


Hagan | Hagan | noun
a place of comfort,
to play, connect and remember;
where the heart is.



09.10.19
41° 0' 44" N
75° 6' 39" W


The National Park Service is Looking For Input Re: Plans for 2020

The park is looking for input regarding new plans for 2020. As stakeholders in the park, this is our chance to weigh in. Pay particular attention to Chapter 4, which explains the new fee schedule which will be year round. You'll note there is no day fee, just \$25/car/week. Hikers and bikers pay \$15. How they'll collect these fees is a mystery. Presently it costs \$10/car at the three beaches and a few boat accesses end of May through October. Walk-ins are \$2.



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Dec 06, 2019
at 11:59 PM Mountain Time in
37 Days, 14 Hours, 16 Min.

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Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Draft Visitor Use Management Plan



We are pleased to announce the release of the draft Visitor Use Management Plan (VUM Plan) for Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River. The draft VUM Plan is available for public review and comment for 60 days (until December 6, 2019). Public input and participation are an integral part of the planning process and we welcome your comments.

The purpose of the VUM Plan is to maximize the ability of the National Park Service to encourage access and improve visitor experiences while protecting natural and cultural resources for future generations. This plan examines current and potential visitor opportunities and develops long-term strategies to provide access, to connect visitors to important experiences, and to manage visitor use. The park currently manages visitor use in accordance with our General Management Plan, which is over 30 years old and does not reflect current visitor use patterns and needs. This VUM Plan provides updated guidance to address current and future visitor use opportunities, management strategies, and resource protection concerns.

We encourage you to participate in the public process and provide your input. The VUM Plan and supporting materials can be found on the NPS Public Engagement and Public Comment Website (PEPC): www.parkplanning.nps.gov/dewa.

[Comment Now »](#)

Comment Period: 10/07/2019 - 12/06/2019
Comment period closes **Dec 06, 2019**
at 11:59 PM Mountain Time in:
37 Days, 14 Hours, 16 Min.

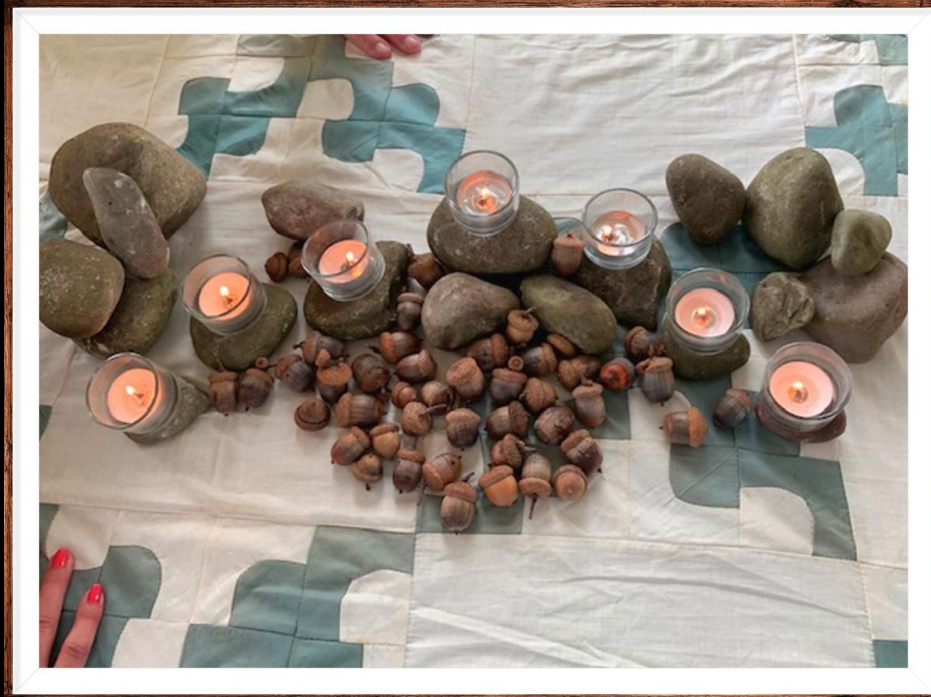
[Click on this link to give feedback to NPS](#)
The comment period runs until December 6.

**Long Trip Canoers
Demonstrate Swimming Skills!**
(Click on the arrow below)



Peace I Ask of Thee O River Patty Mochel and Robin Thomas Poponne

Robin Thomas Poponne and Patty Mochel opened our final gathering at the reunion on Thursday morning. Robin said: "I have always loved the song, "Peace I Ask of Thee Oh River". It embodies my favorite aspect of camping, which was the opportunity for this city kid to interact with the breathtaking beauty of nature. As Haganites, we shared this song with the Girl Scouts who listed it as a traditional folk song. Only recently has Gwyneth Walker created a celebrated choral arrangement.

