

Facilities Guide & Directory



NOVA Parks

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How to use this Guide

With so many great parks and venues to choose from, it's difficult to find a cohesive way to make sure our guests know about each and every offering NOVA Parks has. This guide was developed with that notion in mind. Parks are organized alphabetically. If the park then offers additional services, facilities or events, that information appears in pages that follow.

For quick reference, sub-sections are color coded (see the breakdown to the right). Flip through the guidebook, and you can quickly follow the color coding system to find what it is you're specifically looking for. Perhaps it's July, and you're thinking a dip at a waterpark sounds ideal. Look for the bright blue and you'll quickly find your way to one of our five wonderful waterparks! Want to find a great place to go camping? Orange is your ticket.

The color coded system also lets you know that the particular park you're currently browsing contains a specific feature, even if the park description doesn't go into detail.

The guide also contains dozens of quick response (QR) codes. You can utilize them with your smart phone to get directions, watch a video, visit a website or find a park map. The GPS QR codes are powered by Google Maps, which you can download at the bottom of this page if you don't currently have it on your smart phone.

And remember, this is just a snippet of what you'll find at our facilities. To truly learn more, visit us today, or find us online at www.novaparks.com

> Scan to download Google Maps!



Event venue Golf Course Camping Waterpark

> Annual Event

Aldie Mill Historic Park

39401 John Mosby Highway Aldie, Virginia 20105 703-327-9777 | aldiemill@nvrpa.org www.nvrpa.org/park/aldie_mill_historic_park



OPEN: Seasonally; see website for details



Gristmills once dotted the landscape of Virginia and rural America, but most of them have now vanished or stand abandoned as silent witnesses of the past. At Aldie Mill, the unique heritage of water-powered gristmills is remembered and preserved.

This beautifully-restored mill, an imposing four-story brick structure with tandem metal waterwheels, offers visitors and students a glimpse of how life was lived in



the rural South during a time when the Mill served as a vital center of the community.

Tours and grinding demonstrations are held seasonally on weekends, from April through November. Details on hours, tours and events can be found online.



History at Aldie Mill

The merchant mill and store house, the oldest structures in the present Aldie Mill complex, were built between 1807 and 1809 by William Cooke for the noted legislator and reformer Charles Fenton Mercer.



During the term of Mercer's proprietorship, Aldie Mill emerged as the largest manufacturer of its kind in Loudoun County. The mill's

Charles Fenton Mercer

French flint burrstones turned wheat into superfine flour for commercial export.

Among the mill's many prominent 19th-century visitors was President James Monroe, who had his grain ground here while living at neighboring Oak Hill, and Confederate raider John Singleton Mosby, who captured several Union soldiers at the mill during the Civil War.

The Battle of Aldie

Often referred to as the hardest fought small cavalry battle of the Civil War, the Battle of Aldie took place on June 17, 1863. As Robert E. Lee prepared to move his Confederate



John Singleton Mosby

forces north into Maryland and Pennsylvania through the Shenandoah Valley, he ordered Confederate cavalry to block the Union cavalry from spying on the Southern Army.

The opposing forces met with the fiercest fighting just north of town, where a monument to the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry now stands, the first monument to a Union regiment south of the Mason-Dixon Line. The

main Union and Confederate forces would finally meet just weeks later in a Pennsylvania town called Gettysburg.



Events at Aldie Mill

At Aldie Mill, you can recapture the past by hosting your next event at this unique historic site. This historic building offers an elegant yet simple atmosphere suitable for a variety of special occasions, including dinners and luncheons, meetings, receptions or private celebrations.

Inside, the mill can accommodate up to 45 guests. Outside, the mill can accommodate up to 200.



The mill's downtown location also adds a great

dynamic. The town itself has a variety of charming overnight inns and hotels. Visitors can easily plan an event around an entire weekend or longer.

Aldie Mill is a perfect venue to use in conjunction with Mount Zion Historic Park, just two miles away, and also located in Aldie (see page 45).



Mount Zion can host a ceremony, with guests returning to Aldie Mill for a reception or after party. For booking information, visit the Aldie Mill website.

Algonkian Regional Park



47001 Fairway Drive Sterling, Virginia 20165 703-450-4655 | algonkian@nvrpa.org www.nvrpa.org/park/algonkian

OPEN: Year-round (waterpark open seasonally)



Located on the scenic Potomac River, Algonkian Regional Park is the perfect place for an afternoon of fun in the



sun, a family vacation or your even wedding. The park includes Volcano Island Waterpark, a par-72 golf mincourse, golf, iature trails, a boat launch, picnic

shelters, vacation cottages, and The Woodlands, a versatile wedding and meeting center.

With 838 acres, this giant park includes lots of open space, as well as playgrounds and space to relax. The park is also bisected by the Potomac Heritage Trail, offering plenty of challenging and scenic hiking.



Volcano Island Waterpark

www.volcanoislandwaterpark.com | 703-430-7683 OPEN: Memorial Day to Labor Day, visit website for hours

Volcano Island takes visitors to the tropics with its Polynesian theme, complete with tiki thatching, bamboo, painted murals, palm trees and Polynesian critters!

Come and enjoy our daring waterslides, dig in the sand play area, or cool off under the refreshing dumping bucket! Feel like relaxing? Volcano Island has tons of deck space to stretch out, relax, get a



tan or spend time with family and friends. Meanwhile, come and take a dip in the pool or enjoy yourself on our splash pad! There's truly fun for everyone at Volcano Island!

The waterpark is open seasonally, from Memorial Day to Labor Day (weekly and daytime hours vary; consult the wa-



terpark's website for the most up-to-date information), and has ample parking. It's a great place for children of all ages!

NEXT: The Woodlands



The Woodlands

www.thewoodlandsweddings.com | 703-450-4655

OPEN: Year-round; call for availability

The Woodlands at Algonkian provides a beautiful natural setting for a picturesque wedding.

Nestled by the wooded banks of the Potomac River, this unique wedding venue offers guests plentiful space for a ceremony and reception. Guests are presented with



soaring ceilings, a striking stone fireplace, a dance floor and windows that stretch to the ceiling, offering a lovely view of



our golf course. The facility is also built to accommodate outside ceremonies in its charming pergola on the Woodland's lawn.

Business organizations, clubs, school groups and others can also utilize the event space at The Woodlands. Events can be held in

one or two of its rooms for learning, networking, planning, or celebrating.

The Woodlands' other amenities dovetail quite nicely with its event services. During weddings, or other social events, the riverside cottages offer a great overnight

option. Extended stay groups, during the proper times of year, could also take advantage of Volcano Island Waterpark as well as the Algonkian golf course.





Algonkian Golf Course

www.algonkiangolfcourse.com | 703-450-4655

OPEN: Year-round, weather permitting

Algonkian Golf Course remains one of the area's most popular public courses. The course offers 18 challenging holes, measuring almost 7,000 yards from the tips, offering the dis-

tance and challenge for today's long hitters, perfect for the serious golfer but forgiving enough for the occasional player.

Its location along the Potomac River provides an optimal setting, combining the wildlife and setting of a park with the beauty of a perfectly manicured golf course. Golfers will find a long, mature tree lined front nine with water in play on three holes, paired



with a rolling back nine, dotted with an in-play stream on four holes.

