



Supervisor Tony Buffington
Blue Ridge District
NewsFlash



Currently Open Trails & Parks

Sent: March 25, 2020

Good morning!

I know folks are itching to get outside for some fresh air. Therefore, we've compiled a list of local parks and trails in and around our District that - **AS OF NOW** - remain at least partially open and safe for responsible social distancing use.

While all Loudoun's Parks & Rec programs, facilities and features such as playgrounds and outdoor courts are closed through at least next Wednesday (April 1st - this will likely be extended), the parks themselves remain open for safe social distanced self-directed trail and leisure use during their normal operating hours.

Hang in there!

We're in this together, and we'll get through it together!



Ashburn Park consists of 16 acres including nature trails. [Details here.](#)



Banshee Reeks is a Nature Preserve which ensures that the plants, animals, habitats and cultural resources are protected. There are 20 miles of trails to explore on 695 acres. [Details here.](#)



Bles Park consists of 124 acres including nature trails. The property includes a portion of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. [Details here.](#)



Claude Moore Park features wooded lanes, green meadows, sparkling ponds and wildlife, providing a unique green space for nearby neighborhoods and businesses. Nature trails can be found at the park. [Details here.](#)



This 6.5 acre **East Gate Park** is part of a co-located proffered site in the East Gate Community in the Dulles election district that also includes a 220-space park and ride lot. Nature trails can be found at this location. [Details here.](#)



Elizabeth Mills Riverfront Park consists of over one hundred acres of passive parkland with access to the Potomac River and Goose Creek. The park is home to the historic Elizabeth Mills canal lock system and contains a section of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. [Details here.](#)



Franklin Park consist of over 200 acres of active and passive areas in western Loudoun County, including nature trails. [Details here.](#)



Lyndora Park consists of 17 acres within the Loudoun Valley Estates community that includes an ADA Accessible Multipurpose Trail. [Details here.](#)



Trailhead Park at Belmont Ridge has an ADA Accessible Multipurpose Trail. [Details here.](#)



Woodgrove Park consists of 30 acres includes an ADA Accessible Multipurpose Trail. [Details here.](#)



Sleeter Lake Park opens each day at 7 am and closes at dusk or 8 pm (whichever is earlier). [Details here.](#)



BOOK

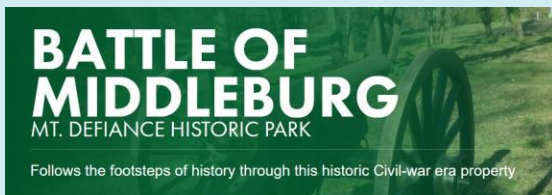
A message from NOVA Parks. Effective at 11:59 P.M. on March 24, 2020, NOVA Parks (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority) will move to the Passive stage of its Pandemic Plan. At this stage, all entrance gates and parking lots will be closed to vehicular access. The public may continue to use the trail systems and is encouraged to use proper social distancing. Previously NOVA Parks had closed all buildings, restrooms, golf courses, historical sites, gardens, nature centers, boat launches, playgrounds, campgrounds, and visitor centers. Public access to trails is the same level as Fairfax County Park Authority, Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation, and several other area park systems. These new steps are to help combat the spread of COVID-19. In recent days, many parks have seen high usage in a time when we are working as a society to

reduce the spread of the virus. Trails will soon have signs encouraging social distancing.

Visitors who choose to use our trails should adhere to the following guidelines:

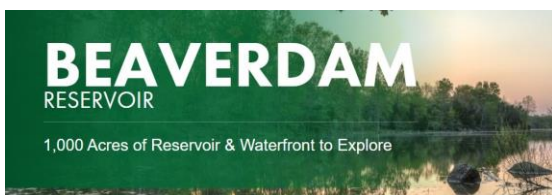
- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid congregating in groups
- Maintain a 6-foot distance between others
- Avoid touching shared surfaces
- Take trash with you
- Do not park illegally
- Wash hands frequently

As the COVID-19 situation continues to unfold, the status of NOVA Parks facilities will be continuously re-evaluated. We look forward to reopening our parks as soon as it is safe to do so. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in contributing to the health and wellbeing of our entire community. For information on NOVA Parks facilities, please see www.novaparks.com/.



CURRENT STATUS:

The park is open for walking/hiking/self guided tours from dawn to dusk. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

Beaverdam Reservoir's marked trails are open for public access from dawn to dusk. During the closure water access is

prohibited. No fishing, boating, paddling or other water activities permitted. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

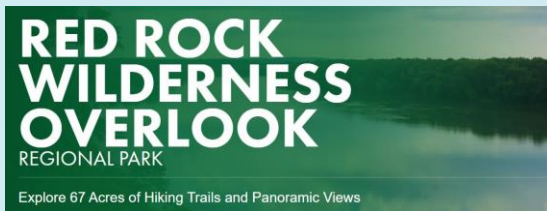
Park facilities including the camp store and restrooms are closed. The playground is closed. The campground will take no new reservations until June 1. The

trails are open for walking/hiking/biking/disc golf from dawn to dusk. Group camping is closed. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

The park is open for walking/hiking from dawn to dusk. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

The park is open for walking/hiking from dawn to dusk. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

The manor house and related areas are closed. The sanctuary is open for walking/hiking from dawn to dusk. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

The park offices are closed. The park is generally open for walking/hiking/biking/horseback riding from dawn to dusk.

Hours on the W&OD Trail vary depending on which portion is used. W&OD Trail hours are from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., from Shirlington in Arlington County, all the way to the western town limit of Herndon in Fairfax County. Beyond that, users must obey dusk mandates. [Details here.](#)



CURRENT STATUS:

The park is open for walking/hiking from dawn to dusk. Boat launch is closed. [Details here.](#)

Be safe!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Buffington".

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