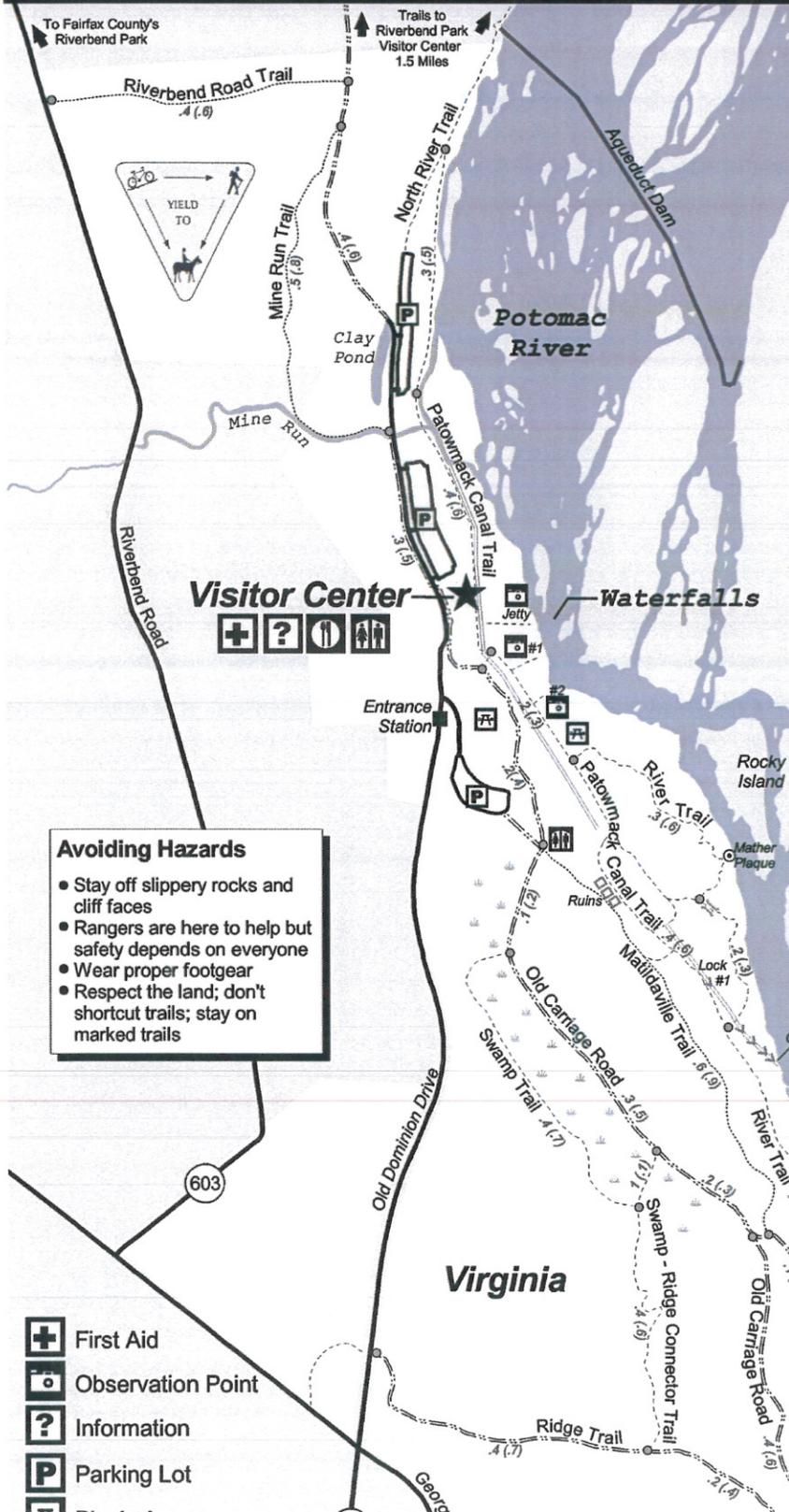


Great Falls Park

(A Unit of the George Washington Memorial Parkway)
 9200 Old Dominion Dr.
 McLean, Virginia 22101
 (703) 285-2965

National Park Service
 U.S. Department of the Interior



Trail Descriptions

Round-trip distances and approximate hiking times

Patowmack Canal Trail
 2.5 miles (4.0 km)
 1 hour
 Level trail begins at upper parking lot and follows the canal, a national historic landmark. Canal guide available at Visitor Center.

River Trail
 3.0 miles (4.8 km)
 2 hours
 Trail begins in picnic area and ends beyond Cow Hoof Rock. Requires some scrambling over rocks. Offers spectacular views of Mather Gorge.

Old Carriage Road
 3.2 miles (5.1 km)
 2 hours
 Access this historic roadbed near restrooms at the lower parking lot. This flat, wide trail was used by settlers to reach Matildaville.

Swamp Trail
 1.8 miles (3.0 km)
 1 hour
 Follow Old Carriage Road to marked junction for Swamp Trail. Mostly flat through lowland forest. Features birds and seasonal wildflowers.

Ridge Trail
 3.0 miles (4.8 km)
 2 hours
 From lower parking lot, follow Old Carriage Road 1 mile to Ridge Trail junction. This hilly trail follows high ground through upland forest between Old Dominion Drive and Difficult Run at the Park's downstream (south) end.

Matildaville Trail
 2.2 miles (3.6 km)
 2 hours
 Begin at restrooms by lower parking lot and take left fork. Level at first, trail becomes hilly near Ridge Trail junction.

Avoiding Hazards

- Stay off slippery rocks and cliff faces
- Rangers are here to help but safety depends on everyone
- Wear proper footgear
- Respect the land; don't shortcut trails; stay on marked trails

Regulations

- Swimming, wading, alcoholic beverages, camping, and ground fires are prohibited.
- All plants, wildlife, and natural and historic features are protected by law - do not disturb.
- Do not feed the wildlife.
- Hunting and use of firearms are prohibited.
- Pets must be under your control and leashed at all times.
- Motorized vehicles restricted to paved roads.
- Please deposit trash in appropriate receptacles.

- First Aid
- Observation Point
- Information
- Parking Lot