

Parking & Transportation Update Spring 2014

Fairfax Campus

As the beginning of the spring semester rapidly approaches, Mason students, faculty and staff are reminded that traffic on and around the Fairfax campus greatly increases, especially during the first few weeks of the semester. The following information is intended to serve as a campus parking and transportation guide and help minimize potential parking and traffic delays. A valid parking permit is required to park outside of visitor areas.

During the first few weeks of the semester, we suggest allowing an extra 30-45 minutes to arrive on campus. Though some parking spaces are more convenient to your destination than others, the Fairfax campus has more than enough total parking spaces to accommodate all vehicles. However, many General parking permit lots are still expected to fill at peak class times.

Below is information about road construction, parking, shuttles, alternative transportation options, parking citation & appeal changes and finding parking & transportation information.

Special Event Advisory: January 21-22

In order to accommodate a special event at the Patriot Center on Tuesday, January 21 and Wednesday, January 22, Lot L and a portion of Lot K will be closed for bus parking only. The roof of Rappahannock River Deck, the Field House general lots, and West Campus lot will have overflow parking with additional shuttle service being provided from the Field House and West Campus. <http://building.gmu.edu/traffic-alerts-tuesday-jan-21-p-m-wednesday-jan-22-a-m/>

Road Construction/Improvements

Several road improvement projects are planned or are underway that will impact travel approaching, on and around campus.

Campus Drive construction has progressed during the fall and will continue all spring. This new road will connect east and west campuses by going underneath Ox Road between the Patriots Village parking lot and the Field House, continuing all the way to Braddock Road at the West Campus parking lot. **The south end of the Patriot Village lot (side closest to Mason Pond Drive) will accommodate authorized vehicles only (special parking permit required) before 3pm weekdays, only allowing for General permit parking between 3pm-11pm Monday-Friday and on weekends unless otherwise directed by Parking Services.**

The West Campus parking lot is still closed for spring semester and will only be used as overflow parking when directed by Parking Services. As the Campus Drive project progresses, there will be lane and parking closures at times along Patriot Circle, Mason Pond Drive, Braddock Road, and Rapidan River Road, and in the West Campus parking lot. E-mail updates will be sent periodically but check the [Building Patriot Pride](#) website and Parking and Transportation's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages for updates.

Parking

Arriving to campus between 10 am and 11am General permit parking in Lot K is recommended as most other parking lots on the east (main) campus tend to fill prior to Lot K. If “Lot Full” signs are posted at the entrance(s) to Lot K please proceed directly to Field House Lots O & P (see below). Please note that all of Lot J requires a reserved Lot J permit except the designated faculty/staff general spaces on the perimeter. The General permit parking area of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (all of Level 2 and the $\frac{3}{4}$ of Level 1 not designated as visitor parking) is expected to fill to capacity between 9am-10am on a regular basis.

Arriving to campus between 11am and 3pm (especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays): The best option for General permit parking is to head directly to the back of Lot K or the General permit parking lots by the Field House (Lots O & P) on the west side of Ox Road. There will be a Field House Express shuttle providing service between the Field House and Chesapeake River lane shuttle stop as well as West Campus from 10am-11pm Monday-Thursday. Please see <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/Fall%202013%20Schedules/fieldhouse.html> for details. **Note:** The average walk time from the Field House to the Johnson Center is about 12 to 15 minutes.

Visitor Parking: The Mason Pond, Shenandoah and Rappahannock River Parking Decks provide most of the campus’ visitor parking spaces. The visitor sections of the Mason Pond and Shenandoah Parking Decks tend to fill in the mornings and early evenings during the first few weeks of the semester. Additional visitor parking is available in the 1st level Visitor parking area of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (a separate visitor entrance is located off Patriot Circle) by paying in advance utilizing our Pay by Space machines or by using the ParkMobile, our new pay-by-cell service that allows one to pay via their cell phone. One can sign up at <http://us.parkmobile.com/members/> or by downloading their mobile app.

Additional visitor parking is available at Field House Lots O & P utilizing the Pay & Display machine located across from the front door of the Field House (our most economically visitor/daily parking in Lots O & P is only \$3 a day).

Shuttles

Check the Mason Shuttles website, <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/> for the new spring semester shuttle schedules.

The **Mason to Metro shuttle** from the Fairfax campus to the Vienna Metro station runs continuously with buses every 15 to 30 minutes from 6 am to 11:30 pm, Monday through Friday, with late night service on Fridays and Saturdays until 3:30 am. Saturday and Sunday service begins at 8am and new weekend stops have been added at the Mason Townhouses on Chain Bridge Road and by Fairfax Circle on Lee Highway. *Mason ID card is required to board the shuttle from the Rappahannock River Lane, Commerce Building and Fairfax Circle stops.* For more info go to: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html>

The **Metro Express shuttle** provides direct service between the Rappahannock River Lane stop and Vienna Metro Monday-Thursday and limited hours on Friday. Service has been increased for spring semester and will have departures at 15,35, and 55 after the hour. **To see the new schedule,** go to: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/Fall%202013%20Schedules/masontometroexpress.html>

Commuters also have the option to park at the Prince William Campus with a valid parking permit or using Pay by Space visitor parking and ride the **Fairfax-Prince William shuttle** to the Fairfax Campus. **Shuttle service was doubled last year Monday-Thursday between 7:30am- 6:30pm with departures every half hour.** Service is every hour on Fridays. Weekend service every two hours is also available for the Fairfax-Prince William shuttle. *A Mason ID card is required to board the shuttle from the Manassas Mall stop.* Check <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pwshuttle.htm> for information and schedules.