Bermuda grass fairways, which give way to large greens, provide the perfect playing surface. Golfers will especially enjoy Algonkian's signature holes on number 6 – a mammoth, 526 yard par 5 (dog leg left), as well as number 16 – a par 3 that plays up to 240 yards, with a wide but not particularly deep green.



Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park



Ball's Bluff Road Leesburg, Virginia 20176 703-737-7800 | templehallfarm@nvrpa.org www.nvrpa.org/park/ball_s_bluff

OPEN: Year-round (Seasonal Tours)



Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park preserves the site of the largest Civil War engagement in Loudoun County.

Visitors can take advantage of weekend guided tours, volunteer-guided programs and living history events (weath-



er permitting). A podcast and walking tour brochure are available year-round for self-guided tours of the park.

Major sites at Ball's Bluff Battlefield include a cemetery, which is the third small-

est national cemetery in the United States. Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park also contains an interpretive trail, signage and an amazing view of the bluff itself, overlooking the Potomac River.



History at Ball's Bluff

The conflict was fought on October 21, 1861 as part of Union Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan's operations in Northern Virginia during the American Civil War. While a minor engagement in comparison with the battles that would take place in years to follow, it was the second largest battle of the Eastern Theater in 1861, and in its aftermath had repercussions in the Union Army's chain of command structure, and raised separation of powers issues under the United States Constitution during the war.



What remains today is strikingly similar to the way the battlefield appears in 1861 (the battlefield was actually a pasture at the time of the battle), thanks to restoration programs, which returned the Battlefield to its original appearance.

Fifty-four Union Army dead from the Battle of Ball's Bluff are interred in 25 graves in the half-acre plot cemetery; the identity of all of the interred except for one, James Allen of the 15th Massachusetts, is unknown. Monuments to fallen Confederate Sergeant Clinton Hatcher and Union brigade commander Edward Dickinson Baker are located next to the cemetery, though neither is buried there.

A reenactment of the battle was held on the 150th anniversary, October 22, 2011. More than 2,000 spectators lined the sides of the battlefield and watched in awe as 2,000 Union and Confederate reenactors recreated the battle.

Blue Ridge Regional Park



Bluemont, VA 20135 703-352-5900 www.nvrpa.org/park/blue_ridge

OPEN: Year-round (By reservation only)



Located in Bluemont on the eastern slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Loudoun County, Blue Ridge Regional Park offers the ideal setting for an escape to the mountains for organized youth group tent camping.

This 168-acre park offers 3 primitive camping areas that can accommodate 30 campers each. Basic necessities such as vehicle parking, fire rings, picnic tables and portable restrooms are provided. Access to the park is limited to registered campers only. Call NOVA Parks directly to book at 703-352-5900.





Brambleton Golf Course



42180 Ryan Road Ashburn, Virginia 20148 703-327-3403 | brambleton@nvrpa.org www.brambletongolfcourse.com



OPEN: Year-round (Weather permitting)

Enjoy the grandeur and beauty of Brambleton Golf Course, located in Ashburn, just off the Dulles Greenway. Built on rolling farmland and designed by Hank Gordon, this picturesque course opened in 1994. Evidence of the scope of the original property lies in play throughout the course,



especially in the form of the old stacked stone wall that runs throughout the property.

Brambleton measures almost 6800 total yards from the back tees, and features several tiered greens, as well as significant water in play on six holes from the front nine, as well as two on the back. Signature holes include number 7 – a par 5 almost 600 yards from

the back tees with a narrow landing area off the tee, and number 12, a 145-160 yard par 3, with a beautiful downhill shot to a green surrounded on three sides by water.

Brambleton is open daily (weather permitting), and tee times are encouraged, though not required. The site features a club house as well as the Brambleton Ale House, and a full pro shop.



NEXT: Events at Brambleton



Events at Brambleton

Brambleton Golf Course, located in Ashburn, is pleased to offer event services. The course offers a deluxe meeting & event pavilion, perfect for corporate events, weddings or large family gatherings.

Sitting immediately adjacent to the clubhouse, and surrounded by the picturesque views of the golf course, the Pavilion is perfect in any weather. It features capacity for up to 150 under the covered portion, or up to 200 including the patio.



Great Blue Heron Catering is the facility's onsite caterer, providing menu options and full beverage service to fit your specific desires. Outside caterers are allowed with certain provisions.

The Brambleton Golf Course staff will assist guests in designing a unique event. For more information or to arrange a rental tour, please call 703-327-3403.

Bull Run Marina Regional Park

12619 Old Yates Ford Road Clifton, Virginia 703-250-9124 | fountainhead@nvrpa.org www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run_marina



OPEN: March through December (consult website for hours)



Located on the waters of the Occoquan Reservoir, Bull Run Marina is part of NOVA Parks 5,000 acres of preserved Bull Run-Occoquan Stream Valley land. The water at this location offers opportunities for high school crew pracfishing and tice, boating. Boating access is limited. Users require a gate key for entry. Call for details.



Those wishing to launch

watercraft at the marina may purchase a season pass and gate key at Fountainhead Regional Park, located downstream



(see page 30). Parking is available for hikers and fishermen at the parking lot across the street from the facility.

Bull Run Regional Park



7700 Bull Run Drive Centreville, Virginia 20121 703-631-0550 www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run

OPEN: Year-round (Waterpark open seasonally)



Bull Run Regional Park's spacious, treelined fields can accommodate groups by the hundreds, even thousands, for everything from picnics to camping to special events.



Located in Centreville, just off Route 66, Bull Run's scenic woodland and trails offer miles of hiking and solitude. In spring, acres of bluebells and other wildflowers bloom beside a picturesque, meandering stream.

Atlantis Waterpark is open Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, featuring waterslides and a zero depth play feature. The park is also home to the Bull Run Festival of Lights, a 2.5 mile long self-guided holiday light show (see page 21). Disc golf is open year round. The park is a primary access point for the Bull Run Occoquan Trail (see page 22), the Bull Run Special Events Center (see page 24), as well as the home of Bull Run Public Shooting Center (see page 23).



Atlantis Waterpark

www.atlantisbullrun.com | 703-631-0552

OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for hours and dates

Discover all the fun of the fabled lost continent of Atlantis! Atlantis is loaded with fun features for your campers and kids, and promises a great day of fun and sun you're sure to remember!

Atlantis' waterslides offer a pair of riveting rides, including 230 feet of fun on the open slide, or a thrilling 170 foot ride in complete darkness on the closed slide! A large main



pool offers splashing and swimming space for everyone – and includes a play island with slides!

Of course, the centerpiece of the waterpark is the awesome dumping bucket and play feature, with covered slides, open

slides, water cannons, sprayers, and more, all under the mighty current of our giant dumping bucket! There's also a baby pool and an awesome sand play area.

Of course, your day wouldn't be complete without food, drinks and more. Neptune's Reef is stocked with all your favorites!

The waterpark is open seasonally, from Memorial Day to Labor Day (weekly and daytime hours vary; consult the waterpark's website for the most up-to-date information), and has ample parking.

Camping at Bull Run

www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/content/camping
OPEN: Year-round



Bull Run's campground is a getaway that's not far from Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia attractions. Bull Run Regional Park is only 27 miles from Washington, D.C. and 15 miles from the Vienna Metro Center Station.

