



**New River Gorge
National River
National Park Service**



Ranger Activities August 2008

Join a park ranger for a special activity, walk, or hike. Ranger-led activities provide an opportunity to learn more about the natural world that surrounds us and about the peoples who have shaped our past.

Visitor Information

Canyon Rim Visitor Center

Open Daily, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Telephone: (304) 574-2115

Park Headquarters – Glen Jean

Open Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Telephone: (304) 465-0508

Thurmond Depot

Open Daily, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Telephone: (304) 465-8550

Grandview Visitor Contact Station

Open Daily, 12:00 NOON to 5:00 PM
Telephone: (304) 763-3715

Sandstone Visitor Center

Open Daily, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Telephone: (304) 466-0417

Daily

Thurmond Walking Tours

11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Thurmond Depot

New River Gorge
National River
P. O. Box 246
Glen Jean, WV 25846
(304) 465-0508
<http://www.nps.gov/neri>

August 2008

Ranger Activities

Ranger on the Rock - August 1st through August 24th

From 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. nightly except Mondays, experience the superb views from the rim at Grandview and the resources of the New River Gorge. A ranger has binoculars and brochures to share with those who stop by the Main Overlook for an evening visit and view.



SATURDAY, August 2

9:00 a.m. Boardwalk Birding
9:30 a.m. Riverside Rendezvous
10:00 a.m. Bluestone Walk - Pipestem Resort
10:00 a.m. Bluestone Turnpike Hike -
Pipestem Resort

10:30 a.m. National Park Tales - Canyon Rim
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SUNDAY, August 3

9:30 a.m. Tracks to Trails Hike
Thurmond-Minden Trailhead
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Grandview
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

MONDAY, August 4

7:45 p.m. Bat Chat - Grandview

WEDNESDAY, August 6

9:30 a.m. Diamond Point Adventure -
Fern Creek Trailhead
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SATURDAY, August 9

8:00 p.m. New River Night Adventure -
Burnwood
10:00 a.m. Bluestone Walk - Pipestem Resort
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SUNDAY, August 10

9:30 a.m. Hike Into History - Kaymoor
Wolf Creek Trailhead

2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Grandview
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

MONDAY, August 11

9:00 p.m. Grandview Night Hike

WEDNESDAY, August 13

9:30 a.m. Long Point Hike
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SATURDAY, August 16

9:00 a.m. Morning Birding at Grandview
9:30 a.m. Lost in the Woods - Burnwood
10:00 a.m. Bluestone Walk - Pipestem Resort
10:30 a.m. National Park Tales - Canyon Rim

2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls
2:00 p.m. Ranger on the Spur - Grandview
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SUNDAY, August 17

9:30 a.m. Goin' With the Flow - Stonecliff
3:00 p.m. Castle Rock Hike - Grandview
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

WEDNESDAY, August 20

9:30 a.m. Tracks to Trails **Bike Hike:**
Thurmond-Minden Trailhead

SATURDAY, August 23

9:30 a.m. Hike Into History - Kaymoor
Wolf Creek Trailhead
10:00 a.m. Bluestone Walk - Pipestem Resort
10:30 a.m. National Park Tales - Canyon Rim
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Grandview
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

SUNDAY, August 24

9:30 a.m. Tracks to Trails Hike
Thurmond-Minden Trailhead
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Grandview
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim
5:00 p.m. Applachian Festival Grandview
Hike - GV Main Overlook

7:00 p.m. Evening Birding at Grandview

WEDNESDAY, August 27

9:30 a.m. Diamond Point Adventure -
Fern Creek Trailhead

SATURDAY, August 30

10:00 a.m. Bluestone Walk - Pipestem Resort
1:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone VC
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Grandview
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls

SUNDAY, August 31

9:30 a.m. Lost in the Woods - Burnwood
10:30 a.m. National Park Tales - Canyon Rim
2:00 p.m. Native Plants of New River Gorge
Sandstone Visitor Center
2:00 p.m. Big Buck Trail Hike- Grandview
2:00 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Sandstone Falls
3:30 p.m. Ranger's Choice - Canyon Rim

Program Descriptions

August 2008

For All Hikes

Bring water and wear comfortable walking or hiking shoes. Cameras and binoculars can also be handy.



Bluestone National Scenic River Walk

1½ hours – 2 miles

Meet a ranger at the bottom of the tramway at Pipestem Resort State Park to walk within Bluestone National Scenic River for a mile and return. Along the way, enjoy the flora and fauna of the area and discuss a little regional history. Bring good walking shoes, drinking water, and \$2.25 for the return tram ride.

