George Washington Memorial Parkway, are subject to inspection, citation, towed relocation, and or impound.

The temporary closure to vehicular traffic is necessary to ensure visitor/pedestrian safety and protect Park resources as an estimated 500,000 visitors gather and or transit through GWMP land to watch the Independence Day fireworks display on the National Mall. The United States Park Police will establish access points on Arlington Ridge to prevent overcrowding within park space, establish controlled points of ingress and egress, and maintain public safety and security during the operational period. Less restrictive measures will not suffice because the 500,000 visitors will be on sidewalks or trails along Arlington Memorial Bridge, Arlington Ridge, and the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Lady Bird Johnson Park throughout the day. United States Park Police, National Park Service, and other support personnel must have these roadways clear to transport equipment and staff and respond to emergencies and security issues quickly, while Memorial Circle needs to be closed as a United States Park Police helicopter emergency landing zone.

The temporary public closures will occur on Thursday, July 4, 2019, between 4:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. and are part of a long standing annually recurring one day fireworks display that has used these park areas before. It is therefore not of a nature, magnitude, or duration that will result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern of these park areas. Furthermore, the closures are not controversial in nature, given that vehicle access and public transportation to Washington, D.G., Arlington, Virginia and Arlington National Cemetery will remain open through various other routes and means of transportation. In that regard, vehicles drive along the northbound George Washington Memorial Parkway in the left (west) lane.

The grassy area bounded by the following roads will be considered a concession operated area for the purpose of food and drink sales and consumption during the event. Food and drink will remain prohibited in the immediate vicinity of the Marine Corps Memorial and the Netherlands Carillon: On the north side by United States Marine Memorial Circle road, on the east by United States Marine Corps War Memorial Access Road, on the west by North Meade Street and on the South by North Marshall Drive.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. §2.35 (3)(i) and as detailed in the park compendium, possession, use or sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in all areas of the park, with the limited exceptions of designated areas of approved concessions contracted by the government and assigned by the superintendent, or within limited and clearly designated areas authorized under a specific permit issued by the superintendent.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5, the National Park Service is also imposing a partial and temporary public use limitation within the aforementioned areas. The following items are prohibited within these areas on July 4, 2019:

- Weapons of any kind
- Any other items determined to be a potential safety hazard
- Ammunition
- Balloons
- Explosives
- Firearms in the District of Columbia
- Fireworks

- Laser Pointers
- Mace/Pepper Spray
- Portable grills except in designated picnic areas
- Unmanned Aerial Devices (UAS)

The operation of UAS is already prohibited on parkland but prohibiting such items (some of which are small enough to fit inside a suitcase) from being carried onto parkland will help ensure compliance, especially since its operation therein could pose a threat to the crowded groups of attendees and could potentially interfere with the flight paths of authorized aircraft as well as violate the P-56A prohibited airspace.

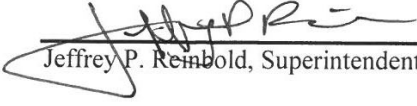
Possession of firearms is prohibited in national parks hosting this event in the District of Columbia during this special event under D.C. Code § 7-2509.07. Possession of firearms is governed by federal as well as state law, which may vary depending on the jurisdiction in which the national park is located. All visitors should be aware of and are responsible to follow applicable firearms laws of the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Firearms, depending on location. Any other weapons, explosives and knives, that are otherwise illegal under Federal or District of Columbia law, remain prohibited.

The closures and public use limitations within the National Mall and Memorial Parks and the George Washington Memorial Parkway will not adversely affect the parks' natural, aesthetic or cultural values; nor require significant modification to the resource management objectives. Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.7, notice of this temporary and partial closure and public use limitation will be made through media advisories, maps and posting at conspicuous locations in the affected park areas. Violation is prohibited. Finally, pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(c), this determination is available to the public upon request.

The closures and public use limitations within National Mall and Memorial Parks and the George Washington Memorial Parkway will not adversely affect the parks' natural, aesthetic or cultural values; nor require significant modification to the resource management objectives. Accordingly, the National Park Service determines publication as rulemaking in the Federal Register is unwarranted under 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(c).

The partial and temporary park closures and public use limitations are consistent with hundreds of other temporary park closures or public use limitations, the legal opinion of the Office of the Solicitor, and judicial adjudications. *Mahoney v. Norton*, No. 02-1715 (D.D.C. August 22, 2002), plaintiffs' emergency motion for appeal for injunction pending appealed denied *Mahoney v. Norton*, No. 02-5275 (D.C. Cir. September 9, 2002) (per curiam); *Picciotto v. United States*, No. 99-2113 (D. D.C. August 6, 1999); *Picciotto v. Lujan*, No. 90-1261 (D. D.C. May 30, 1990) *Picciotto v. Hodel*, No. 87-3290 (D. D.C. December 7, 1987); *Spiegel v. Babbill*, 855 F. Supp. 402 (D. D.C. 1994), *affd in part w/o op.* 56 F. 3d 1531 (D.C. Cir. 1995), *respond in full*, 1995 US App. Lexis 15200 (D.C. Cir. May 31, 1995).

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.7, notice of this temporary and partial closure and public use limitation will be made through media advisories, maps and posting at conspicuous locations in the affected park areas. Violation is prohibited. Finally, pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(c), this determination is available to the public upon request.



Jeffrey P. Reinold, Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks

07.03.2019

Date



Charles Culelier, Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway

7-3-2019

Date