The campground is a great way to spend a few days in the heart of one of Virginia's best natural attractions, Bull Run

Regional Park! Hike along various trails, take on a few rounds of disc golf or just find a new spot for a family picnic! In the summer time, visitors can also enjoy their day at Atlantis Waterpark! All these great features are within walking distance of the Bull Run campground!



The variety of campsites available at Bull Run Campground are RV sites with electric only service, RV sites with full-service (which includes sewer, water and electric), tent sites, rustic cabins and group camping areas.

All camp sites have a charcoal grill, fire ring and picnic



table. There are two bathhouses in the campground that offer hot showers, sinks, toilets and laundry facilities.

The camp store sells camping supplies, snacks, ice and firewood and is open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

NEXT: History at Bull Run



History at Bull Run

Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville saw quite a bit of action during the Civil War, most notably at Blackburn's Ford, where a federal brigade attempted to cross, but Confederate fire broke up the attack and Union commanders decided to cross the creek farther upstream. That site is visible with just a short walk down the trail along the creek, near the crossing of modern day Route 28.

The Park also features a winter quarters display, a re-creation of the dwellings built by union and confederate soldiers. Designed and created by park staff, the dwellings are full scale replicas of the temporary structures built by soldiers. They were designed and constructed using little more than historical drawings and notes. Visitors can peek inside structures, and walk the grounds and get a true appreciation for how Civil War soldiers endured the winter.

Leading from the property is the 19.6 mile Bull Run Occoquan Trail (view full details on page 22), which was home to a great deal of various action over the years, in the form of native American trails, trade routes, and later as civil war supply routes.



NEXT: Bull Run Festival of Lights

Bull Run Festival of Lights

www.bullrunfestivaloflights.com | 703-631-0550



OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for dates and times

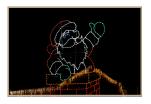
Open evenings from just prior to Thanksgiving Weekend through the first week of January, the Bull Run Festival of Lights features over two and a half miles of beautiful hol-

iday light displays. The event has drawn thousands of visitors from hundreds of miles away to the popular park, and its attendance grows every year. The show uses LED lights, which con-



sume far less energy. The show features more than two dozen two dimensional light displays, with themes including the Wizard of Oz, the 12 Days of Christmas, Toy Soldiers and more.

At the shows conclusions, visitors have the option of stopping at the Holiday Village. Complete with food, fire pits for



marshmallow roasting, carnival rides and hay rides, the village is also the gateway to Santa's Enchanted Lights, the animated, set to music light show featuring over 40,000 lights. The Festival remains busy on weekdays and weekends alike, drawing many

visitors from its opening weekend all the way through its finale. Still, weekends and holidays - Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Years - deliver the largest crowds.

Bull Run Occoquan Trail

Trailheads at Fountainhead Regional Park, Bull Run Regional Park, Near Hemlock Overlook Regional Park Bull Run Marina and near Route 28 703-631-0550



OPEN: Year-round; weather dependent

NOVA Park's longest natural surface trail is the 19.6 mile Bull Run-Occoquan hiking trail, which connects Bull Run, Hemlock Overlook, Bull Run Marina and Fountainhead Regional Parks.

Perfect for hikers or those on horseback, this incredible path takes visitors through more than 5,000 acres of scenic woodlands. Along this track one will also find one of the region's richest untapped historic re-



sources. This area played a vital role at different times in our history from the Revolutionary to the Civil War. Sites along the trail include various battle points and land features, as well as the more curious, like a grouping of earthen mounds that once comprised a make-shift Civil War fort.



Bull Run Public Shooting Center



7700 Bull Run Drive Centreville, Virginia 20121 703-830-2344 www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run_public_shooting_center

OPEN: Year-round; visit website for hours



Located inside the confines of Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville lies the Bull Run Public Shooting Center. This oneof-a-kind, shotgun only facility is the only public shotgun shooting range in Northern Virginia, and offers a unique perspective on the sport with its wide range of target challenges.

The Shooting Center features five major shooting games, including Trap, Wobble Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays and Five Stand. The facility offers classes for novices, and all first time shooters (guests with no prior experience) are required to take an instructional class before shooting at the range.

The property features a full service pro shop, which includes ammunition and gun rentals. The facility also houses an indoor archery range, with 18 lanes and a max distance of 20 yards. Like the shooting center itself, the archery range offers instruction for beginners and for advanced shooters.



Bull Run Special Events Center

7700 Bull Run Drive Centreville, Virginia 20121 703-631-0550 www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/content/special_events_center



OPEN: Determined by event. Visit novaparks.com for details.



The Bull Run Special Events Center (BRSEC) is a unique cultural resource in Northern Virginia. It serves as a venue for diverse activities and events produced by private, commercial and community sponsors. Over the past decade, Bull Run served the Washington DC Metropolitan area by hosting major concerts, fairs, carnivals and festivals.



Special Events Center

The Park Authority has developed the Bull Run Special Events Center as an outdoor entertainment venue with a concert arena, including a large covered stage; open lawn seating to accommodate approximately 10,000 visitors; and gravel and grass parking accommodating up to 4,500 vehicles.

There are over one hundred and fifty acres of open grass area maintained year-round. This field space is available to sponsors for events and serves as patron parking. The fields surrounding the Bull Run Special Events Center provide an ideal location to host a variety of activities.

The Bull Run Events Specialist will work closely with the event sponsor to determine the appropriate and optimal use of the Special Events Center.

Cameron Run Regional Park



4001 Eisenhower Avenue Alexandria, VA 22304 703-960-0767 www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run/

OPEN: Year-round; consult park website



Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves Waterpark (next page). Catch a wave in the

wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, or play with friends in the shallow waters of the play pool.

Lake Cook at Cameron Run Regional Park benefits from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' Urban Fishing Program. A perfect fishing spot for young anglers, this two-acre lake is stocked in



the winter months with trout. Fishing licenses are required for anglers age 16 and older. An additional stamp is required for trout fishing.



The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course, one of the finest in the area, as well as a nine-station batting cage, picnic shelters and a special events pavilion. It's also home to Paradise Play, a large enclosed

children's play structure that includes slides, towers and more, all atop a foam play pad.

Great Waves Waterpark

www.greatwaveswaterpark.com | 703-960-0767



OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for dates and times

Great Waves offers some of the most unique and fun water attractions in Northern Virginia! Whether you're zipping down the speed slides, shooting through the tube slides or body surfing in the massive wave pool, there are hours of water fun the whole family can enjoy!



Our Kids Zone is a great place for you and the kids to cool off while having a great time – whether speed-

ing down the rock slide at the Lagoon, or relaxing in the waterfalls at Minnow Bay. And don't forget about the giant splash pad!

Great Waves also offers several other attractions to really make your day memorable. Enjoy lunch or snacks at the Riptide Café and get souvenirs, t-shirts, gifts and more



at the Shark Shack! There's even a giant tented pavilion for large events and corporate picnics.

Paradise Play: Open Spring through Fall, this colorful beach themed play structure features exciting

climbing and play features including triple slides, spiral climbs, pogo bounces, rock wall, spiral slides, mazes, kids conveyors, wobble hoppers and so much more to provide hours of entertainment for kids 3 to 12.

