



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service
Chickamauga and Chattanooga
National Military Park
P.O. Box 2128
Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742



CHCH Contingency Procedures for all Employees – September 27, 2013

In the event that there is a lapse in appropriations, and we are given an order to shutdown Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, the following procedures are to be followed:

1. All employees scheduled for work on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 are to report to work at your scheduled time and duty station and begin to perform your assigned work as normal.
2. The Superintendent will advise you on Tuesday of further developments and if and when shutdown procedures are to begin. Employees on duty will assist with “orderly shutdown” activities.
3. All other non-excepted employees who are NOT normally scheduled to work on Tuesday, will be expected to report to work on your next scheduled work day at 8:00 a.m. to carry-out “orderly shutdown” activities. These activities will take place within the first half-day (up to four hours) of the day. These activities will include: turning in equipment, securing government property, records and files, changing your voice mail, canceling of meetings or appointment, completing time and attendance, receiving your furlough notice, and providing your contact information.
4. Following is the list of individuals who are except from furlough in order to protect park property, address emergency situations, and ensure public health and safety.

CHCH Continuation of Operations Plan – Excepted Employees

Contingency Coordinator: Todd Roeder

Ranger Division:

Activity: Emergency Response and Security of Park Units at Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga Battlefield, Missionary Ridge, Moccasin Bend

Employees: John McCutcheon, Amanda DeFriese, Rob Turan

There is still much optimism regarding Congress reaching a resolution. I am aware of the impact of a potential furlough on each of the twenty-six employees and your families. If there is anything that I can assist you with during this time, please let me know.

/s/ Cathleen J. Cook
Superintendent





Office of the Director

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20240

National Park System Closure Determination and Notice

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5, effective at 12:01 a.m. on October 1, 2013, all units of the National Park System nationwide are closed to public visitation and use, subject to the conditions and exceptions described below. This national closure determination and notice is necessitated by a lapse in funds appropriated by the United States Congress for the operation of the National Park System and will remain in effect until funding is restored. The period of time during which appropriated funds are not available may be referred to in this determination and notice as the “shutdown period.”

Under 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(a) this national closure determination and notice is necessary to maintain public health and safety in units of the National Park System and to protect park resources and values during the shutdown period. Consistent with the Department of the Interior Contingency Plan, available at www.doi.gov/shutdown, only a relatively small number of “excepted personnel” will be on duty during the shutdown period. Those personnel are not sufficient to provide a full range of visitor services. Therefore, in light of the shutdown and Contingency Plan, measures less restrictive than a national closure will not suffice to maintain public health and safety and to protect park resources and values. The lapse in appropriated funds qualifies as an “emergency” under 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(b); therefore, this determination and notice does not require special rulemaking.

Condition and Exceptions:

1. National Park Service personnel who have been identified as excepted will continue to report for duty in accordance with the National Park Service Contingency Plan and as directed by their supervisors.
2. Members of the public who are currently visiting a unit of the National Park System and not staying overnight in the park must vacate the park immediately. All day-use concession-operated visitor services and facilities are to be closed immediately. Exceptions may be granted by superintendents only if a facility is deemed essential for health or safety purposes.
3. Subject to paragraph 6 below, members of the public who are currently visiting a unit of the national park system and staying overnight either in a National Park Service-operated campground or a concessioner-operated facility in the park must vacate the park by 6:00 p.m. EDT on October 3, 2013.
4. Subject to paragraph 6 below, National Park Service concessioners must suspend their operations in overnight accommodations by 6:00 p.m. EDT on October 3, 2013.
5. Subject to paragraph 6 below, holders of National Park Service commercial use authorizations must immediately cease their in-park operations.

6. The deadlines announced above do not apply to members of the public, concessioners, and holders of commercial use authorizations who are on multi-day backcountry trips that cannot be safely terminated before the end of the trip. Those individuals may continue and complete their multi-day backcountry trips in accordance with their approved permit or plan. Those individuals then must vacate the park within 12 hours after the completion of their trip.