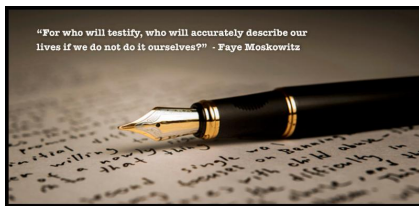


Patty Mochel and I collaborated to find inspirational quotes to match the six themes within the song: peace, serenity, courage, vision, strength, and faith. We were happy to share them at the reunion closing while lighting candles in contemplation of these ideals. Patty and I hope they will continue to be a source of inspiration for all."

1. Learn silence. With the quiet serenity of a meditative mind, listen, absorb, transcribe and transform. – Pythagoras
2. All the world is made of faith, trust, and pixie dust. – Peter Pan
3. You find peace not by rearranging the circumstances of your life, but by realizing who you are at the deepest level. – Eckhart Tolle
4. Storms make trees take deeper roots. – Dolly Parton
5. Being brave is not being unafraid, but feeling the fear and doing it anyway. When you feel fear, try using it as a signal that something really important is about to happen. – Gloria Steinem
6. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and create a vision for tomorrow. – Melody Beattie



Lee Hopper Laque reads one of the six quotes



Trail Angels Patty Mochele (Hagan 1961-1970)

It was the fifth day of a week-long backpacking trip in a wilderness area of the Rocky Mountains. We had just left the summit, at nearly 13,000 feet, filled with green meadows, wildflowers, and rushing streams. "It will be easier now," said our group leader, something he has been saying to me daily. I had been struggling on this trip. Always the last to make it in to the campsite, I pitched my tent on the least attractive, stone-filled site. My 46-pound pack and the altitude left me with pounding headaches and sore hips. Worst of all, I was lonely.

I was one of two women from the Mid-Atlantic region, and we had very little experience on rugged trails like the ones we tackled in Colorado. The woman from Virginia was complaining constantly, and it seemed the others on this trip were getting bummed. They were way ahead of us and would have to wait while we straggled in. I realize now how stressful it must have been for them to be constantly waiting for the two laggards to show up. For Aseeyah and me, it was dispiriting to finally catch up, only to have them take off again. The ten of us were pleasant to each other, but there was no real camaraderie.

I had signed up for the Sierra Club backpacking trip after my 55th birthday, when I realized it was time to figure out what I really wanted to do before I truly got old. I had really fond memories of our CIT camping trip at camp in 1968, when we spent four days on a mountain with only tents and an ax – well, more than that, of course, but it was pretty minimal. I just loved being free from civilization, and I so much wanted to do it again. My husband had agreed to take our four kids to the beach while I tried out this trip. I loved the deep silence at night, and the slanting sunlight. But I wished I had a friend.

This day had become anything but serene. Deep snows had scoured away the topsoil on this side of the mountain, leaving a desolate landscape of bleached sand and stone pocketed by blackened pine trees. No trees, no shade, and the sun burnt through our clothes as we staggered down the steep path.

At last the trail plateaued and we entered a green forested area, heading for a campsite that should be just around the corner. Suddenly the sky turned black, the wind whipped up and a tremendous

thunderstorm blew in. Sheets of rain buffeted us as lightening crashed around us, and I started laughing as we yanked rain jackets out of our packs and rushed ahead, looking for a place to stop. Finally, we found the campsite, and realized with a start that it was already in use. A tarp appeared in the distance, with two women sitting in lawn chairs underneath it. As we staggered along, gazing at it longingly, a long, dark, sinuous shape stretched out – an arm. It was motioning for us to come in.

We managed to get everyone under the tarp, and spent the next three hours laughing and telling jokes. The women were old friends who camped together with llamas every summer- the llamas were pegged nearby. When the storm cleared, they said they wouldn't mind if we pitched out tents there. We made our evening meals under the tarp, and when they learned one of our hikers had just turned 30, they produced a brownie and freeze-dried ice cream complete with candles. After dinner, the youngest man in our group pulled out a harmonica, and we sang for hours.



Patty on the Summit

I later learned that hikers call this serendipity an encounter with 'trail angels' - that when you're out in the wilderness and in a jam, someone would miraculously appear with exactly what you needed.

The hikers in our group had needed to coalesce, and the storm and our fortuitous rescue by the two women with the llamas allowed us to come together. The hours spent under the tarp and around the campfire gave us the opportunity to see each other in a new light. A new and refreshing ease came over us. A week after we got home, the young man with the harmonica emailed all of us the photographs he had taken at the summit.

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