Carlyle House Historic Park



121 N. Fairfax Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314 703-549-2997 www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park

OPEN: Year-round; visit website for specific times



The historic Carlyle House was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir, member of one of the most prestigious families in colonial Virginia. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquar-



ters in 1755. By the late 1960s, the Carlyle House and grounds were in a state of great disrepair. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority acquired the house in 1970, thus beginning a six year project of research and restoration

leading to the grand opening of the Carlyle House Historic Park in January of 1976. The inauguration of Carlyle House as a museum was the first event among Virginia's commemorative events for the Bicentennial celebrations.

On the National Register of Historic Places, Carlyle House is architecturally unique in Alexandria as the only stone, 18th-century Palladian-style house.

History at Carlyle House

Carlyle began construction of the house in 1751, using indentured servants and slave labor and built his home with public and private concerns in mind. The home itself, designed in the Georgian Palladian style, provides public spaces for entertaining and private areas for family and servant use. He also arranged the surrounding dependencies and landscaping according to the needs of his household and his business. The outbuildings serviced both the family lifestyle (necessary, smokehouse, etc.) and his merchant business (office, warehouses). Although construction took almost three years, Carlyle's completed home signified his status as a gentleman and his business enterprises.



The site would serve a variety of purposes including a hospital during the Civil War, a hotel and a private residence. In 1970, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority acquired the property. After six years of restoration, the house and gardens were opened to the public as a museum. Daily tours of the house, programs for schoolchildren, special events, exhibits and lectures explore the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria.

Carlyle House Historic Park hosts historical interpretive events and reenactments throughout the year. Programs conducted



by the House's staff included a reenactment of the Surrender of Alexandria during the War of 1812 and an event displaying and interpreting wedding and funeral traditions of the 18th century. Nine years of articles related to the history of the Carlyle House and Colonial Alexandria are now available online.

NEXT: Events at Carlyle House

Events at Carlyle House



Carlyle House offers a unique historic ambience, perfect for your party, wedding reception or social event.

Carlyle House is located in the heart of Old Town Alexandria only two blocks from the majestic Potomac River and within minutes of Old Town's many specialty shops.

The museum's tented Magnolia Terrace is available seasonally

for late afternoon and evening rentals. Maximum capacity is 100 people.

Events take place on the tented Magnolia Terrace overlooking the lovely



gardens and the 18th-century style summerhouse. The mansion is open for tours during your function. The property also offers private teas on the terrace.

The Carlyle House will staff assist guests in designing a unique event. For more information or to arrange a rental tour, please call 703-549-2997.



Fountainhead Regional Park

10875 Hampton Road Fairfax Station, VA 22039 703-250-9124 www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/



OPEN: Varies, based on amenity; visit website for specifics



Fountainhead is situated in Fairfax Station, where visitors will quickly discover the spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Perfect for



fishing or simply relaxing on the calm waters, Fountainhead's water access allows for private boat launching as well as canoe, kayak and jon boat rentals. Fountainhead also offers a handicapped accessible fishing pier.

On land, the park boasts one of the most challenging mountain bike trails in the region, which features a stacked loop system, with a beginner level loop that newer and younger riders can stay on, or riders can continue on the connecting intermediate loop, and then on to an advanced loop. The course includes trail bridges and technical trail features to create a challenging and exciting ride for cyclists of all abilities. The trail design includes grade reversals, in-sloped turns, armored fords, stone pitching, turf block pavers and terraces.

The park also serves as one of the major access points for the Bull Run Occoquan Trail (see page 22).

Gateway Regional Park



Pickett & Old Pickett Roads Fairfax, VA 22031 703-729-0596 www.nvrpa.org/park/gateway_regional_park

OPEN: Year-round

The W&OD/City of Fairfax Connector Trail is a combination of paved trail, on-road bike routes and side streets. Located at the intersection of the Connector Trail, the City of Fairfax's trail system and the Fairfax County Park Autority's Accotink Creek Trail, Gateway Regional Park is a crossroads rest stop offering a shelter, water fountain and displays of trail maps and local points of interest.









DISCOVER Your New Favorite Golf Course ...

BRAMBLETON GOLF COURSE

42180 Ryan Rd, Ashburn 703-327-3403

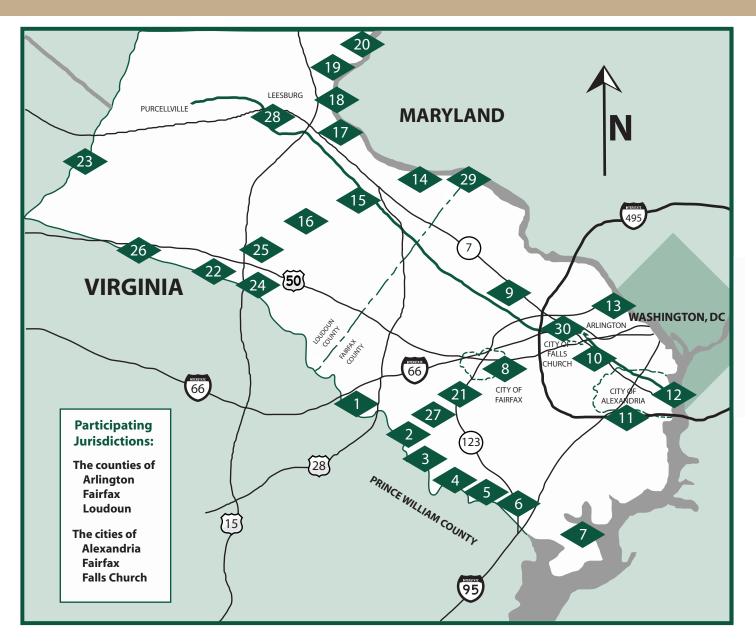
ALGONKIAN GOLF COURSE

47001 Fairway Drive, Sterling 703-450-4655

POHICK BAY Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road Lorton T: 703-339-8585

www.nvrpagolf.com



NOVA Parks Facilities Map

- 1. Bull Run Regional Park
- 2. Hemlock Overlook Regional Park
- 3. Bull Run Marina

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- 4. Fountainhead Regional Park
- 5. Sandy Run Regional Park
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- 19. Temple Hall Farm Regional Park
- 20. White's Ford Regional Park
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- 23. Blue Ridge Regional Park
- 24. Mt. Zion Historic Park
- 25. Gilbert's Corner Regional Park
- 26. Mt. Defiance Historic Park
- 27. Webb Sanctuary
- 28. Rust Sanctuary & Rust Manor House
- 29. Seneca Regional Park
- 30. Tinner Hill Historic Site (in development)

ANNUAL WATERPARK PASS

BOUNCE YOUR WAY TO ALL **FIVE** WATERPARKS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!



Enjoy these perks with the purchase of your pass:

- Enter the Waterpark before everyone else
- Participate in 'Bring a Friend' promotions

• *Receive coupons for use at other NOVA Parks and events (over \$60 in value)*

PASS IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM PURCHASE DATE!



Gilbert's Corner Regional Park

23575 Watson Road Aldie, VA 20105 703-327-9777 www.nvrpa.org/park/gilberts_corner



OPEN: Soon. Visit novaparks.com for details



Gilbert's Corner Regional Park includes 155 acres of rolling country side. It lies less than one mile away, across Route 50 from Aldie Mill Historic Park, which NOVA Parks acquired in 2006 from the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Gilbert's Corner was witness to the Civil War, where a cavalry skirmish took place near Mt. Zion Church (see page 45) consisting of nearly 150 mounted soldiers. The land was also the home site of Alexander G.



