

Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Middle Delaware Nationial Scenic and Recreational River

Listening Sessions for Visitor Use Management Plan

The National Park Service (NPS) is undertaking a listening session process as an initial step in the development of a visitor use management plan (the plan) for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River (the park). The purpose of the plan is to maximize the ability of the National Park Service to encourage access and protect the park's natural and cultural resources. The planning process will examine current and potential visitor opportunities and develop long-term strategies for providing access, connecting visitors to important experiences, and managing visitor use. As an integral part of the planning process, the National Park Service is asking for your input so that we can gain a better understanding of our visitors and their needs, experiences, and preferences and to help us identify existing or new opportunities to meet those needs while also achieving our mission to preserve and protect resources.

The park is a nearly 70,000-acre unit of the national park system located in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Park lands are almost equally divided between the two states along the 40-mile-long Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River, which is the boundary between the two states. The park is among the top 20 most visited units of the national park system with an average of approximately 5 million visitors annually, and is one of the largest parks in terms of infrastructure responsibilities. It is less than a 2-hour drive from New York City and from Philadelphia.

We encourage you to get involved with the process and add your voice to the beginning of the visitor use planning for the park. The National Park Service will host two public listening sessions, and will be providing information on the park to spread the word about this important effort. In addition to the listening sessions, presentations will be posted online. This is the beginning of the input process, and there will be future opportunities to provide additional input. A formal comment period will begin in summer of 2015. You can find out more at www.facebook.com/DelWaterGapNPS or www.nps.gov/dewa/getinvolved/index.htm





How You Can Be Involved

The National Park Service welcomes your input in helping us understand the following:

- Who are our visitors?
- What are they doing during their visit?
- What are the key visitor experiences and opportunities in the park?
- What issues and opportunities are the highest priority to address?
- How can the National Park Service better manage visitor use to enhance visitor experience and resource preservation for future generations?

Public Listening Sessions

The National Park Service will host two listening sessions to provide information on the project and encourage input and questions related to visitor use at the park.

April 7, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Stroudsmoor Country Inn Terraview Event Facility 231 Stroudsmoor Road, PO Box 153 Stroudsburg, PA 18360

> April 9, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites 707 US Highway 46 East Parsippany, NJ 07054

Following the listening sessions, recorded presentations will be posted online for those who cannot attend or wish to review the presentations.

How to Provide Input

Please submit input online at www.parkplanning.nps.gov/dewa

Input requested by April 30, 2015

