



George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
Glenwood and Pedlar Ranger Districts
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forest Service Announces Seasonal Road Closures For Glenwood & Pedlar Ranger Districts

The Glenwood and Pedlar Ranger Districts of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests announces roads, trails and areas that will open, close or need special care during the fall season.

The following are roads that will close around January 4, 2010 and reopen around April 1, 2010:

Road Name	FR #
Hog Camp	48
Stoney Run Jeep Trail	162
Cedar Creek	320
Gorge Access	315C
Cow Camp	520
Coon Bridge	1167
Lovelady	1241
Pedlar Inn	1575
Big Bend	1171
Enchanted Creek to White Oak Flats	1881
Cedar Bridge	36D
Panther Mountain	1286
Inch Branch	1823
Lady Slipper	494
Bear Tolley	36E
Pulaski Tract	634
Dancing Creek	317
Yellowstone	635
Thunder Road	3105

Roads that will close around January 10, 2010 and open around August 1, 2010 are:

Road Name	FDR#
Harkening Hill – will close at the second gate	3068
Middle Creek- will close at the first gate	3101
Welch Hollow	3251
Hunting Creek just beyond Camping Gap	45

The following roads will open around October 1, 2009, close around January 4, 2010 and will not reopen again until October 2010:

Road Name	FR #
Tom's Branch	512
Turkey Pen	1237
Devils Branch	310
Gas Line Road	593
Gate at milepost #41 at Clarks Gap on Blue Ridge Parkway	1602
Putt Access	323

Actual openings and closures may take place within several days before or after the posted date due to the day of the week, personnel availability, as well as weather and road conditions. Forest users are encouraged to call the district office to check on additional road closures that may occur due to storm events or other critical resource needs.

The Peavine Road (FR 318) in Amherst County will remain closed from the gate near the top of the Bear Tolley Road (FR 36E) to the intersection of the Peavine and Pera Road (SR 610) until further notice. This road was closed in June 2009 because of significant damage to the road due to the wet spring, mud bogging, and cross-country travel. "Not only is the damage to the environment extensive, but the road is unsafe to travel," said Glenwood and Pedlar District Ranger Annie Downing. "Numerous large mud holes are in the road and are so deep that people are cutting trees to drive around them, thereby creating new roads." Sedimentation from the mud holes can be seen spilling down slope and towards streams. Downing has no timeframe to re-open the road.

“Some roads, including state roads, throughout the district require special care while driving because of log trucks from ongoing timber sales,” cautions District Ranger Annie Downing. Drivers should watch for log truck traffic along Inch Branch road (FR 1823) off Howardsville Turnpike in the Sherando area.

The South Pedlar ATV Trail System will remain open through the fall until Tuesday, December 1, 2009. It will open again to trail riders approximately April 1, 2010.

Camping at Sherando Lake Recreation Area will close Sunday, November 1, 2009 at 11 a.m. for the winter and will reopen April 1, 2010. The main gate at State Route 664 will remain open during the winter months, except in cases of dangerous road conditions and the 10 p.m. evening closure will continue through October. Cave Mountain Lake Recreation Area will close to the public on Sunday, November 1, 2009 at 11 a.m. and reopen April 1, 2010. North Creek Campground, located south of Arcadia in Botetourt County, will remain open through the winter.

More than 100 miles of forest roads remain open year round and the public is reminded to use extreme caution and care when traveling and to limit travel on open roads that are in poor condition. For the latest information on closures and conditions contact the Glenwood/Pedlar District office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (540) 291-2188.