Alternative Transportation Options

To avoid the worries of parking and traffic, consider the many alternatives to driving. Besides the Mason Shuttles, students and employees may ride any of the four Fairfax City CUE buses throughout the City and to Vienna Metro for free simply by presenting their Mason ID. Check www.cuebus.org for schedules.

Bicycling: More than 1200 bicycle parking spaces are scattered around campus with covered bike parking under shelters around campus and on the 2nd level of Rappahannock River Deck. A **new bicycle registration program** started last fall with registrants receiving free bike u-locks and free bike lights. Stay tuned to <http://bike.gmu.edu> for more information!

Carpooling options: The Carpool Zone in Lot A which started last fall will resume on Thursday, January 23. Between 6am-11am Monday-Friday just show up with 2 or more people in your car and a general student or faculty/staff permit and you can park in carpool spaces we are setting aside each morning. No special permit as we will have a parking officer to screen vehicles. It's first come first serve. <http://transportation.gmu.edu/lota.html>.

Students and employees can also receive a 20%-40% rebate on a reserved parking deck or Lot I or Lot J permit for carpooling. Read <http://transportation.gmu.edu/studentpool.html> and <http://transportation.gmu.edu/employeespool.html> for information on the student and employee carpool programs.

For help in finding a carpool partner you can use **Zimride**-a ridesharing software program that helps match people with similar commutes to and from campus. <http://zimride.gmu.edu/>

Zipcar-wheels when you want them. Two cars located on Mason Pond Drive and one on the first level of the Rappahannock River Deck are available for rental by the hour. For info and to sign up for Mason discounts for Zipcar, go to <http://zipcar.com/gmu>

Motorcycle Parking: Motorcycle parking spaces are available in various locations around campus, including in front of the Aquatics and Fitness Center, by the Northeast Modules, Lot J, Lot C, near the Finley building, on the 1st level of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck inside the General permit area and adjacent to the Sandy Creek Way Circle. Additional reserved deck parking for motorcycles has been added in the Mason Pond and Shenandoah Parking Decks (**deck motorcycle permit required**). Please note that scooters and mopeds are now required to purchase motorcycle permits and use motorcycle parking. Mopeds and scooters may not park at bike racks or in other areas around campus.

At times during the morning, late afternoon and early evenings, campus police cadets will be directing traffic around campus. Please be alert and follow the cadet's direction.

To assist you in planning your commute, information regarding construction updates and changes to parking and traffic patterns on and around campus will be emailed to you periodically throughout the semester.

Prince William Campus Parking

Fairfax-Prince William General, Lot M/P and reserved parking deck parking permits are valid in the Occoquan, King, Discovery, and Hylton parking lots at the Prince William Campus. Please follow signage in these parking lots as parking spaces may be designated for various uses or permits. Beacon Hall resident parking permit holders may only park in the Beacon Hall resident lot. The Shops parking lot in front of Beacon Hall has General permit and 30 minute parking on the right side of the lot. The left side of the lot is for retail parking only. The Tower Lot behind the Hylton Performing Arts Center is expected to open later this spring. Visitor parking is available in the Occoquan and Discovery parking lots, utilizing the pay-by-space machine in the kiosk at the front of the Occoquan lot. Visitor rates are \$1/hour with a \$5 maximum for the day. For more information, go to <http://parking.gmu.edu/princewilliamcampusparking.html>

Arlington Campus Parking

One must work or be attending class at the Arlington Campus to be eligible to purchase an Arlington Campus parking permit. Fairfax-Prince William Campus permits are not valid at the Arlington Campus without authorization from Parking Services. All the General permit parking is in the Metropolitan Building Garage (formerly known as the GMU Foundation garage at 3434 N. Washington Blvd). Faculty/Staff and Student parking is available on levels B3-P1 and on level B-4 after 6pm. There is no guarantee of space in the General permit parking. Reserved and visitor parking is available in the Founders Hall garage. For more information, go to <http://parking.gmu.edu/arlingtoncampusparking.html>.

Parking & Transportation Information

For more information on parking rules, options and programs, go to the parking website: <http://parking.gmu.edu> or email parking@gmu.edu.

For more information on transportation options, go to <http://transportation.gmu.edu> or email transportation@gmu.edu.

For information on Mason Shuttles and the different routes and schedules, go to: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu> or email shuttle@gmu.edu

You can also follow Parking & Transportation on Twitter and Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation>

<http://twitter.com/MasonParking> <http://twitter.com/MasonShuttles>