

Harpers Ferry Parking Policy

Saturday, February 24, 2018, 10:00am
Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 7:00pm

- Why do we need paid parking?

- Why do we need parking permits?

Two interdependent questions

Tourism is our economic base

Our tourism is growing

Tourism impacts our town's resources

Due to:

safety

traffic control

potholes

street repairs

litter

Multiple parking options for visitors to the Harpers Ferry National Park

Cavalier Heights 1,000 parking spaces

CSX Train Station Lot 80 visitor spaces

Intersection Route 340 and
Shenandoah Street 50 parking spaces

TOTAL **1,130** *parking spaces*

Note: NPS parking is free provided visitors pay \$10 entrance fee, which is good for 3 days.

Limited parking options for visitors to Harpers Ferry National Park in lower town

- Lower town
 - 22 parking spaces regulated by ordinance 320.15: Parking Enforcement

What happens if tourists do not use National Park Service parking facilities?

Increased tourism = Increased pressure on public safety (cars parked too close to hydrants, mailboxes, intersections, driveways; tight spaces; obstruction of signage.)

Increased demand for scarce parking impacts residential areas

It becomes the Town's responsibility to regulate.

How Was the Policy Developed?

Examination of the Town's governing documents:

- Comprehensive Plan
- Ordinances

Examination of previous drafts of Town parking policies

Gathering and analysis of public input

- Residents survey
- Public hearings

What do the town's governing documents say regarding parking?

Comprehensive plan

Section V: Transportation and Public Facilities and Services (pp. 20-24)

“The 2004 Traffic and Parking Management Survey recommended ... instituting pay parking, improving way - finding signing, publicizing the new parking rules, and increasing the shuttle bus times and their routes and stops. “ (p. 23)

“To ensure adequate parking for residents, the Town installed signs designating certain spaces for resident parking only on streets within walking distance of the National Historical Park.”
(p. 23)

Comprehensive plan (continued)

GOAL [Sec. V (d)] : To have an adequate amount of parking, both on - and off - street, for residents, visitors, and workers.

Obj. 1: Improve signing to direct Park visitors to the National Park Service Cavalier Heights parking lot.

Obj. 3: Incorporate applicable parking recommendations from the 2004 Traffic and Parking Management Survey into a comprehensive plan for parking, signage, and traffic flow on Potomac and High Streets.

Obj. 6: Where feasible, mark side streets with parking spaces to provide for extra parking and to slow traffic, while providing a clearly marked and safe area for pedestrians to walk.

Ordinances

320.14 Designated parking reserved for residential permit holders only.
Items a-k.

(see handout)

Ordained in 2013. Never enforced

320.99 Penalty

Some discretion in fines: “...not more than \$50.00 ...”

Paid Parking Zones

Zone #1 -- \$1 per hour

7510 from Union Street to Storer Place/Jackson Street

Zone #2 -- \$2 per hour

7520 from Storer Place to Church Street

Zone #3 -- \$3 per hour

7515 on the north side of Potomac Street in lower town from Hog Alley

Summary of Paid Parking:

Paid parking meets goals and objectives of comprehensive plan

Paid parking is supported by our ordinances

Paid parking is instituted only on state roadway (Washington Street) and commercial area (Potomac Street)

Purpose of a parking permit

- To ensure our residents continue to have access to convenient parking options within town limits.
- To offset the increased demand in visitor parking.
- To discourage unauthorized non-residents occupying on-street residential parking spaces for extended periods of time.

PERMIT POLICY HIGHLIGHTS

A Residential Permit allows you to park in the town's public right-of-ways anywhere in town except for Zone 7515 without penalty.

Residential Only signs will be located at key street intersections, not individual properties.

Permit Policy

Issuance

Eligibility

Permit types

- Residential

- Guest

- Licensed Business

- Non-Profit Organizations

- Special Circumstances

Residential Parking Permit

Washington Street with parking

Washington Street without parking

Side streets and parallel streets

Guest Parking Permit

- 2 annual permits
 - Park close to residents' home
 - No more than 7 days

Licensed Business

- Must have physical address within Corporation of Harpers Ferry
- Must have business license within Corporation of Harpers Ferry

Non-Profit Organizations

2 permits

- 501(c) (3)
- Churches
- Libraries
- Museums
- Social/Fraternal Organizations
- Visitor Centers

Special Circumstances Permit

- Handicapped parking
- Long term care
- Parking Committee will consider special circumstances

Annual Fees

Residential

Guest

Non-Profits

Special Circumstances

\$5

\$100 replacement

Licensed Business Permit

\$25

\$100 replacement

Parking Options for lower town employees

The NPS has designated 20 parking spaces for lower town employees in the commuter lot on weekends.

Parking on the commuter train lot is by NPS agreement. The Town does not make the assignments.

Lower Town employees can take NPS shuttle buses for free.

Other items of note

Free parking after 6 p.m. Come downtown and eat dinner after 6 p.m.

Parking passes can be mailed to residents upon request.

If someone has received a parking ticket but can document that it was paid, it will be waived if they send the ticket and proof of payment or appear in magistrate court.

Placement of “Residential Only” signs are marked on the map.

Q's and A's