Davis, a Connecticut farmer with Northern sympathies who later served as a civilian scout during the conflict.

The park features a number of walking and hiking trails, which allows visitors to explore the land and understand where the various facets of its history occurred.

In addition to its Civil War history, the parkland includes part of the old Carolina Road, which was an active route between Frederick, Maryland and the Virginia/North Carolina border. It was originally a Native American trail used by the Algonquin and Iroquois Indians and a popular north/south route during the 18th & 19th centuries. It roughly follows the course that Route 15 is today.

NEXT: History at Gilbert's Corner

Hemlock Overlook Regional Park



13220 Yates Ford Road Clifton, Virginia 20124 1-800-877-0954 www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/

OPEN: Trails open to the public year-round. Hemlock amenities year-round, by appointment only







Hemlock Overlook Regional Park serves as an Outdoor Education Center operated by Adventure Links, an ACA Accredited camp, in cooperation with the NOVA Parks. The facility offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education, team development programs for public and private schools, religious groups, community groups, sports

teams, corporations, professional organizations, as well as local, state and federal government and military agencies. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. The hiking and horse trails are open to the public year-round.

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court Vienna, Virginia 22182 703-255-3631 www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/



OPEN: Year-round; visit website for specific times



Beauty, conservation, education and discovery flourish throughout the year at this 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections. Walking trails, lakes, more than twenty varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wild-



flowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage, create a sanctuary of beauty and nature.

Conservation and plant diversity displays in the Visitor Center invite guests of all ages to explore the natural world. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin. A picnic area beside the gardens is

available to visitors. Meadowlark presents gardening and horticulture workshops, tours, field trips, concerts, volunteer programs, a summer camp program and an active endowment with opportunities to commemorate or honor loved ones, while helping Meadowlark Botanical Gardens grow.

NEXT: Unique features at Meadowlark

Unique Meadowlark features





Meadowlark Botanical Gardens boasts many interesting and beautiful features, which are entirely unique to this amazing garden. Upon entering, it's hard not to notice the Korean Bell Garden. Created via a joint effort between NOVA Parks and the Korean American Cultural Committee (KACC), this great endeavor began with a proposal in 2007. Since then, the Garden continued to take shape, adding key elements and forever changing the

landscape on an otherwise unused hill.

The pagoda structure was completely built by hand in a way that has been used for thousands of years. The bell was created in South Korea with many traditional Korean images such as birds, plants and animals, as well as images symbolic of Virginia. The finished product stands complete with replicas of ancient Korean monuments and statues, walls and stone structures adorned with traditional Korean symbols, and a flowing water way.

Meadowlark contains a wide array of unique gardens and structures, including four different gazebos (the most notable, of course, sits amid Lake Caroline at the garden's heart). NOVA Parks constructed the Lilac Pavilion in 2013 - which is located near the Visitor Center and can be used for various rentals, especially weddings. The garden also houses an 18th century cabin, typically used for nature camps and events, and is the future home of the Children's Garden.

The Atrium at Meadowlark www.atriumatmeadowlark.com | 703-255-3631, ext. 105



OPEN: Year-round; call for availability

Whether you are planning your dream wedding, corporate event, birthday party, or other business or social gathering, you will find what you need at the Atrium. The Atrium is perfectly nestled within Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and overlooks 95 acres of lush gardens, green hills, and perfectly manicured landscape. Voted as one of the premier venues in the Great-



er Washington area, the Atrium can accommodate up to 230 seated guests for a reception and up to 300 standing guests. Catering at the site is handled by Great Blue Heron Catering, which offers amazing gourmet menus. GBH will design a custom menu for any event. Learn more at www. greatblueheroncatering.com

Indoors you will find live trees, a babbling stream that leads to an indoor fountain, and a 2,000 square foot skylight. With three walls of glass, events can be hosted at The Atrium any time of year while still getting the ambiance of being outdoors. The Atrium is also a perfect location to host your corporate meeting or retreat. Impress your colleagues with a beautiful venue outside of the office for staff retreats, board meetings, or any other corporate gathering.

You can reserve our fully enclosed Lilac Room, which can accommodate up to 60 seated guests, our Garden Room, which can accommodate up to 140 seated guests, or the whole Atrium, which can accommodate up to 230 seated guests.

Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights

www.winterwalkoflights.com | 703-255-3631



OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for dates and times

Visit Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights during the holiday season to experience over 500,000 LED lights and displays that bring Meadowlark Botanical Gardens to life!

Imagine the beauty of Meadowlark's renowned gardens transformed into a winter wonderland, including a flowing stream of softly glowing lights. Marvel at the two story animated fountain, stroll past the Gingerbread Village, and explore the beauty of na-



Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights

ture like you've never seen it. This event has quickly become the highlight of the local holiday season, and sees guests from all over the region.

The event includes more than a half mile of paved trail adorned with lighted trees, nature displays and holiday themes. At the Winter Walk's center is Lakeside Lights - an animated light show with over 40,000 lights set to music, in which visitors can grab a seat and watch the show in action. When guests



complete their stroll, many purchase a s'mores kit at the fire pit to enjoy the brisk weather. Tickets for this event can be purchased online.

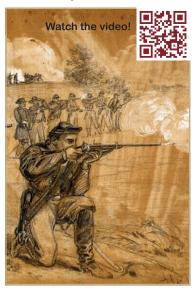
Mount Defiance Historic Park

35945 John Mosby Highway Middleburg Virginia 20117 703-327-9777



OPEN: Year-round (park under development)

At the beginning of 2013, NOVĂ Parks extended its historic holdings with the addition of several new properties. Not far from Aldie Mill, NOVA Parks, via a partnership with the Virginia Civil War Trust, was given a tract of land on the outskirts of Middleburg, called Mt. Defiance. This site was essentially the key point of the Battle of Middleburg, which was fought on June 19, 1863, just ten days after the Battle of Brandy Station and fourteen days

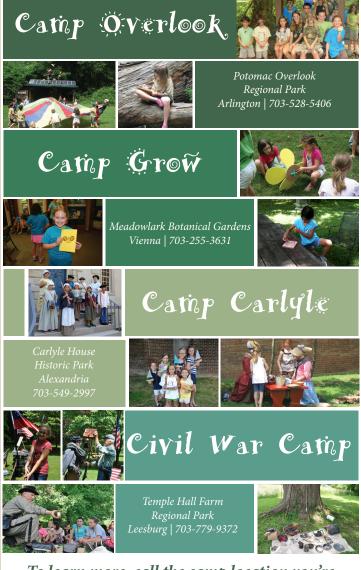


before the opening day of the Battle of Gettysburg – a very significant month of fighting in the Eastern Theatre that year. The facility remains in development at the moment, but it is expected that upon completion the park will contain various walking trails complete with a tour built around interpretive signage.





NOVA Parks offers annual summer camps, which take place at four great Regional Parks, with four distinct themes:



To learn more, call the camp location you're interested in, or visit us online at novaparks.com. Space is limited, register today!

