

Parking & Transportation Update – Spring 2012

As the beginning of the spring 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. 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 than others, the campus has more than enough total spaces to accommodate all vehicles. However, many lots are still expected to fill at peak class times.

TRAFFIC ALERT: EXPECT HEAVY TRAFFIC ON THE EVENING OF MONDAY JANUARY 23 FOR THE MASON MEN'S BASKETBALL GAME VS UNC-WILMINGTON (9PM START)

Arriving to campus between 10 am and 11am: Parking in Lot K is recommended, as most other permit parking areas 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 General permit parking areas at the Field House (see below). The General parking areas of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (over half of the 1st level, the entire 2nd level and the ramps up/down to/from the 3rd level) are expected to fill before 10am with the opening of University Hall this past May.



Arriving to campus between 11am and 3pm (especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays): The best option is to head directly to the back of Lot K or General permit parking lots by the Field House (Lots M, O & P) on the west side of Ox Road. Several hundred parking spaces are usually available in these lots. (See information about the West Campus Express shuttle below.)

Visitor Parking: Shenandoah (formerly 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 utilizing our Pay by Space machines in the visitor parking section located on the 1st level of Rappahannock River Parking Deck (a separate visitor entrance is located off Patriot Circle). As well, one can park in the Field House parking permit areas and utilize the Pay & Display machine located across from the front door of the Field House to purchase a \$3 daily permit (only valid in Lots M, O & P).



LOT I - with Whitetop and Rogers residence halls opening, Lot I is re-opening after being closed during construction. Lot I will predominantly be a reserved permit lot as it was for

many years before closing, similar to Lot J. A limited number of Lot I parking permits are available for \$200 with parking privileges through August 15, 2012. Students (including freshmen residents), faculty, and staff may upgrade from a General or West Campus parking permit to Lot I or J. Lot I will have a row of faculty/staff General permit spaces—closest to RAC Field that will be open to General student permits from 5-11pm M-F and all day on weekends. There will also be a limited number of 30-minute spaces in Lot I for access to the residence halls, the new Subway/convenience store, or other surrounding facilities.



Lot J - except for the faculty/staff and motorcycle spaces Lot J now requires a Lot J reserved parking permit available for \$200 with parking privileges through August 15, 2012. A limited number of these Lot J reserved parking permits are sold to guarantee a permit holder a parking space in Lot J (there will be limited number of times when Lot J is used for special events). **The back half of Lot J will be available to general permit holders from 5pm-11pm M-F and all day on weekends unless otherwise noted. Access to the back half of Lot J will be through Lot K only.**

Updates: Receive timely updates by joining our Facebook and Twitter pages. The parking web page is also updated periodically at <http://parking.gmu.edu/> (see below).

Shuttle Services

Check the Mason Shuttles website, <http://shuttle.gmu.edu> for the new spring semester shuttle schedules. Many of the schedules have changed slightly as new stops have been added around campus. Check schedules for stop locations.



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, Rappahannock River Lane, and Sandy Creek in between. Freshman residents are required to park in the 900-space West Campus Lot (unless they have purchased a reserved Rappahannock River Parking Deck, Lot I, or Lot J reserved permit). This semester, the West Campus Express shuttle will operate 7am-1am M-F and 2pm-1am on Sundays. This shuttle is an easy way to park at the Field House and get back and forth to the east campus. West Campus shuttle service begins for the Spring semester on Sunday January 22 at noon. **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 from 6 am to 11:30 pm Monday through Friday; with late night service on Fridays and Saturdays (service starts Saturdays at 8:30pm) until 3:30 am; and Sunday night service from 5:30 to 11:30 pm. For more info go to: <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. The shuttle also stops at the Target at Manassas Mall where one can park and ride the shuttle to either campus. <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pwshuttle.htm>

The **Campus Circulator** provides shuttle service around Patriot Circle from 8am-11pm M-F. *The stop at the Johnson Center circle by the George Mason statue has been discontinued because of safety reasons and upcoming construction along Aquia Creek Lane.* For information go to <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/circulator.html>

Driving Alternatives

To avoid the worries of parking and traffic, consider the many alternatives to driving. Students and employees may ride any of the four Fairfax City 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. Bike lanes have also been added around most of Patriot Circle.

For **carpooling options**, go to <http://zimride.gmu.edu/>. Zimride is a new ridesharing software program that allows Mason students and employees to find a ride or carpool partner as it helps match people with similar commutes to and from campus. Stay tuned to Zimride for info on the Commuter Challenge rematch against the University of Maryland in September.

Zipcar-wheels when you want them. Two cars located on Mason Pond Dr. For info and to sign up for Mason discounts for Zipcar, go to <http://zipcar.com/gmu>.

Motorcycle Parking: Additional motorcycle parking spaces have been added in the past year around campus, including on Level 1 of Rappahannock River Deck permit area. Other spaces are in front of the Aquatics Center, by the Northeast Modules, Lot J, near the Finley building and in front of Enterprise Hall. Additional deck parking for motorcycles has been added in the Shenandoah (formerly Sandy Creek) and Mason Pond Parking Deck (parking deck motorcycle permit required).



Additional Parking Spaces: Rappahannock River Parking Deck – Over 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 parking permits. The 3rd level has over 60 parking spaces for faculty/staff General permits and several hundred spaces requiring a reserved faculty/staff deck permit. The 4th and 5th levels are reserved for student reserved parking deck permit holders. **No overnight parking is allowed in the General permit area (levels 1-2) Monday through Friday (between 2-5am).** Faculty/Staff Lot H is open to General permit holders from 6pm to 7am, Monday through Friday, and all day on the weekend. The Patriots Village Lot behind the RAC also provides overflow parking. The lot is now a General lot with either a General student or faculty/staff permit required. *A new entrance/exit to the lot off of Mason Pond Drive is in place now. The road besides the RAC (Anna River Court) is now one-way up the hill. All traffic must exit the PV Lot via the new road off Mason Pond Drive.*

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

You can also follow Parking & Transportation on Twitter and Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation>

<http://twitter.com/MasonParking>

<http://twitter.com/MasonShuttles>