

Parking & Transportation Update

Fall 2009

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

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 than others, the campus has more than enough total spaces to accommodate all vehicles.

While the opening of the new Rappahannock River Parking Deck located off University Drive will certainly alleviate the parking demand, most lots are still expected to fill at peak class times.

Arriving to campus between 10 am and 11am:

Parking in Lot K is recommended, as most other lots on the east campus tend to fill early. If "Lot Full" signs are posted at the entrances to Lot K please proceed directly to the Field House (see below).

Arriving to campus between 11am-3pm (especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays):

The best option is to head directly to the general parking lots by the Field House (Lots M,O,& P) on the west side of Ox Rd. Several hundred spaces are usually available in these lots. See information about the Field House Express shuttle below.

Visitor Parking:

Sandy Creek and Mason Pond parking decks provide most of the campus visitor parking. These 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 of the new Rappahannock River Parking Deck-the visitor entrance is located off Patriot Circle.

Shuttle Services:

Check the Mason Shuttles website, <http://shuttle.gmu.edu> for the new fall semester shuttle schedules. Many of the schedules have changed slightly as new stops have been added at the RAC(former PE Building), the new CUE bus stop adjacent to the Rappahannock River Parking Deck, and other locations around campus. The old CUE bus stop, now referred to as the Shuttle Stop, will continue to be used as well. Check schedules for stop locations.

The “Field House Express” shuttle will be running on a continuous loop from the Field House to the CUE bus stop. This semester, the shuttle will operate between 8 am and 11 pm Monday through Thursday.

During the first two weeks of the fall semester and on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the entire semester, two Field House shuttles will be running, allowing for departures every 5 minutes. During all other times, the shuttle departs from the Field House every 10 minutes.

Note: The average walk from the Field House to the Johnson Center is about 12 to 15 minutes.

The Mason to Metro shuttle from the Fairfax campus to the Vienna Metro station runs continuously from 6 am to 11:30 pm, Monday through Friday, with late night service on Fridays and Saturdays until 3:30 am. Sunday night service will be from 5:30 to 11:30 pm.

Commuters also have the option to park at the Prince William Campus and ride the Fairfax-Prince William shuttle to the Fairfax Campus.

West Campus Parking:

The new Campus Circulator shuttles have departures to the East Campus approximately every 20 minutes from the West Campus lot. Freshman residents are required to park in the 900-space West Campus Lot. The Campus Circulator buses provide service to the Field House, CUE bus stop, Masonvale, Sandy Creek, Presidents Park, Concert Hall, and the RAC. There are two different routes: Green and Gold.

Driving Alternatives:

To avoid the worries of parking and traffic, consider the many other alternatives to driving. Students and employees may ride any of the four CUE buses for free simply by presenting their Mason ID. More than 80 bicycle racks have been added in the past year for those who bike to campus.

Motorcycle Parking:

Additional motorcycle parking spaces have been added in the past year around campus, including in front of the Aquatics Center, by the Northeast Modules next to the Spur Rd, Lot J, and behind Finley. Additional deck parking for motorcycles has been added in the Sandy Creek Deck (deck motorcycle permit required).

Additional Parking Spaces :

- The new Rappahannock River Parking Deck is now open. Half of the 1st level, the entire 2nd level and the ramps up/down to/from the 3rd level are available for those with general student lot or faculty/staff surface lot permits. The 3rd level has some parking for faculty/staff surface lot permits and several hundred spaces requiring a reserved faculty/staff deck permit. The 4th and 5th levels are for reserved student deck permit holders. **No overnight parking is allowed in the open permit levels(1-2).**
- Faculty/staff Lot G is open to general lot permit holders from 5 pm to 7 am Monday through Friday, and all day on the weekend.
- Faculty/Staff Lot H is open to general lot permit holders from 6 to 11 pm, Monday through Friday, and all day on the weekend.
- Lot I requires a specific reserved permit to park.
- The Patriots Village Lot behind the RAC (former PE Building) provides overflow parking. The right side of the lot is open to those with student permits and the left side is open for faculty/staff.

Comment [2E11]: Should one say "left" and the other say "right"?

At times, campus police and parking officials will be directing traffic around campus. Please be alert and follow the instructions given.

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

For more information, 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.