Mount Zion Historic Park

40309 John Mosby Highway Aldie, Virginia 20105 703-327-9777 www.nvrpa.org/park/mt_zion



OPEN: Year-round; visit website for hours



Mt. Zion Old School Baptist Church, built in 1851, sits at the intersection of the Old Carolina Road and Route 50 – once a main crossroad in southeastern Loudoun County. From here, the church was an eyewitness to much of the history of this area, in particular the Civil War. The congregation met here monthly until 1980, except for the years during the Civil War. Many churches and other public buildings were put into service during the Civil War, but few in Loudoun County saw as much action as Mt. Zion.

The church was used as a military rendezvous site, prison, barracks, battleground, and hospital. Union troops used the church as a field hospital after the cavalry engagements of Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville in June of 1863, and graffiti on the church's walls are remnants of the soldiers' days spent in recuperation. July of 1864 saw military action close to the church, when Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby and his men met the Union forces from Massachusetts and New York under Major William H. Forbes. It was an overwhelming victory for Mosby and his men.

The cemetery adjacent to the church contains over 240 marked graves and additional unmarked graves within its old stone wall, and at least 64 African American unmarked graves outside the wall. Among those buried here are veterans of the Civil War and one War of 1812 veteran.

Events at Mt. Zion



OPEN: Year-round; call for availability

Mt. Zion is available as a unique setting for your wedding, business meeting or social event. Seating for up to 100 people is offered inside the church, and the grounds are perfect for a party under a tent.

The interior of the church contains classic pew style seating. An 18th-century style pulpit overlooks the crowd. The entire interior creates a very unique backdrop for meetings and weddings.



Mt. Zion is approximately two miles from the town of Aldie, which is home to several small inns and bed and breakfasts,



providing wonderful accommodations for your guests. The venue also works very well with Aldie Mill Historic Park page 4). lsee Many couples weddings host at Mt. Zion, and then retreat to Aldie for a catered reception.

Occoquan Regional Park

9751 Ox Road Lorton, Virginia 22079 703-690-2121 www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/



OPEN: Year-round; visit website for hours



This spacious park is scenically located on the Occoquan River, diagonally across from the Town of Occoquan. It offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the memory of imprisoned women suffragists.

Occoquan has shelters and gazebos that can be rented for picnics and other events. Several are situated right along the river. Occoquan's batting cages offer baseball and softball for beginners to advanced batters.

Shoreline fishing is permitted with a current VA State Fishing License, and the park has a boat launch ramp and boat storage lots. Occoquan is also the southernmost access point to the Cross County Trail, which is a 40-mile multipurpose trail that crosses Fairfax County. The Park also offers open field space for recreational use, and is the site for many events,



like car shows and exhibitions.

Occoquan has hiking trails throughout the park that wind through forested areas and offer scenic vistas of the Occoquan River.

NEXT: Occoquan Watertrail

Occoquan Watertrail

OPEN: Year-round

Tracing a 40-mile route on two tribwaterways utarv of the Chesapeake Bay, paddling adventures await as you explore a vast and changing landscape, spanning 13,000 years of human history, past 10,000 acres of public lands dedicated to resource conservation in Northern Virginia. Interpretive exhibits located at eight access points present a tapestry of time



and place — past, present and future — each reveals a different facet of an extraordinary resource. The 20-mile stretch of the Upper Segment begins on tree-lined Bull

Access with public parking can be found at Fountainhead (page 30), Bull Run Marina (page 16), Pohick Bay (page 49) and Bull Run (page 17). Run, which widens as it joins the Occoquan River, opening to an expansive, freshwater lake formed by the Occoquan Reservoir dam. The Lower Segment's

brackish, open waters pass marinas and protected marshlands along the Mason Neck Peninsula, on the wide expanse of the tidal Potomac River.



R e m e m b e r that you are a guest while on the Occoquan Water Trail minimize the impact of your visit as much as possible. Learn about, appreciate and enjoy the special nature of the trail!

Pohick Bay Regional Park

6501 Pohick Bay Drive Lorton, Virginia 703-339-6104 | pohick@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay



OPEN: Year-round (visit website for hours)



Pohick Bay is a water-oriented park located on the Potomac River, 25 miles south of the nation's capital. It is also one of NOVA Parks most diverse and

beautiful facilities. Its boat launch facility is one of only 3 public access points to the Potomac River in Northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats, stand-

up paddle boards and jon boats for rent.

In addition to water activities, the park also offers hiking, picnic areas and playgrounds. Visitors can take advantage of the Eagle's Nest Veranda, which offers a spectacular view of



Gunston Cove leading out to the historic Potomac River. A large main deck and side deck perched above the water



give over 1,000 square feet of space to entertain guests.

Nature lovers can expect to see bald eagles, bluebirds, osprey, heron, deer, beavers and even the occasional river otter.

NEXT: Pirate's Cove Waterpark

Pirate's Cove Waterpark

www.piratescovepohick.com | 703-339-6102 OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for hours and dates



Loaded with fun features for everyone, Pirate's Cove visitors will enjoy a large pirate-themed play structure complete with 300a gallon dumping bucket! Pirate's Cove boasts a variety of fun



features for kids of all ages.

Kid friendly waterslides, water spraying palm trees, a large pool for splashing around and swimming and a spacious tot pool with a slide will entertain the entire family! Pirate's Cove also offers two slides for those 42" and taller!

Dig for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach, a large sand play area, or bask in the sun on our large deck!

Of course your day wouldn't be complete without food, drinks and more! Captain's Galley is stocked with all your favorites! Sit outside under the umbrellas and enjoy a great lunch, then head back and cool off under the bucket! Guests can purchase annual waterpark passes, which grant access to all 5 waterparks. Daily and weekday group admissions are also available.

NEXT: Camping at Pohick Bay

Camping at Pohick Bay

http://www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/content/camping OPEN: Year-round; visit website for hours and dates





Pohick Bay Regional Park's family campground features 150 shaded sites--100 with electric 30-amp hookups and 50 tent sites. All sites are pull-in and include a grill, fire ring and picnic table. The camp store has groceries and camping supplies including ice, charcoal, lighter fluid and firewood.

Bath houses have hot showers, sinks, toilets and laundry. A dump station is available for registered campers. A network of trails

leads walkers to the waterfront, mini golf and waterpark. A one-mile trail connects the family campground to Gunston Hall Plantation, home of George Mason. Reservations are strongly suggested.

Pohick Bay also offers deluxe and rustic cabins. Each rustic cabin has electricity, ac/heat,



small refrigerator and two rooms. The back room has a double bed and a set of bunk beds. The front

room has a futon, table, two chairs and a microwave. Out-



side is a front porch with a swing, outside grill, fire pit and a picnic table. The bathhouse is a short walk on the trail. Cabin guests bring their own bedding. The park now offers Deluxe Cabins, which feature a full kitchen and bathroom, along with accommodations for up to seven guests.

NEXT: Pohick Bay Golf Course

Pohick Bay Golf Course



10301 Gunston Road Lorton, VA 22079 703-339-8585 | pohick_golf@nvrpa.org www.pohickbaygolf.com



OPEN: Year-round (Weather permitting)



This scenic course, originally built in 1982, is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's 18 holes run 6400 yards from the back tees, and feature bent grass from tee to green with a mix of poa annua. Add to that a 132 slope rating, rolling terrain throughout and several significant water hazards, and it quickly becomes clear that course management is the name of the game. The course's signature holes are a great example. On hole 2, a par 3 that measures 168 yards from the back (157 from the whites), golfers are challenged to lift their shots high up and over a deep ravine that stretches from the tee box to just short of the green. On hole 18, players will find a par 5 that measures over 500 yards from the tips, in which a good tee shot puts you in position to navigate the slight dog leg left, down to the green.