Bluestone Turnpike Hike

4 to 5 hours - 10 miles

Take a hike on the Bluestone Turnpike Trail, between Bluestone State Park and Pipestem Resort State Park! Meet a park ranger at the bottom of the tramway at Pipestem Resort State Park to hike 10 miles of the Bluestone National Scenic River. The hike ends at Bluestone State Park and a shuttle will be provided for the return trip to Pipestem. This is a great opportunity to explore a very beautiful and remote area. Bring sturdy hiking shoes, a lunch and plenty of water.

Morning Birding at Grandview Evening Birding at Grandview

1 1/2 hours - 1 mile

Join a ranger for a morning or evening of birding through the many habitats that Grandview has to offer. Everyone from beginners to advanced birders is welcome. Some binoculars will be available. Meet at Grandview Visitor Center.



Ranger's Choice

1 1/2 hours

The ranger will be displaying their choice of exhibits and information on a specific aspect of the natural or cultural history of the New River Gorge area.

Hike Into History: Kaymoor Hike

3 hours - 4 miles

Take a step back in time on this 4-mile (round-trip) hike to the mine site of Kaymoor. Learn more about life in this historic New River community.

Bat Chat

1 hour

Meet a ranger at our “Bat Condo” at the rhododendron garden parking area at Grandview to observe the nightly emergence of hundreds of the earth’s only flying mammal: bats. Learn about the different species that make this area their home, the many myths and misconceptions, and the amazing facts that surround their nocturnal lives.

Thurmond Walking Tour

1/2 hour - 1/2 mile

What was life like in one of New River Gorge’s most renowned towns? Meet a ranger at the Thurmond Depot Visitor Center for a walking tour of the historic railroad town of Thurmond. See the remains of this once bustling business district and hear stories of days gone by.

Boardwalk Birding

1 1/2 hours - 1 mile

Join a ranger and friends for a stroll on the Sandstone Falls boardwalk looking for and listening to the birds of this special Appalachian Flatrock Community. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them.

Grandview Night Hike

1½ hours – 1 to 1½ miles

Meet at the Grandview Visitor Center to explore the park at night! Travel along park trails using ALL of your senses.

Lost in the Woods

2 hours - 1 mile

Hey Kids! Do you know what to do if you get lost in the woods? Bring the family and

Program Descriptions

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join park rangers to learn wilderness survival techniques and how to stay found in the woods. Meet at the Burnwood Day Use parking for this 1-mile adventure.

National Park Tales

1/2 hour

Our National Parks are filled with stories, tales of nature, history, adventure and much more. Join a ranger at Canyon Rim Visitor Center for a bit of storytelling for young and old alike.

Tracks to Trails Hike

3 hours - 3 miles

Explore the history of yesteryear while experiencing the sights and sounds of today. Join a ranger for a 3 mile hike on the Thurmond-Minden Trail. Meet at the Thurmond trailhead off State Route 25.

Tracks to Trails - Bike Hike

3 hours - 3 miles

Ride with a ranger along this scenic and historic trail. All riders must wear a helmet. Meet at the Thurmond trailhead off State Route 25.

Long Point Hike

3 hours - 3 miles

Explore and discover the wonders of nature and area heritage on this three-mile (round trip) hike through field and forest to one of the most spectacular views of the gorge and New River Gorge bridge in the area. Be prepared for some steep terrain. Meet at the Long Point Trailhead off Salem-Gatewood Road near Fayetteville.

Riverside Rendezvous

3 hours

Learn about the natural and cultural history of the area while enjoying the sights and sounds of New River. Travel down the Fayette Station Road, across the bridge at the bottom and stop in the first parking lot on the right. The ranger will be by the river.

Goin' With the Flow

3 miles

Take a stroll by the New River and learn about watersheds. Meet at the Stone Cliff trailhead off of State Route 25.



Ranger on the Spur

1 1/2 hours

Meet at the Turkey Spur Overlook at Grandview to enjoy the view and discuss West Virginia nature and history.

Diamond Point Adventure

3 hours

Get a bird’s eye view of New River Gorge on this two-mile (round trip) hike to Diamond Point. Explore the riches of this area’s heritage along the Endless Wall Trail., where both nature and people have stories to tell. Meet at the Fern Creek Trailhead.

Native Plants - a Backyard Habitat

1 1/2 hours

Join a native plant expert at Sandstone Visitor Center’s native plant garden to discuss the natural beauty and benefits of native plant habitats in your own backyard.

New River Night Adventure

Join in on an easy one mile hike in the dark, then kick back and relax as we scan the sky for a glimpse of the Perseid meteor shower. Meet at the Burnwood Day Use Area, directly across US 19 from Canyon Rim Visitor Center.

Castle Rock and Big Buck Trail Hikes

1 hour - 1 mile

Join a ranger-led hike along these beautiful Grandview trails. Meet at the trailhead.

Appalachian Festival Grandview Hike

1 hour - 1 mile

Stroll from Grandview’s Main Overlook to the North Overlook and back, along the gorge rim. Meet at the Main Overlook.