



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 18, 2024

Office of the Superintendent
3655 U.S. Highway 211 East
Luray, VA 22835
Claire Comer (540) 999-3500 x3183
Claire_comer@nps.gov

Shenandoah National Park News Release

Shenandoah National Park announces permanent ticketing system at Old Rag Mountain

LURAY, VA – Following a two-year pilot program, Shenandoah National Park will implement a permanent ticketing system to access Old Rag Mountain from March through November. The system will improve visitor enjoyment, address congestion and public safety concerns, and better protect the landscape, including sensitive species, along the extremely popular trail. More information, including where tickets are required and how to obtain them, is available at <https://go.nps.gov/oldragticket>.

The decision to implement a permanent system follows a multiyear pilot program and an extensive public engagement process that included visitor use data collection and analysis, public comment periods, and public meetings.

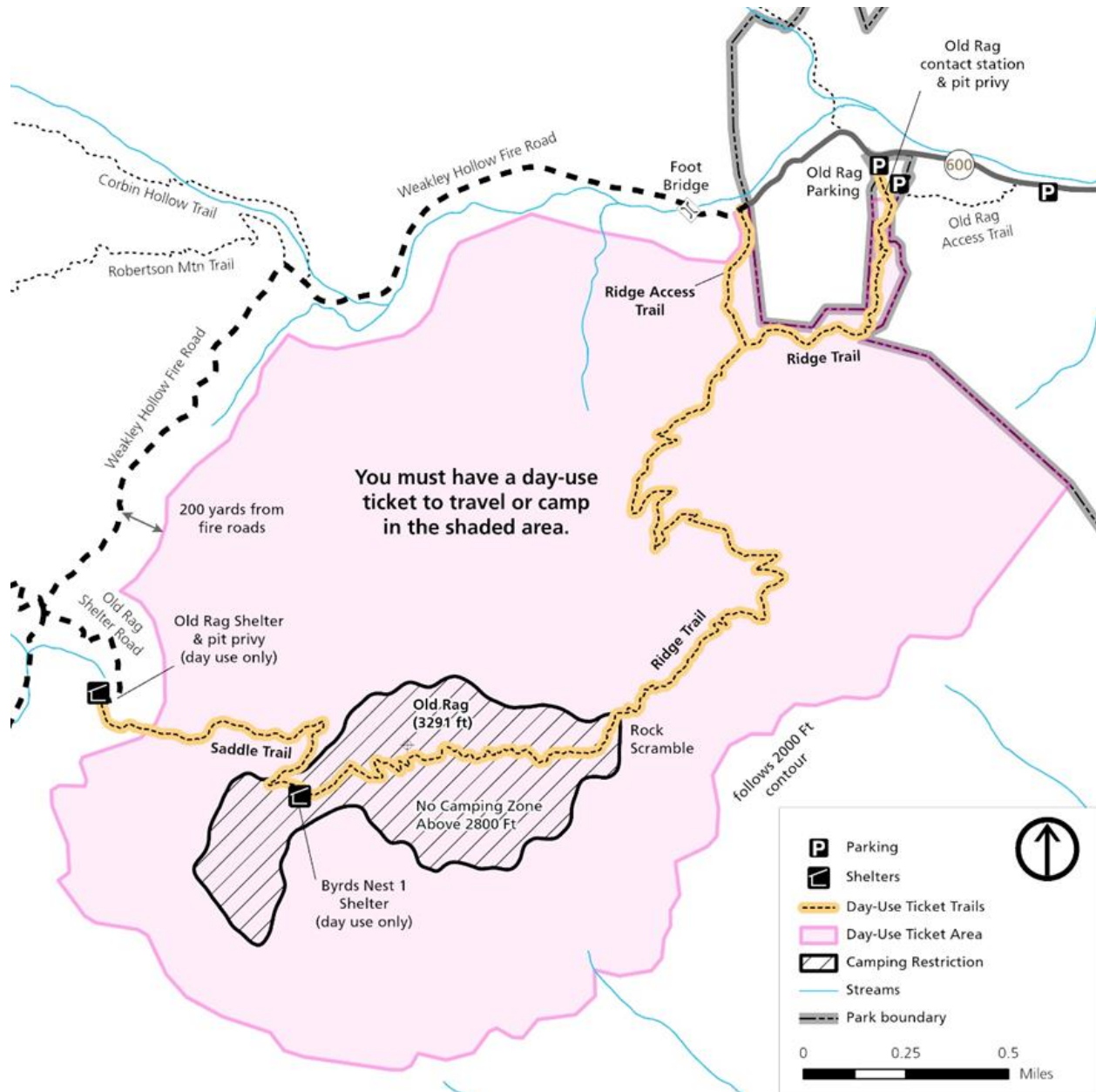
The permanent system will closely follow the pilot program. Beginning March 1, 2024, all visitors are required to have a day-use ticket, in addition to a park entrance pass, to access the Old Rag area (see map below).

“We appreciate the public input received as we tested management options,” said Shenandoah National Park Superintendent Pat Kenney. “We feel confident that this system has improved the visitor experience on Old Rag, reduced impacts on the area’s ecosystem, and is a good long-term solution.”

Day-use tickets for Old Rag Mountain for the 2024 season will be available starting February 17, 2024, at 10 a.m. Tickets cost \$2.00. Half of the revenue created will pay for the administrative costs of the program, and half will be used toward visitor and resource protection.

A total of 800 tickets will be available each day from March 1 to November 30; 400 will be released 30 days in advance and the remaining 400 will be released five days in advance. Hikers are encouraged to reserve their tickets before arriving via <https://www.recreation.gov/ticket/10088450/ticket/10088451>. Tickets are valid for the day of arrival only and are not transferable. A day-use ticket does not guarantee a parking spot, and entrance fees still apply in addition to the day-use ticket.

Hiking to the summit of Old Rag is physically demanding. Be sure to check out the [Old Rag planning guide](#) before you lace up your boots!



- www.nps.gov/shen -

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 425+ national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. *Learn more at* www.nps.gov, and on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#).

Follow ShenandoahNPS on [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [v](#) [o](#)

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.