Keep track of your game on Pohick Bay's USGA Handicap System. Work on your driving or putting at our practice facility, which features a driving range with sand traps, practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. The course also offers a fully-stocked pro shop for all your needs, as well as a full service snack bar.

Potomac Overlook Regional Park

2845 N. Marcey Road Arlington, Virginia 22207 703-528-5406 | Potomac@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook



OPEN: Year-round, see website for hours.

On the Potomac Palisades in north Arlington, Potomac Overlook offers 70 acres of peaceful woodlands. Potomac Overlook's Nature Center houses displays and live animal ex-



hibits. The park is home to miles of beautiful trails, a picnic shelter, a playground, as well as a large organic vegetable garden. The Naturalist staff conducts programs on ecology, local natural history, Indian history and energy for schools, groups and the general public.

Potomac Overlook also features a popular Junior Naturalist Summer Camp, and youth and nature-oriented groups and schools may make arrangements for special programs throughout the year. In addition, Potomac Overlook is



pleased to offer an outdoor summer concert series.

The Park is also home to the Energerium. This unique facility of interactive exhibits highlights the connection that energy forges between humans and the natural world. The Energerium houses live animals, a

library, an interactive MiScope, and displays that highlight the role energy has played throughout human history. Park staff also present programs featuring the interactive "Energy Cycle."

Red Rock Wilderness Overlook Regional Park



43098 Edwards Ferry Road Leesburg, Virginia 43098 703-779-9372 | TempleHallFarm@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/red_rock_widerness_overlook

OPEN: Year-round, until dusk



Discover a beautiful out-of-the-way place. Hike over hills and through the woods to spectacular views of the Potomac River and the distant foothills across the river on this 67-acre property.

Upon entering the parking area, you find several historic buildings to investigate.

There are 6 nature trails that you can turn into a loop of various lengths, depending on how long a walk you'd like to take. Spring time is especially nice for woodland wildflowers. Wild red columbine can be spotted, along with Dogwood in bloom.

On the lower trail along the river bank, robins and swallows abound, yet you will probably see many other birds throughout the park, including mourning doves, chickadees, blackbirds, cardinals, barred owls and great blue heron. A few main trails follow the ridges in the park and open up to lovely panoramic views of the Potomac. Across the river is Elizabeth Mills Riverfront Park, which allows for an extended view of the local natural area. Inside Red Rock you'll also find a few impressively old trees, a tiny trickling spring stream, plenty of animal tracks along the Potomac's shore, and an interesting cliff ecosystem.

Rust Sanctuary & Rust Manor House

802 Children's Center Road Leesburg, Virginia 20175 703-669-0755 | rust@nvrpa.org www.rustmanor.com



OPEN: Year-round, some hours restrictions; see website



Rust Sanctuary is surrounded by six habitats that are home to native birds and woodland creatures, flowers, trees, fields, a pond and even a vernal pool. Rust Sanctuary offers several miles of trails

and numerous habitats for viewing the many types of plants and wildlife that call the sanctuary home.

Truly a hidden treasure situated on 68 wooded acres on the outskirts of historic

Leesburg, Virginia, seat of Loudoun County, this storied mansion resides at the heart of the Rust Nature Sanctuary, a serene nature preserve given to the Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) by



William F. Rust, Jr. and Margaret Dole Rust in 2000.

NOVA Parks entered into an agreement with Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) to manage Rust in 2013. ANS continues to provide environmental education at the site, while NOVA Parks provides management of the park and hosts events such as weddings and parties.

NEXT: Events at Rust Manor House



Rust Manor House

www.rustmanor.com | 703-669-0755 OPEN: Year-round; call for availability

If you're looking for a unique venue for your wedding and reception, if you'd like a natural setting for your event or would love to be married in a historic location, then you should consider Rust Manor House.



Set amid 68 acres of woods and meadows on the western edge of Leesburg, the reception venue at Rust Sanctuary can host up to 65 people inside the Manor House



and up to 200 under the tent at the event facility outside. The spacious gardens and the majestic trees around the House of-



fer numerous locations for ceremonies, photo shoots and spots for quiet reflection. A bride's room and groom's cottage are included with rentals as well as tables and chairs inside each event space.

The historic architecture of the Manor House offers a series of striking backgrounds for wedding ceremonies, photographs and gatherings of all types.

Our in-house catering division, Great Blue Heron, can provide a delicious feast for your guests while meeting your event budget.

Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road Fairfax Station, Virginia 22039 703-690-4392 | SandyRun@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run



OPEN: Limited access; visit website



Sandy Run is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club crew athletes.



There is no public boat

access at Sandy Run Regional Park. Only shells and other boats authorized by NOVA Parks may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. The public does however have access to trails that run through and near the park, as well as the ability to spectate during crew events. For more information, including a current regatta schedule, information on rowing camps and fees, visit the Sandy Run website.

Seneca Regional Park



101 Seneca Road Great Falls, VA 22066 703-450-4655 | algonkian@nvrpa.org www.nvrpa.org/park/seneca

OPEN: Year-round (Seasonal Tours)



Beautiful wilderness and winding paths await at Seneca Regional Park. Located on the Fairfax/Loudoun County line and along the Potomac River, Seneca offers a great network of trails and carriage paths. Visitors can hike down to the river, where they will find a 1-mile channel that is the re-



mains of George Washington's Patowmack Canal (In 1790, it was one of the first operational canals routing boats around Seneca Breaks, a set of rapids where the Potomac River drops 10 feet in one-and-a-guar-

ter mile). The park is also bisected by the Potomac Heritage Trail that extends from Loudoun County, through the Seneca Tract, to Riverbend Park, and further south to Great Falls where it connects with the Fairfax Cross County Trail. Seneca is also equestrian friendly.

Temple Hall Farm Regional Park

15789 Temple Hall Lane Leesburg, Virginia 703-779-9372 | TempleHallFarm@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/temple_hall_farm



OPEN: Year-round



Temple Hall Farm Regional Park preserves the agricultural, cultural and natural resources of the 286-acre farm that dates to 1810 and provides an educational and recreational resource that explores farming in Loudoun County for the people of Northern Virginia.

This beautiful working farm offers an opportunity for children and adults to



learn about farm animals and to enjoy the sights and sounds of the farm. Visitors can bring a picnic lunch or snack to eat at the picnic tables or take a walk on the nature trail. On weekends, you can join the farm interpreter for a tour of the farm, then take a hayride around the property. The park has a bridle trail that makes its way around the perimeter of the property.

Educational programs are available to introduce school and youth groups to Northern Virginia's farming heritage. A farm interpreter leads tours and guides children as they participate in farm-related activities, such as feeding the animals. Temple Hall also boasts the AV Symington Visitor Center, an LEED Gold Certified building that is home to classrooms, animal stalls and event space.

Maize and Fall Festival

www.templehallfallfest.com | 703-779-9372



OPEN: Fall; visit website for dates and times

The Temple Hall Maize and Fall Festival is filled with exciting and fun activities for the entire family! A giant 24-acre corn maize, paintball, pedal cars, bouncy horses, pumpkin blasters, corn cannons, live entertainment, games, wagon rides, hay tunnels and much more are all a part of this amazing event!