7. This closure determination and notice does not apply to private owners of interests in real property located within the exterior boundaries of units of the National Park System. Park superintendents will continue to allow such owners reasonable access to their private property.

8. This closure determination and notice does not apply to roads that pass through units of the National Park System and provide primary access between points located outside of the parks. Members of the public may continue to use those roads during the shutdown period. However, superintendents may not expend any appropriated funds to maintain or repair those roads. Moreover, superintendents may close those roads, or portions of those roads, in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 1.5, if such closure is warranted by weather, poor road conditions, or other circumstances.

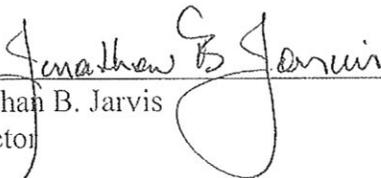
9. All previously issued permits for special events scheduled to occur in units of the National Park System during the shutdown period are hereby cancelled. At the end of the shutdown period holders of cancelled permits may apply for a new permit. Except as provided in paragraph 10 below, all closed areas of the National Park System are also closed to First Amendment activities during the shutdown period, and any previously issued permits for First Amendment activities are hereby cancelled.

10. This closure determination and notice does not apply to First Amendment activities in the National Mall and Memorial Parks and areas administered by the NPS Liaison to the White House in Washington, D.C., and Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Persons may continue to conduct First Amendment activities in these units in accordance with existing regulations.

11. Each park superintendent must take reasonable measures to comply with 36 C.F.R. § 1.7 and to provide adequate public notice of this national closure determination and notice.

12. This national closure determination and notice will expire automatically at the end of the shutdown period.

13. Violation of this national closure determination and notice is prohibited.


Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director

October 1, 2013
Date

tonight. Unfortunately, we do not have a clear indication that Congress will act in time for the President to sign a Continuing Resolution before the end of the day tomorrow, October 1, 2013. Therefore, agencies should now execute plans for an orderly shutdown due to the absence of appropriations. We urge Congress to act quickly to pass a Continuing Resolution to provide a short-term bridge that ensures sufficient time to pass a budget for the remainder of the fiscal year, and to restore the operation of critical public services and programs that will be impacted by a lapse in appropriations.

Agencies should continue to closely monitor developments, and OMB will provide further guidance as appropriate. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and the work you and your agencies do on behalf of the American people.

Cook, Cathleen <cathleen_cook@nps.gov>
To: NPS CHCH All Employees <chch_all_employees@nps.gov>

Tue, Oct 1, 2013 at 7:47 AM

To CHCH Staff,

We are to begin shutdown procedures first thing this morning.

We are awaiting the official furlough paperwork but will be beginning the shutdown process at 8:30 a.m. today. You will not be released until you have received your furlough notice. Please begin the shutdown process by verifying your time card. Use the 103 furlough code for the remainder of this week but do include the time you are requested to spend in supporting a shutdown today. Those who will be needed for shutdown beyond the 4 hrs will be notified by Todd Roeder

Change your voice mail messages, put an out-of-office message on your answering machine. Secure all government property and files. Government vehicles from the VC should be shuttled to the maintenance compound for security.

During furlough, you need to be able to respond in a reasonable amount of time to a call to return to work. What is reasonable. If we are to return to work at 8:00 a.m. and you arrive at 10:00 a.m. that day, that would be reasonable. Provide an contact phone number to your supervisor and of course listen to the news regarding a restart of the Federal Government.

The visitor centers will be the first to close and notices posted. The school program will still proceed as it may take the rest of the day to shutdown areas.

Begin the shutdown process in the outlying areas of Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain/Point Park and then move to the secondary roads on the Battlefield.

I am awaiting the template for a news release to inform the public that the park is closed.

Thank-you for all you do.

Cathy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Shawn Bengé** <shawn_benge@nps.gov>

Date: Tue, Oct 1, 2013 at 6:50 AM