Parking & Transportation Update Spring 2013

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.

Road Construction/Improvements

Several road improvement projects are planned or are underway that will impact travel approaching, on and around campus. The Roanoke River Road improvement project that started in July has now shifted to work on Braddock Road. Starting January 29, 2013 and lasting for about six weeks, there will be lane closures on Braddock Road between Ox Road and Nottoway River Lane from 9am-3pm Monday-Friday and on some weekends. It is highly advised to avoid Braddock Road to and from campus and use alternate entrances and exits to campus during the spring semester. For more information, go to: http://building.gmu.edu/roanoke-river-roadbraddock-road-improvements-update-december-2012/

Campus Drive (formerly known as the West Campus Connector) has also begun construction since the end of the fall semester. 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. Starting in early January, the north end (right side) of the Patriots Village (PV) parking lot has been closed permanently. The south end (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.

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. Campus Drive from Braddock Road to Patriot Circle is scheduled to open in December 2013, with the project completely finished in July 2014.
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). The back half of Lot J will be available to General permit holders at all times unless otherwise designated. **Access to the back half of Lot J will be through Lot K only.** The General permit parking area of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (all of Level 2 and the ¾ 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. Several hundred General permit parking spaces are usually available in these lots and transportation is provided to the east/main campus (see information about the Field House and West Campus Express shuttle below).

You can save money with the **new Lot M parking permit**—this new parking permit is $100 for the spring semester for parking at Lot M by the Field House. No overnight parking is allowed in Lot M with this permit. [http://parking.gmu.edu/pdf%20files/2012-2013parkingregulations/lotmregulations2013.pdf](http://parking.gmu.edu/pdf%20files/2012-2013parkingregulations/lotmregulations2013.pdf)

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. 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](http://shuttle.gmu.edu) for the new spring semester shuttle schedules.

The **West Campus Express shuttle** will be running on a continuous loop with no set schedule from West Campus lot to Presidents Park, with stops at the Field House and Rappahannock River Lane in between. This semester, the West Campus Express shuttle will operate 7am-12am M-F and 2pm-12am on Sundays.

The **Field House Express shuttle** is coming back with service between the Field House and Rappahannock River Lane for the first two weeks of the semester Monday-Thursday. This shuttle is an easy way to park at the Field House and get back and forth to the east campus.

**Note:** The average walk time 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 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 now will begin at 8am and new weekend stops have been added at the Mason Townhouses on Chain Bridge Road and by Fairfax Circle on Lee Highway. For more info go to: [http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html](http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html)
The new **Metro Express shuttle** that started last fall will now have two buses per hour to provide direct service between the Rappahannock River Lane stop and Vienna Metro Monday-Thursday. To see the new schedule, go to: [http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html](http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.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 has been doubled Monday-Thursday between 7:30am- 6:30pm with departures now every half hour.** Weekend service every two hours is also available for the Fairfax-Prince William shuttle. Check [http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pwshuttle.htm](http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pwshuttle.htm) for information and new schedules.

The **Campus Circulator** provides shuttle service around Patriot Circle and to new stops including Johnson Circle (by the statue), The HUB, and Mason Inn from 8am-11pm M-F. For information go to [http://shuttle.gmu.edu/circulator.html](http://shuttle.gmu.edu/circulator.html)

### 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](http://www.cuebus.org) for schedules.

**Bicycling:** More than 1000 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 in fall with registrants receiving free bike u-locks. The **new bikesharing program called Patriot Bikeshare** [http://patriotbikeshare.gmu.edu](http://patriotbikeshare.gmu.edu) was launched this past October on campus and provides a low cost way for students and employees to have access to bicycles around campus. Stay tuned to [http://bike.gmu.edu](http://bike.gmu.edu) for more information!

**Carpooling options:** Parking & Transportation has launched several new programs. Students and employees can receive a 20%--40% rebate on reserved parking deck or Lot I or Lot J permits for carpooling. Read [http://transportation.gmu.edu/studentspool.html](http://transportation.gmu.edu/studentspool.html) and [http://transportation.gmu.edu/employeespool.html](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](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](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**).
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 round campus will be emailed to you periodically throughout the semester.

**Prince William Campus Parking**

Fairfax-Prince William General and reserved parking deck parking permits are valid in the Occoquan, King, Discovery A, 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 with the Discovery Lot A as overflow. For more information, go to [http://parking.gmu.edu/princewilliamcampusparking.html](http://parking.gmu.edu/princewilliamcampusparking.html)

**Parking Citation and Appeal Changes**

The following changes to University Parking Policy #1108 were recommended by the University’s Parking Advisory Committee in the summer of 2012, approved and adopted into policy. These changes will take effect Monday, February 4, 2013:

- the time period for filing an appeal to a parking citation has been reduced from ten days to five days
- the first late fee is now $15 and will be added after a citation goes unpaid for ten days, the 2nd late fee is now $25 and is added when a citation remains unpaid thirty days after issuance
- citations must be paid within five days to avoid late fees
- in addition to the existing rules of being eligible to have one’s car immobilized when owing $300 or more in citations, one can also have their car towed and immobilized on each citation after having received five valid prior citations in a semester
- appellants requesting a second level/final appeal hearing before the Faculty/Staff or Student Appeals Boards will incur a $15 administrative fee if one’s citation is not dismissed in it’s entirety by the appeals board. The $15 administrative fee will be added to the citation balance
- certain violation fines have been increased, however, if paid within five days, the fine will be reduced

**Parking & Transportation Information**

For more information on parking rules, options and programs, go to the parking website: [http://parking.gmu.edu](http://parking.gmu.edu) or email parking@gmu.edu.
For more information on transportation options, go to [http://transportation.gmu.edu](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](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://www.facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation)

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