Want to launch a pumpkin 100 yards through the air? Then we've got the perfect toy for you - Pumpkin Blasters. Imagine what are essentially big artillery (safe for all ages) pieces that load and fire pumpkins at long range targets!

Meanwhile, see how high you can jump on the massive jumping pillows! These huge air filled bubbles will send you and your family bouncing many feet into the air, producing unlimited fun for everyone.

Try your hand at our Paintball Shooting Gallery! Challenge your friends and see who can hit the most targets! It's a blast!

When you're finished, head over and catch the next pig race! And don't forget about the corn maize! It's the biggest and best maize in Northern Virginia! There are even passports with fun facts about our local parks to guide you through. And of course there's the Nighttime Maize, Pick your own Pumpkin Patch, hayrides and plenty of great food! Looking for souvenirs or just a few fun items? Visit our Country Store! So come on out to Loudoun County and enjoy a great fall day! The Maize is located just outside Leesburg, and sees visitors from all over the region.

Upton Hill Regional Park

6060 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, Virginia 22205 703-534-3437 www.nvrpa.org/park/upton_hill/



OPEN: Seasonally, varies by amenity; consult park website

Upton Hill Regional Park offers visitors a wooded oasis in the heart of the most densely populated area of Northern Virginia. A large outdoor waterpark complex is



a sparkling attraction in this wooded, urban park. The deluxe miniature golf course boasts one of the longest mini golf holes in the world; the batting cages include nine baseball and softball cages.

Upton Hill played a locally important role during the Civil War, as the Union Army command used the site as its headquarters. A large masonry fort was constructed opposite the road, at the hill's topmost point. This fort was originally called Fort Upton but was later renamed Fort Ramsay. By the end of the war, the Union Army built a tall wooden observation tower atop Congressman Upton's home, affording it line-ofsight communications with the Washington Monument and other observation and signal stations in the region. Na-



tional history was made when one of the most famous songs of all time, Battle Hymn of the Republic, was composed as a result of events on Upton's Hill.

NEXT: Ocean Dunes Waterpark

Ocean Dunes Waterpark

www.oceanduneswaterpark.com | 703-534-3437



OPEN: Seasonally; visit website for dates and times

Enjoy a day at the beach at Ocean Dunes Waterpark, Arlington's favorite place to cool off and have fun! Located within Upton Hill Regional Park, Ocean Dunes



is loaded with fun features for adults and kids, and is a perfect venue for birthday parties and group visits. Ocean Dunes includes a dumping bucket, water slides, waterfalls and squirters! Visitors will find themselves amidst dune grasses and the feeling of being at the beach, but without



the drive!

Our waterslides offer a pair of riveting rides, including 230 feet of fun on the open slide, or a thrilling 170 foot ride in complete darkness on the closed slide! A large separate pool offers splashing and laplanes for everyone.

The centerpiece of Ocean Dunes is a wonderful play feature with tube slides, open slides, fountains, squirters, platforms and of course, a giant 300-gallon dumping bucket. Positioned on the deck with zero depth, the play feature is great for young and old alike.

Our challenging and fun miniature golf course is right next to the waterpark and offers 18 holes of fun!

W&OD Railroad Regional Park

21293 Smiths Switch Road Ashburn, Virginia 20147 703-729-0956 www.nvrpa.org/park/w_od_railroad/



OPEN: Year-round, varies by amenity; consult park website



The 100-ft. wide W&OD has been called "the skinniest park in Virginia." But it is also one of the longest parks; 45 miles of paved trail for walking, running, bicycling and skating, and 32 miles of adjacent gravel trail for horseback riding. Built on the roadbed of the former Washington & Old Dominion Railroad,

the multi-use W&OD Trail runs through the urban heartland and countryside of Northern Virginia.

Snaking its way through the heart of Northern Virginia, the W&OD has end points in Shirlington (off Route 395) in Arlington County, and, 45 miles away in Purcellville in Loudoun County. It winds over highways, through cities and towns, over creeks and waterways. Its surroundings can go from the bustling rush of Northern Virginia rush hour to vast plains of silence in only a few miles.



NEXT: History on the W&OD



History on the W&OD

Decades ago, the Washington and Old Dominon Trail was a vital route for a far different group of travelers. Then known as the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad, this route was once considered vital following its inception in 1847, with a primary goal of spreading commerce from the Alexandria seaport inland to the growing communities to the west. And while its life as a



commercial route never quite evolved the way the railroad's developers envisioned, the route saw more than its fair share of history.

The route was the site of a few skirmishes during the Civil War, and was truly witness to the development of Northern Virginia based largely on its route. The tracks wound through what is today Arlington, Falls Church, Vienna, Reston, Herndon, Sterling, Leesburg and Purcellville – all significant modern sites, many of which are key for economic development.

When the railroad finally encountered its demise in 1967, it underwent a series of changes – first at the hands of VE-PCO – which had formerly been the local Virginia Power Company – and then later in 1974 by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. The ribbon on the first section of the W&OD Trail was cut on Sept. 7, 1974 by then Falls Church mayor Harold Miller – the first of what would be many events as the park expanded in both directions. On November 5, 1988, the Park Authority celebrated the opening of the Trail's final nine miles into Purcellville. Today, the Trail is an artery for visitors and commuters year-round.

Webb Nature Sanctuary

12829 Chestnut Street Clifton, VA 20124 703-690-4392 | SandyRun@NVRPA.org



OPEN: Year-round, dawn to dusk, weather dependent



The Webb Nature Sanctuary offers a lot of nature in a small space. Its 20 acres include a mix of woodland, meadow and stream valley. These are home to nesting songbirds from the

tropics; amphibians, including spotted salamanders and woodfrogs; gray and red fox; flying squirrels and other mammals; reptiles, such as box turtles, fivelined skinks, black-rat snakes; and a variety of butterflies, dragonflies and other insects. Interpretive signs along our trails offer information about local natural history.





The Webb Nature Sanctuary grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk.

White's Ford Regional Park



43646 Hibler Road Leesburg, Virginia 703-779-9372 | TempleHallFarm@NVRPA.org www.nvrpa.org/park/whites_ford

OPEN: Year-round (see website for details)

DIRECTIONS: From Leesburg take Rt. 15 North. Turn right on Spinks Ferry Road (Rt. 657). Turn right on Limestone School Road (Rt. 661). Turn left on Hibler Road (Rt. 656) and follow to park.

White's Ford Regional Park is located in Leesburg, just a few miles from Temple Hall Farm Regional Park. This property features a beautiful half mile long stretch of waterfront land along the Potomac River.

The park includes boat ramp access into the river for non-motorized vessels, including kay-



aks and canoes (no trailers permitted). The park also features hiking trails, as well as access along the Potomac for fishing.

Historically speaking, the property once belonged to Lt. Col. Elijah V. White, who called the area home beginning in 1856. Lt. Col. White is best known for his role as an aide and scout for Col. Eppa Hunton's 8th Virginia Infantry during the Battle of Ball's Bluff.

But the site is best known as the place where the Confederate Army crossed into Maryland in 1862 on their way to the Battle of Antietam. In addition, centuries before the War Between the States, the natural ford in the river, located where the river branches to go around Mason's Island, was used by Native Americans. They used the shallow waters of the ford to trap fish and built a village on what is today the new park.



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